



The 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the  
**CONVENTION OF  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**May 23<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**OFWB**



**Growing in Grace**

**2016-2021**

Ministry & Conference Report Book



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# The 106th Annual Session of the Convention of OFWB

## May 22, 2018 - 7:30 p.m. - The Convention Mission Rally

Dr. Kiril and Irina Svilenov from Bulgaria will be our guests

## May 23, 2018 - The Annual Session – Theme “*Growing in Grace*”

**9:00 a.m.** ..... Registration Opens—Kornegay Arena

### Displays Open

### 10:00 a.m. Opening Session

Congregational Singing ..... The Reverend Stephen Prescott, Music Director  
Mrs. Becky Glover, Pianist

Call to Order ..... Mrs. Teresa Eason, Secretary

Greetings from the Office of the President ..... The Reverend Ronnie Hobgood, President

Welcome ..... Dr. Philip Kerstetter, President University of Mount Olive

Introduction of Proposed Constitutional Changes

Recognition of Guests ..... President Hobgood

Convention Executive Committee Report ..... Mrs. Teresa Eason

Convention Treasurer’s Report ..... Ms. Barbara Lancaster, Treasurer

Nominating Committee Report ..... The Reverend Al Warrick

Ministry Reports & Miscellaneous Business

### Break/ Visit the Ministry Display Areas

### Worship

Congregational Singing ..... Music Director

Convention Offering

Special Music ..... Music Director

Introduction of Speaker ..... President Hobgood

Morning Message ..... Dr. Brad Williamson

### Break/ Visit the Ministry Display Areas

Ministry Reports & Miscellaneous Business

**Noon to 1:15 p.m.** ..... Lunch

**1:15 p.m.** ..... Resumption of Business

Congregational Singing and Special Music

Ministry Reports & Miscellaneous Business

Resolutions Committee Report

Election and Installation of Officers, Boards and Committees

Final Business (Credentials Committee, Final Readings, Misc.)

**3:30 p.m.** ..... The Convention is Adjourned



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## **Convention 2018 Committees**

### **Credentials Committee...**

Jennifer Williamson, Chairperson 919-299-4553

### **Nominating Committee...**

Al Warrick, Chairman 919-631-6519  
Carolyn Jernigan 910-929-5461  
Sharlene Scott 919-252-9889  
Sam Weeks 919-631-4106

### **Parliamentarians...**

John Hill (C) 252-230-1845  
De Eakes (W) 252-230-3241

### **Resolutions Committee...**

Ray Wells, Chairman (W) 252-230-0925  
Irvin Mizell (C) 252-714-3744  
Audie Tucker (P) 336-580-0513

### **Ushers...**

Aubrey Williamson, Chairman 919-820-3023  
Executive Committee Conference Representatives

## Convention Personalities



Dr. Kiril is the president of the Free Will Baptist Church in Bulgaria. He comes from a strong Christian family. His family has distributed over 2 million Bibles and New Testaments in school, hospitals, and to government officials in Bulgaria. He is a graduate of the Medical University of Sofia, Bulgaria and is a general practitioner. He has received numerous awards for his outstanding work and has traveled to many places around the world to represent Bulgaria in medical conventions and to share his faith.



Irina graduated from the New Bulgaria University with a bachelor's degree in Electric Guitar. She is a professional guitarist and also teaches guitar. She will play two Christian songs at the Rally.



Riley Allen is from Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church. He is a sophomore at D. H. Conley High School in Greenville, NC.



The Reverend Dr. Brad Williamson will be our speaker for the morning worship service for the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Brad Williamson is the Lead Pastor at Lee's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Dunn. Brad's denominational service includes: President of the FWB Ministerial Association, board member of the Christian Education Ministry, member of the Commission for Education for Christian Ministry, member of the Home Missions and Evangelism Advisory Council, Co-Director of the General Youth Conference 2 at Cragmont, and member of the Cape Fear Executive Committee. Brad has been an ordained minister in the Original Free Will Baptists for 20 years. His wife, Jennifer and

he have 6 children, ranging in age from 18 years to 2 years. Brad has a passion to see people have a deep desire to follow Christ and believes it is his calling in life to help teach and lead people into a life of discipleship. He also has a burden for the Free Will Baptist Denomination to succeed and be a healthy and productive part of God's redemptive work.

## **Boards and Committees**

### **Convention Executive Committee**

#### **Officers:**

President – Ronnie Hobgood (2018)  
Vice President – Josh Whitfield (2018)  
Secretary – Teresa Eason (2019)  
Treasurer – Barbara Lancaster (2019)

#### **Conference Representatives:**

Albemarle – Lynn Paul (2019)  
Cape Fear – Aubrey Williamson (2018)  
Central – Mark Hobbs (2018)  
Eastern – Justin Barnett (2018)  
Paul Palmer – Wayne Sheffield (2019)  
Pee Dee – Donnie Jernigan (2018)  
Piedmont – Tony Parr (2019)  
Western – Linwood Smith (2019)

### **Children's Home**

Sherman Dilley, Ken Benton, Billy Hines (2018)  
Johnny Sullivan, Wanda Crocker, Tony Parrish (2019)  
Doug Skinner, Sherry Askew, Katherine "Kat" Alphin (2020)  
Teresa Foster, Ila Penny, Ed Croom (2021)

### **Cragmont Assembly**

Donald Ribeiro, Neal Cox, Lloyd Jones, Jr. (2018)  
Mike Barnhill, Gary Bailey, Hope McPherson Fields (2019)  
Wyatt Brown, Nancy Boykin, Sharlene Howell (2020)

### **Foreign Missions**

Phil Hodges (2018), Philip Wood (2019), Phillip Boykin (2020), John Hill (2021), Gary Bailey (2022)

### **Home Missions & Evangelism**

Howard McPherson (2018)

### **Minister's Program**

Ricky Warren (2018), De W. Eakes (2019), Mike Scott (2020), Gene Paramore (2021), Doug Seymour (2022)

### **Retirement Homes**

Franklin Baggett, Lloyd Jones, Jr. (2018)  
Reginald Parker, Lewis Godwin (2019); Michael Barnhill, Cecil Tucker (2020)  
Joann Windley, Debbie Hare (2021)  
Freddie Edwards, Keith Phillips (2022)

### **Christian Education Ministry**

Kitty Barnes, Brenda Best, Matthew Miller (2018)  
Buddy Seay, Nancy Cale, Todd Sutton (2019)  
Karen Clayton, Brad Williamson, Wayne Hicks (2020)

**University of Mount Olive**

Carolyn Jernigan, Charles Renfrow, Kim Quinn, Earl Worley, Jr., Albert Elrod (2018)  
Donald Ribeiro, Stanley C. Harrell, John Hill, Emmett Pope, III, Jerilyn Lee (2019)  
Benjie Forrest, Donnie Lassiter, Wesley Beddard, Jean Averette, De W. Eakes (2020)  
Charles Pittman, Mary H. Drummond, Kenneth Jones, II, Howard Scott (2021)  
Adrian Grubbs, C. Darrell Horne, Eugene Sumner, J. Bryan Martin, Lawrence L. Rouse (2022)  
Christine Greene, Gene Jernigan, Lloyd Jones, Jr., Robert B. Kornegay,  
David L. McPherson (2023)

**Church Finance Association Representative**

Al Markuson (2018)

**Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Representative**

Vicki Medlin (2018)

**Convention Board of Trustees**

Paul Grubbs (2018), Joey Williams (2019), Walt Tyndall (2020)

**Laymen's League Board**

Russell Tyson, Michael Griffin, Michael Fredette (2018)  
Lewis Oakley, Bill Keen, Johnny Lewis, Herman Tyson (2019)  
James Cahoon, Jim Taylor, Jim Henson, Leon Butts (2020)

**Historical Commission**

Alan Lamm (2018), Pam Wood (2019) new members voted on at June 2015 Ex. Comm. Mtg.: Victor Jones and  
Heath Radford, Sheldon Denning (2020),  
Gary Barefoot (Honorary), Michael Pelt (Honorary)

**Chaplain's Commission**

Philip Wood (2018), Harry Grubbs (2019), Carla Williamson (2020), Mark Hobbs (2021), Preston Smith (2020)

**Commission on Youth Ministry and Student Ministry Leadership**

Tara Harrison (2018), Jonathan Whitford (2019), Heather McPherson (2020), Victor Jones (2021), Marci Rollins-Smart (2022)

**Commission on Education for Christian Ministry**

Stephen Prescott (2018), Dustin Bannister (2019), Marci Rollins-Smart (2020), Susan Lackey (2021), Brad  
Williamson (2022), Tommy Benson (2023), De Eakes (2024)

**Commission on Strategic Planning**

(2018) James Cahoon, Albemarle; Danny McPherson, Pee Dee; Rick Watson, Western  
(2019) Angela Warren, Cape Fear; Wayne Hicks, Piedmont  
(2020) Genevieve Taylor, Central; Pam Braxton, Eastern; Ed Croom, Al Warrick, Western



## RECOMINDATIONS

### Children's Home

The following recommendations are submitted to the Convention.

1. This report to the Convention be adopted.
2. Our churches observe Children's Home Day on the first Sunday of May.
3. The Convention and its member churches continue to pray for our Children's Home ministry.

This report and these recommendations are respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Johnny Sullivan

*Chairperson, Board of Directors*

Gary W. Lee

*President/CEO*

### Christian Education Ministry

1. That this report to the Convention be adopted and thereby support the 2018 Budget;
2. That the Convention continues to designate February as Christian Education Ministry Month with an emphasis on Sunday School Promotion within the local church and February 24, 2018 being set aside as Sunday School Rally Day in all OFWB churches.
3. That the Convention encourages each church to include the Christian Education Ministry's work in their budgets and continue to pray for its ministry as it expands to enhance the work of Christian Education in our churches;
4. That the Convention encourages each church to prayerfully and thoughtfully assess its Christian Education needs at least once each year and that they refer to this ministry for assistance as needed;
5. That each church considers assisting with Camp Scholarships for youth who need financial help;
6. That the Convention encourage smaller churches to work together to form a Co-op for VBS, youth work, Sunday School workshops and to pool their resources to accomplish this goal.

This report is submitted on behalf of the Original Free Will Baptist

Christian Education Ministry

Gail Heath, Director/Treasurer

Mrs. Kitty Barnes Chairperson.....The Reverend Buddy Seay, Assistant Chairman  
The Reverend Todd Sutton, Secretary..... Mrs. Karen Clayton, Assistant Secretary  
Mrs. Nancy Cale..... Mr. Wayne Hicks  
The Reverend Dr. Brad Williamson..... The Reverend Matthew Miller

### Church Finance

1. We ask this Convention's continuous prayers in support of this program.
2. We ask for approval of the budget presented.
3. We ask that October be designated as Minister's Program Month and that the second Sunday in October be set aside as Clergy Appreciation Day. In addition, we ask that the second Sunday in June be set aside as Minister's Program Sunday in the local church.
4. We ask that each church support the Christmas Cheer campaign in addition to their regular budget.

### OFWB International, Foreign Missions

1. That this report to the 2018 Convention be adopted.
2. That the Convention encourage every member to pray faithfully for revival and the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
3. That the months of **March** and **December** continue to be designated as "**Foreign Missions Month**" in our Convention calendar.
4. That the Convention support the 2018 budget.

This report and recommendations are submitted on behalf of OFWB International, Inc.

Phil Hodges, Chairman

Harold Jones, Executive Director

## **Home Missions and Evangelism**

1. That the Convention adopts this report
2. That the Convention encourage our churches and members to pray for the renewal of the vision of Home Missions and Evangelism
3. That the Convention stress the importance of helping people come to know Christ as Savior
4. That the Convention support the 2018 Budget
5. That the Convention churches make an effort towards church growth and revitalization, and towards promoting good church health and community involvement.

Respectfully submitted by

Franklin Baggett - Interim Director

Roger Haithcock – Advisory Council Member

Brad Williamson - Advisory Council Member

Ross Zachazruk – Advisory Council Member

## **Minister's Program**

1. We ask this Convention's continuous prayers in support of this program.
2. We ask for approval of the budget presented.
3. We ask that October be designated as Minister's Program Month and that the second Sunday in October be set aside as Clergy Appreciation Day. In addition, we ask that the second Sunday in June be set aside as Minister's Program Sunday in the local church.
4. We ask that each church support the Christmas Cheer campaign in addition to their regular budget.

## **University of Mount Olive College**

1. That the Convention officially adopts this annual report of the University of Mount Olive.
2. That the Convention continues to designate February and July as Christian Education months and that Sunday Schools and churches be encouraged to designate Fifth Sundays as scholarship days for the benefit of Original Free Will Baptist students attending the University of Mount Olive.
3. That the Convention prays faithfully for the University, and that those who lead and serve the University of Mount Olive will work earnestly as God's agents for the transformation of women and men.
4. That the Convention rallies the churches to encourage their members to consider the University of Mount Olive as their choice for higher education at the location and in the program that will best serve their needs.
5. That the Convention encourages all churches to prayerfully and financially support the University of Mount Olive.

John N. Blackwell, Ph.D.  
Barrow Chair of Biblical Studies

Earl W. Worley, Jr.  
Chair, Board of Trustees

**The 105th Annual Session  
of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
May 24, 2017  
“Growing in Grace Through Networking”  
II Corinthians 9:8-9**

The 105<sup>th</sup> Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists opened with a worship service. Praise and worship singing was led by the Rev. Stephen Prescott. Mr. Tom Casey served as Convention Pianist.

The Convention business session was called to order by Teresa Eason, Convention Secretary.

The Reverend Ronnie Hobgood, Convention President, introduced an agenda change and requested that proposed Constitutional changes be read by the Secretary. Motion was made, seconded, and passed for proposed changes to be laid on the table.

President Hobgood offered greetings and remarks related to our theme of *Growing in Grace Through Networking*. He challenged all to create a network of happenings in our local churches and share with one another ideas that will reach people for the kingdom of God, including millennials and future generations. President Hobgood led in an opening prayer.

Dr. Philip Kerstetter, President of the University of Mount Olive, delivered greetings and welcoming remarks to all in attendance. He introduced Dr. John Blackwell and Jessica Sellers for remarks regarding *The Challenge: Exploring God's Call*, a program for youth to develop leadership. Ms. Sellers brought remarks concerning her participation in *The Challenge* and encouraged churches to send their youth to participate as well.

President Hobgood recognized and welcomed special guests in attendance.

The Convention Executive Committee Report was presented for information during the morning session. In an effort to provide time for delegates to read the minutes, motion for approval was postponed until the afternoon session.

The Convention Treasurer's Report was given for information.

The Nominating Committee Report was given by Dr. Sam Weeks. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept this report. Opportunity to place others into nomination will be considered in the afternoon session.

Necessary business was conducted with an initial report of the Credentials Committee.

The Secretary presented a second reading of the proposed Constitutional changes.

The Rev. Josh Whitfield, Convention Vice President, moderated the business session at this point. Reports and Recommendations from the OFWB Ministries were begun with conclusion during the afternoon session. The following reports were given during the morning session: Children's Home, Church Finance Association (reported for information as no motion is required), Ministers' Program, Cragmont Assembly, Foreign Missions, FWB Press, Camp Vandemere, Retirement Homes, Christian Education Ministry, and The University of Mount Olive

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to recess for break.

Following break, the morning worship service convened with singing led by Rev. Stephen Prescott, accompanied by Mr. Tom Casey. Special music was provided by the Prescott Family. President Hobgood introduced Dr. Mike Cogdill, Founding Dean and Professor of the Campbell University Divinity School, who delivered an inspiring message of encouragement for moving forward as God's people.

Following lunch, President Hobgood called the meeting back to order. The Rev. De Eakes led in prayer.

Vice President Whitfield called for the conclusion of the Ministry Reports as follows: Woman's Auxiliary, NC Foundation for Christian Ministries, Historical Commission, Commission on Christian Education, Youth Convention, Chaplain's Commission, and Carolina Bible Institute. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Ministry Reports and Recommendations.

President Hobgood resumed the role of moderator.

The P. T. Lucas Ministerial Awards for Ministry were presented by Rev. Bryant Hines representing the Minister's Association.

- The award for full-time Minister of the Year was presented to Rev. Roger Haithcock, Pastor of Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church.
- The award for bi-vocational Minister of the Year was presented to Rev. Jeff Daughtry, Pastor of May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

President Hobgood introduced an Update on Home Missions and Evangelism. He summarized the steps taken in responding to the 2016 motion, along with those steps in securing professional guidance through a CPA and tax attorney. Rev. Josh Whitfield, Chair of the Sub-Committee, presented the Convention Update in addition to the two letters of update previously sent out. The floor was opened for questions to the Executive Committee related to the Home Missions update. No questions were asked. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept this partial report and update.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to suspend the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism with the Convention Executive Committee acting as said Board until work entrusted to us by the 2016 Convention is completed.

Mr. Gary Barefoot gave the Memorial Committee Report for information.

The Rev. Leon Grubbs reported that there were no resolutions to be presented to the 2017 Convention. He did extend appreciation to the University of Mount Olive for hosting the Convention.

Nominations from the floor were opened for Officers, Boards, and Committees. A nomination was made for Rev. Tony Parrish to serve as the Piedmont Conference representative to the Executive Committee. Motion was made, seconded, and passed, to accept this nomination.

No other motions from the floor were made. Motion was made seconded and passed to accept all those entered into nomination.

The Final Report of the Credentials Committee was given for information. Ministers-230, Delegates-212, Visitors-45 for a total of 487 in attendance. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to adopt the Credentials Committee Report.

Being individually considered, motions were made, seconded, and passed to adopt each proposed Constitutional Change.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to adopt the Executive Committee Report.

In other business, Rev. Dr. Ricky Warren commended the work of the Executive Committee during the preceding year. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to give a standing vote of confidence to the Executive Committee for the work done over the course of the year.

Rev. John Hill was recognized for a question as to whether the Executive Committee will seek legal remedy if the Financial Audit turns up illegal activity. President Hobgood reported that decision has not been made, as we continue to seek reports to complete the work entrusted to us.

Interim Director, Gary Bailey, made announcements, including encouragement to attend the night's *Call to Missions* at 7:00 pm where Rev. Owen Barrow will deliver a message with an emphasis on planting churches.

Installation of Officers, Boards, and Committees took place with Rev. Gary Bailey offering a prayer of dedication.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed that all unfinished business be left with the Executive Committee.

President Ronnie Hobgood concluded the 105<sup>th</sup> Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists with a prayer of benediction.

**Executive Committee**  
**June 6, 2017**  
**Convention Services**

President, Ronnie Hobgood welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Attending, in addition to President Hobgood, were Teresa Eason-Secretary, Barbara Lancaster-Treasurer, Mark Hobbs, Tony Parrish, Linwood Smith, Lynn Paul, Justin Barnett, Aubrey Williamson, and Interim Convention Services Director, Gary Bailey. Gary Bailey read Psalm 27 and led the group in prayer.

President Hobgood reminded all that as we provide information to our conferences and churches we are able to discuss and share only information in which action is taken by motion.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented by Teresa Eason and accepted by motion.

Feedback on the 2017 Convention was discussed, including positive response to the one-day convention, as well as suggestions for improvement. The Eastern Conference requests that our minutes reflect that their minutes were sent to the Press but were not in the 2017 Report Book. Gary Bailey will look into how we charge the conferences and ministries for the report book.

The written report on Home Missions and Evangelism given to the Convention will stand as presented. President Hobgood has appointed Josh Whitfield, Aubrey Williamson, and Franklin Baggett to talk with Jose Perez about the Hispanic ministries and create policies for operation. The Sub-Committee on Home Missions and Evangelism will be discontinued. President Hobgood provided an update on bills paid. He will be working on naming a sub-committee with representation from all ages to compile suggestions for moving forward with Home Missions.

The convention theme: Growing in Grace through Networking and ideas for networking were discussed for the coming year.

The Executive Committee went into executive session to consider an employment item of business.

The Executive Committee reconvened in open session. Linwood Smith reported the unanimous decision to extend the offer to Gary Bailey to fill the position of Director of Convention Services, on a part-time basis as he served while in an interim capacity. Gary has accepted the position.

**Other Committee Reports:**

President Hobgood made committee appointments as follows:

**Finance Committee**

Barbara Lancaster, Chairperson  
Justin Barnett  
Mark Hobbs

**Human Resources Committee**

Linwood Smith, Chairperson  
Buddy Seay  
Aubrey Williamson

**Ministry Liaisons**

Children's Home-Aubrey Williamson  
Christian Education-Barbara Lancaster  
Cragmont-Josh Whitfield  
Foreign Missions-Linwood Smith  
FWB Press-Mark Hobbs  
Home Missions-Teresa Eason  
Minister's Program-Justin Barnett

Retirement Homes-Tony Parrish  
University of Mount Olive-Ronnie Hobgood  
Youth Convention-Lynn Paul

President Hobgood is working on appointments to the Resolution 1 Committee. Danny Daniels will chair this committee.

Al Warwick will chair the Strategic Planning Committee. Other appointments for vacancies will be considered at the August meeting.

Gary Lee has submitted a recommendation for Pam Braxton to fill the seat on the Children's Home Board vacated by Tony Parrish, term, expiring 2019. Motion was made seconded and passed to accept this recommendation.

Gary Bailey provided an update on the Mark Lowry concert plans including sponsorships and ticket sales. He will be calling on us for assistance as needed.

Executive Committee Meetings for the year were approved as follows:

Tuesday, Aug.15, 2017	Thursday, Oct. 17, 2017	Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017
Thursday, Jan 11, 2018	Tuesday, March 13, 2018	Thursday, April 26, 2018

In other business, Mark Hobbs requested a replacement on the Chaplaincy Commission. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to appoint Richard Holmes to fill the unexpired term of Mark Hobbs, expiring 2021.

President Hobgood reported that he will appoint a group to begin the process of having the Free Will Baptist Press become a denominational ministry based on normal convention protocol.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn.

Aubrey Williamson closed in prayer  
**Next meeting: August 15, 2017**  
Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Eason, Secretary

## **Executive Committee Meeting August 22, 2017**

### **Convention Services**

President, Ronnie Hobgood welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Attending, in addition to President Hobgood, were Teresa Eason-Secretary, Barbara Lancaster-Treasurer, Mark Hobbs, Tony Parrish, Buddy Seay, Linwood Smith, Aubrey Williamson, and Convention Services Director, Gary Bailey. Buddy Seay read Isaiah 40:28-31 and led in prayer.

By motion, minutes of the June meeting and minutes of the 2017 Convention were approved as presented.

President Hobgood asked that ideas for Growing in Grace through Networking be sent to him.

President Hobgood provided an update on the 2016 Resolution 1 Independent Committee membership. He is waiting for a response from potential members. Danny Daniels will chair the Independent Committee. Once 3 members are secured, they can begin work on the resolution, and secure other members of the committee.

The 2017 Mark Lowry Concert was discussed, including feedback and suggestions. The concert cleared \$13,376.18. It was noted that Mark Lowry is trying to put together a Christmas program for 2018 and we are on the top of the list as a possible host. Gary Bailey would like to consider 2 events, one possibly focusing on a younger group. Possible 2018 concert acts were discussed.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the financial report.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to place \$10,000 into a savings account with Church Finance.

Reports from the Denominational Ministries of Christian Education, Children's Home, and the University of Mount Olive were received.

Gary Bailey provided the Convention Services Director Report, including plans for a meeting on September 12 with pastors age 40 and under. He has looked into improving and updating our webpage. He has received a price of \$1,223 to host our site for 3 years. Motion was made seconded and passed to improve our website at an expense not to exceed this amount, thereby giving Gary the flexibility to explore providers. Gary is also exploring a texting service to be able to send group texts rather than emails. He will talk with the young pastors for suggestions on 9/12.

#### Closed Session

The Executive Committee entered into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

#### Open Session

In open session, Linwood Smith reported that the Executive Committee wholly supports the work Convention Services Director, Gary Bailey is doing and there will be no adjustment in pay if he has to take some extra time off in caring for his wife, Kristie. President Hobgood shared a request from Kaye Chandler to transfer the deed to the Powel-Heath Family Cemetery back to her. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to transfer the deed to Kaye Chandler.

President Hobgood provided an update on Home Missions regarding taxes and bills paid to date. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to allow Josh Whitfield to move forward with a CPA from Mount Olive to bring payments to the NCDOR up to date.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to have the Morehead City and Landis properties appraised.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to allow Josh Whitfield to move the Home Missions bank account to a bank in Mount Olive.

Jose Perez will be asked to meet with us on September 7 and report on the work he is doing with the Hispanic Ministry. We should also consider on September 7 what direction we want to take for the Hispanic Ministry.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to negotiate an agreement with the Convention Services office for Home Missions to occupy office space in the Mount Olive office.

Jeff Hale, CPA, will be asked to submit a written report of findings on Home Missions.

President Hobgood has appointed the Executive Committee Officers to serve as the 2018 Convention Planning Committee and bring recommendations to the full Executive Committee.

Next meeting: September 7, 2017, 9:00, Convention Services Office, to discuss our plan for Home Missions.

The meeting was adjourned with Mark Hobbs leading in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Eason, Secretary

## **Executive Committee Meeting September 7, 2017 Convention Services**

President, Ronnie Hobgood welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Attending, in addition to President Hobgood, were Teresa Eason-Secretary, Barbara Lancaster-Treasurer, Mark Hobbs, Tony Parrish, Lynn Paul, Buddy Seay, Linwood Smith, Aubrey Williamson, and Convention Services Director, Gary Bailey.

President Hobgood read Matthew 16:13-19 and led in prayer.

We reviewed a written report submitted by Jose Perez with Hispanic ministries and prepared questions for Mr. Perez. We then met with Mr. Perez, giving him time to go through the report with us and answer questions we have regarding his role when he visits mission works, the people he has in charge of the mission points, and ordination options for the superintendents of the mission points.

Following our meeting with Mr. Perez, his continued employment was discussed. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to terminate the employment of Jose Perez and pay him for 90 days.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to contact the Eastern and Albemarle conferences to request that they bring the Aurora mission point and the Monte Sinai OFWB Mission, respectively, under conference supervision.

Note: The La Gloria De Dios Mission is not in agreement with following the Original Free Will Baptists Articles of Faith.

In discussing the future vision for Home Missions, we brainstormed a number of ideas, including:

- The need for vision and mission statements.
- Exploring other mission plans, e.g. Methodist
- Planting new churches
- Revitalizing established churches
- Need to promote missions
- Sending notice to churches to make us aware of interest in planting a church
- Employing an interim Director of Home Missions and Evangelism
- Need for basic secretarial assistance for Home Missions
- A goal of naming a new board by the 2018 Convention

We also discussed the future of Hispanic Ministries and the Biker Ministry. It was noted as a reminder that the only funding source for the Biker Ministry are those contributions designated for that ministry; no other financial support comes from the Home Missions and Evangelism budget.

Barbara Lancaster and Teresa Eason volunteered to handle some basic clerical matters for Home Missions at this time. Motion was made, seconded, and passed for the Human Resources Committee to explore and bring back a recommendation for Interim Director of Home Missions and Evangelism.

Ronnie Hobgood and Mark Hobbs will move forward on filing federal and state taxes, bringing to closure any delinquent tax issues, and paying all taxes to date.

No new or additional information was available on properties and real estate agent. Buddy Seay will take pictures of the Whiteville property, which is empty now. Ronnie Hobgood will set up a meeting with David Kornegay.

A letter and request from Josh Whitfield was considered. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to compensate Josh Whitfield for his work with Home Missions from June 2016 to August 2017 for a total of \$7,500. His availability for continued work with the Executive Committee as Vice-President was discussed.

The Executive Committee has received a letter from Wayne Britt resigning his position on the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism.



A request from the Biker Ministry for Wreaths Across America was considered. It was agreed upon that if the ministry wants to support this, the funding will need to come from Biker Ministry funds.

Next Meeting: October 17, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Convention Services

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Eason, Secretary

## **Executive Committee October 17, 2017 Convention Services**

President, Ronnie Hobgood called the meeting to order and welcomed all. Those in attendance in addition to President Hobgood were Teresa Eason-Secretary, Barbara Lancaster-Treasurer, Mark Hobbs, Tony Parrish, Buddy Seay, Aubrey Williamson, Linwood Smith, Lynn Paul, Justin Barnett, and Gary Bailey-Convention Services Director.

Gary Bailey read 1 Chronicles 16:23-34 and led in prayer.

Minutes of Executive Committee meeting held on August 22, 2017 and September 7, 2017 were reviewed. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept minutes of both meetings as presented.

In old business, President Hobgood reported that the transfer of the Heath-Powel cemetery deed is in process and will be transferred to Kaye Chandler who will be paying all associated expenses for deed transfer.

President Hobgood provided an update on the 2016 Resolution 1 Independent Committee. Danny Daniels will chair the committee; Clifton Hardison, and Vernie Fountain have also agreed to serve. They will seek 2 more members and begin their work as charged in Resolution 1.

The financial report was presented. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the financial report.

Howard Scott, Vice Chairman of the UMO Presidential Search Committee, provided an update, sharing the prospectus provided to applicants and potential candidates. Academic Search has been contracted to consult with the Search Committee on the process. The criteria being used in the selection process was reviewed.

Marci Rollins-Smart, Chair of the Commission on Education for Christian Ministries, provided an update on the *Journeying Together* certificate program for lay leaders and church staff.

Al Warwick with the Ministerial Association presented a proposal to begin a *New Minister Leadership Institute* of training opportunities primarily for ministers having served 5 years or less. Financial support in the amount \$20,000 to \$25,000 will need to be secured.

President Hobgood reported on the status of Home Missions. We have been assigned a new consultant with the NCDOR who has informed us that we are up to date with the NCDOR. Jeff Hale, CPA has informed us that a full audit cannot be conducted given the condition of the books, i.e. lack of receipts and accounting, checks written to cash with no documentation, seemingly excessive amounts spent on food and gas without supporting documentation. Questions regarding payment of payroll taxes to the IRS will be addressed with Amy Wells, tax attorney.

No new updates from the Albemarle and Eastern Conferences with regard to taking over the Aurora and Monte Sinai mission points was available.

The Biker Ministry and Home Missions checking accounts will be opened at Southern Bank in Mount Olive. The account at Little Bank will remain open until all tax payments are made. President Hobgood reported balances for Home Missions accounts at this time. We are up to date with payments to Church Finance. Our goal is to be debt-free as the Home Missions ministry takes a new direction.

Gary Bailey presented a standard contract between Convention Services and Home Missions for office space at the Convention Services office one day per week. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to contract for space one day per week.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to purchase a computer and needed software for Home Missions.

Linwood Smith reported the status on the search for an Interim Director of Home Missions. One individual has expressed interest in the part-time interim position thus far. The search will continue.

President Hobgood reported that he and Mark Hobbs met with Jose Perez to inform him of our decision to terminate the position he filled.

Gary Bailey presented the Convention Services Director report. April Goff has given 2-week notice that she will be leaving her position as Administrative Assistant. Gary Bailey and the Human Resources committee will advertise the position and will work together to fill the position.

Rev. Bailey reported on the meeting with ministers age 40 and under. Scott Satterfield will chair that group going forward.

Regarding the request of the Free Will Baptist Press and Board election, they will need to follow regular convention protocol for all denominational ministries.

Gary Bailey presented three quotes regarding the purchase of a new HVAC unit for the Convention Services office. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to purchase the Daikin 10 Ton Heat Pump from Anderson Heating and Cooling, Inc at a cost of \$10,460.00

Plans to update the Convention website will proceed.

Reports from liaisons to denominational ministries were given as follows:

Lynn Paul-Albemarle Youth Convention and State Youth Convention; Tony Parrish-Retirement Home, Mark Hobbs-The Free Will Baptist Press

Reports from those attending Conference meetings were received as information.

In other business:

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to delay transferring \$10,000 into the savings account until a later date.

Gary Bailey reported that he has been exploring potential performers for the Summer 2018 concert. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to secure Karen Peck and New River for the Summer 2018 Concert at a cost of \$5,000. He will explore other acts as well.

**Next Meeting: November 28, 2017**

Meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Eason, Secretary

**Executive Committee**  
**November 28, 2017**  
**Convention Services**

President Ronnie Hobgood called the meeting to order and welcomed all. Those in attendance in addition to President Hobgood were Teresa Eason-Secretary, Barbara Lancaster-Treasurer, Mark Hobbs, Tony Parrish, Buddy Seay, Aubrey Williamson, Linwood Smith, Lynn Paul, Justin Barnett, and Gary Bailey-Convention Services Director.

Gary Bailey read 1 Chronicles 16:23-34 and led in prayer.

Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting were reviewed. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes with one correction.

In old business, President Hobgood reported that the Eastern Conference does not wish to take the Aurora mission point under their administration. Representatives from the Eastern Conference have been invited to meet with the Executive Committee two times prior with no response from them. The invitation to meet with the Executive Committee on January 11, 2018 will be extended.

The financial report was presented. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the report as presented.

Linwood Smith reported on behalf of the Human Resource Committee. The HR Committee recommends the employment of Jennifer Williamson for the position of Administrative Assistant at a salary of \$14 per hour. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to employ Mrs. Williamson. The position of Interim Part-time (2 days per week) Director of Home Missions has been advertised, and a job description is being developed. The HR Committee hopes to make a recommendation in January.

President Hobgood provided an update on the University of Mount Olive presidential search on behalf of Howard Scott, Vice Chairman of the UMO Presidential Search Committee, who was unable to attend the meeting.

President Hobgood presented a timeline for Home Missions and Evangelism going forward. Justin Barnett will speak with the pastor at the Aurora and Monte Sinai mission points about their work. President Hobgood will ask Frankie Baggett and Al Markuson to join Rev. Barnett in talking with them.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to list Home Missions properties with realty companies in the locales where properties are located.

Linwood Smith and Don Fader will investigate the time share(s) that had been donated to Home Missions.

Gary Bailey presented the Convention Services Director report. He provided an update on the purchase of a new HVAC system, as well as an update on plans for the 2018 summer concert. Karen Peck has been secured, and the Wilmington Celebration Choir will come for \$1000. A third act for the concert will be pursued. Gary Bailey, Jennifer Williamson, Buddy Seay, and Tony Parrish will work together on plans for the summer concert. Work on receiving reports for the Convention Report Books will begin early in 2018.

Reports from liaisons to denominational ministries were given as follows:  
Aubrey Williamson-Children's Home and Tony Parrish-Retirement Homes.

The Executive Committee agreed to continue with the one-day Convention format for 2018.  
There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with Rev. Mark Hobbs leading in prayer.

**Next Meeting: January 11, 2018**

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Eason, Secretary

**Executive Committee**  
**January 11, 2018**  
**Convention Services**

President Ronnie Hobgood called the meeting to order and welcomed all. Those in attendance in addition to President Hobgood were Josh Whitfield-Vice President, Teresa Eason-Secretary, Mark Hobbs, Tony Parrish, Aubrey Williamson, Linwood Smith, Buddy Seay, Lynn Paul, and Convention Services Director-Gary Bailey.

Gary Bailey read from Romans 12 and led in prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted by motion.

Gary Bailey presented the financial report on behalf of Treasurer-Barbara Lancaster. The report stands as presented.

President Hobgood provided an update on the University of Mount Olive Presidential Search as well as opportunities for various groups to meet with the candidate being recommended.

President Hobgood provided a report on Home Missions, including efforts to secure bank records and receipts. President Hobgood will request Jeff Hale, CPA, to write a letter stating that based on his findings he will be unable to conduct a financial audit and the reasons why. The Home Missions properties will be listed for sale in the locales where they serve. The missions serving in those properties will be contacted to determine if they are interested in acquiring the respective property. The mission in Whiteville is interested in that property. The listing price will be provided them. Home Missions will do owner financing. Time shares belonging to Home Missions continue to be investigated.

**In Closed Session:**

Linwood Smith, Chair of the Human Resources (HR) Committee, made a recommendation on behalf of the committee to employ Frankie Baggett as Home Missions Interim Director at a daily pay rate of \$200. Rather than provide a job description at this time, basic duties were recommended and recorded as follows: Make deposits, pay bills, send receipts, represent Home Missions at various meetings, share the vision for the ministry, provide leadership for Home Missions and Evangelism, fundraising, and public relations. If Rev. Baggett accepts, he will serve one day per week in the Home Missions office at the Convention Services office and one day per week representing the ministry in the field at various meetings and conferences. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the recommendations of the HR Committee. President Hobgood will appoint an Advisory Council to work with Rev. Baggett to vision for a new ministry. Rev. Baggett will report to the Executive Committee prior to the 2018 Convention. It is the goal of the Executive Committee for a Home Missions Board to be named at the Convention, at which time the Advisory Council will cease to exist.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to give Convention Services Director-Gary Bailey a 10% pay increase, bringing his daily compensation to \$220.

**In Open Session:**

Gary Bailey presented the Convention Services Director report. He introduced to the Executive Committee Jennifer Williamson, Administrative Assistant. He addressed the request of the Free Will Baptist Press to come under the auspices of our Convention. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to support the request of the Press if they are willing to follow the Convention protocol for Boards. Rev. Bailey provided an update on plans for the July 27, 2018 summer concert, reporting that Karen Peck, the Wilmington Celebration Choir, and The Taylors have all been secured for the concert. He recommended having a maximum of 600 Numbered/Reserved seats to sell for \$15 per ticket and Bleacher/General Admission seats to sell for \$10 per seat. He also reported that the new Convention webpage should be operational in 2 to 3 weeks. He also presented constitutional amendments that need to be considered by the Convention.

President Hobgood has appointed Rev. Al Warrick as Chair of the Nominating Committee. The remaining members will be named at a later date.

There being no other reports or items of business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer led by Josh Whitfield who thanked the Executive Committee for compensating him for his work on Home Missions.

Next Meeting: March 13, 2018

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Eason, Secretary

## **Executive Committee March 6, 2018 Convention Services**

President Ronnie Hobgood called the meeting to order and welcomed all. Those in attendance in addition to President Hobgood were Teresa Eason-Secretary, Barbara Lancaster-Treasurer, Justin Barnett, Mark Hobbs, Tony Parrish, Aubrey Williamson, Linwood Smith, Lynn Paul, and Convention Services Director-Gary Bailey.

Mark Hobbs read from James 3:1-12 and led in prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted by motion.

There being no old business, the Executive Committee received the financial report and, by motion, approved the 2019 budget.

Rick Watson presented a request from the Free Will Baptist Press to come under the Convention umbrella as a ministry. He presented an "Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. In discussing the request among the Executive Committee, a motion was made to reconsider the January 11, 2018 motion regarding the previously made Free Will Baptist Press request to come under the Convention. Motion to reconsider was seconded and passed. Following discussion, motion was made, seconded, and passed that the January 11, 2018 motion would stand as stated: "Motion was made, seconded, and passed to support the request of the Press if they are willing to follow the Convention protocol for Boards." (January 11, 2018)

President Hobgood presented the tentative plans made by the Executive Committee Officers/Convention Planning Committee for the 2018 Convention which were accepted by the full Executive Committee.

Gary Bailey presented the Convention Services Director report including his work on the 2018 Convention and Report Books, as well as the Summer Concert. He is securing sponsors and encouraging ticket distribution and purchase. Rev. Bailey thanked us for the pay increase and confidence shown him in support of his work as Director.

Ministry Liaison Reports: Mark Hobbs-Free Will Baptist Press

Representatives from the Eastern Conference Executive Committee (ECEC) including Mitchell Parker, David Smith, Don Fader, and Crandall Fountain spoke with the Convention Executive Committee about the Silver Creek FWB Church petitioning the Eastern Conference for sole ownership of the property which is now jointly held by the church and the conference. The ECEC expressed willingness to honor the request of the Silver Creek Church, but they have questions concerning their authority to act unilaterally on this matter. In discussion among the Convention Executive Committee it was determined that Ronnie Hobgood, Aubrey Williamson, and Gary Bailey will draft a supportive response for the ECEC and send it to Convention Executive Committee members for approval prior to forwarding to the ECEC.

Linwood Smith and Don Fader presented an update on the Home Missions time shares. It appears that Home Missions owns three time shares. Linwood Smith will further investigate the time shares and report back to the Executive Committee.

President Hobgood provided an updated report on Home Missions and the work of Frankie Baggett-Interim Director and the Home Missions Advisory Council. President Hobgood also provided an update on the UMO Presidential Search.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Eason-Secretary

Next Meetings:

- Joint meeting of Executive Committee Officers and Ministry Directors at May's Chapel-March 20, 2018; 11:00 a.m.
- Executive Committee-April 26, 2018

**Report of the Nominating Committee  
105<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Convention of OFWB**

**Executive Committee: (2019)**

**Convention Officers:** - Secretary: \*Teresa Eason, Treasurer: \*Barbara Lancaster

**Conference Representatives:** Albemarle - \*Lynn Paul; Paul Palmer - \*Wayne Sheffield; Piedmont:  
\_\_\_\_\_, Western: \*Linwood Smith

**Children's Home: (2021)** - \*Teresa Foster, \*Ila Penny, \*Ed Croom

**Cragmont Assembly: (2020)** - \*Wyatt Brown, \*Nancy Boykin, \*Sharlene Howell Scott

**Foreign Missions:** - \*Gary Bailey (2022)

**Home Missions and Evangelism:** - \_\_\_\_\_ (2023)

**Minister's Program:** - \*Doug Seymour (2022)

**Retirement Homes:** - \*Freddie Edwards, \*Keith Phillips (2022), Franklin Baggett (2018)  
(unexpired term of Clifford Ball), Tom Parrish (2020) (unexpired term of Cecil Tucker)

**Christian Education Ministry:** - \*Karen Clayton, \*Brad Williamson, \*Wayne Hicks (2020),  
Matthew Miller (2018) (unexpired term of Jay Winnberry)

**University of Mount Olive: (2023)** - \*Christine Greene, \*Gene Jernigan, \*Lloyd Jones Jr.,  
\*Robert B. Kornegay, \*David L. Mcpherson

**Church Finance Association Representative:** - \*Al Markuson (2018)

**Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Representative:** - \*Vicki Medlin (2018)

**Convention Board of Trustees:** - \*Walt Tyndall (2020)

**Laymen's League Board: (2020)** - \*James Cahoon, \*Jim Taylor, \*Jim Henson, \*Leon Butts

**Historical Commission:** - Sheldon Denning (2020)

**Chaplain's Commission:** - \*Preston Smith (2022)

**Commission on Youth Ministry and Student Ministry Leadership:** - \*Marci Rollins-Smart (2022), Tara  
Harrison (2018) (unexpired term of Alex McCarter), Jonathan Whitford (2019) (unexpired term of Heath  
Conner)

**Commission on Education for Christian Ministry:** - De W. Eakes (2024)

**Commission on Strategic Planning: (2020)** - \*Genevieve Taylor, Central; \*Pam Braxton, Eastern; \*Ed Croom, Al  
Warrick. Western

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Nominating Committee:**

Sam Weeks, Chairman; Darrell Horne, Chris Singleton, Frank Harrison and Randall Smith

\* Denotes succeeding themselves

**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR  
CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
MAY 19, 2016**

Today we remember the passing of ministers and ministers' wives of our denomination since our last Convention session. Two passages from God's Word speak to the call to faith and the character of a Christian minister and I read:

*From the OT- Malachi 2:5-7 -the Lord Almighty says "My covenant with him was a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him, that he might fear; and he feared me, he stood in awe of my name. True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts."*

*From the NT - 2 Timothy 4: 6-8 - "As for me, already my life is being poured out on the altar, and the hour for my departure is upon me. I have run the great race, I have finished the course, I have kept faith. And now the prize awaits me, the garland of righteousness which the Lord, the all-just Judge, will award me on that great Day; and it is not for me alone, but for all who have set their hearts on his coming appearance. "*

Memorial Service  
Convention of Original FWB  
May 19, 2016

Since the last Convention convened, thirteen (13) ministers of our denomination have departed this life for that home promised to all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. As I call the names of the deceased, if there are family members present, please stand when the name of you relative is called and remain standing until all names have been called. Following are the deceased:

<b>The Reverend Royce Lee Honeycutt</b>	Born March 14, 1941	Died April 29, 2015	Age 74
	Member of the Piedmont Conference		
<b>The Reverend James Walter Proctor, II</b>	Born Aug. 26, 1963	Died June 3, 2015	Age 51
	Member of the Western Conference		
<b>The Reverend Robert Milton May</b>	Born Feb. 7, 1930	Died June 24, 2015	Age 85
	Member of the Albemarle Conference		
<b>The Reverend Ernest Jones, Jr.</b>	Born July 28, 1949	Died Aug. 19, 2015	Age 66
	Member of the Eastern Conference		
<b>The Reverend Hayes Dean Kennedy</b>	Born April 23, 1939	Died Oct. 11, 2015	Age 76
	Member of the Cape Fear Conference		
<b>The Reverend Foy Lee Houston</b>	Born April 1, 1941	Died Dec. 15, 2015	Age 70
	Member of the Eastern Conference		
<b>The Reverend Richard Evan McKeel, Jr.</b>	Born Jan. 31, 1948	Died Dec. 21, 2015	Age 74
	Member of the Cape Fear Conference		
<b>The Reverend John Bryant Narron</b>	Born April 25, 1928	Died Jan. 4, 2016	Age 87
	Member of the Central Conference		



<b>The Reverend Dewey Lee Hilbourn</b>	Born Feb. 5, 1923	Died Jan. 5, 2016	Age 92
	Member of the Pee Dee Conference		
<b>The Reverend Daniel Andrew Jordan, Jr.</b>	Born Dec. 7, 1924	Died Jan. 26, 2016	Age 91
	Member of the Cape Fear Conference		
<b>The Reverend James Isaac Corbett</b>	Born Dec. 28, 1947	Died Feb. 15, 2016	Age 68
	Member of the Cape Fear Conference		
<b>The Reverend Arthur David Dehart</b>	Born Nov. 7, 1935	Died Feb. 15, 2016	Age 81
	Member of the Western Conference		
<b>The Reverend Tom Miller</b>	Born Jan. 9, 1924	Died April 22, 2016	Age 92
	Member of the Central Conference		

Since the last Convention convened, three (3) ministers' wives have died. If there are family members of the deceased present, please stand when the name of your relative is called and remain standing until all names have been called. Following are the deceased:

<b>Mary Moore Dudley</b>	Born Oct. 2, 1940	Died Mar. 5, 2016
	Wife of the late Rev. Thomas Bruce Dudley of the Central Conference. Mary was the Executive Director of the OFWB Sunday School Ministry for 25 years.	
<b>Angela Lora McConnell Littlefield</b>	Born 1974	Died Mar. 30, 2016
	Wife of the Rev. Dwayne Littlefield of Paul Palmer Conference	
<b>Monie Marie Nuttall</b>	Born 1953	Died Apr. 30, 2016
	Wife of the Rev. Donnie Nuttall of the Piedmont Conference	

**NOTE:** If the names of any deceased ministers or ministers' wives have been over-looked, I ask that you make that known at this time.

#### **PRAYER-**

**Our Father and the Father of our fathers, in resignation to your will, we lift up the names of these our departed brothers and sisters who have given their lives to sanctify thy name. May the remembrance of their faith and endeavors be strength to us while we yet live. And now may we say with John the Revelator, "Then I heard a voice from heaven say, write: blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them." AMEN.**

Please offer silent prayers as we conclude the service with instrumental music by Tom Casey. Mr. Chairman, I offer this report as information and recommend its adoption.

Gary Fenton Barefoot,  
Memorial Committee  
May 19, 2016

## **OBITUARIES 2015-2016**

### ***The Reverend Royce Lee Honeycutt***

Rev. Royce Lee Honeycutt (age 74), a member of the Piedmont Conference, of 226 S. Church Street, Rockingham, NC, born March 14, 1941 in Johnston County, NC, was the son of the late Watt and Honore Craft Honeycutt. He died April 29, 2015 at First Health Hospice House in Pinehurst. He was associate pastor of East Rockingham FWB Church where he had over the years led many souls to Christ. He was characterized as one with a caring personality and a great sense of humor. His favorite pastimes were fishing and being with family. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Lois Webster Honeycutt; daughters, Linda Honeycutt, Priscilla Chavis (Paul), and Frances Honeycutt; brothers, Bobby, Billy, Larry, Junior, and Don; sisters, Joyce Krider (his twin) and Pat Pressley; four grandchildren and four great grandchildren. A funeral service was held on May 2, 2015 at East Rockingham FWB Church with the Revs. Johnny Johnson and Frank Mcquage officiating. Burial followed in the McDonald Cemetery, Old Wire Road, Laurel Hill, NC.

### ***The Reverend James Walter "Jamie" Proctor II***

Rev. James Walter "Jamie" Proctor, 11 (age 51), a member of the Western Conference, born August 26, 1963 in El Paso, TX, was the son of Carlotta Proctor of Selma and the late James Elvin Proctor. He died June 3, 2015 in the SECU Hospice House in Smithfield, NC. He was the pastor of Wildwood FWB Church in Clayton, NC where he lived. Survivors in addition to his mother include his wife Janet Proctor; son, Cody and daughter, Victoria; sisters, Lisa Proctor, Betsy P. Roose (Chris) and Patricia P. Weaver (Jeff); and numerous nieces and nephews. A funeral service was held on June 5, 2015 at Wildwood FWB Church with the Rev. Norman Gordon officiating.

### ***The Reverend Robert Milton May***

Rev. Robert Milton May (age 85), a member of the Albemarle Conference, born February 7, 1930, in Maury, NC, was the son of the late Marion R. and Alice Rouse May. He died June 25, 2015 and was a member of the Grimsley FWB Church at the time of his death. Robert was licensed in 1959 and ordained on July 30, 1961 at the Black Jack FWB Church in the Central Conference, having served more than 61 years in the ministry before his retirement. He served in many capacities within the denomination including President of the Convention of OFWBs, the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College, the Board of Directors of the FWB Children's Home, the FWB Press Board, the Superannuation Board, and Moderator of the Albemarle Conference. He received the Minister of the Year Award in 1967 and served for more than 30 years as the Chaplain of the Vidant Roanoke Chowan Hospital. In addition to his parents he was predeceased by his first wife, Sudie Herring May. Survivors in addition to his wife Jean Thomas Jones May are sons Tommy May and Brad May (Sheila); step children, Lisa Vail (Luke) and Lee Jones (Pam); five grandchildren and two great grandchildren; and three step grandchildren and three step great grandchildren; sister Fannie Arthur and many nieces and nephews. Graveside funeral services were held on Saturday, June 27, at the Snow Hill Cemetery with the Rev. Keith Phillips officiating.

### ***The Reverend Ernest Jones, Jr.***

Rev. Ernest Jones, Jr. (age 66), a member of the Eastern Conference, was born July 28, 1949 and died August 19, 2015. There was no published obituary, so details of family and services is not available. We do know that he was ordained Oct. 21, 1999 and his wife's name is Mary Ellen. Other known information is that he pastored Edward's Chapel FWB Church (Eastern Conf.) in 2004.

### ***The Reverend Hayes Dean Kennedy***

Rev. Hayes Dean Kennedy (age 76), a member of the Cape Fear Conference, born April 23, 1939 to the late Arthur and Mamie Kennedy in Beulaville, NC, died Oct. 11, 2015 at Kitty Askins Hospice Center, Goldsboro, NC after a battle with cancer. He was preceded in death by his wife, Treva Jeanes Kennedy and his sister Sarah Frances Bostic. Dean pastored Haymount FWB Church in Fayetteville for over 30 years and is remembered as a loving, caring leader who drove a distance to minister to the church and its membership. In addition to his ministry, Dean served for 30 years in the Federal Aviation Administration, retiring in 1991 as a FAA Sector Field Office Chief. After retirement he started his own business servicing instrument landing systems at numerous airports in several states. Survivors include his children, daughter Melanie Seymour (Doug, Rev.) and son Rocky Kennedy (Gwen); six grandchildren, five great grandchildren; sister, Norma Faye Willard and brother, Arthur Frederick Kennedy. A funeral service was held at Blended Fellowship FWB Church, Pikeville, NC on Oct. 14, 2015 at 7:00 pm and a graveside service at East Duplin Memorial Garden, Beulaville, NC on Oct. 15. At Dean's request, any memorials were asked to be directed to Blended Fellowship, a ministry focused on the deaf and hard of hearing, a work that he had supported and after retirement had spent many hours volunteering and working side by side with his deaf friends. (The work of Blended Fellowship has been led for many years by his son in law and daughter, the Rev. Doug Seymour and his wife Melanie.)

### ***The Reverend Foy Lee Houston***

Rev. Foy Lee Houston (age 70), a member of the Eastern Conference, born April 10, 1945, in Potters Hill, NC to the late Posie and Oralee Thompson Houston and died Dec. 15, 2015 at his home in Richlands, NC. He was a veteran of the US Army and was an auto body repairman and a pastor for many years. Survivors include his wife, Faye B. Houston and his two sons, Anthony and Jesse; brother, Dwight Houston; and four grandchildren. A funeral service was held on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015, at Jones Funeral Home Chapel with the Revs. Westley Houston and Volney Bryan officiating. Burial, with military honors, followed in Onslow Memorial Park, Jacksonville, NC.

### ***The Reverend Richard E. McKeel***

Rev. Richard E. McKeel (age 67), a member of the Cape Fear Conference and a resident of Selma, NC, was born Jan. 31, 1948, the youngest of ten children born to the late Roby and Elizabeth Evans McKeel. He died Dec. 21, 2015 following a brief illness. Richard was ordained Dec. 28, 1997 at Pleasant Plain FWB Church by the Western Conference. He was a graduate of Princeton High School and the Carolina Bible Institute. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War. He had been a minister since 1992, and the last 15 years had served at Stevens Chapel FWB Church, Benson, NC. Survivors include his wife, Nova Ann Tyner McKeel; sons, Jeff McKee (Karen) and Matthew McKeel three grandchildren; brothers, Willie (Lessie) and Worth (Janet); sister, Evelyn Allen. A funeral service was held on Dec. 26 in the chapel of Parrish Funeral Home, Selma, NC with the Revs. Dennis Pollock and Rickey Evans officiating. Burial followed in the Evans-McKeel Cemetery near Pine Level, NC.

### ***The Reverend John Bryant "J.B." Narron***

Rev. John Bryant Narron (age 87), a member of the Central Conference and a resident of Greenville, NC, was born Apr. 5, 1928, in Wilson Co., NC, the son of the late Rufus and Mary Narron and died Jan. 4, • 2016 at the NC State Veterans Home in Kinston, NC. He was ordained into the ministry by the Western- Conference on Oct. 13, 1950. He began his ministry in the pastorate prior to 1957 serving numerous churches in eastern NC, including Kinston, Howell Swamp, Sweet Gum Grove and Rose of Sharon. He entered the Air Force in May of 1957 as a Chaplain where he remained until his retirement in 1985, having served at Seymour Johnson AFB, NC, as Installation Staff Chaplain during the last three years of his service career. After retirement he again returned to the pastorate and was a member of Greenville First FWB Church. In Sept. of 2000 he was recognized for his 50 years of service in the ministry by the

Greenville First FWB Church. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Marie Hester Narron; son, John Mark Narron (Bonnie) and daughters Amy B. Barber (Daryl) and Ruth M. N. Hicks (Russ); three grandchildren; two step grandchildren, two great grandchildren and four step great grandchildren; and a sister, Eleanor Grey Dickerson. He was preceded in death by a brother, Elwood Narron. A funeral service was held on Jan. 7, 2016, at the First FWB Church, Greenville, NC with Dr. Keith Gardner and Rev. Ronnie Hobgood officiating. Burial with military honors followed at the Homestead Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Greenville, NC.

***The Reverend Dewey Lee Hilbourn***

Rev. Dewey Lee Hilbourn, (age 92) a member of the Pee Dee Conference and a resident of Tabor City, NC, was born Feb. 5, 1923 in Horry County, SC, the son of the late Barde Lee and Blanche Fowler Hilbourn and died Jan. 5, 2016, in Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Life Care Center, Whiteville, NC. Survivors include his son, John Hilbourn and a daughter Evelyn Lucille H. Dameron; brother, Carlyle Hilburn; seven grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Velma Estelle Fowler Hilbourn; brothers, Horace Hilbourn and Roy Hilbourn; sisters, Ovella Evans and Louise Hilbourn; a grandson and a great grandchild. A funeral service was held on Jan. 8, 2016 in the Inman Ward Funeral Home Chapel with burial following in Fowler Hilbourn Cemetery, Tabor City, NC. [Variations in spelling of Hilbourn are as listed in the obituary of the funeral home.]

***The Reverend Daniel Andrew Jordan, Jr.***

Rev. Daniel Andrew Jordan, Jr. (age 91), a member of the Cape Fear Conference, and a resident of Mooresville, NC, was born Dec. 7, 1924 and died Jan. 26, 2016. We have no information about his ministry except that in 1980 he was the new pastor at Gethesame FWB Church (Wilson). Survivors include his daughter Judith J. McDade; sons, Daniel Andrew Jordan, III (Cherie), Phillip Alan Jordan (Cathie), and Gregory Lee Jordan (Libby); nine grandchildren; 22 great grandchildren; sister, Belle Gifford, and brother, William "Billy" Jordan. A graveside service was held at Evergreen Memorial Park, Wilson, NC on Jan. 30, 2016 with the Rev. Rudy Owens officiating.

***The Reverend James Isaac Corbett***

Rev. James Isaac Corbett (age 68), a member of the Cape Fear Conference and a resident of the Smithfield area, was born Dec. 28, 1947 in Wayne County to the late James Clarence and Lela Person Corbett. He was ordained on Feb. 25, 1987 by the Cape Fear Conference and had attended the Carolina Bible Institute. He had pastored several FWB churches in eastern NC and at the time of his death was a member of Riverside FWB Church where he served a Sunday School teacher. Through some 30 years of ministry, he was always an encourager as well as a pastor. Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Susan Corbett; daughter, Janet Lee (Gary); brother, Earl Corbett (Elsie); sisters, Estelle Pierce (Charles) and Betty Stone (Willie); and grandchildren, Peyton and Reagan Lee. He was preceded in death by a brother, Carlton Ray Corbett. A funeral service was held on Feb. 18, 2016 at Tee's Chapel FWB Church and burial followed in the church cemetery.

***The Reverend Arthur David DeHart***

Rev. Arthur David DeHart (age 81), a member of the Western Conference and a resident of the Sims, NC, area, was born Nov. 7, 1935 to the late Charles L. and Nancy S. DeHart. A native of Patrick County, VA, he died Feb. 16, 2016. He served in the US Army as a paratrooper in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. After working in sales after his service discharge for several years, he felt the call to the ministry and was ordained and served in the pastorate in many churches in eastern NC. David was known for his empathy for those in difficult circumstances and showed generosity as a testament of his love for others. Survivors include his wife Algie G.; daughter, Denise Ann Vesce (Tom) and son, Edmund DeHart; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Arthur David DeHart, Jr. A funeral service was held Feb. 18, 2016 in the Kenly FWB Church with burial in the Kenly Cemetery with the Rev. Ray Wells officiating.

***The Reverend Tom Miller, Jr.***

Rev. Tom Miller, Jr. (age 92), a member of the Central Conference and a resident and native of Greene Co, NC, was born on Jan. 9, 1924 to the late Thomas and Lizzie Monroe Miller, the third of eight children. He died Apr. 22, 2016. Rev. Miller was licensed to preach on Jan. 11, 1967, and ordained July 2, 1967. Having joined Hugo FWB Church in 1941, he and his wife later joined Mount Calvary FWB Church in Hookerton in 1958. It was here he received his call to preach. His first pastorate was at Trinity FWB Church, La Grange, NC. He later served Grimsley, Hugo and Grant's Chapel FWB churches for a total of 35 years of pastorates. As well as being a minister he was also active in his other vocation of farming. Survivors include his wife of 70 years, Mabel Johnson Miller; sons, Roy Miller (Connie) and Bobby Miller (Lou); sister, Dorothy Cannon; four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two great grandchildren. A funeral service was held April 24, 2016 in the chapel of Taylor- Tyson Funeral Home with Reverend Dr. Charles Russell officiating. Committal services were held on April 25th at the Snow Hill Cemetery.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR  
CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
MAY 23, 2017**

We remember today the passing of 7 ministers and 3 ministers' wives of our denomination since the last Convention session.

From Rev. 14 :13 we hear the words of John: "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest' from their labours; and their works do follow them." In resignation to the will of our Lord, we lift up the names of these our departed brothers and sisters who have given their lives to sanctify His holy name. May the remembrance of their faith and endeavors be strength to us while we yet live.

Since the last Convention, seven (7) ministers of our denomination have departed this life for the home promised to all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. As I call the names of the deceased, if there are family members present, please stand when the name of your relative is called and remain standing until all names have been called. The deceased are as follows:

<b>The Rev. Millard Earl Cox</b>	May 20, 1927-July 7, 2016 (89)	Piedmont Conf.
<b>The Rev. Austin Graham Lane</b>	March 20, 1921- Sept. 2, 2016 (95)	Eastern Conf.
<b>The Rev. Edmundo G. Gonzalez</b>	May 9, 1931-Feb.23, 2017 (85)	Cape Fear Conf.
<b>The Rev. Michael Gauker Warning</b>	Jan. 27, 1945 - March 15, 2017 (72)	Eastern Conf.
<b>The Rev. Nelson Ray Rollins</b>	Sept. 3, 1949 - March 26, 2017 (67)	Western Conf.
<b>The Rev. Dr. William F. "Billy" Toler</b>	June 27, 1946 - May 9, 2017 (70)	Western Conf.
<b>The Rev. Owen Kennon Arthur, Jr.</b>	June 13, 1941- May 13, 2017 (75)	Eastern Conf.

**Since the last Convention, three (3) ministers' wives have died. Again, if there are family members of the deceased present, please stand when the name of your relative is called and remain standing until all names have been called. The deceased are as follows:**

<b>Mrs. Elsie Mooneyham Benson</b>	June 18, 1929 - June 4, 2016 (86) (Wife of the late Rev. Swade Benson)
<b>Mrs. Hattie Mae Nethercutt Everton</b>	March 14, 1926 - July 7, 2016 (90) (Wife of the late Rev. J. Wilbert Everton)
<b>Mrs. Violet Willis Styron</b>	Sept. 18, 1927 - Sept. 29, 2016 (89) (Wife of the late Rev. Clifton Styron, Sr.)
<b>Mrs. Radie Thigpen Taylor</b>	Feb. 1, 1925- May 24, 2017 (92) (Wife of the late Rev. O. B. Taylor)

**Note: If the names of any deceased ministers or ministers' wives have been over-looked, please make that known at this time.**

**In memory of the deceased, please offer silent prayers as we conclude this service with instrumental music by Tom Casey.**

**Mr. Chairman, I offer this report as information and recommend it adoption.**

**Gary Fenton Barefoot, for the Memorial Committee, Convention of OFWBs, May 2, 2017**

**Convention of Original Free Will Baptists  
Actual & Proposed Budgets Income**

<b>INCOME</b>				
	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>
Church Contributions	\$ 53,560.	\$ 51,011.	\$ 55,000.	\$ 52,000.
Church Dues	9,270.	7,900.	8,900.	8,000.
Conference Contributions	0.	1,745.	2,000.	2,000.
Convention Registration Fees	22,660.	21,947.	22,600.	22,500.
Convention Worship Offerings	2,100.	1,576.	2,000.	1,800.
Individual Contributions	1,050.	343.	1,000.	500.
Miscellaneous Income	500.	71.	500.	150.
Other Contributions	1,800.	0.	1,500.	1,000.
Promotional Event	20,000.	26,995.	20,000.	13,000.
National Armed Forces	220.	233.	200.	200.
Wall of Honor Endowment Income	1,000.	3,982.	3,000.	4,000.
Sales Income (Rent, OFWB mdse., Other)	9,000.	10,953.	9,000.	11,000.
Program & Report Book	5,500.	4,650.	5,000.	4,700.
Other Reimbursements	600.	0.	500.	200.
Wall of Honor Interest	500.	518.	140.	530.
Leadership Endowment Interest	120.	102.	150.	120.
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 127,890.</b>	<b>\$ 132,026.</b>	<b>\$ 131,490.</b>	<b>\$ 121,700.</b>

**Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**  
**Actual & Proposed Budgets Expenses**

<b>EXPENSES</b>				
	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>
Convention Costs	\$ 3,090.	\$ 2,933.	\$ 500.	\$ 3,300.
Executive Committee Expenses	1,000.	26.	1,000.	500.
Wall of Honor Endowment	300.	1,500.	1,560.	2,000.
Wall of Honor Expenses		75.		100.
Benevolence	100.	0.	100.	100.
Copier Expense	3,500.	3,624.	3,300.	3,700.
Repairs & Maintenance	5,250.	3,027.	7,800.	4,000.
Office Operating Expenses	2,300.	672.	780.	800.
Telephone & Internet	3,200.	3,406.	3,000.	3,500.
Utilities	3,230.	5,565.	6,500.	6,200.
Insurance	2,000.	1,572.	2,200.	1,600.
Interest & Fees	50.	155.	50.	160.
Subscriptions	150.	80.	150.	100.
Office Printing & Supplies	2,575.	1,247.	3,500.	2,000.
Postage	700.	487.	750.	500.
Special Events	15,000.	14,722.	15,000.	15,000.
Promotional	275.	184.	1,000.	200.
Christian Education Commission	0.	20.	500.	0.
Fraternal Relations	250.	0	250.	250.
National Armed Forces	750.	0	750.	750.
Strategic Planning	1,470.	0	1,400.	1,400.
Other Expenses	1,100.	221.	500.	300.
Payroll Tax Expense	2,300.	3,392.	6,300.	4,000.
Salaries	59,200.	43,205.	57,000.	56,000.
Employee Benefits/Bonuses	0.	1,548.	1,000.	2,000.
Travel Expenses	7,000.	229.	3,500.	240.
Convention Services Office Rent	9,000.	9,000.	9,000.	9,000.
Program & Report Book	3,600.	3,210.	3,600.	3,500.
Other Reimbursement Exp.	500.		500.	500.
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 127,890.</b>	<b>\$ 100,100.</b>	<b>\$ 131,490.</b>	<b>\$ 121,700.</b>



**Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**  
**Balance Sheet**  
as of December 31, 2017

**ASSETS**

<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
Southern Bank Checking	78,866.61
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	78,866.61
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Leadership Endowment	5,916.44
Undeposited Funds	1,050.00
Wall of Honor Funds	26,075.04
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	33,041.48
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	111,908.09
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Accumulated Depreciation	-3,020.87
Furniture and Equipment	3,419.72
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	398.85
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>112,306.94</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
Payroll Liabilities	1,524.04
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	1,524.04
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	1,524.04
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	1,524.04
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Balance Equity	66,974.60
Unrestricted Net Assets	25,226.93
Net Income	18,581.37
<b>Total Equity</b>	110,782.90
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>112,306.94</b>



## **FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME**

### **Annual Report To the 106<sup>th</sup> Session of the CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS May 23, 2018**

#### **Growing in Grace**

*But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

*To him be glory both now and forever. Amen.*

2 Peter 3:18

#### **Mission Statement**

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is dedicated to providing a ministry of services to promote the spiritual, emotional, education, and physical well-being of children and families.

This month the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is privileged to celebrate 98 years as a servant of our denomination to minister to orphaned, dependent, neglected, and abused children. With its humble beginning in 1920 as a home for orphans, the Children's Home has adapted through the years to the changing needs of children, families, and society. We pray that we will continually reach out to youth and their families to meet their needs.

Because God has been gracious to us, we are able to share His grace with the youth in our care. We show them kindness and teach them to be kind to one another. We are forgiving when they act out, and we teach them to show forgiveness when others mistreat them. Many of our youth say they don't deserve the grace they are given here, and we remind them they are indeed worthy because God loves them. Just as God's grace gives us hope when faced with fear, we teach the youth how to cope with scary situations and an uncertain future. Most importantly, they are taught that they can have hope in God at all times. We praise God when we see evidence that our youth are growing in grace during their stay with us and pray that they will continue to grow after returning to their families.

Thank you for your prayers and gifts. We receive encouragement from your partnership in this ministry. Please know that our youth are aware of the denomination's support and appreciate all you do for them.

#### **Highlights**

Served 96 children and their families through residential and family foster care programs

Served children from 16 counties in eastern North Carolina

Baptized 12 youth

Three youth graduated high school, and three attend college/technical school

Celebrated Friends of Children Appreciation Day on November 4, 2017

Held fifth annual 5K Home Run/Walk for Children with the largest participation to date

Conducted 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Paper & Cleaning Products Drive in conjunction with the Carolina Mudcats

Opened a before- and after-school program to serve elementary school children in the Middlesex community

## Goals

Please be in prayer for the Home as we endeavor to accomplish the goals listed below.

To offer the best possible care for children and families by evaluating our services and implementing new programs as needed

To return our youth to a family as soon as possible

To place our foster children in Forever Homes (through adoption by our foster parents)

To organize and promote activities and events to benefit our youth

To guide youth in Christian learning and lead them to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ

To continue growing our family foster care program by recruiting Christian foster parents

To continue growing our before- and after-school program through expanded recruitment efforts

To provide up-to-date training opportunities for our employees

To strengthen our relationships with churches by promoting more activities

To strengthen our relationships with individual donors

To focus on strategic planning for the coming years of ministry to children and families

To begin preparations for national reaccreditation by The Council on Accreditation (2019)

## Recommendations

The following recommendations are submitted to the Convention.

This report to the Convention be adopted.

Our churches observe Children's Home Day on the first Sunday of May.

The Convention and its member churches continue to pray for our Children's Home ministry.

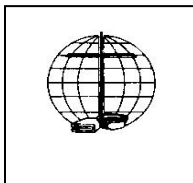
This report and these recommendations are respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Johnny Sullivan  
*Chairperson, Board of Directors*

Gary W. Lee  
*President/CEO*

Board of Directors	Conference	Term Expires
Johnny Sullivan, <i>Chairperson</i>	Central	2019
Doug Skinner, Vice Chairperson	Central	2020
Sherry Askew, Secretary	Central	2020
Ila Penny, Asst. Secretary	Pee Dee	2017
Sherman Dilley, Member at Large	Western	2018
Katherine C. Alphin	Western	2020
Kenneth Benton	Cape Fear	2018
Wanda Crocker	Cape Fear	2019
Edward Croom	Western	2017
Teresa Foster	Western	2017
Billy Hines	Alumnus	2018
Pam Braxton	Eastern	2019

Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.  
P.O. Box 249  
Middlesex, North Carolina 27557  
(252) 235-2161 / Fax (252) 235-2625  
Email: [glee@fwbch.org](mailto:glee@fwbch.org)  
<http://www.fwbchildrenshome.org/>



A Christian Home for Boys and Girls...  
serving children and families since 1920.

[www.fwbchildrenshome.org](http://www.fwbchildrenshome.org)



## Financial Statement

Management prepared this financial report from the actual audit. A copy of the Annual Audit conducted by Williams Overman Pierce, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, 2501 Atrium Drive, Suite 500, Raleigh, NC 27607, has been forwarded to the Convention's headquarters office.

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Fiscal Year 2016-17

Statement Date: June 30, 2017

#### Support and Revenues:

Denominational support	\$ 385,404
Estates/Trusts	233,429
Individuals	295,158
Endowments	5,515
DSS Residential Care	1,280,138
DSS Foster Care	317,541
DSS Other	5,542
Medicaid	0
Rental income	20,900
Other	9,729
Gain on sale of assets	10,905
Investment earnings:	
Dividends and interest	117,121
Realized (loss) gain on disposal of securities	111,482
Unrealized depreciation of securities	<u>401,143</u>
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>3,194,007</b>

#### Expenses:

Administration	279,503
Development	169,856
Program services:	
Children's services	1,624,095
Social services	185,038
Foster care	<u>403,335</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,661,827</b>

Increase in unrestricted net assets 532,180

**Total** **\$ 3,194,007**

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION: JUNE 30, 2017

### ASSETS

#### Assets:

Cash	\$	380,846
Accounts receivable		158,127
Contributions receivable		0
Accrued interest receivable		2,196
Investments		7,568,716
Prepaid expenses		18,750
Inventories		1,575
Land, buildings, and equipment		<u>2,113,228</u>

**Total assets    \$ 10,243,438**

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### Liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$	34,139
Accrued wages		76,364
Note payable		<u>280,700</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	\$	<u>391,203</u>

#### Net Assets:

Unrestricted	\$	263,611
Unrestricted – designated		8,783,261
Temporarily restricted		514,924
Permanently restricted		<u>290,439</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>9,852,235</u>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	\$	<u><u>10,243,438</u></u>

**FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.**

**BUDGET**

**July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019**

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**Revenue:**

Denominational support	\$ 395,000
Endowments	10,000
Estates/Trusts	9,000
Individuals	265,000
Interest	10,000
Residential Care	1,463,184
Family Foster Care	563,040
After School Program	105,000
Reimbursements	8,500
Rental Income	20,000
Businesses	40,000
Miscellaneous	<u>470</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,889,194</b>

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**Expenses:**

Administration	\$ 242,418
Development	347,617
Plant	216,165
Children's Services	206,242
Social Services	182,538
Independent Living Skills Program	273,527
Real World Preparation Program	1,055,634
After School Program	108,564
Family Foster Care Program	501,489
Capital Assets	<u>(245,000)</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,889,194</b>

A LIST OF CHURCH & MINISTRY CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.  
JANUARY 1, 2017—DECEMBER 31, 2017

BY CONFERENCE

**ALBEMARLE**

First, Plymouth .....	395.00
--Auxiliary .....	250.00
Free Union .....	1,530.90
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Gum Neck .....	100.00
Hickory Chapel .....	1,417.70
--Auxiliary .....	65.00
Malachi's Chapel .....	1,521.27
Mt. Tabor .....	1,256.01
Mt. Zion .....	553.00
Shiloh .....	100.00
Sidney .....	1,580.00
Sound Side .....	1,000.00
--Adult Class .....	100.00
--Auxiliary .....	50.00
Trinity .....	802.98
--Auxiliary .....	150.00
Union Chapel .....	1,574.79
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$12,646.65</b>

**CAPE FEAR**

Bethel .....	1,230.50
--Auxiliary .....	150.00
Broken Wing .....	1,175.00
Casey's Chapel .....	1,322.81
Covenant .....	29.50
Daly's Chapel .....	429.59
Faith .....	1,692.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
--Youth .....	93.78
First, Goldsboro .....	100.00
First, Smithfield .....	737.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Haymount .....	370.00
Hopewell .....	4,489.32
Johnston Union .....	2,813.87
--Auxiliary .....	308.00
--Disciple Class .....	75.00
--Layman's League .....	100.00
Lee's Chapel .....	787.40
Oak Grove .....	2,400.00
Palmer Memorial .....	1,174.45
Pleasant Grove .....	1,721.89
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Powhatan .....	826.32
Riverside .....	695.00
Robert's Grove .....	3,588.94
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
--Layman's League .....	480.00
--Vanguard I Class .....	100.00
--Youth Dept .....	100.00
Shady Grove .....	675.00
Smyrna, Benson .....	
--Ethel Tart Circle .....	100.00

Smyrna, Dunn .....	496.16
Snow Hill .....	930.00
St. Mary's Grove .....	1,850.00
--Gladys Adams Auxiliary .....	545.00
--Youth .....	702.00
St. Paul .....	1,467.00
Steven's Chapel .....	657.00
--Auxiliary .....	250.00
Tee's Chapel .....	5,500.00
--Auxiliary .....	661.00
West Clinton .....	260.00
Woman's Auxiliary Conv. ....	681.00
Wooten's Chapel .....	1,381.01
--Auxiliary .....	50.00
--Layman's League .....	50.00
Yelverton Grove .....	3,039.65
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$46,785.19</b>

**CENTRAL**

Aspen Grove .....	1,100.37
--Auxiliary .....	50.00
--Sunday School .....	300.00
--Unity Class .....	201.00
Ayden .....	100.00
--Janice Overman Auxiliary .....	25.00
Bethany .....	2,121.20
--Auxiliary .....	325.00
--Cornerstone Class .....	100.00
--Eva Edwards Class .....	100.00
Black Jack .....	6,021.92
--Ambassadors for Christ .....	250.00
--Auxiliary .....	200.00
--Layman's League .....	200.00
Community .....	312.00
Daniels Chapel .....	3,410.20
--Golden Age Club .....	300.00
--Hattie Everton Class .....	50.00
--Men's Fellowship .....	200.00
--Women 4 Christ .....	100.00
Dilda's Grove .....	2,134.90
Edgewood .....	1,241.60
Elm Grove .....	937.50
--Auxiliary .....	597.00
First, Greenville .....	2,600.00
--Auxiliary .....	720.00
--Crusader Class .....	200.00
--Willing Workers Class .....	100.00
First, Rocky Mount .....	1,719.42
First, Tarboro .....	2,779.50
First, Williamston .....	3,237.24
--Touching Lives for Christ .....	100.00
Free Union .....	3,614.90
--James Fulghum Class .....	100.00
--Layman's League .....	240.00
--Mary Ellen Shirley Class .....	100.00

Friendship.....	3,800.00
--Auxiliary.....	1,887.12
--Sunday School.....	1,312.30
Grimsley.....	866.76
--Auxiliary.....	400.00
Gum Swamp.....	1,579.90
--Youth.....	438.18
Harrell's Chapel.....	3,293.15
--Auxiliary.....	100.00
Hickory Grove.....	926.00
--Layman's League.....	50.00
Hillside.....	150.00
Howell Swamp.....	1,600.00
--Auxiliary.....	50.00
--Sunday School.....	180.00
Hugo.....	3,048.00
--Auxiliary.....	200.00
Hull Road.....	5,171.62
Kings Cross Roads.....	7,820.50
La Grange.....	2,781.38
Little Creek.....	2,072.14
--Encouragers Class.....	625.00
--Layman's League.....	400.00
Marlboro.....	1,646.00
--AFC Group.....	274.00
--Auxiliary.....	100.00
Ormondsville.....	500.00
--Auxiliary.....	600.00
--Kenneth Bowen Class.....	800.00
Owens Chapel.....	1,012.25
--Auxiliary.....	200.00
Piney Grove, Beaufort Co.....	1,863.25
Piney Grove, Pitt Co.....	115.26
Pleasant Hill.....	600.00
--Auxiliary.....	300.00
--Youth.....	400.00
Reedy Branch.....	2,000.00
--Auxiliary.....	600.00
--Joy Class.....	300.00
--Youth.....	263.78
Rose Hill.....	1,751.00
--Laughinghouse Class.....	100.00
--Layman's League.....	100.00
--Nobles Bible Class.....	623.00
Rose of Sharon.....	2,000.00
--Auxiliary.....	25.00
Saints Delight.....	678.17
Saratoga.....	700.00
Spring Branch.....	845.12
--Auxiliary.....	500.00
--Layman's League.....	756.00
Sweet Gum Grove.....	1,200.00
Walnut Creek.....	2,041.00
Watery Branch.....	1,969.00
--Auxiliary.....	100.00
Winterville.....	3,612.75
--Women of Faith Class.....	250.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$103,466.38</b>

#### EASTERN

Antioch.....	1,060.50
Arapahoe.....	1,744.05

Bethel.....	679.96
--Auxiliary.....	225.00
Bethlehem.....	1,661.27
Beulaville.....	1,510.71
--Auxiliary.....	50.00
British Chapel.....	460.69
--Auxiliary.....	100.00
Cabin.....	799.00
Christian Chapel.....	620.00
--Adult Class.....	140.00
Core Creek.....	2,537.00
--Auxiliary.....	238.00
Core Point.....	536.48
Crab Point.....	1,646.50
Croatan.....	1,144.00
Daly's Chapel.....	1,292.37
Davis.....	1,200.00
Deep Run.....	1,420.00
--Auxiliary.....	228.00
Dublin Grove.....	2,044.00
--Auxiliary.....	420.00
Eastern District Auxiliary.....	25.00
Edward's Chapel.....	935.00
--Auxiliary.....	30.00
First, Kinston.....	967.61
--Auxiliary.....	100.00
First, Warsaw.....	421.93
Folkstone.....	1,831.00
--Auxiliary.....	673.51
Friendship.....	600.00
Gethsemane.....	124.13
Grant's Chapel.....	250.00
Holly Springs.....	424.18
--Auxiliary.....	20.00
Juniper Chapel.....	2,700.00
--Auxiliary.....	400.00
Lanier's Chapel.....	751.62
Long Ridge.....	600.00
Macedonia.....	1,006.50
May's Chapel.....	2,175.00
--Circle of Light Auxiliary.....	640.00
--Men's Fellowship.....	200.00
Memorial.....	549.12
--Layman's League.....	500.00
Mt. Zion, Bayboro.....	100.00
--Auxiliary.....	397.00
Mt. Zion, Beulaville.....	500.00
--Auxiliary.....	400.00
New Bethlehem.....	972.00
New Haven.....	1,000.00
--Auxiliary.....	500.00
Northeast.....	800.00
--Auxiliary.....	204.00
--Sunday School.....	962.00
Oak Grove.....	506.01
Oriental.....	872.20
Pearsall Chapel.....	505.62
--Auxiliary.....	25.00
Pilgrim Home.....	750.00
--Auxiliary.....	500.00
Pilgrim's Rest.....	100.00
Piney Grove.....	390.40



Rock of Zion .....	1,494.07
--Adult SS Class .....	300.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Rooty Branch .....	3,051.50
Russell Creek .....	500.00
Saint's Delight.....	150.00
--Emmanuel Class .....	400.00
Sandy Plain.....	2,758.30
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Sarecta.....	785.76
--Auxiliary .....	55.00
Silver Creek.....	936.94
Smith's New Home .....	914.72
--Auxiliary .....	50.00
Sneads Ferry.....	826.00
Sound View.....	1,000.00
St. Mary's.....	299.00
--Discipleship Class.....	100.00
--Oleta Stilley Class.....	150.00
Trent.....	338.00
Wardens Grove.....	902.71
--Young Ladies Jr. Circle .....	100.00
--Youth .....	160.00
Welcome Home.....	482.60
Westside .....	1,234.08
Whaley's Chapel .....	1,142.56
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
White Hill.....	1,211.21
--Auxiliary .....	400.00
White Oak Grove .....	4,375.30
Wintergreen.....	700.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$72,284.11</b>

#### PAUL PALMER

Paul Palmer Assoc.....	950.00
Zion .....	200.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,150.00</b>

#### PEE DEE

Beaverdam	
--Ambassadors for Christ .....	100.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
--Church & Sunday School .....	8,380.65
Branch Chapel.....	4,858.00
--Fellowship Class.....	2,050.00
--Lord's Helpers Class.....	1,360.00
Emerson	
--Mission Fund .....	500.00
Little Bethel.....	100.00
Mission Valley .....	1,553.43
Mt. Calvary	
--Benevolence Fund .....	200.00
--Youth Group .....	301.00
Mt. Olive .....	200.00
Oak Grove .....	386.00
--GC Bryan Class .....	100.00
Pee Dee Assoc .....	182.25
Pee Dee Union 1.....	375.00
Pee Dee Union 2.....	150.00
Pireway.....	100.00
Thomasboro.....	100.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$21,096.33</b>

#### PIEDMONT

Amazing Grace .....	100.00
Bethany .....	600.00
Christ .....	200.00
East Rockingham.....	200.00
--Auxiliary .....	50.00
Elwood Lane .....	75.00
Friendly Chapel .....	147.50
New Hope .....	50.00
Piedmont Conference.....	150.00
Wayside .....	200.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,772.50</b>

#### WESTERN

Agape.....	150.00
Antioch .....	200.00
--Auxiliary .....	200.00
Barnes Hill .....	500.00
Black Jack Grove .....	1,909.62
Everett Chapel .....	1,629.55
--Auxiliary .....	225.00
First, Durham.....	1,680.00
First, Wilson .....	8,452.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
--Joy Fellowship Class.....	25.00
Floods Chapel .....	860.50
Free Union .....	1,388.00
Fremont.....	872.37
Friendship .....	50.00
Harmony .....	760.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Holly Springs .....	2,189.30
--Adult Class .....	400.00
--Auxiliary .....	250.00
Kenly .....	650.00
--Adult Class .....	800.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
--Miriam Lamm Class.....	200.00
Little Rock .....	1,596.77
Marsh Swamp .....	3,200.00
--Auxiliary .....	520.00
--Friendship Class .....	440.00
--Layman's League .....	300.00
--Sunday School.....	240.00
--Youth Ministry .....	100.00
Micro .....	1,007.55
Milbournie .....	3,662.57
--Ladies Acct .....	950.00
Mt. Zion, Kenly .....	1,145.58
--Sunday School.....	620.00
Mt. Zion, Nashville.....	1,341.00
Northern.....	500.00
Pine Level .....	2,522.83
--Philathea Class .....	25.00
Piney Grove .....	465.00
--Adult Class .....	200.00
--Auxiliary .....	510.00
Pleasant Grove .....	3,010.00
--Auxiliary .....	200.00
--Lancaster Bryan Talton Class.....	200.00
Pleasant Hill.....	1,239.66
--Auxiliary .....	350.00

Pleasant Plain .....	321.14
Rains Crossroads .....	2,609.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Rock Springs .....	1,050.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Second Union .....	80.00
Selma .....	534.00
--Auxiliary .....	250.00
Sherron Acres .....	400.00
Spring Hill .....	75.00
--Auxiliary .....	125.00
St. Mary's .....	1,350.00
--Auxiliary .....	200.00
--Fellowship Class .....	600.00
Stancils Chapel .....	1,192.00
--Auxiliary .....	451.11
--YFA .....	240.00
Stoney Creek .....	8,067.00
--Alpha Circle .....	300.00
--Auxiliary .....	1,153.00
--Lamplighters Circle .....	500.00
--Men's Prayer Breakfast .....	175.00
Stony Hill .....	22,852.00
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
Union Chapel .....	200.00
Union Grove .....	1,810.85
--Auxiliary .....	100.00
--Louise Edgerton Class .....	100.00
Unity .....	750.00
Victory .....	2,400.00
Watson's Grove .....	530.11
Western Conf .....	250.00
Wildwood .....	755.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$97,757.51</b>

#### OTHER DENOMINATION SUPPORT

FWB Press Foundation .....	50.00
The Four in Christ Quartet, Inc. ....	100.00
Tyrrell County Singspiration .....	933.00
Woman's Auxiliary Conv. ....	8,451.24
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$9,534.24</b>

#### OTHER DENOMINATIONS

Bailey Baptist, Bailey NC .....	500.00
Bailey United Methodist, Bailey NC .....	200.00
Baptist Tabernacle, Wendell NC .....	500.00
Farmington Heights Church of God, Wilson NC .....	600.00
First Baptist, Middlesex NC .....	25.00
First FWB, Shelby OH .....	740.00
Freedom FWB Youth Acct, Tabor City NC .....	111.00
Laurel City FWB, Ottawa WV .....	593.00
Mt. Pleasant FWB, Newport NC .....	620.00
Oak Grove FWB, Durham NC .....	2,000.00
Piney Grove FWB, Roper NC .....	
--Sunday School .....	700.00
Roberson Grove Baptist, Durham NC .....	600.00
Tabernacle Baptist, Zebulon NC .....	200.00
The Church at Wagram, Wagram NC .....	250.00
Vandora Springs FWB, Garner NC .....	500.00
Verona FWB, Jacksonville NC .....	700.00
White Oak Hill FWB, Bailey NC .....	835.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$9,674.00</b>

**GRAND TOTAL .....** **\$376,166.91**



**Original Free Will Baptist  
Christian Education Ministry**

**Annual Report to the 106<sup>th</sup> Session of  
The Convention of Original Free Will Baptist**

**“Growing in Grace and Making A Difference”**

**Mission Statement:** The Mission of the Original Free Will Baptist Christian Education Ministry is to assist churches in developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will enable people to go, teach and make disciples in each of our communities.

We chose the theme of “Making A Difference” for this year’s LIFE Conference because we feel that we are called as Christians to go out into our world, beginning with those around us, and make a difference in the lives of others. As it states in our mission statement we should be helping our churches to enable people to go, reach and teach others in our communities about the love of Christ. We should be making an impact on others in such a way that we not only speak Christ with our lips, but we live Christ through our actions. If we look for the opportunities to be Jesus to someone, God always gives them, we just have to be available.

We also thank each church, individual, auxiliary or group who has given financially and prayerfully to help this ministry. You have made a difference in the lives of others whom we have been able to help. Whether it was through a camp scholarship or through training such as our Fall Sunday School Teacher Seminar, the LIFE Conference, the Ministers Wives, Widows and Women in Ministry Retreat or through resources such as Right Now Media which is provided at no charge to you or your church, it could not be done without your financial support. For those that have allowed us to come into your churches whether to help with training and ideas for Sunday School growth or just allowing us to come and share what this ministry can do to help your church, we say thank you. We cannot do ministry without your prayers and support. If you would like to know more about this ministry and how we can help you and your church, please reach out to us. We would love to come to your church or organizational meeting and share with you the resources that are available through this ministry.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER**

- 1. Saturday March 2, 2019 - Annual LIFE Conference at the University of Mount Olive**
- 2. Contributions and/or requests for information or materials can be sent to:**  
**OFWB Christian Education Ministry**  
**201 W. James St.**  
**Mt. Olive, NC 28365**
- 3. Ministers’ Wives, Widows and Women in Ministry Spiritual Life Retreat -**  
**Cragmont Assembly Date: January 24-27, 2019**
- 4. All contributions can be made payable to: OFWB Christian Education Ministry**
- 5. Web address: [www.ofwbsundayschool.org](http://www.ofwbsundayschool.org)**  
**Email: [director@ofwbsundayschool.org](mailto:director@ofwbsundayschool.org)**
- 6. Camp Scholarship Applications for 2019 are due Dec. 31, 2018**
- 7. 2019 Teacher and Superintendent of the Year applications are due Jan. 31, 2019**

## **Original Free Will Baptist Christian Education Ministry Statement of Commitment**

**Vision Statement:** The vision of the Original Free Will Baptist Christian Education Ministry is to maintain its commitment to teaching and learning for everyone while remaining true to the belief that the message of salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

We believe we will maintain this commitment by:

- promoting the overall improvement and growth of the local Sunday schools,
- providing a qualified resource person or team of persons to facilitate
- appropriate learning opportunities for the church and other organizations,
- promoting and / or developing practical teaching and learning materials that
- will enable people to understand the need to balance the study of the scriptures
- while building relationships and evangelism,
- sponsoring and developing workshops, seminars and conferences to promote and enhance Christian education,
- continuously praying and searching for strategies to equip people to respond to
- God's call according to each individual's unique gift,
- adhering to the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (Of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.

## **Christian Education Ministry Five Year Goals**

Continue the ongoing goals to assist in equipping the church through the use of Christian Education and Sunday School programs and any resources we may find that would benefit the body of Christ.

- Continue to make material available through our Resource Library, or other outlets we may have access to that would assist our churches and its Christian Education workers
- Expand the current program of workshops and seminars to offer more centralized training
- Expand the learning opportunities whenever possible
- Encourage Biblical study with a family focus
- Update certification requirements for teachers and superintendents in cooperation with the University of Mount Olive and the Commission on Education for Christian Ministries through available certificate programs and online resources
- Assist organizations in planning and implementing special events and retreats, such as VBS
- Continue to assist churches in Christian Education assessment
- Offer a Nursery Procedures Manual to all churches if requested
- Assist churches in their awareness of the need to remove barriers for those people with various disabilities and special needs,
- Update the Sunday School Handbook as needed
- Continue the partnerships with other ministries
- Expand the Camp Scholarship Program as funds are available
- Expand the Ministers' Wives and Widows, and Women In Ministry Retreat as funds are available to enhance the retreat with speakers who would offer encouragement in these ladies Spiritual Walk with Christ
- Begin work in helping churches with Day Cares to offer training to their workers and teachers

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That this report to the Convention be adopted and thereby support the 2018 Budget;
2. That the Convention continues to designate February as Christian Education Ministry Month with an emphasis on Sunday School Promotion within the local church and February 24, 2018 being set aside as Sunday School Rally Day in all OFWB churches.
3. That the Convention encourages each church to include the Christian Education Ministry's work in their budgets and continue to pray for its ministry as it expands to enhance the work of Christian Education in our churches;
4. That the Convention encourages each church to prayerfully and thoughtfully assess its Christian Education needs at least once each year and that they refer to this ministry for assistance as needed;
5. That each church considers assisting with Camp Scholarships for youth who need financial help.
6. That the Convention encourage smaller churches to work together to form a Co-op for VBS, youth work, Sunday School workshops and to pool their resources to accomplish this goal.

This report is submitted on behalf of the Original Free Will Baptist

Christian Education Ministry  
Gail Heath, Director/Treasurer

Mrs. Kitty Barnes Chairperson..... The Reverend Buddy Seay, Assistant Chairman  
The Reverend Todd Sutton, Secretary..... Mrs. Karen Clayton, Assistant Secretary  
Mrs. Nancy Cale..... Mr. Wayne Hicks  
The Reverend Dr. Brad Williamson ..... The Reverend Matthew Miller

**Original Free Will Baptist Christian Education Ministry  
Budget Statement  
January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017**

**Income**

	<b>2017 Proposed</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Proposed</b>
Church Contributions	55,500.00	53,336.18	55,500.00
Ind. Contributions	5,000.00	*8,100.00	5,000.00
LIFE Conference	4,400.00	4,332.16	4,400.00
SEM/Retreats	1,900.00	3,610.00	3,500.00
Unions/Conferences. Auxiliaries	3,200.00	4,362.92	4,000.00
Misc.		<u>286.12</u>	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>70,000.00</b>	<b>73,991.47</b>	<b>71,400.00</b>

\*\$4000.00 earmarked from donor for 2018

**Operating Expenses**

	<b>2017 Proposed</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Proposed</b>
Youth Programs	11,000.00	11,980.00	11,100.00
Printing and Postage	2,500.00	119.65	1,000.00
Seminars, Conferences, Training, & MW Retreat	4,525.00	7,662.63	7,000.00
LIFE Conference	4,200.00	3,879.34	4,200.00
Board Travel	1,200.00	1,448.69	1,500.00
Administration*	31,505.00	24,486.60	31,480.00
<b>*Includes Dir. Salary, Benefits, Travel, FICA, Workman's Comp, Compensated Assistance. and Staff Expenses</b>			
Right Now Media	960.00	959.88	960.00
Resource Center	400.00	262.67	400.00
Office Expense	8560.00	7329.01	8560.00
Awards Program	4100.00	4053.38	4100.00
Promotional Items	500.00	497.19	500.00
Misc.	50.00	305.85	100.00
Memorials	<u>500.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70,000.00</b>	<b>63,184.89</b>	<b>71,400.00</b>

**Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2017**

Beginning Checking Account Balance	31,197.54
Income	<u>73,991.47</u>
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>105,189.01</b>
Expenditures	63,184.89
Checking Account Balance 12/31/17	42,004.12
CD on Deposit	17,109.92
<b>TOTAL FINACIAL ASSESTS</b>	59,114.04
Resource Center INV/Office Equipment	<u>14,200.00</u>
	<b>73,314.04</b>

**Church Finance Association, Inc.**  
**Report to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**  
**Year Ending December 31, 2017**

The Board of Directors and the Membership of the Church Finance Association bring greetings to this Session of The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. This past year has been a successful one for the Association and we would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve our denomination. As of December 31, 2017, we have over three and a half million dollars in loans outstanding to the churches and ministries of our denomination. These are loans that have been used to build sanctuaries, family life centers, and other projects needed by the local church. Your prayers and investments make this possible.

**The Year 2017**

• Memberships	4,544
• Deposits	\$2,082,912
• Loans to churches	\$3,572,294

**Mission Statement**  
**For**  
**Church Finance Association**

It is the mission of the Church Finance Association, Inc. to meet the borrowing needs of the member churches and ministries of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. These needs include funds for capital expansion, repair, remodeling, and reorganization. These loans are made in a manner consistent with sound business practices recognizing that we must provide all due consideration in an effort to assist the Convention. Church Finance serves as a conduit between those institutions and individuals who are willing to place funds with the Association and those institutions which are in need of these resources.

**Is Your Church Willing to Help Other Churches?**

Many of our churches have special use funds for building, contingencies, remodeling, or some type of emergency. The CFA urges our churches to take advantage of deposit program available through Church Finance. Your deposits are available for withdrawal within a few days. If you have funds in CDs or bank savings accounts, please consider making those available to your sister churches by placing them with the Church Finance Association. The Year in Review

Over the last year we have seen interest rates begin to rise slightly and the forecast for 2017 calls for rates to continue to increase slowly. Church Finance is lending at rates comparable to banks and credit unions. Loan demand continues to increase, and we are delighted to partner with our churches as they explore plans to expand their facilities.

**Lending Activity**

Church Finance has been around since 1940 to assist our churches when they needed to buy or build. We have funded small loans as well as loans up to \$1,000,000. Our goal has always been to partner with our churches in good times and bad. Church Finance has never foreclosed on a single loan and not one person or church has ever lost a dime when working with CFA.

We would like to encourage our churches that when a building program is discussed they give CFA an opportunity to discuss lending options with them. While we were not created to compete with the banks, we can often provide benefits that a bank cannot. If your church has a vision or a need that will involve a loan, we ask that you contact us. At the very least we can provide you another option assuring you that whatever decision you make is right for your church.

## Will You Be A Part?

Regardless of whether you are an individual, auxiliary, or church you can be a part of this ministry. We need:

- Your **prayers**. Please remember the work of the Association in your prayers. Our goal continues to be helping each of our churches and ministries with their financial needs.
- Your **deposits**. We accept deposits from individuals, auxiliaries and churches. Please consider placing funds with us. We offer several options. Please call for rates.
- Your **loans**. If your church is engaged in a building project, the purchase of land, or a remodeling project, the Church Finance Association will work with you to develop a loan program that best suits your needs and budget. We offer loans for up to 25 years.
- **Memberships**. They can be purchased at a cost of \$25.00 each. Memberships are available to all organizations and individuals within the denomination.

If you need additional information, please write the Convention Office in Mount Olive or:

**Church Finance Association Box 1396 Kinston, NC 28503**  
**Or call Donald Fader at 252-523-5800**

The Board of Directors of The Church Finance Association are:

Daniel Taylor, President  
Joseph W. Rollins, Vice President  
Eugene Burkett, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer  
Michael L. Whitfield  
Jefferson D. Daughtry

## **CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION** **2017 YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **ASSETS**

Cash in Bank	\$ 1,271,741
Mortgage Loans Receivable	3,572,294
Accrued Interest	11,677
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$4,855,712</b>

### **LIABILITIES**

Demand Deposits	\$ 1,922,912
Members Equity	2,771,009
Accruals	1,791
Promissory Notes	
160,000	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 4,855,712</b>

## INCOME AND EXPENSES

	2016	2017
Income:		
Interest on loans	\$161,040	\$176,120
Interest on Investments	2,472	2,835
Loan Fees	698	5,788
Contributions	3,987	4,674
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$168,197</b>	<b>\$189,417</b>
Expenses:		
Interest expense	\$ 28,931	\$ 25,950
Employee Benefits	6,485	6,000
Salaries and taxes	65,888	67,730
Retirement	8,000	8,000
Legal and data expense	3,154	3,859
Board, Director Expense	7,554	7,805
Office Expense	2,110	2,701
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 122,123</b>	<b>\$ 122,045</b>
<b>Retained Earnings</b>	<b>\$ 46,074</b>	<b>\$ 67,372</b>

### (NOTES)

- 1) This financial report was prepared by management and the compilation and review was completed by our accountant, Taylor and Jones, CPAs, PA of Farmville, NC.



# CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.

## BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited)

### ASSETS

	<u>December 31, 2017</u>	<u>December 31, 2016</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash in Bank - Union Bank	\$ 196,800.04	\$ 280,652.67
Wells Fargo Bank	253,787.55	251,613.04
Savings - Union Bank	252,886.97	252,381.71
Savings- Branch Bank & Trust	568,266.18	568,038.92
Mortgage Loans Receivable	3,572,294.62	3,551,556.15
Accrued Interest Receivable	11,676.82	28,109.11
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 4,855,712.18</u>	<u>\$ 4,932,351.60</u>
<b>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Office Equipment	\$ 17,350.23	\$ 17,350.23
Accumulated Depreciation	(17,350.23)	(17,350.23)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 4,855,712.18</u>	<u>\$ 4,932,351.60</u>

### LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY

<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Demand Deposits	\$ 1,922,911.71	\$ 2,065,478.72
US Income Taxes Withheld	465.00	1,383.00
NC Income Taxes Withheld	606.00	639.00
FICA Taxes Withheld	291.71	866.40
Medicare Taxes Withheld	68.23	202.65
Accrued Payroll Taxes	359.94	1,069.05
Promissory Notes Payable	160,000.00	160,000.00
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>\$ 2,084,702.59</u>	<u>\$ 2,229,638.82</u>
<b>MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>		
Memberships	114,751.89	113,826.89
Retained Earnings	2,656,257.70	2,588,885.89
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>	<u>2,771,009.59</u>	<u>2,702,712.78</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>	<u>\$ 4,855,712.18</u>	<u>\$ 4,932,351.60</u>

No Assurance Provided on Financial Statements

**CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF NET INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS**  
(Unaudited)

	Twelve Months Ended	
	<u>December 31,</u> 2017	<u>December 31,</u> 2016
<b>INCOME</b>		
Interest Income - Loans	\$ 176,119.97	\$ 161,040.46
Interest Income - Investments	2,834.83	2,471.94
Loan Fees Earned	5,788.41	697.78
Contributions	4,674.25	3,987.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>\$ 189,417.46</u>	<u>\$ 168,197.18</u>
<b>INTEREST ON BORROWED MONEY</b>		
Interest Paid on Deposits	\$ 23,150.65	\$ 25,731.04
Interest Paid - Other	2,800.00	3,200.00
<b>TOTAL INTEREST</b>	<u>\$ 25,950.65</u>	<u>\$ 28,931.04</u>
<b>GROSS OPERATING INCOME</b>	<u>\$ 163,466.81</u>	<u>\$ 139,266.14</u>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	\$ 61,766.02	\$ 60,283.15
Payroll Taxes	5,964.46	5,625.36
Data Processing	2,659.00	2,654.00
Director Fees	5,800.00	5,400.00
Director Expenses	2,005.71	2,154.10
Legal	1,200.00	500.00
Office Supplies	1,123.77	988.16
Printing	42.80	0.00
Rent	408.00	378.00
Postage	1,125.24	743.80
Retirement Benefits	8,000.00	8,000.00
Employee Benefits	6,000.00	6,484.66
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<u>96,095.00</u>	<u>93,191.23</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<u>\$ 67,371.81</u>	<u>\$ 46,074.91</u>
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS - BEGINNING</b>	2,588,885.89	2,542,810.98
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 2,656,257.70</u>	<u>\$ 2,588,885.89</u>

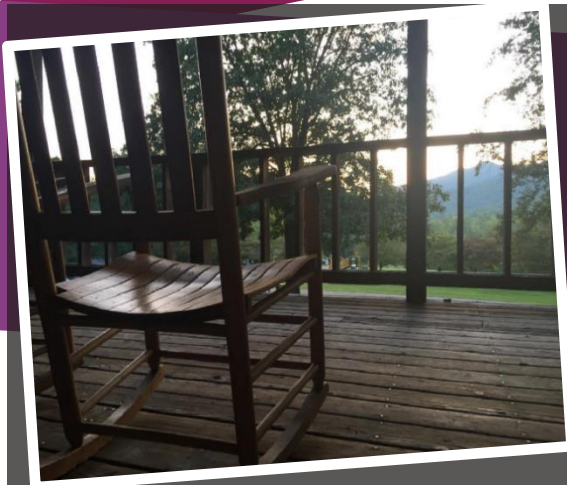


## CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

1233 North Fork Road  
Black Mountain, NC 27811  
(828) 669-7677  
[www.cragmontassembly.com](http://www.cragmontassembly.com)

**Want to Learn More  
About Cragmont?**

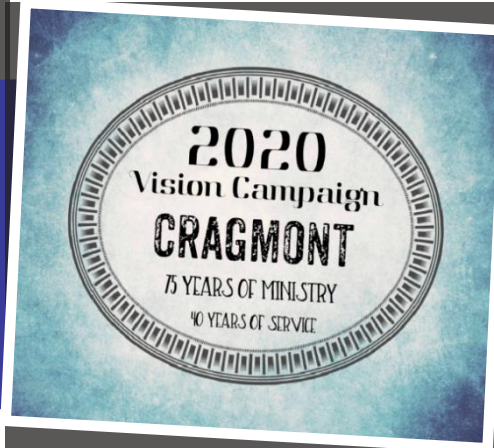
Contact Angela Mattox for a church visit.  
[angela@cragmontassembly.org](mailto:angela@cragmontassembly.org)



## Come Visit Us!

We saved a rocking chair just for you.  
Hiking, snow tubing, Biltmore Estate....  
The possibilities are endless.

**How you can help our  
2020 Vision Campaign**



## You Can Make A Difference

The Cragmont Board of Directors have set the goal of raising \$750,000.00 in honor of the two anniversaries that Cragmont will be celebrating in the year 2020. The year 2020 marks the 75th year of Cragmont's Ministry to the OFWB people. It also marks the 40 years of dedicated service by John and Arlinda Williams to Cragmont.

The \$750,000.00 that we are asking for sounds like a lot of money and it is a lot of money. However, if we could count on all OFWB church members to give a little it becomes an easy job to raise this amount. If we have a total church membership in our denomination of 15,000 people, it would only take \$50.00 from each church member to raise the \$750,000.00. I certainly do not know if we have this many members or not but we need to start somewhere. This would raise what we need and not over burden any member or church in the process. It could be done without harming any gifts to other ministries. So, my challenge to OFWB people is that each member commits to contributing a one time gift to the 2020 Campaign of \$50 over and above what you normally give. Make your check out to Cragmont and ear mark it 2020 campaign. I hope to hear from you soon. Thank you for your help.

John Williams

2020 Vision Pledge Card	
Church: _____	Charge My Gift: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MC <input type="checkbox"/> Discover
Name: _____	Card # _____
Address: _____	Exp. Date _____
Phone: _____	Signature _____
May we list your name publicly as a supporter? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Invoice me: On This Date _____
Signature: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Billed Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Billed Yearly <input type="checkbox"/> One Time Gift <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$7,500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$4,500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$750 <input type="checkbox"/> \$400 <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____	In Memory/Honor Of: _____
Checks are payable to Cragmont Assembly. Memo: 2020 Vision Campaign 1233 N. Fork Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711	



# Cragmont

**Experience: Inspiration, Recreation & Spiritual Growth**



## **Become A Cragmont Club Member**

For \$15 per month you & your immediate family may spend three nights at Cragmont at no cost. Senior citizens (60+) \$10 per month The Club was established to help maintain a healthy cash flow throughout the year.

While the club will give you and your immediate family members certain benefits

it is our hope that the greatest benefit you receive is knowing that you are helping to support an important ministry of the denomination.

**1233 North Fork Rd. Black Mountain, NC 28711 - 828-669-7677**

**1**

Decide which  
monthly payment  
applies to you

**2**

Write your Check  
and note it is for  
the club

**3**

Mail to Cragmont  
and enjoy your  
benefits

**Balance Sheet as of 2017-12-31**

<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Checking	19,089.08
Petty Cash	129.01
Blue Cross Blue Shield Credit	2,840.41
WePay	15.00
Buildings and Improvements	3,075,852.96
Land	6,320.00
Equipment	256,264.41
Furniture and Fixtures	237,253.89
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(1,682,708.09)</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>1,915,056.67</u></b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	8,098.83
Line of Credit	6,000.00
FICA	(49.89)
Medicare	(1.01)
NC Withholding	(49.00)
Federal Withholding	37.95
AFLAC	(12.75)
BCBS	38.01
Watson Property Loan	<u>199,639.02</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>213,701.16</u></b>
<b>Equity</b>	
General Fund - Fund Balance	1,540,108.29
Building Fund - Fund Balance	152,378.05
John and Arlinda Endowment Fund Balance	<u>8,869.17</u>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b><u>1,701,355.51</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities + Total Equity</b>	<b><u>1,915,056.67</u></b>

## Income

Account Name	2016 Actual	2017 Budget	2017 Actual	2018 Budget
Contributions Income				
Offering	\$6,484.29		\$7,640.15	
Churches	\$142,852.16	\$153,000.00	\$150,188.92	\$132,000.00
Individual	\$31,531.28	\$30,600.00	\$50,918.81	\$36,800.00
Memorial	\$3,525.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,840.00	\$3,000.00
Cragmont Club	\$42,609.20	\$38,800.00	\$49,120.94	\$40,000.00
Individual - BF	\$116,116.48	\$8,000.00	\$4,245.00	\$4,000.00
Churches - BF	\$17,430.73	\$12,000.00	\$1,960.00	\$2,000.00
Memorial - BF	\$5,200.00		\$100.00	
Individual - WP			\$8,512.50	\$25,000.00
Churches - WP			\$4,850.00	\$25,000.00
Individual - Endowment			\$10,744.17	\$25,000.00 *
Churches - Endowment			\$5,471.20	\$25,000.00 *
Memorial - Endowment			\$5,410.00	
Interest Earned	\$46.35		\$29.89	
NC Sales Tax Refund	\$5,989.16		\$3,492.06	
Miscellaneous Income	\$8,909.68	\$5,000.00	\$12,018.50	\$5,000.00
Conference	\$192,058.00	\$175,600.00	\$174,627.50	\$175,000.00
Retreat	\$144,306.06	\$149,000.00	\$110,515.35	\$130,000.00
Meals	\$25,028.49	\$25,000.00	\$20,452.26	\$25,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$742,086.88</b>	<b>\$600,000.00</b>	<b>\$625,137.25</b>	<b>\$652,800.00</b>

## Expense

Account Name	2016 Actual	2017 Budget	2017 Actual	2018 Budget
Refunds	\$518.00	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$ 500.00
Food	\$84,471.89	\$80,000.00	\$75,992.00	\$ 80,000.00
Consumables	\$14,065.96	\$18,000.00	\$14,922.96	\$ 16,000.00
Linens	\$573.72	\$500.00	\$846.12	\$ 500.00
Office Supplies	\$9,131.33	\$8,000.00	\$3,888.23	\$ 6,000.00
Postage and Delivery	\$609.53	\$2,000.00	\$1,774.61	\$ 2,000.00
Pictures	-\$3,032.63	\$1,500.00	-\$2,794.63	\$ 1,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$5,934.13	\$8,000.00	\$3,774.92	\$ 8,000.00
Promotions	\$1,328.58	\$5,000.00	\$2,366.95	\$ 5,000.00
Insurance	\$63,108.00	\$62,000.00	\$46,104.01	\$ 62,000.00
Maintenance	\$55,140.84	\$46,600.00	\$55,491.75	\$ 54,700.00
Utilities				
Cable	\$5,420.42	\$5,000.00	\$6,270.81	\$ 6,000.00
Electric	\$43,955.79	\$47,000.00	\$38,603.81	\$ 47,000.00
Propane	\$5,041.88	\$4,000.00	\$420.97	\$ 1,500.00
Natural Gas	\$1,369.76	\$4,000.00	\$2,982.05	\$ 5,000.00
Telephone	\$5,509.10	\$6,000.00	\$3,151.84	\$ 5,000.00
Water	\$10,206.47	\$12,000.00	\$10,843.36	\$ 12,000.00
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>\$71,503.42</b>	<b>\$78,000.00</b>	<b>\$62,272.84</b>	<b>\$ 76,500.00</b>
Payroll Expenses	\$217,505.46	\$217,500.00	\$224,171.97	\$ 217,500.00
Travel	\$1,350.34	\$3,500.00	\$156.06	\$ 3,500.00
Bank Fees	\$1,922.55	\$1,500.00	\$2,402.24	\$ 1,600.00
Watson Loan Interest	\$5,603.36	\$12,000.00	\$10,469.30	\$ 12,000.00
<b>Total Bank Fees</b>	<b>\$7,525.91</b>	<b>\$13,500.00</b>	<b>\$12,871.54</b>	<b>\$ 13,600.00</b>
Endowment			\$12,756.20	\$ 50,000.00 *
Board Expenses	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$ 500.00
Benevolence	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$365.85	\$ 200.00
Professional Fees	\$3,669.25	\$3,800.00	\$3,173.00	\$ 3,800.00
Licenses and Permits	\$612.00	\$700.00	\$360.00	\$ 700.00
Membership Fees	\$145.00	\$300.00	\$145.00	\$ 300.00
Capital Expense	\$30,345.60	\$30,000.00	\$59,658.24	\$ 30,000.00
Building Expense	\$148,024.42	\$20,000.00	\$27,762.30	\$ 20,000.00
<b>Total Capital Expense</b>	<b>\$178,370.02</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$87,420.54</b>	<b>\$ 50,000.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$712,730.75</b>	<b>\$600,000.00</b>	<b>\$606,809.92</b>	<b>\$ 652,800.00</b>
NET	\$29,356.13	\$0.00	\$18,327.33	\$0.00





## 2018 CONVENTION REPORT

Greetings from OFWB INTERNATIONAL, INC. (Foreign Missions) to the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Convention of the Original Free Will Baptists.

Two thousand seventeen was the year in which we had to evaluate the direction of our work, as we adapt to a more dangerous world than we have ever known. This new reality means that travel to certain areas must be restricted. We had to cancel our Short-Term Mission Teams to Mexico in 2017 due to the continued violence there. We have done the same thing for 2018. We pray that the day will come when we will be able to resume this ministry. We miss going to Mexico and our brothers and sisters there miss us. The workers remain faithful and committed even under these circumstances. Please join us in prayer for peace in Mexico.

The work in Liberia and Guinea is thriving. The churches and schools are growing. Caleb's Dollar Ministry blesses the lives of over 1,400 children each school day with a noon meal. We sincerely appreciate the Vacation Bible School offerings that help fund this ministry, as well as Sunday school classes, individuals, and churches. The church in Guinea suffers through much persecution, but the workers remain determined to continue proclaiming the Gospel. Please pray for the work in Liberia and Guinea.

The Philippines continues to be a great encouragement. We have many dedicated workers all over the country. The churches are growing. New converts are coming into the churches. The schools are reaching children and youth with good education and the Gospel of Christ. The Annual Convention was held in Palawan in April 2017. Workers from all over the country attended. For many, this was their first trip to Palawan. They were excited because this is where Free Will Baptist work in the Philippines began. The Convention in 2018 was held in Cebu City. Please pray for the work in the Philippines.

The work in India has encountered many difficulties over the past year. There has been a financial crisis that hurt every sector of the country. A new pro-Hindi government, with bias against Christians, has made it more difficult for our workers. There have been other problems that have hindered the work. We, however, believe that the Lord is able to move His work forward in the midst of difficulty. The Children's Home and schools still care for and reach children with the Gospel. We pray for a brighter day to come to India, when that nation will fully realize the wonderful Truth of the Gospel and its liberating power from idol worship and darkness. Pray for India.

Bangladesh is a land of one hundred forty million people, mainly Muslim. A small group of Hindu and Christian people live in this country. The government discourages mission work but encourages relief and development. We are involved in many programs that reach people through

aid that gives us an opportunity to witness to them. This country is also a hot-bed of terrorism, and travel there is also restricted. Please pray for Bangladesh.

Our workers in Bulgaria stay busy ministering to the Gypsy community in Varna, Balchik, and the surrounding areas. These people are some of the neediest people in the entire world. They have acquired a bad reputation over the years, but when they come to Christ they make loving and caring Christians who are willing to serve others. Through the outreach of our church, we provide food, clothing, medicine, and other necessities for these dear people, especially during the cold months when work is scarce. We are reminded that when we care for one of the needy ones we are actually caring for Christ.

For the past three years we have been in the process of registering the work in Haiti under the name “Original Free Will Baptist International, Inc.” This was a long and difficult process, but it has finally been completed. We are thankful that the Lord was faithful in this matter. We hope that in the years to come we can see the work expanded beyond the city of Cap-Haitian. This is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with great unemployment and despair. The Gospel Message is needed to give “Hope” for the future. Please pray for Haiti.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROJECT REPORT AND 2017 PROJECT:** We asked the Vacation Bible Schools to contribute their offerings to Caleb’s Dollar Ministry to feed the children we minister to on our fields. One dollar will provide 10 meals. That is only 10 cents a meal. Many of the children who attend our schools come to school each day hungry. They cannot learn if they are hungry. Many of the Vacation Bible Schools contributed to this project in 2017, and we are feeding 1,407 children per day in Liberia with these contributions. Please help us continue feeding the children by contributing your Vacation Bible School offering to Caleb’s Dollar Ministry for 2018. *This must be an ongoing project, for if we stop hunger returns. This needs to be above and beyond your regular missions giving.*

The **OFWBI EPISTLE** and **COMMUNITY MAGAZINE** are published to keep our membership informed about the activities of our ministries. These are your best sources for information about the things that are taking place in India, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Mexico, Liberia, Guinea, Haiti, and the Philippines. We encourage you to send us your email address to [director@ofwbi.org](mailto:director@ofwbi.org) so you can receive the *OFWBI EPISTLE*.

The **BUILD ONE FOR THEM** program has been a tremendous blessing to all of our fields. We have been able to construct church buildings, parsonages, and houses for the needy. We need churches to consider the needs of others and join us in this effort. There are always needs, and we encourage you to sponsor one of these building projects.

**IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER:** The Board of Foreign Missions realizes that our strength and supply come from a loving heavenly Father. We set aside special days throughout the year as days of prayer. We meet together to worship, praise, and take our petitions before the Lord. We pray for revival, for we know for our Church to survive and grow we must have revival. We encourage you to pray for this ministry daily and to pray for revival in our Church.

**EXTEND AN INVITATION:** To be better informed about the Foreign Missions Program, please give me an opportunity to visit your church.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS IN THE FOLLOWING:**

Pray daily for genuine spiritual revival in our churches.

Increase your contributions to Foreign Missions.

Participate in the Annual Telethon.

Remember Foreign Missions in your will.

**PRAYER REQUESTS: PRAY DAILY FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

For lost people around the world.

For laborers (Matt. 9:37).

For the financial needs of this ministry.

For positive church growth on each field.

For God's wisdom in decisions and planning.

For protection and boldness for all our workers.

For a great spiritual awakening worldwide.

**“Pray without ceasing” (I Thessalonians 5:17).**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That this report to the 2018 Convention be adopted.

That the Convention encourage every member to pray faithfully for revival and the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

That the months of **March** and **December** continue to be designated as "**Foreign Missions Month**" in our Convention calendar.

That the Convention support the 2018 budget.

This report and recommendations are submitted on behalf of OFWB International, Inc.

Phil Hodges, Chairman

Harold Jones, Executive Director

Included in this report are a financial statement and a list of churches and individuals who contributed to OFWB International, Inc. (Foreign Missions) in 2017.

**OFWB INTERNATIONAL, INC.**  
**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS**  
**Financial Statement**

<b>CASH BALANCE JANUARY 1, 2017</b>			\$226,077
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Free Will Baptist Churches and Individuals	\$722,257	\$702,979	\$722,257
Interest income & Sales Tax Refund	\$600	\$1,677	\$600
<b>TOTAL REVENUES BUDGET</b>	<b>\$722,857</b>	<b>\$704,656</b>	<b>\$722,857</b>
Non-budget Receipts			
Build One for Them & Special Projects	-0-	51,629	-0-
Short-Term Team	-0-	4,440	-0-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS NON-BUDGET</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>56,069</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS BUDGET/NON-BUDGET</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>760,725</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>Expenses-Budget Items</b>			
Accounting & Legal	700	400	700
Board Meetings	500	93	500
Housing	3,000	3,000	3,000
Insurance	4,173	7,513	4,173
Postage	3,000	3,355	3,000
General Travel	2,500	2,966	2,500
Rent	6,480	6,480	6,480
Salaries	81,762	82,062	81,762
Telephone & Internet	1,200	1,488	1,200
Payroll Tax	6,254	6,357	6,254
Miscellaneous	12,000	970	12,000
Bulgaria	125,398	125,500	125,398
Mexico	75,010	66,317	75,010
Philippines	194,842	235,486	194,842
India	98,800	97,207	98,800
Bangladesh	25,440	20,020	25,440
Liberia	53,900	56,350	53,900
Guinea	11,400	3,060	11,400
Haiti	6,000	8,780	6,000
Promotion & Printing	7,000	8,530	7,000
Office Expenses	2,500	3,376	2,500
Bank Charge	-0-	62	-0-
<b>TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$722,857</b>	<b>\$749,372</b>	<b>\$722,857</b>
<b>Non-budget Expenses</b>			
Build One for Them			37,252
Short-Term Team			3,066

<b>TOTAL NON-BUDGET EXPENSES</b>	40,318
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES BUDGET/NON-BUDGET</b>	789,690
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	(28,965)
<b>CASH BALANCE December 31, 2017</b>	125,332

**BALANCE SHEET  
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017**

**ASSETS**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

First Citizens Checking	103,251
Build One for Them Fund	<u>22,081</u>
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	125,332
Alford Endowment-NCFCM	35,134
Beaman Endowment-CFA	9,700
Burress Endowment-CFA	700
Caroon-Grubbs Endowment-CFA	3,560
Cratt Endowment-CFA	856
Hott Endowment-CFA	882
House Endowment-CFA	8,000
Link Endowment-CFA	5,000
Reynolds Endowment-CFA	47,537
Scott Endowment-CFA	<u>7,742</u>

\*NCFCM (North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries)

\*CFA (Church Finance Association)

**TOTAL RESTRICTED ASSETS** 119,111

**TOTAL RESTRICTED & UNRESTRICTED ASSETS** 244,443

**LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY**

Members' Equity – Restricted	119,111
Unrestricted	125,332

**TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY** 244,443

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' EQUITY**

**Year Ended December 31, 2017**

**Members' Equity – January 1, 2017** 273,408

Plus: Excess of Receipts over Disbursements:

General Fund - FCB	
Receipts	760,725
Disbursements	<u>789,690</u>
Endowments-CFA	(28,965)
Receipts-contributions	
Disbursements-redemptions	

**Members' Equity – December 31, 2017** 244,443

This financial report was prepared by Harold Jones, Executive Director of OFWB International, Inc. (Foreign Missions) and a copy of the Annual Compilation, prepared by Murphy & Bunch, CPAs, PA, Greenville, NC has been forwarded to the Executive Committee.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Phil Hodges, Chairman

Phillip Boykin, Secretary

Philip Wood

Gary Bailey

John Hill

**CONTACT US THROUGH THE FOLLOWING:**

Mailing address: PO Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513-0039

Phone: 252-746-4963

E-mail: [director@ofwbi.org](mailto:director@ofwbi.org)

Website: [www.ofwbi.org](http://www.ofwbi.org)

**“Growing in Grace through World Outreach”  
2 Corinthians 9:8-9**

**A LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO OFWB INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
JANUARY 1, 2017--DECEMBER 31, 2017**

**ALBEMARLE**

Albemarle Auxiliary Convention

\$233.00

Free Union

\$1,000.00

Hickory Chapel

\$3,812.00

Malachi's Chapel

\$1,380.59

Mt. Tabor

\$4,375.00

Mt. Zion

\$5,619.74

Plymouth, First

\$1,487.00

Shiloh

\$1,546.54

Sidney

\$2,004.16

Sound Side

\$9,756.05

Trinity

\$550.00

Union Chapel

\$1,674.51

**CAPE FEAR**

Bethel

\$1,177.41

Cape Fear Conference

\$638.00

Casey's Chapel

\$3,295.00

Covenant

\$100.00

Daly's Chapel

\$795.00

Faith

\$2,477.00

Goldsboro, First

\$1,289.00

Haymount

\$1,105.50

Hopewell

\$5,539.32

Johnston Union

\$3,365.00

Lee's Chapel

\$4,972.05

Oak Grove

\$1,025.00

Palmer Memorial

\$1,679.45

Pleasant Grove

\$2,152.37

Powhatan

\$4,050.00

Riverside

\$900.00

Robert's Grove

\$4,710.79

Shady Grove

\$2,458.50

Smithfield, First

\$675.00

Smyrna

\$400.00

St. Mary's Grove

\$3,740.00

St. Paul

\$815.00

Steven's Chapel

\$300.00

Tee's Chapel

\$3,894.00

West Clinton

\$454.00

Wooten's Chapel

\$420.00

Yelverton Grove

\$1,841.00

**CENTRAL**

Aspen Grove

\$779.00

Ayden

\$380.00

Bethany

\$12,485.71

Black Jack

\$32,900.80

Central Auxiliary Convention

\$694.75

Central Conference L League

\$710.00

Community

\$399.00

Daniel's Chapel

\$4,780.63

Dilda's Grove

\$3,162.86

Edgewood

\$2,874.73

Elm Grove

\$21,333.50

Free Union

\$4,210.50

Friendship

\$20,363.79

Greenville, First

\$4,740.00

Grimsley

\$712.40

Gum Swamp

\$3,343.30

Harrell's Chapel

\$5,179.67

Hickory Grove

\$951.50

Hillside

\$75.00

Howell Swamp

\$5,045.00

Hugo

\$8,752.00

Hull Road

\$16,732.12

King's Cross Roads

\$22,818.70

La Grange

\$3,346.27

Little Creek

\$3,050.00

Marlboro

\$2,403.86

NC Central Conference

\$2,000.00

Ormondsville

\$4,800.00

Owens Chapel

\$1,050.00

Peace

\$366.75

Piney Grove (Beaufort)

\$2,363.70

Piney Grove (Pitt)

\$91.59

Pleasant Hill

\$725.00

Reedy Branch

\$6,195.89

Rocky Mount, First

\$1,225.00

Rose Hill

\$15,205.85

Rose of Sharon

\$2,728.60

Saratoga

\$700.00

Spring Branch

\$848.00

Tarboro, First

\$11,102.83

Walnut Creek	\$1,500.00	Piney Grove	\$100.00
Williamston, First	\$2,060.24	Rock of Zion	\$2,684.00
Winterville	\$24,053.31	Rooty Branch	\$2,681.00
<b>EASTERN</b>		Russell's Creek	\$538.00
Antioch	\$2,500.00	Saints Delight	\$150.00
Arapahoe	\$2,500.00	Sandy Plain	\$16,209.75
Bethel	\$325.00	Sarecta	\$590.00
Bethlehem	\$3,660.00	Silver Creek	\$736.94
Beulaville	\$2,590.00	Smith's New Home	\$666.50
British Chapel	\$200.00	Smyrna	\$400.00
Cabin	\$742.00	Sneads Ferry	\$1,146.05
Carteret Co. SS Convention	\$15.00	Snow Hill	\$956.00
Carteret Co. Union Meeting	\$15.00	Sound View	\$140.00
Christian Chapel	\$960.00	St. Mary's	\$125.00
Core Creek	\$2,318.00	Wardens Grove	\$510.01
Core Point Chapel	\$686.48	Warsaw, First	\$200.00
Crab Point	\$630.00	Welcome Home	\$5.00
Croatan	\$778.00	Westside	\$2,906.11
Daly's Chapel	\$1,250.00	Whaley's Chapel	\$1,100.00
Deep Run	\$1,303.50	White Hill	\$4,484.00
Dublin Grove	\$1,300.00	White Oak Grove	\$4,671.00
Eastern Layman's League	\$16.25	Wintergreen	\$1,600.00
Edwards Chapel	\$60.00	<b>PAUL PALMER</b>	
Folkstone	\$4,169.89	Jakin	\$1,000.00
Friendship	\$400.00	Paul Palmer Association	\$4,115.00
Grant's Chapel	\$200.00	White Pond	\$1,000.00
Holly Springs	\$341.00	Zion	\$900.00
Juniper Chapel	\$3,445.00	<b>PEE DEE</b>	
Kinston, First	\$617.60	Beaverdam	\$9,236.79
Lanier's Chapel	\$911.00	Branch Chapel	\$4,277.17
Long Ridge	\$800.00	Emerson	\$100.00
Macedonia	\$1,200.00	Little Bethel	\$100.00
May's Chapel	\$7,435.75	Mission Valley	\$250.00
Memorial	\$456.47	Mt. Calvary	\$400.00
Mt. Zion (Onslow)	\$1,250.00	Oak Grove	\$1,162.83
Mt. Zion (Pamlico)	\$200.00	Pee Dee #2	\$150.00
New Bethlehem	\$902.00	Pee Dee Auxiliary Convention	\$50.00
New Haven	\$400.00	Pireway	\$75.00
Northeast	\$1,645.00	Thomasboro	\$100.00
Oak Grove	\$685.00	White Oak	\$510.00
Pearsall Chapel	\$225.00	<b>PIEDMONT</b>	
Pilgrim's Home	\$300.00	Bethany	\$100.00
Pilgrims Rest	\$100.00	Christ	\$100.00



Friendly Chapel	\$50.00	Western Auxiliary Convention	\$625.00
Piedmont Conference	\$150.00	Western Conference	\$500.00
<b>WESTERN</b>		Western Conference Sec. Union	\$60.00
Agape	\$150.00	Wilson, First	18,233.41
Antioch	\$25.00	<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Barnes Hill	\$250.00	Cragmont Woman's Conference	\$1,242.12
Black Jack Grove	\$696.28	Erwin High School Class of 1957	\$100.00
Broken Wing Fellowship	\$525.00	FWB Children's Home	2,500.00
Everett's Chapel	\$2,337.00	Freddie (West Virginia)	\$150.00
Floods Chapel	\$500.00	Mission Rally Loose Offering	\$265.00
Free Union	\$400.00	NCFWB Woman's Auxiliary Conven	\$1,000.08
Fremont	\$1,100.00	NC Foundation	\$1,227.95
Friendship	\$555.00	<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>	
Harmony	\$1,009.00	Alton Ray Hines	\$2,400.00
Holly Springs	\$2,220.00	Alvin & Ann Joyner	\$1,200.00
Kenly	\$2,630.00	Ann G. Radford	\$300.00
Little Rock	\$1,300.00	Ann Moore	\$125.00
Marsh Swamp	\$3,348.00	Annie K. May	\$100.00
Micro	\$1,955.00	Annie Speight	\$25.00
Milbournie	\$5,832.00	Anthony D. Howard	\$50.00
Mt. Zion (Nash)	\$6,179.00	Barbara A. Willoughby	\$100.00
Mt. Zion (Wilson)	\$700.00	Barbara F. Hines	\$125.00
Northern	\$10,638.00	Barbara S. & A. J. McLawhorn, Jr.	\$200.00
Pine Level	\$1,330.00	Becky Jo Sumner	\$2,217.00
Piney Grove	\$1,380.00	Betsy C. Williams	\$60.00
Pleasant Grove	\$2,384.55	Betty C. West	\$467.00
Pleasant Hill	\$1,013.00	Bishop Maurice Robert	\$1,200.00
Pleasant Plain	\$472.00	Carolyn B. Jones/Robin English	\$100.00
Rains Cross Roads	\$7,352.47	Catherine D. Cox	\$100.00
Rock Springs	\$3,225.00	Catherine S. Cobb	\$50.00
Selma	\$2,330.01	Charles Aman	\$5.00
Sherron Acres	\$250.00	Christine H. Turner	\$500.00
Spring Hill	\$3,572.00	Christopher McDaniel	\$675.00
St. Mary's	\$2,045.00	Cora Kearney	\$100.00
Stancil's Chapel	\$4,261.50	Curtis E. May	\$50.00
Stoney Creek	\$27,780.76	Daniel D. Holloman	\$10.00
Stony Hill	\$75.00	Darla P. Peedin	\$100.00
Trinity	\$75.00	Dianne Brown Riley-Gray	\$100.00
Union Chapel	\$400.00	Dondi P. Hobbs	\$50.00
Union Grove	\$2,200.00	Dorothy C. Burrress	\$50.00
Unity	\$1,730.00	Dr. & Mrs. Charles E. Russell	\$10.00
Victory	\$3,600.00	Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth E. Benton	\$203.00
Watson's Grove	\$625.00	Dr. & Mrs. Michael Pelt	\$100.00

Easy Auto Credit, Inc.	\$7,000.00	Marshall & Jan Jernigan Stewart	\$100.00
Elwood Bryan	\$200.00	Martha B. Pope	\$20.00
Emily S. Meeks	\$500.00	Mary A. Scott	\$100.00
Emma C. Rouse	\$25.00	Mary E. Jackson	\$50.00
Esteline E. Tart	\$25.00	Mary L. Joyner	\$150.00
Fannie G. Edwards	\$10.00	Mavie Daughtry	\$752.67
Gary Fenton Barefoot	\$125.00	Megan F. Carlson	\$20.00
Gertrude D. Davis	\$25.00	Melissa Barnett	\$100.00
Glenda McLawhorn	\$600.00	Michael D. Creech	\$320.00
Gloria Yvonne Lucas	\$2,850.00	Miriam B. Lamm	\$100.00
Gwendolyn H. Ferrell	\$200.00	Mr. & Mrs. Allen Moye, Jr.	\$100.00
Harold Jones	\$11,475.00	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Paul	\$720.00
Hazel M. Edwards	\$25.00	Mr. & Mrs. Arthur P. Bostic	\$3,900.00
Horace Tripp	\$6,000.00	Mr. & Mrs. Ashby Bynum	\$116.25
Howard Franklin Scott	\$250.00	Mr. & Mrs. B. R. Churchill	\$1,000.00
J. C. Dudley, Jr.	\$5.00	Mr. & Mrs. Barry Lynn Gardner	\$100.00
Jackie & Vivian E. Pope	\$550.00	Mr. & Mrs. Bobby D. Cole	\$300.00
James B. Malpass, Jr.	\$1,000.00	Mr. & Mrs. Bruce E. Gray	\$6,000.00
James E. Grantham	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin G. Hardee	\$50.00
Jane B. Gainey	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. Carl V. Averette	\$50.00
Janet R. Walston	\$10.00	Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Buck	\$100.00
Jean H. Potter	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Carlton C. Oakley	\$105.00
Joan H. Little	\$250.00	Mr. & Mrs. Carroll W. Hawkins	\$1,000.00
Joan W. Rouse	\$5.00	Mr. & Mrs. Charles B. Landreth	\$100.00
JoAnn S Woodard	\$500.00	Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Nichols	\$70.00
Joey P. Smith	\$300.00	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Shirley	\$250.00
Joyce Adams	\$60.00	Mr. & Mrs. Charles W Pittman, III	\$200.00
Joyce B. Thigpen	\$700.00	Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Branch	\$4,200.00
Joyce Brown	\$200.00	Mr. & Mrs. D. Bruce Baird	\$6,375.00
Julia K. Hill	\$25.00	Mr. & Mrs. David A. Brewer	\$295.00
Karen & Thomas Shields	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. David E. Horne	\$1,000.00
Karen Morgan	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. David M. Lockamy	\$1,000.00
Kathleen Slade	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. David Moore	\$100.00
Kathy B. Cahoon	\$25.00	Mr. & Mrs. Don Musgrave	\$250.00
Kay Tugwell	\$1,200.00	Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Parker	\$400.00
Lettie P. Barwick	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Glover	\$50.00
Linda W. Futch	\$110.00	Mr. & Mrs. Douglas W. Merrell	\$25.00
Loretta A. Letchworth	\$500.00	Mr. & Mrs. Everette Coates	\$50.00
M. G. Wright, Jr.	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Frank L. Barron	\$600.00
M. W. Roberson	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Gary B. Collier	\$4,000.00
Mack O'Neal, Jr.	\$300.00	Mr. & Mrs. Gary W. Faircloth	\$250.00
Margaret Grice	\$75.00	Mr. & Mrs. Graham Frazelle	\$2,000.00
Marie W. Hudson	\$350.00	Mr. & Mrs. Harold Cuddington	\$25.00

Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Mizell, Jr.	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. Stearle G. Pittman	\$125.00
Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Lawrence	\$4,600.00	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Honeycutt, Jr.	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. J. F. Scott, Jr.	\$350.00	Mr. & Mrs. Timothy L. Rowland	\$500.00
Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Bowen	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. Tommie F. Bostic, Jr.	\$750.00
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Smith	\$15.00	Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Tyndall	\$900.00
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Bland	\$75.00	Mr. & Mrs. Tony E. Peedin	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey C. Westerfield	\$25.00	Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Jones	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey R. Wade	\$500.00	Mr. & Mrs. Walter Lee Powell, Jr.	\$25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Turner Tripp	\$1,000.00	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Evans	\$200.00
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Wood	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Johnson	\$200.00
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Ellis	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Weaver Baker	\$800.00
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Floyd	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. William P. Hodges	\$3,500.00
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Kachel	\$3,200.00	Mr. & Mrs. Willie A. Jackson	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Smith	\$1,025.00	Mrs. Robert P. Hines	\$500.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Smith, Jr.	\$1,500.00	Nancy Boykin	\$30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Williams	\$100.00	Nancy P. Mills	\$500.00
Mr. & Mrs. Keith R. Gould	\$2,250.00	Nona B. Gray	\$400.00
Mr. & Mrs. L. Wayne Bailey	\$2,100.00	Ollie Langston	\$300.00
Mr. & Mrs. Larry E. Clayton	\$50.00	Pearl T. Coats	\$25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Head	\$15.00	Peggy J. Biggs	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Morton Jernigan	\$140.00	Phyllis P. Ross	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd A. Williams, Jr.	\$40.00	Randy Holloman	\$55.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd W. Jones, Jr.	\$20.00	Rev. & Mrs. Bobby Tew	\$1,200.00
Mr. & Mrs. Marshall T. Spain	\$100.00	Rev. & Mrs. Bryce Rouse	\$1,000.00
Mr. & Mrs. Merle W. Edwards	\$50.00	Rev. & Mrs. Chris Singleton	\$1,575.00
Mr. & Mrs. Michael T. Bowen	\$19,000.00	Rev. & Mrs. Dallas W. Byrd	\$600.00
Mr. & Mrs. Milton B. Heath	\$25.00	Rev. & Mrs. David Hines	\$600.00
Mr. & Mrs. Milton C. Kennedy	\$600.00	Rev. & Mrs. David Smith	\$25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Newton S. Barham	\$100.00	Rev. & Mrs. Doug Seymour	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Noah Norman	\$300.00	Rev. & Mrs. Doug Skinner	\$360.00
Mr. & Mrs. Paul F. Bissette	\$2,600.00	Rev. & Mrs. Emmitt Jones	\$50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Percy Kennedy	\$700.00	Rev. & Mrs. Frank Flowers	\$200.00
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Creech	\$150.00	Rev. & Mrs. Frankie Baggett	\$1,000.00
Mr. & Mrs. Peyton Lee	\$35.00	Rev. & Mrs. Fred Baker	\$1,100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Q. J. Sumner	\$300.00	Rev. & Mrs. Gary Bailey	\$125.00
Mr. & Mrs. Rand Holland	\$750.00	Rev. & Mrs. Howard F. Scott	\$250.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Wilkerson	\$2,100.00	Rev. & Mrs. Jack Weathersby	\$50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Weathersby	\$1,075.00	Rev. & Mrs. James Gurganus	\$1,500.00
Mr. & Mrs. Rocky Kennedy	\$5,730.00	Rev. & Mrs. Jesse B. Caton	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald C. Pittman	\$10.00	Rev. & Mrs. Joey Williams	\$50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie A. Barnes	\$75.00	Rev. & Mrs. John Mark Windley	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Brown	\$100.00	Rev. & Mrs. Johnny R. Sullivan	\$245.00
Mr. & Mrs. Seth B. Cayton	\$1,185.00	Rev. & Mrs. Joseph E. Ballance	\$100.00

Rev. & Mrs. Lewis Godwin	\$250.00	Rose Mallard Raper	\$30.00
Rev. & Mrs. Lewis J. Forsythe	\$20.00	Russell B. Brock, Jr.	\$1,000.00
Rev. & Mrs. Mike Barnhill	\$25.00	Sandra T. Surles	\$400.00
Rev. & Mrs. Mike Scott	\$500.00	Shirley T. Sellers	\$200.00
Rev. & Mrs. Philip Wood	\$600.00	Sue E. Shields	\$50.00
Rev. & Mrs. Phillip Boykin	\$250.00	Sue Jeffreys	\$25.00
Rev. & Mrs. Roney B. Bunn, Jr.	\$690.00	Sue U. Warrick	\$400.00
Rev. & Mrs. Ronnie A. Mohn	\$75.00	Susan Robert	\$300.00
Rev. & Mrs. Ronnie V. Hobgood	\$125.00	Tammy E. Hudson	\$200.00
Rev. & Mrs. Thomas M. Parrish	\$100.00	Teresa Futrell	\$1,400.00
Rev. & Mrs. Wesley Taylor	\$50.00	Teresa Moore Ball	\$300.00
Rev. Crandall L. Fountain	\$100.00	Verla P. Creech	\$250.00
Robert S. Barbour	\$50.00	Vickie W. Wade	\$100.00
Rose E. Price	\$350.00	Viola T. Wilson	\$100.00
		William L. Howerin	\$100.00

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FOREIGN MISSIONS.  
YOUR FAITHFULNESS BLESSES THE LIVES  
OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD**





## *Home Missions and Evangelism*

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### **Report to the 2018 Convention of OFWB**

The work of Home Missions and Evangelism continues to be under the Executive Committee of the Convention in order to foster a spirit of transparency and to build confidence in the effectiveness of the direction of Home Missions. Therefore, the Executive Committee is (1) to oversee and direct the Home Missions and Evangelism Board for a period of not less than one year and until such transparency and confidence is restored, and (2) to conduct an audit of the financial records of this ministry from 2006-2016 at the expense of Home Missions.

Since the 2016 May Convention, we have given four updates on our work. Below is an update since the 2017 Fall Conferences:

#### Concerning Home Missions' Tax Liability:

- According to Jeff Hale, CPA, Home Missions is up-to-date with the North Carolina Department of Revenue.
- Amy Wells, tax attorney from Greenville continues to assist us with questions concerning payroll taxes to the Internal Revenue Service.

#### Concerning Audit of the Financial Records from 2006-2016

- Jeff Hale, CPA, informed the Executive Committee that a full audit cannot be conducted given the conditions of the books, e.g. lack of receipts and accounting, checks written to cash with no documentation.
- Due to the lack of receipts, etc., we are recreating the books from the bank statements from 2006-2016. This work is in progress.

#### Concerning Home Missions' properties:

- The properties at Morehead, Landis and Whiteville are all currently occupied with tenants who are up to date with their monthly rental payments.
- The properties at Morehead, Landis and Whiteville have been offered to the present tenants. If these tenants decide not to purchase, we will list the properties with realtors in the locales where the properties are located.
- The property in Wilson has been sold, with Home Missions providing the financing. All payments are up to date.
- Home Missions owns three (3) time shares. Mr. Linwood Smith and the Reverend Don Fader are presently working on the procedure to sell these properties.

#### General Information

- The Home Missions office is now located at the Convention Services office in Mount Olive. (August 22, 2017)
- The Executive Committee approved compensation for the Reverend Doctor Josh Whitfield for his work with Home Missions from June 2016 to August 2017. (September 7, 2017)
- The Executive Committee approved employing the Reverend Franklin Baggett as Home Missions Interim Director. (January 11, 2018)

- At the direction of the Executive Committee, President Hobgood appointed an Advisory Council to work with the interim director. Those appointed thus far are The Reverend Roger Haithcock, The Reverend Dr. Brad Williamson and Mr. Ross Zacharzuk. Others will be added to the Council in the future. This Council reports directly to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee would like to assure our churches and ministers that we are committed to a vision of planting churches and assisting our present churches with resources to aid in church revitalization.

We encourage our churches to continue to support Home Missions through their giving. This support is needed to retire our debt with Church Finance, pay our overdue taxes, and to make plans for our future. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact our Home Missions office located in Mount Olive.

***Home Missions and Evangelism  
Rev. Frankie Baggett, Interim Director  
201 West James Street  
Mount Olive, N. C. 28365***

***919-299-4553***



## Home Missions and Evangelism

Greetings to the 106<sup>th</sup> session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The work of the Home Missions and Evangelism Ministry continues under the leadership of the Executive Committee of the Convention and an Advisory Council appointed by The President, Ronnie Hobgood. We are striving to Renew our Vision for the work of Home Missions and Evangelism. The Convention back in 1972 had a vision to establish new churches and renew established churches. This is still the vision that will direct our path as we move into the future. As we seek God's direction for Home Missions and Evangelism your prayers and financial support are vital to the success of this ministry.

Please pray specifically for God's direction as we seek opportunities to establish new church plants and Hispanic ministries, and to renew established churches by (1) Stressing the importance of evangelism, (2) Promoting good church health and helpfulness, (3) Helping churches discover their passion and vision for ministry, (4) Promoting church vitalization, and (5) Encouraging community involvement.

### Recommendations to the Convention:

6. That the Convention adopts this report
7. That the Convention encourage our churches and members to pray for the renewal of the vision of Home Missions and Evangelism
8. That the Convention stress the importance of helping people come to know Christ as Savior
9. That the Convention support the 2018 Budget
10. That the Convention churches make an effort towards church growth and revitalization, and towards promoting good church health and community involvement

Respectfully submitted by

Franklin Baggett - Interim Director

Roger Haithcock – Advisory Council Member

Brad Williamson - Advisory Council Member

Ross Zacharzuk – Advisory Council Member

Home Missions and Evangelism			
Financial Report			
			2017
			Actual
Income			
	Convention Offering		\$ 2,168.00
	Rental Income		\$ 30,700.00
	Proceeds from Auction		\$ 150,629.00
	Proceeds from Sale of Wilson Property		\$ 7,450.00
	Insurance Reinbursement		\$ 52,863.81
	Gifts		\$ 118,427.78
			\$ 362,238.59
Expenditures			
	Auction expense		\$ 6,868.55
	Auto insurance		\$ 1,310.55
	Bank charges (DDA debit)		\$ 836.00
	Biker Ministry expenses		\$ 11,702.04
	Cleaning Home Missions Office		\$ 210.00
	Equipment Repair		\$ 667.10
	Fire inspection fees		\$ 309.85
	Hispanic Ministry		\$ 13,110.00
	Home Missions Work		\$ 7,500.00
	Ice Storm Cleanup (water damage)		\$ 56,514.34
	Insurance - Kinston bldg		\$ 2,563.96
	Life Conference		\$ 100.00
	Loan Payment-Church Finance		\$ 25,836.13
	Mitigation Process		\$ 2,278.61
	Mortgage - Kinston bldg		\$ 11,851.10
	Moving expense		\$ 429.15
	Office expense		\$ 679.17
	Overdue taxes		\$ 89,190.33
	Postage		\$ 797.55
	Professional Services		\$ 1,051.83
	Property taxes		\$ 6,055.79
	Reimbursement for Expenses		\$ 111.37
	Rent reimbursement		\$ 4,000.00
	Repairs & Maintenance		\$ 2,000.00
	Safe deposit rent		\$ 40.00
	Security system		\$ 660.00
	Tax Attorney		\$ 351.50
	Telephone		\$ 737.58
	Utilities - Kinston		\$ 7,731.20
	Utilities - Morehead		\$ 720.56
	Utilities - Wilson		\$ 264.99
	<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 256,479.25</b>



<b>Home Missions &amp; Evangelism</b>			
<b>Balance Sheet</b>			
<b>year Ending 12/31/17</b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
	<b>Current Assests</b>		
	Little Bank Checking	\$ 141,699.88	
	BB&T Checking	\$ 12,375.33	
	Church Finance Endowments	\$ 45,112.08	
			\$ 199,187.29
	Notes Receivable - Wilson Property 12/31/2017		\$ 125,413.43
	<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
	Landis Property Tax Value	\$ 323,059.00	
	Morehead City Property Tax Value	\$ 720,111.00	
	Whiteville Property Tax Value	\$ 73,800.00	
	Time Shares	0.00	
			\$ 1,116,970.00
<b>Total Assets</b>			<b>\$ 1,441,570.72</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>			
	<b>Liabilities</b>		
	Notes Payable - Church Finance	\$ 138,589.02	
			\$ 138,589.02
	<b>Equity</b>		\$ 1,302,981.70
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>			<b>\$ 1,441,570.72</b>

<b>Budget 2018</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
	Gifts from Churches and Individuals	\$	139,440.00
	Convention Offering	\$	2,500.00
	Rental Income	\$	30,700.00
	Biker Prison Ministry Donations	\$	13,000.00
		\$	185,640.00
<b>Expenditures</b>			
	Biker Prison Ministry expenses	\$	13,000.00
	Rent - Home Missions Office	\$	600.00
	Hispanic Ministry	\$	20,000.00
	Insurance Expense	\$	5,000.00
	Loan Payment-Church Finance	\$	15,000.00
	Office expense	\$	1,000.00
	Miscellaneous	\$	1,200.00
	Postage	\$	1,600.00
	Professional Development	\$	20,000.00
	Professional Services	\$	5,000.00
	Property taxes	\$	3,200.00
	Safe deposit rent	\$	40.00
	Salaries	\$	20,000.00
	Mission Work	\$	40,000.00
	Revitalization Work	\$	40,000.00
		\$	185,640.00

## **The Free Will Baptist Minister's Program**

### ***Report to the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists***

#### **Mission Statement**

***“It is the purpose of The Free Will Baptist Minister's Program to serve the churches and ministers of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. It is our assertion that the minister can best meet the spiritual requirements of a congregation if he is unencumbered by the burden of financial insecurity. To this end we provide administrative services, information resources, and educational opportunities. These are designed to help the minister and the local church plan together a program of compensation and benefits designed to meet the minister's present and future financial needs.”***

#### **Purpose**

Today the Minister's Program sponsors a retirement program for our ministers and we encourage our churches to make their participation possible. We also advocate on behalf of the minister by communicating to churches the unique needs of their pastor. We publish articles describing how churches can help the pastor, and each year we provide our churches with **“The Church's Guide to Basic Compensation”** which provides churches and pastors with information to help them establish a dialogue on this important issue.

This year we published the twenty third edition of the guide. Instead of guidance based on group averages, this guide makes recommendations using the church's actual attendance and revenue. We invite you to review the guide and make suggestions on changes and how it can best be used within our churches. Remember, the minister and church need to participate together in a plan that can provide for a secure financial future for the pastor and his family.

#### **The Year in Review**

**Christmas Cheer** This program has been very well received by our ministers and churches since it was first implemented. The Minister's Program sends out a request in early November and then about a week before Christmas we divide the funds received from our churches equally among all participating ministers age 65 and older. The gift that you provided in 2017 was \$122 which was over \$30 less when compared to \$154 in 2016. We hope that you will make 2018 a better year for our ministers. Most of all, it is important to remember that it is a gift from the churches of the Convention to pastors who have literally given their lives to the gospel ministry. This program is a way of saying we remember you, and we are grateful for what you have done.

110 ministers received this gift from YOU this past Christmas. These ministers depend on you to keep the program going. On behalf of those ministers receiving this gift we would like to thank the churches, individuals and the organizations within the church that made this possible. Every church should support Christmas Cheer and we hope that 2018 will be the year you say thank you to these men who have served and given unselfishly to our churches and the work of God's Kingdom through the years.

**The Minister's Widow(er)s Fund and Surviving Minister's Fund** Another program we offer to our ministers and their spouses is the Minister's Widow(er)s Fund and the Surviving Minister's Fund. For those who participate, this program provides a meaningful gift for fellow ministers or surviving spouses during a time of loss. The Minister's Program pays for the administrative cost of this program so that every dollar goes to the spouse.

Since the last report to this Convention we have lost by death five members who participated in the Minister's Widow(er)s Fund: The Reverends Edmundo Gonzalez, Billy Toler, Owen Arthur, Bryant Hines, and Frank Flowers. Participants in the Surviving Minister's Fund: Maxine Spivey, wife of the Reverend Edward Spivey and Lorraine Garner, wife of the Reverend Francis Garner passed away since our last seating of the Convention.

## What Can Your Church Do?

The Minister's Program will continue to maintain a comprehensive plan whereby churches and pastors can work together, and we will make every effort to keep everyone informed in the area of taxation, compensation, retirement, and financial planning.

The only limit to the scope of this program is the level of support we receive from you, the local church. Your gift to us is a sacred trust, and we make every effort to provide the greatest benefit to our ministers with a minimum outlay for administrative costs.

We hope that you appreciate this fact and that you will continue to support this program with your prayers and gifts. Last year the board cut expenses and our churches maintained support at the previous year's level. This combination allowed the Minister's Program to finish the year in the black, and for that we are grateful and thank each of the churches who support the program with their gifts. We have no other source of revenue apart from the faithful support of God's people. Did your church give? If not please tell us what we need to do to earn the trust and confidence necessary to receive your support.

If we can help you in any way, please call on us.

Doug Seymour, Chairman  
Gene Paramore, Vice Chairman  
Ricky Warren  
Mike Scott  
DeWayne Eakes

### Gift Challenges

<b>Churches with less than 100 members</b>	<b>\$150.00 + 1 Christmas Cheer Gift</b>
<b>100 – 149</b>	<b>\$300.00 + 1 Christmas Cheer Gift</b>
<b>150 - 199</b>	<b>\$400.00 + 2 Christmas Cheer Gifts</b>
<b>Over 200</b>	<b>\$500.00 + 2 Christmas Cheer Gifts</b>

### Recommendations

- 1) We ask this Convention's continuous prayers in support of this program.
- 2) We ask for approval of the budget presented.
- 3) We ask that October be designated as Minister's Program Month and that the second Sunday in October be set aside as Clergy Appreciation Day. In addition, we ask that the second Sunday in June be set aside as Minister's Program Sunday in the local church.
- 4) We ask that each church support the Christmas Cheer campaign in addition to their regular budget.

**The Free Will Baptist Minister's Program  
Financial Report  
12/31/2017  
Consolidated Balance Sheet**

**ASSETS**

Cash in Banks	\$ 94,728
Equity Holdings (Stocks, bonds, etc)	1,845,108
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,939,836</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Retirement Reserve	\$1,775,400
Monthly Annuity Reserve	89,312
Fund Balance	47,230
Burress & Galloway	2,500
Accruals	25,394
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$1,939,836</b>

**Consolidated  
Income and Expense  
12/31/2017**

	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2016 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Church/ Ind. Contributions	73,495	64,858	70,000
Annuity Receipts	18,636	25,086	14,844
Interest and Dividend	5,405	2,749	-0-
Retirement Contributions	123,612	103,436	110,000
Widows and Ministers Fund	4,885	3,315	-0-
Christmas Cheer	13,501	16,860	17,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>239,534</b>	<b>216,304</b>	<b>211,844</b>

**EXPENSES**

Insurance Premiums	1,972	1,972	1,900
Retirement Credits	123,612	103,436	110,000
Monthly Retirement Annuity	14,844	25,086	14,844
Retirement Distribution	-0-	770	-0-
Christmas Cheer	13,574	14,514	15,000
Professional Fees	5,203	5,512	6,000
Office Expense	12,426	14,769	10,600
Board and Director Expense	3,357	4,364	6,000

Salary	25,510	26,500	26,000
Retirement	8,000	8,000	8,000
Payroll Taxes	4,362	4,744	3,978
Widows and Minister's Fund	7,785	4,845	-0-
Transfer to Retirement Fund	18,636		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>239,281</b>	<b>214,512</b>	<b>220,884</b>
<b>(LOSS) OR GAIN</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>1,792</b>	<b>-0-</b>
<b>MRS Investment Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>201,880</b>	<b>114,201</b>	<b>-0-</b>

**See management's accompanying notes.**

- 1) This financial report was prepared by management.
- 2) The accounting firm of Page and Smith, PA, CPAs provides a quarterly compilation report and a consolidated year end statement to the Board of Directors, a copy of which has been provided to the Executive Committee of the Convention.

**PAGE & SMITH, P.A.**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

Shareholders

Kimberly H. Braxton, CPA  
Benjamin V. Hardy, CPA  
Dana T. Letchworth, CPA

2713 WEST VERNON AVENUE  
KINSTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28504  
(252) 523-1088 ♦ FAX (252) 523-1089

1350 EAST ARLINGTON BLVD, SUITE C  
GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 27858  
(252) 317-0690 ♦ FAX (252) 317-0695

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Free Will Baptist Ministers' Program Operating Account  
(a church affiliated nonprofit organization)  
PO Box 1396  
Kinston, NC 28501

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Free Will Baptist Ministers' Program Operating Account, which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of activities for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures and the statement of cash flows required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. If the omitted disclosures and statement of cash flows were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Organization's financial position, changes in net assets, and cash flows. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

*Page & Smith, P.A.*

Page & Smith, P.A.  
Certified Public Accountants  
January 31, 2018

**FWB Ministers' Program Operating Account**  
**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**As of December 31, 2017 and 2016**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Current Assets		
Operating Fund Cash		
OP/Little Bank Checking	\$ 49,406.64	\$ 45,775.41
OP/CF Burress & Galloway Endow.	2,544.04	2,550.38
Wells Fargo Advisors	23,528.96	22,343.90
Wells Fargo - Annuity Fund	88,956.76	95,601.08
Total Operating Fund Cash	<u>164,436.40</u>	<u>166,270.77</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>164,436.40</u>	<u>166,270.77</u>
Fixed Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Computer equipment	1,500.00	1,500.00
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,500.00)</u>	<u>(1,500.00)</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 164,436.40</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 166,270.77</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		
Current Liabilities		
FICA payable	\$ 311.38	\$ 311.38
Medicare payable	72.87	72.87
Due from Ministers' Retirement	-	1,097.61
Accrued director's fee	<u>25,010.00</u>	<u>26,000.00</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>25,394.25</u>	<u>27,481.86</u>
Net Assets		
Net assets-Unrestricted	47,229.92	37,432.83
Net assets-Temporarily Restricted	89,312.23	98,856.08
Net assets-Permanently Restricted	<u>2,500.00</u>	<u>2,500.00</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>139,042.15</u>	<u>138,788.91</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 164,436.40</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 166,270.77</u></b>

*See accountants' report.*



**FWB Ministers' Program Operating Account**  
**STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES**  
**For the years ending December 31, 2017 and 2016**

	December 31, 2017				December 31, 2016			
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE:</b>								
Interest and dividend income	\$ 731.61	\$ 2,909.91	44.04	\$ 3,685.56	\$ 664.80	\$ 3,056.60	50.38	\$ 3,771.78
Christmas Cheer	13,501.50	-	-	13,501.50	17,091.00	-	-	17,091.00
Individual contributions	436.25	-	-	436.25	558.23	-	-	558.23
Church contributions	73,058.47	-	-	73,058.47	68,626.59	-	-	68,626.59
Ministers widow's fund receipts	-	4,885.00	-	4,885.00	-	9,495.00	-	9,495.00
Net investment appreciation/depreciation	466.67	1,252.81	-	1,719.48	19.27	(544.08)	-	(524.81)
Total support and revenue	88,194.50	9,047.72	44.04	97,286.26	86,959.89	12,007.52	50.38	99,017.79
Net assets released from restrictions:								
Satisfaction of usage restrictions	18,635.61	(18,591.57)	(44.04)	-	28,425.38	(28,375.00)	(50.38)	-
	106,830.11	(9,543.85)	-	97,286.26	115,385.27	(16,367.48)	-	99,017.79
<b>EXPENSES:</b>								
Wages - office	5,022.85	-	-	5,022.85	5,022.85	-	-	5,022.85
Director's fee	25,510.00	-	-	25,510.00	26,500.00	-	-	26,500.00
Director's retirement	8,000.00	-	-	8,000.00	8,000.00	-	-	8,000.00
Payroll taxes	4,362.24	-	-	4,362.24	4,364.34	-	-	4,364.34
Monthly annuity retirement benefits	14,844.00	-	-	14,844.00	20,322.00	-	-	20,322.00
Bank charges	200.30	-	-	200.30	174.00	-	-	174.00
Christmas cheer	13,574.00	-	-	13,574.00	17,094.00	-	-	17,094.00
Insurance	1,972.02	-	-	1,972.02	1,972.02	-	-	1,972.02
Legal and accounting	5,203.00	-	-	5,203.00	5,077.50	-	-	5,077.50
Ministers widow's fund	7,785.00	-	-	7,785.00	8,025.00	-	-	8,025.00
Retired member distributions	-	-	-	-	531.00	-	-	531.00
Miscellaneous	439.00	-	-	439.00	464.04	-	-	464.04
Office supplies	1,982.56	-	-	1,982.56	2,428.10	-	-	2,428.10
Postage	1,551.89	-	-	1,551.89	3,358.17	-	-	3,358.17
Printing	3,229.17	-	-	3,229.17	2,889.13	-	-	2,889.13
Board/director's expense	2,400.00	-	-	2,400.00	4,000.00	-	-	4,000.00
Travel (mileage)	956.99	-	-	956.99	1,126.16	-	-	1,126.16
Total expenses	97,033.02	-	-	97,033.02	111,348.31	-	-	111,348.31
Change in net assets	9,797.09	(9,543.85)	-	253.24	4,036.96	(16,367.48)	-	(12,330.52)
Net assets at beginning of period	37,432.83	98,856.08	2,500.00	138,788.91	33,395.87	115,223.56	2,500.00	151,119.43
Restatement - annuity benefits payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net assets at end of period	\$ 47,229.92	\$ 89,312.23	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 139,042.15	\$ 37,432.83	\$ 98,856.08	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 138,788.91

See accountants' report.

	Annuity		SMW	MWF	
2014	-		-	3,315.00	
2015	61,895.10		30.00	3,285.00	
	(25,086.00)			(4,845.00)	
	76,629.46		-	-	
2016	(20,322.00)	pd benefits	-	(8,025.00)	
	3,056.60	Dividends		9,495.00	
	(28.00)	over withdrew			
	(544.08)	Appr/Depr			-
					-
2017	(14,844.00)	pad benefits		4,885.47	-
	2,909.91	dividends		(7,785.00)	-
	1,252.81	Appr/Depr			-
	4,036.96	profit			
total	88,956.76		30.00	325.47	89,312.23
	cash in bank				Temp Restricted

**PAGE & SMITH, P.A.**  
**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

Shareholders

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Free Will Baptist Ministers' Retirement Program  
PO Box 1396  
Kinston, NC 28501

Plan management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Free Will Baptist Ministers' Retirement Program, which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by plan management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

Plan management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. If the omitted disclosures were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Plan's net assets available for benefits and changes in its net assets available for benefits. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

*Page & Smith, P.A.*

Page & Smith, P.A.  
Certified Public Accountants  
January 31, 2018

**FWB Ministers' Retirement Program**  
**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**  
**As of December 31, 2017 and 2016**

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
MR/Little Bank Checking	\$ 42,777.39	\$ 44,005.02
Wells Fargo - Balanced	1,119,611.64	923,488.57
Wells Fargo - Stable	252,592.76	226,270.79
Accrued Interest - Stable	613.98	51.20
Wells Fargo - Fixed	359,804.02	377,929.37
Due from Operating Fund	-	1,097.61
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,775,399.79</u>	<u>\$ 1,572,842.56</u>

**LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**

Current Liabilities		
FWH Payable	\$ -	\$ (676.97)
Net assets available for benefits	<u>1,775,399.79</u>	<u>1,573,519.53</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u>\$ 1,775,399.79</u>	<u>\$ 1,573,519.53</u>

*See accountants' report.*

**FWB Ministers' Retirement Program****STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS****For the years ending December 31, 2017 and 2016**

	<u>December 31, 2017</u>	<u>December 31, 2016</u>
ADDITIONS:		
Interest income - stable	2,054.71	1,019.06
Dividend income - fixed	10,586.74	9,493.42
Dividend income - balanced	44,756.03	34,492.63
Dividend income - stable	-	37.71
Net investment appreciation/depreciation	94,493.48	35,100.11
	<u>151,890.96</u>	<u>80,142.93</u>
CONTRIBUTIONS:		
Minister retirement contribution	<u>123,611.81</u>	<u>110,316.63</u>
DEDUCTIONS:		
Retirement/lump sum withdrawal	<u>73,622.51</u>	<u>76,258.43</u>
Total deductions	<u>73,622.51</u>	<u>76,258.43</u>
Net increase (decrease)	201,880.26	114,201.13
Net assets at beginning of period	1,573,519.53	1,459,318.40
Net assets at end of period	<u>1,775,399.79</u>	<u>1,573,519.53</u>

*See accountants' report.*

**FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES, INC.**

***Annual Report to the Convention of  
Original Free Will Baptists***

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is a great opportunity for the People of God to reach out to those in need. Thanks to our people and churches this ministry has been able to serve as many as 28 clients this past year. We now have 18 clients we are serving. God continues to bless this ministry and we earnestly seek your continued prayers and support, so we can reach out to our folks who need help the most.

Goal for 2018: To assist our seniors and disabled in maintaining a lifestyle that will enable them to have positive effects on others.

We make the following recommendations to our Convention:

1. That our churches invite the Executive Director to visit and share the program needs of Retirement Homes Ministry and its clients.
2. That our Convention and our churches endorse and support our proposed budget and pray for this ministry and its clients.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mr. Lloyd Jones (A) Chairman; The Reverend Keith Phillips (C) Vice-chairman; Mr. Reginald Parker (CF), Secretary; Ms. Debbie Hare (W); The Reverend Lewis Godwin (W); The Reverend Freddie Edwards (PD); The Reverend Michael Barnhill (E); The Reverend Dr. Thomas Parrish (P); The Reverend Dr. Franklin Baggett (C); and Mrs. Joann Windley (E).

Executive Director, Reverend Ronnie Taylor  
Assistant Executive Director Mrs. Andrea Cox

**Clients in Care**

The Reverend Wayne Watson Kannapolis, NC	Mrs. Claudine Wood Deep Run, NC	Ms. Mary Machado Ayden, NC
Mrs. Linda Pierce Greenville, NC	Mrs. Zoa Raynor Beulaville, NC	Mrs. Edna Buck Morehead City, NC
Miss Kaye Jones Ayden, NC	Ms. Mary Radford Goldsboro, NC	Mrs. Shirley Jackson Farmville, NC
Mrs. Virginia Joyner Pine Level, NC	Mr. Claudious (Bud) Stallings Smithfield, NC	Mrs. Thelma Hall Middlesex, NC
Mrs. Peggy William Greenville, NC	Mrs. Geraldine Mangum Selma, NC	Mr. James Blizzard Deep Run, NC
Mrs. Delia Davis Pink Hill, NC	Mrs. Shirley Radford Princeton, NC	Mrs. Jeanette Dupree Kenly, N
Mr. and Mrs. Danny Bordeaux Pikeville, NC		

**Disability Equipment Availability Program**

We provide necessary equipment for people with short-term or long-term physical disabilities. We have hospital beds, wheelchairs, recliner/lift chairs, walkers, canes, crutches, etc. Contact us to see if we can help meet the needs of your situation.

Also, we will accept a donation of equipment or funds to purchase new equipment.

**FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT MINISTRY  
BALANCE SHEET  
As of December 31, 2017**

**ASSETS**

Current Assets

Checking – BB&T	10,377.41
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Total Checking	10,377.41
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Other Current Assets

Burress Endowment	302.26
-------------------	--------

Church Finance Reserve Account	<u>80,467.70</u>
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Total Other Current Assets	<u>80,769.96</u>
----------------------------	------------------

Total Current Assets	91,147.37
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Fixed Assets

Duplex	83,196.19
--------	-----------

Office Equipment	21,134.79
------------------	-----------

Office Furniture	3,455.78
------------------	----------

Power Street Building	105,000.00
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Total Fixed Assets	<u>213,111.76</u>
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<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$307,996.33</u></b>
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**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities	<u>296.06</u>
---------------------	---------------

Total Current Liabilities	<u>296.06</u>
---------------------------	---------------

Equity

Opening Balance Equity	216,697.16
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Retained Earnings	107,443.08
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Net Income	<u>-16,679.15</u>
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Total Equity	<u>307,461.09</u>
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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>\$307,996.33</u></b>
---------------------------------------	----------------------------

FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES, INC.  
Budget Statement

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>
Church Contributions	\$86,240.00	\$85,100.52	\$86,200.00
Individual Contributions	4,500.00	4,256.25	4,400.00
Interest	800.00	865.12	800.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	441.37	100.00
Refunds	70.00	0.00	0.00
Resident Contributions	<u>3,225.00</u>	<u>720.00</u>	<u>2,500.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$94,865.00</b>	<b>\$91,383.26</b>	<b>\$94,000.00</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Accounting	\$850.00	\$889.38	\$900.00
Bank Charges	50.00	55.50	50.00
Board Meetings & Expenses	150.00	69.11	100.00
Convention/Promotion Expense	300.00	410.90	300.00
Expansion	200.00	0.00	200.00
Gifts	1,500.00	1,325.00	1,200.00
Insurance	1,525.00	1,276.00	1,400.00
Memorials	100.00	0.00	100.00
Miscellaneous	950.00	2,159.69	2,000.00
Office Rent	2,640.00	2,634.00	2,640.00
Office Supplies & Equipment	1,200.00	494.64	520.00
Office Heating Expense	500.00	656.04	700.00
Placement Services	700.00	0.00	300.00
Postage	450.00	503.40	500.00
Property Taxes	950.00	879.22	900.00
Repairs/Maintenance	1,250.00	2,052.48	1,250.00
Resident Utilities	6,800.00	7,364.94	7,300.00
Salaries and Benefits	23,400.00	23,400.00	23,400.00
Social Security & W/H Taxes	1,800.00	1,790.10	1,800.00
Supplement Housing Support Program	41,000.00	37,231.01	38,000.00
Supplement Support Services	4,000.00	7,485.64	6,000.00
Telephone/Internet Services	1200.00	650.00	600.00
Travel	3,000.00	2,670.19	3,000.00
Utilities @ Power St. Building	<u>730.00</u>	<u>876.58</u>	<u>840.00</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXP.</b>	<b>\$94,865.00</b>	<b>\$95,019.84</b>	<b>\$94,000.00</b>

The financial report was prepared by management and a copy of the Annual Compilation will be forwarded to the Executive Committee when completed.





## **Sixty-Seventh Annual Report to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**

With what shall I come before the Lord,  
And bow myself before God on high?  
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
And what does the Lord require of you  
But to do justice, and to love kindness,  
And to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:6, 8

Several years ago, one of our students said, “I’m saved. Now what?” What she meant by this question is that it is one thing to receive Christ as Lord and Savior. It is quite another to explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, to know how to live, to seek justice, to love kindness, and to talk humbly with God.

The University of Mount Olive is a multi-faceted, complex institution of higher education. During the past nine years, we have greatly strengthened our finances, completed a capital campaign, developed graduate programs, added online education, and expanded our infrastructure, including building new student housing, renovating existing student housing, and building a state-of-the-art track and field. The University of Mount Olive serves students from 35 countries. We constantly seek to strengthen our academic programs and find new ways to strengthen relationships to our community.

At the center of University life is the spiritual life of the community. This is symbolized by the most recent capital improvement: the renovation of Rodgers Chapel, and the addition of a chapel complex, the E. Lee Glover Center for Religious Studies, which now houses our faculty in the department of religion, our chaplain, and our church relations coordinator. It includes two state-of-the-art classrooms, a prayer garden dedicated to Jean Ackiss in honor of her 50 years of service, and a completely remodeled chapel that includes a new Allen three-manual L-33 model organ that was made possible by an endowment by Vernice Jones.

We have built this Center for two reasons. One is to better serve our students. Six years ago at a church dinner, Dr. Philip P. Kerstetter, president, made the following observation: “Just as faith without works is dead, so is education without faith.” We have designed our University of Mount Olive education to draw together faith and education in a symbiotic relationship. Faith has everything to do with how we live—how we “seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God.” The E. Lee Glover Center for Religious Studies—both symbolically and in actual study—allows the University of Mount Olive community to pursue these vital questions: How do we seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God? How do we live lives of faith? How do we put faith into action? How do we love the right people in the right way? I’m saved. Now what?

Housed in the Glover Center is the Barrow Center for Faith and Life—an integral part of our program in religious studies. A week prior to the start of the 2017 – 2018 academic year, our country was shaken by an outbreak of racial and anti-Semitic violence in Charlottesville, Virginia. In the wake of this violence, in many of our classes, chapel services, and in conversations both formal and informal, the UMO community sustained a conversation as to how we as Christians stand for justice and walk humbly with our God. We also initiated conversations on human trafficking—an issue for the Book of Exodus—and relationship violence, a subject addressed many times in the Bible. Many of these conversations unfolded in our classes on religion, but they were also addressed in other pertinent disciplines, including our honors program and classes in criminal justice and psychology. Each week we seek to serve our students by engaging them in the important questions of justice, kindness, and walking with God.

The other reason we built the Glover Center is to better serve our founding church. During the past year, we have done this through the Barrow Center for Church Leadership, which has supported the Convention Commission on Education in its excellent program, “Journey Through the Bible,” our presentations in churches on “Jesus and the Power of Resurrection,” and our seminar at Cragmont on “Jesus and Leadership.” We also have events on campus for the community, including concerts and lectures. A program to support our founding church of which we are particularly proud is *The Challenge: Exploring God’s Call*—a youth institute for the study of theology that is funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment. The purpose of *The Challenge* is to cultivate leadership to ensure the future of the church. *The Challenge* has three purposes—to encourage high school participants to discern the call of God in their lives, to teach theology, and to challenge young people to become leaders in tomorrow’s church. *The Challenge* takes place four times a year—in the summer on the UMO campus, in the fall on the UMO campus, in the winter at Cragmont Assembly, and in the spring in Washington DC. Our hope for *The Challenge* will be to make it sustainable for the future, as the grant cycle comes to a close.

This spring is a bittersweet time for the University community. We are celebrating the leadership of Dr. Philip and Mary Kerstetter as they transition into retirement. The students, faculty, and staff treasure Phil and Mary, their leadership and gracious hospitality. The University has accomplished substantial growth under their leadership, none of which is more important than strengthening relationships with our founding church. We are eternally grateful for their leadership, and we wish them God’s blessing in retirement.

#### **Recommendations to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists:**

1. That the Convention officially adopts this annual report of the University of Mount Olive.
2. That the Convention continues to designate February and July as Christian Education months and that Sunday Schools and churches be encouraged to designate Fifth Sundays as scholarship days for the benefit of Original Free Will Baptist students attending the University of Mount Olive.
3. That the Convention prays faithfully for the University, and that those who lead and serve the University of Mount Olive will work earnestly as God’s agents for the transformation of women and men.
4. That the Convention rallies the churches to encourage their members to consider the University of Mount Olive as their choice for higher education at the location and in the program that will best serve their needs.
5. That the Convention encourages all churches to prayerfully and financially support the University of Mount Olive.

John N. Blackwell, Ph.D.  
Barrow Chair of Biblical Studies

Earl W. Worley, Jr.  
Chair, Board of Trustees

**University of Mount Olive**  
**Statement of Financial Position (Audited)**  
**as of June 30, 2017**

**Assets:**

Cash and Cash Equivalents	7,973,050
Accounts Receivable, net of doubtful accounts	3,873,139
Contributions receivable, net	1,835,683
Investments	25,544,117
Prepaid expenses	650,304
Cash value of life Insurance, net of loans	209,419
Student loans receivable	440,668
Other assets	652,490
Land, buildings and equipment, net of depreciation	37,725,651
Beneficial Interests in Perpetual Trusts	7,846,043
	<u>86,750,564</u>

**Liabilities:**

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,987,124
Deferred revenues	3,846,300
Lines of credit	-
Other Liabilities	145,871
Refundable advances	440,668
Obligations under Capital leases	3,545,471
Long term debt	26,850,185
Interest rate swap	43,040
Obligations under split-interest agreements	685,186
Total liabilities	<u>37,543,845</u>

**Net Assets:**

Unrestricted	8,922,374
Temporarily restricted	12,011,966
Permanently restricted	28,272,379
Total net assets	<u>49,206,719</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>86,750,564</u>

**Comments on Financial Statements:**

The year ended June 30, 2017 was financially successful since the University met its operational budget and again experienced an increase in net assets, including an increase of almost \$646 thousand in unrestricted net assets. The more than \$1.812M increase in total net assets was \$1.2M more than last year due to significant investment earnings.

John M. Kunst, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
March 20, 2018

**University of Mount Olive**  
**Statement of Activities (Audited)**  
**For the year ended June 30, 2017**

	University Unrestricted FY17 budget	Consolidated Audit FY17	University Unrestricted FY18 budget
Revenues:			
Gross Tuition and fees	\$39,371,800	\$40,078,708	\$41,057,980
OFWB contributions (1)	560,000	735,371	500,000
Other contributions (2)	956,000	1,590,842	816,000
Investment income on endowment (3)	0	3,398,147	0
Other income	755,500	826,334	768,000
Auxiliary enterprise revenues	5,147,456	4,637,556	5,623,739
Total revenues and gains	\$46,790,756	\$51,266,958	\$48,765,719
Scholarships: (4)	6,400,000	8,272,466	7,400,000
Expenses:			
Instruction	\$12,178,142	\$9,968,908	\$12,521,369
Academic support	2,850,979	\$4,827,866	3,018,518
Student services	11,157,840	\$11,117,145	11,537,509
Institutional support	7,799,539	\$7,393,685	7,816,732
Fund raising	1,210,041	1,124,185	1,203,029
Operation and maintenance of plant	2,471,277	4,746,315	2,504,650
Total educational and general expenses	\$37,667,818	\$39,178,104	\$38,601,807
Auxiliary enterprise expenses	\$2,359,938	\$2,003,491	\$2,682,302
Total expenses	\$40,027,756	\$41,181,595	\$41,284,109
Increase in net assets from operations	\$363,000	\$1,812,897	\$81,610
Net assets at beginning of year		\$47,393,822	
Net assets at end of year		\$49,206,719	

**Notes:**

- 1) OFWB contribution amount is from internal records, and not reflected in the Audit.
- 2) Other contributions in the Audit include gifts to the endowment which are not budgeted.
- 3) We no longer budget for investment gains, (losses).
- 4) 'Scholarships' includes funds from internally funded aid as well as endowed scholarships.

## **Camp Vandemere, Inc.**

Greetings from the Board of Directors to each of you from Camp Vandemere. It has been a blessed and rebuilding year at the camp since we last met at the OFWB Convention. As we approach the 2018 season of summer camps, we are excited and encouraged by your continued support of our ministry. We are reminded of Joel's statement in the Bible that God can restore the years that the locusts consumed. Indeed, several years were consumed by the destruction of the camp during the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. Yet, shall we accept the good only and not the bad? The Lord gives, The Lord takes, and, through your prayers and contributions, the Lord has given to the camp again. Last year, we hosted six full weeks of camp, two mini-camp weekends and a few weekend retreats. This upcoming year we will be hosting eight full weeks of camp, two mini-camp weekends and an increased number of weekend retreats that have been booked so far. God is good all the time.

In June of 2017, Freedom Camp Week had a spirit filled week with the youth studying about the Fruits of the Spirit. On Wednesday evening, there were forty-one campers and adults who came forth for first time decisions and rededications and were baptized after the evening worship service. The worship messages during this week were centered on the Fruits of the Spirit, and God awakened the need to change and to grow in Christ in everyone in attendance. This week, along with the other camp weeks last year provided the opportunity for forty-two souls to be saved for Christ. That is the ministry and goal of Camp Vandemere and has always been a special place of God, and we are honored and humbled that He would use our camp located on the Bay River for such special times of ministry.

We are still actively working toward reducing our construction debt that arose from the building of our three new buildings that were approved by the Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist. In this regard, what can you do to help our ministry? Pray! Support by sending your youth to a summer camp week! Use our camp for meetings, weddings, weekend retreats and any other occasion where we can serve you with our facilities! Additional financial support, outside of camp use revenue, is necessary for us to complete the repayment of monies borrowed for the rebuilding of Camp Vandemere and the daily operations. Thank you for all of the financial support and prayers so far that has enabled us to begin our third year of camp ministry since the devastation. At the present time, we still have an approximate outstanding balance of \$500,000 that Church Finance has loaned to the camp for the continuance of our ministry in Pamlico County. This is your camp and has been rebuilt for the purpose of providing rejuvenation to the saved and introducing Jesus to the lost. We really would like to see any of your special events take place at Camp Vandemere. Throughout 2017, we had ball teams, youth groups and wedding couples use our facilities. Through the next months leading to summer camps, we encourage you to consider using our facilities for your church retreats, as well as reunions, birthdays, and graduations! We also have weeks open for summer camps, RV sites available, and many weekends open that need to be filled! With good food, wonderful fishing, peaceful canoeing and a chance to spend time embracing our Lord and Savior, reserve your spot at Camp Vandemere today! Please contact Victor Jones at 252-559-3876 or [nonakent@hotmail.com](mailto:nonakent@hotmail.com).

In Christ service,

Victor Jones  
Chairman of the Boar

## **REPORT OF CAROLINA BIBLE INSTITUTE & SEMINARY TO THE 2018 CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Greetings from the Board of Trustees, the staff, and the student body of Carolina Bible Institute and Seminary to the officers, delegates, and Churches of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and its member conferences, associations, and Churches. We are appreciative for this opportunity and very thankful for the great joy and privilege to share in this session of our convention and to make this report.

The purpose of a report such as this could be many faceted, but I would like to utilize this opportunity to express just two aspects of this ministry which, perhaps, may be of great interest to you: first, the educational philosophy which drives our efforts and secondly, news and concerns which have developed since our report to the 2017 Convention.

Several years ago, a preacher friend raised the question with me, “Why are you so determined to see Carolina Bible Institute grow and enlarge its ministry?” Since then, several others have asked similar questions. Well, these questions have resulted in many sessions of actual “soul searching” thought. So, briefly, I will share some of the conclusions concerning the “educational philosophy” which drives this ministry.

Farmers Insurance Company has some comical and innovative TV commercials. They show recreations of incidents (mostly comical) that have resulted in unusual insurance claims and then the announcer says, “We know a thing or two because we’ve seen a thing or two.” Similarly, when you’ve “been around the block” as many times as I have, you’ve learned a “thing or two.” I was licensed to preach the Gospel at the November 1973 setting of the Central Conference at Marlboro Church and ordained in November, 1974 at Aspen Grove Church, Central Conference. In November, 2018, I will celebrate 45 years of service to the Lord Jesus and the Original Free Will Baptist Church and this past January, I completed my 21<sup>st</sup> year as president of Carolina Bible Institute & Seminary – I’ve seen a “thing or two!”

I have observed that God honors the preaching of His Word, but not the philosophy of men. I’ve seen Churches that once thrived with godly men and women, become more concerned with social status than standing with God and His Word. I’ve learned that God’s purpose for the Church is to impact the world for Christ, only to observe the world impacting the Church to become a sanctified social club. I’ve seen the Church shift to meeting the physical needs of society as opposed to meeting the eternal needs of the soul. I’ve learned that we will never see the fires of revival with a watered-down Gospel. I’ve watched as Churches, once filled with God’s people, dwindle down to so few that they can hardly keep the doors open, let alone have an evangelistic ministry. I’ve seen pulpits that once burned with a passion for souls and thundered with the power of God, evolve into little more than an entertainment center with flashing neon lights and thundering unintelligible music. Sadly, I have observed a dissolving of the respect for God’s preachers into a time when Bible preaching preachers are resented.

Contrariwise, I’ve seen God’s blessings fall upon “men of the Word” and Churches that have stayed faithful to God’s calling. In my travels around the “old Gospel circuit,” I have watched men, who preached and practiced the “old paths,” as the Holy Spirit honored their ministry. I don’t want to sound so critical nor pessimistic, but we must face reality. “Somebody needs to do something!” I am convinced that our wonderful Lord moved upon Dr. Floyd Cherry in 1973 to “stand in the gap” by founding Carolina Bible Institute. I can speak with some measure of authority because I’ve been there since its founding. Dr. Cherry had the foresight, or should I say, “the leading of the Holy Spirit,” to establish an educational institution where any and all who desired, could obtain instructions and training in the Word of God. For the last 21 years, the Board of Trustees, the teaching staff, along with the administrative team have endeavored to continue what Dr. Cherry began.

It is our conviction that, if we will be faithful to God’s Word, God will be faithful to His Word - “But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus,” Philip. 4:19. It is our belief that if we practice the precepts of God’s Word and the Biblical examples of those who followed God’s instructions and experienced God’s provisions, we too, shall experience God’s provision. But, we also believe that if we stray from the plain teachings of His Word, if we begin to incorporate “worldly” practices, if we fall into the trap of seeking to please men instead of seeking to please God, then God will withdraw His hand of blessing.

When the Southern Kingdom of Judah made the mistake of turning away from God's Word and God's Will, He sent the prophet Jeremiah to warn them of impending judgment, "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, "We will not walk *therein*," Jeremiah 6:16 (KJV). Judah's refusal to be faithful to God's Word, along with their unwillingness to walk in the "old paths," resulted in God's judgment coming upon the Hebrew people and ushered in what the Bible calls "the time of the gentiles." Their refusal to be obedient to God's instructions resulted in the armies of Babylon, in 586 B.C., capturing Jerusalem and destroying the Temple of God. For approximately 2,604 years, the Hebrew people have not really had control of the Holy City. Even today, with the Jews back in Jerusalem since 1967 and with President Trump moving the United States Embassy to Jerusalem, the Jews still do not have control of the most Holy place on earth to them - the Temple Mount. Even after all this time the Muslim Waqf controls that sacred place! If God will allow such judgment to come upon His "chosen people," in that day, what should we expect will happen to our Church, if we fail to stay true to the Word of God?

From the beginning of this ministry, we have trusted God to use us for His glory and to "supply all our needs." We know God can do anything He chooses, but the facts are, God has chosen to use people to accomplish His purposes. That's why we ask for your support. It is our prayer that our Lord will place the desire upon your heart to provide the finances to continue this ministry of training men and women to do the work of ministry and doing it in accord with God's Word. As an individual or as a Church, will you join in the effort to "follow the old paths?"

We request your fervent prayers! Since the Convention met in 2017, two of our Board of Trustees members have gone to be with the Lord. Brother James "Donny" Crocker and Rev. Frank Flowers, both of these men were integral parts of this ministry. Brother Crocker was one of the original board members in 1973 and Brother Flowers served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for several years. Brother Rudolph Jones, another of the original board members, is no longer able to actively serve on the Board because of health problems. Please join us in prayer as we seek God's leadership to find just the right individuals to replace these brothers. As of this writing, we are diligently searching for the men God has for these responsibilities.

Thank you for all you have done through your prayers, your financial support, your encouragement and for all that you are going to do.

Rudy Owens, president

**CAROLINA BIBLE INSTITUTE & SEMINARY, INC.**  
**Financial Statement - 2017**

**Disbursements:**

Property Maintenance	- - -	\$ 10,318.00
Operational	- - -	14,297.00
Special Meetings	- - -	4,463.00
Personnel	- - -	73,463.00
Miscellaneous	- - -	<u>368.00</u>
<b>Totals Disbursements</b>	<b>- - - -</b>	<b>\$102,909.00</b>

**Receipts:**

Contributions	- - -	\$ 62,393.00
Tuitions/Fees	- - -	29,109.00
Bookstore Sales	- - -	3,143.00
Miscellaneous	- - -	<u>2,218.00</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>- - -</b>	<b>\$96,863.00</b>

*This financial statement was prepared from information provided by the Administration and from IRS Form 990.  
Carolina Bible Institute & Seminary is a 501-3(c) Corporation.*



## Chaplains Commission Report

The Chaplains Commission has the task of recruiting and commissioning chaplains to the United States Armed Forces, hospitals, prisons, college campuses, and other chaplain positions. Military chaplains are required to have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university and a Master of Divinity (75 semester hours of credit) degree from an accredited seminary or divinity school plus two years of active ministry. Armed forces chaplains provide ministry to men and women of our armed forces and their families. Chaplains enter their branch of service as a commissioned officer, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant (Army and Air Force) or Lieutenant Junior Grade (Navy and Coast Guard), and they are promoted based on performance and need. The Navy provides chaplains to the Marine Corps. They train as military officers in order to minister in a hostile environment or in peace. They also train for ministry to families of military personnel, including providing counseling to families of deployed military personnel and to provide marriage and family counseling to families in very difficult circumstances such as long separations. **Military chaplains are never required to participate in religious services outside their own faith group (OFWB Chaplains are Protestant Christian, and as such, will provide ministry in any Protestant worship service). In worship, Christian chaplains are never denied the privilege of praying in the Name of Jesus or proclaiming Christian doctrines.** In public ceremonies and ecumenical services, however, each chaplain is cautioned to be sensitive to people of other faith groups in their prayers or speeches.

**Military chaplains are never required to perform same sex marriages or unions** if their denomination has provided a letter informing the chaplain of the denominational stance. We have provided that letter.

If any of our ministers meet the educational requirements and are interested in serving as a military chaplain, please see anyone on our Chaplains Commission. The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists now has only one chaplain in the military – he is CH (MAJ) Richard Holmes of the US Air Force. Chaplain Holmes has been selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel as of this writing. At the Convention, he might be promoted.

The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is a member of the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces. We represent at the annual meeting of that body where we receive updates on any changes in requirements for chaplains, changes in policy, or changes in the law regarding chaplains.

Professional chaplains serving in hospitals and prisons also must be endorsed by their denomination to serve as chaplains. The educational requirements in these areas are similar to military chaplaincy plus Clinical Pastoral Education in varying units. We have one chaplain on a college campus. Chaplain Carla Williamson is Campus Minister at the University of Mount Olive.

Several of our ministers serve as volunteer chaplains for police and fire departments, Civil Air Patrol, or in hospitals. They are not required to be endorsed, but if you are serving in a volunteer capacity, the Chaplains Commission would like to know who you are and in what capacity you serve. Dr. Richard Glosson is a volunteer at Wayne Memorial Hospital in Goldsboro, NC at least one day per month, a volunteer Chaplain for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, and a paid Chaplain for Marketplace Chaplains USA.

Please contact Harry Grubbs at 196 Gumberry Rd., Ayden, NC; 252-746-8581; [hdgrubbs@embarqmail.com](mailto:hdgrubbs@embarqmail.com).

## **Commission on Education for Christian Ministry**

### **Report to the Convention, May 2018**

It is the task of this Commission to encourage all who are called to some form of Christian ministry to use every opportunity to prepare themselves for effective service. This includes not only those who are called to vocational ministry in the life of the church but also lay persons whose gifts are used to advance the mission and ministries of the church. One of our primary duties and responsibilities is to encourage and provide information on educational opportunities for those called to Christian ministry, including pastoral services, children, youth, and student ministry, services to the elderly, church music, counseling, Christian education and other such vocations.

The Barrow Center for Church Leadership and the Commission on Education for Christian Ministries is offering courses two times a year—in the winter and fall—for lay leaders as well as church staff members and/or ordained ministers seeking to strengthen their biblical knowledge and skills for serving the church. These courses are part of a certificate program. Each course consists of 5—6 sessions held on Sunday nights beginning at 6 PM for 2—2 ½ hours per session. To receive a certification in a particular area, participants will have to complete a designated number of 5—6 weeks courses.

These courses are being offered as a simulcast to churches throughout our denomination for only \$80 per church. Individuals may also sign up to view these courses over the internet from the comfort of their own home via their computer, iPad or tablet, etc. for only \$30 per person. Our presenters will choose from the list of churches who have signed up for the simulcast, and present from the location nearest to them.

In the Winter of 2018, we held the Journey Into the Bible course featuring presentations by Dr. John Blackwell, Dr. Brad Williamson, Dr. Josh Whitfield, Dr. David Hines, the Rev. Stephen Prescott, and Dr. Neal Cox.

Beginning on September 9, we will be offering the Journey Into the Articles of Faith course featuring representatives from the different board of ordinations as teachers. More information is available at the Commission on Education for Christian Ministries table, will be mailed out to churches, and will appear in future editions of *The Community Magazine*.

Members of the Commission include: Marci Rollins-Smart, chair; Dr. Tommy Benson, the Reverend Stephen Prescott, the Reverend Dustin Bannister, Susan Lackey, Dr. Brad Williamson, and Dr. De Wayne Eakes.

## **Commission on Youth & Student Ministry Leadership**

Tara Harrison (2018)

Jonathan Whitford (2019)

Heather McPherson (2020) \*

Victor Jones, Chairperson (2021)

Marci Rollins-Smart (2022)

\* Woman's Auxiliary Appointed Youth Coordinator

The Commission has been busy again this year, not only with the Annual Youth Convention that will be held in May 2018 but working on the third annual event to be held at the Original Free Will Baptist Children's Home, the second Saturday in October.

This Commission supervises and sponsors the Annual Youth Convention. The role of conferences, district leaders, youth representatives and officers will remain as it has been in the past. The Commission leaders will give instruction, as needed, to host this event and will supervise the work of the Youth Convention. However, the Youth Convention is only ONE part of the overall work of the commission.

We, as a Commission and our youth leaders, participated in the 2018 LIFE Conference, by leading workshops and hosting a information table.

We also sponsor the annual Bible Bowl event. Due to weather occurrences in 2016 and 2017, we held our event in October and the next event will be in the Spring of 2019.

"The Fountain of Youth" endowment amount of \$10,000 has been met through donations received this past year. This endowment with the North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministry has been set up to provide financial gifts to all OFWB Ministries in the future. Continued donations will help us to meet this goal to generate support for ministries. God is good all the time.

For 2018-2019...

- To continue to provide training, services and resources to the churches.
- To cooperate with current denominational programs and ministries to promote ministry opportunities to families, children and youth.
- To hold an annual Youth Convention on May 18-20, 2018 at The University of Mount Olive.
- To hold an annual Bible Bowl Event in Spring, 2019.
- To promote the development of leadership skills among adult leaders and older teenagers for use in the local congregation.

## **Free Will Baptist Historical Commission**

### **Convention Report**

**May 2018**

Since the last convention, the Free Will Baptist Historical Commission was instrumental in assisting the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in obtaining a historical marker similar to the one the Historical Commission purchased marking the site of the First General Baptist/Free Will Baptist Church in Chowan County. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home marker is on display now here at the Convention. We also offer our assistance and encouragement to Cragmont, the Free Will Baptist Press, Camp Vandemere, and all of our denominational ministries to purchase similar historic signs. Further, we encourage our Free Will Baptists students and other interested individuals to take the class, Religion 321: The Free Will Baptist Church, which is offered online by the University of Mount Olive. Finally, please pray for our work in remembering and educating our people about the godly work our ancestors did for the Lord. Thank you.

*Alan K. Lamm, Ph.D., Chair*

Gary Barefoot Sheldon

Denning Victor Jones

Michael Pelt, Ph.D.

J. Heath Radford Pam

Wood

## **Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists Report**

Greetings from the Ministerial Association Executive Committee! It is with great pleasure that we share in the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and give this report. The Ministerial Association exists to exalt Christ, to edify its members, and to coordinate efforts in Christian ministry. The future of the Ministerial is bright because we have a great vision that I am eager to share with you.

The Executive Committee of the Ministerial Association has been hard at work over the last several months planning for the future. By now, you have begun to hear of “The Covenant,” a new initiative designed to help vocational ministers develop their leadership skills and foster a better understanding of our denominational ministries. This year-long cohort that will meet once a month is a great opportunity for our ministers to develop better skills for ministry. Even though preference will be given to those with less than five years of experience, I encourage each vocational minister to consider being part of “The Covenant.” Regardless of our years of experience we are called to continue to learn and grow, and I wholeheartedly believe this initiative could have a huge impact upon our future. If you are interested in more details, please reach out to Al Warrick, Director of “The Covenant,” or to me.

One other item I am excited about is our upcoming Minister’s Conference at Cragmont. It is scheduled for June 11-14 with Ed Croom as our guest lecturer. Ed plans to speak on the topic of crisis management/leadership. In addition to having Ed, we are planning some outstanding worship opportunities. We hope that all OFWB ministers will join us for renewal and fellowship; and I am praying that the week will be a very moving and inspirational experience for all our ministers who gather together on the mountain. I am asking you to consider setting aside time to join us that week. Consider it as an opportunity to gather with fellow vocational ministers because we need each other, and we need to learn from and encourage each other. I would hope that the Minister’s Conference would become something that you would be excited about and would be greatly disappointed if you were unable to attend.

In closing, I want to encourage each vocational minister to become a member of the Ministerial Association. It is my hope that through the Ministerial Association we could encourage and uplift one another, knowing that, as we do, Christ is exalted; and His work is accomplished. I also want to encourage our churches to speak to your pastor(s) about their involvement with the Ministerial Association. If they are not currently involved, would you consider encouraging them to participate? Maybe your church could assist with time off or financial compensation, so they could be a part. I have come to love the Ministerial Association and those involved in it, and I hope that you will be able to say the same. If I can be of any service or if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Brad Williamson – President

**ANNUAL REPORT –MAY 23 ,2018**  
**THE NORTH CAROLINA FOUNDATION FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES**  
**An Affiliated Ministry of the**  
**CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**



**2005 A.D.**

**HELPING TO BUILD A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE  
OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

- Through the Foundation, Original Free Will Baptists have a means, heretofore not available, to advance the faith and work of our church.
- Priorities of the Foundation include scholarships for the education of those called to Christian ministry, planned and direct gifts from individuals and endowments for churches, ministries of the Convention and other Charities.

**WELCOME TO THE FOUNDATION**

The North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries was established in 2005. It is a nonprofit corporation formed under the laws of the State of North Carolina and has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as an organization which is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, and as a public charity. As such, gifts to the Foundation are tax-exempt.

**Governance and Management**

The Foundation is governed and managed by a diversified board of nine members, all of whom are Original Free Will Baptists.

**Mission**

As an affiliated ministry of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the mission of the Foundation is to communicate the Christian faith by serving as a medium for charitable and educational purposes.

**Who We Are**

The North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries is a legally established and officially recognized nonprofit corporation primarily serving Christian and educational purposes. From its beginning in 2005, the Foundation has grown steadily in its ability to serve people, organizations, and ministries by assisting them in achieving their goals for charitable giving or service. The success of the Foundation can be attributed to the vision and design of its Founding President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper and the vigilance of its nine-member board of directors, which ensure adherence to its standards of excellence.

The principal office of the Foundation is located at 201 W. James Street, Mount Olive, NC and its address is P. O. Box 210, Mount Olive, NC 28365. The Foundation is an affiliated ministry of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

### **What We Do**

Much of what the Foundation does centers on receiving cash gifts or other assets from donors. We then set up processes that ensure the gift will be legally distributed to ministries, colleges, or other charities according to the donors' wishes. This can be done through a variety of means to best meet the need.

The Foundation is able to help good people advance the gospel of Jesus Christ and achieve positive, lasting results for humanity. This is achieved by bringing together people who wish to leave a lasting legacy with those who can provide the financial and legal services that are needed. In this way, people who have modest means can receive the same benefits and assurances in their philanthropic endeavors as those who have considerable wealth.

### **Endowments**

Endowments are funds that are permanently invested and never spent. Each year, the growth of the fund is used to provide support for the qualified non-profit named by the donor. There is no minimum amount required to initiate an endowment and gifts can be made by anyone, at any time, and in any amount. Distributions begin on year after the fund reaches \$10,000. From 2007 through 2017, the Foundation has made endowment distributions in the total amount of **\$1,174,243.80**.

Endowments may be established with the Foundation by individuals, families, churches, ministries, church-related organizations and other public-spirited donors. Annual distributions from these endowments provide permanent support for qualified beneficiaries. In general, creating an endowment includes: 1) Defining the purpose of the endowment and the charitable beneficiary(ies), 2) An agreement with the Foundation that assures compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of the Internal Revenue Code; and 3) An establishing gift.

### **Shepherd's Fund**

The Shepherd's Fund provides scholarships to help overcome the financial barrier that prevents many from seeking education for the ministry. Recipients of scholarships from this fund must be Original Free Will Baptists attending accredited colleges, divinity schools, or seminaries. Funding for these scholarships comes from a combination of direct gifts from donors each year and from established endowments designated for that purpose.

For scholarship purposes, the Foundation defines "Christian Ministry" as pastoral services or a vocation in a church or institution that is under the auspices of the Church, including ministry to youth, the elderly, church music, Christian education, chaplaincy, missions and other Christian services to humanity. Scholarships for other needs may be funded by other endowments.

Since 2006, the Shepherd's Fund has provided more than **\$240,391.16** in scholarships for Original Free Will Baptist students who are preparing for excellence in Christian ministry at academically accredited institutions of Christian higher education, including the University of Mount Olive, Campbell University Divinity, Southeastern Theological Seminary, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Moody Bible Institute, Princeton Theological Seminary, Regent University School of Divinity, Asbury Theological Seminary, Washington Theological Union, Barton College, Duke University, Union Theological Seminary, St. Thomas University, George Truett Seminary of Baylor University, Gallaudet University, Wake Forest Divinity School and Abilene Christian University

### **Planned Giving**

Planned giving (gift planning) enables donors to make larger gifts than they could normally make from their income. While some planned gifts provide a life-long income to the donor, others use estate and tax planning to provide for charities and other heirs in ways that maximize the gift and minimize its impact on the donor's estate. A planned gift is any major gift, made in one's lifetime or at one's death as part of a donor's overall financial and estate planning.

### **Gifts in One's Honor or Memory**

Gifts of any size may be given to the Foundation, to any of its Endowments, or to the Shepherd's Fund. This is often an excellent way to honor someone on a special occasion or remember someone following their passing. Tasteful acknowledgements are sent on behalf of the donor and the amount of the gift is not included.

### ***Footprints***

*Footprints convey that someone has gone before us,  
Leaving us a marked way;  
And remind us that we also can leave a marked way  
For those who come after us.*

#### **North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries Office**

##### **Address:**

**201 West James Street  
Mount Olive, North Carolina  
Phone: 919-299-4616**

**Mailing Address: P. O. Box 210, Mount Olive, NC 28365**

#### **SUMMARY: THE FOUNDATION BY THE NUMBERS Calendar Years 2006-2017**

##### **Endowments**

\$7,034,550.25	Gifts to endowments (2006-2017)
\$1,174,243.80	Distributions to beneficiaries: (2007-2017)
68	Number of endowments established with the Foundation

##### **Shepherd's Fund (Scholarships for Christian Ministries)**

53	Number of scholarship recipients
\$ 240,391.16	Scholarship Awards

##### **Life-Income Gifts**

\$ 235,000.00	Charitable Gift Annuities
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#### **REPORT OF GIFTS AND INCOME FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2017**

##### **Endowments**

For Established Endowments	\$91,453.35	
For New Endowments	<u>75,799.17</u>	
<b>Total Gifts for Endowments</b>		<b>\$167,252.54</b>

##### **Shepherd's Fund (Scholarships for Christian Ministries)**

Designated Gifts	\$11,565.00	
Distribution Income from Endowments	<u>31,248.41</u>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 42,813.42</b>

##### **Unrestricted Gifts**

Designated Gifts	\$ 2,242.50	
Distribution Income from Endowments	<u>55,976.31</u>	
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>\$ 58,218.81</u></b>

<b>Grand Total of Income for 2017</b>		<b>\$268,284.76</b>
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**Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**  
**Executive Meeting**  
**January 21, 2017**

The executive committee of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention of OFWB met on January 21, 2017 in the Waylin Centre at the University of Mount Olive, Mount Olive, North Carolina with the following present: Becky Jo Sumner, President; Dianne Riley Gray, Vice President; Teresa Grubbs, Recording Secretary; Carol Pittman, Treasurer; Sandy White, Corresponding Secretary and Albemarle District President; May Pittman, Missions Chair and Cragmont Woman's Retreats Director; Carolyn Jernigan, Study Course; Bren Best, Program Prayer Chair; Gail Hooks, Benevolence Chair; Joan Little, Field Secretary and Cragmont Woman's Retreat Registrar; Sharlene Scott, Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary President and Chair of the Literature Committee; Miriam Lamm, Western Woman's Auxiliary President and Cragmont Board Representative; Judith Kennedy, Eastern Woman's Auxiliary President; Jean Averette, Central District President; Carolyn Best, Cragmont Board Representative; Sheryll Wood, Devotion Editor; and Crystal Dunn Jones, Website Coordinator.

President Sumner opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She presented a devotion using I Chronicles 4:40. See if we are ignoring things that need to be done. Are we making a difference? Do we need to scrub and clean the Auxiliary in order to shine and gleam? We have been challenged to be on "scrub detail." Becky Jo then led in prayer.

Carolyn Jernigan moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting with corrections. May Pittman seconded the motion which passed. Carol Pittman, Treasurer, reported a balance of \$2,754.92 as of December 31, 2016. A total of 15 Life Membership pins with a profit of \$66.48 to be sent to the University of Mount Olive. Sandy White moved to accept the Treasure's and Life Membership reports. Joan Little seconded the motion which passed. A copy of all reports given is available for reference in the recording secretary's book.

Vice President, Dianne Riley Gray, reported the Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held May 11, 2017, hosted by the Central District at Marlboro OFWB Church, Farmville, NC, and beginning at 9:00 am. A tear out registration form will be in the program book. The 2017 Standard of Achievements should be sent to the Vice President by March 1, 2017.

Corresponding Secretary, Sandy White, had nothing to report.

May Pittman reported the following for OFWB International (Foreign Missions):

- Caleb's Dollar Ministry continues to grow and feed children, over 600 per day in Christian Schools in Liberia, W. Africa.
- A School Children's Gala Day Activity was held at King's College, a school supported by Caleb's Dollar Ministry.
- In the Philippines, two weeks of VBS was conducted with 59 children attending with a police officer as a guest speaker. He reminded the children that police should be a friend to everyone. In Santa Maria, an outdoor meeting for family fellowship and thanksgiving for students graduating at different levels of studies was held and also a baptismal service.
- The church in Cebu is being constructed by contributions from churches in the Visayas, Mindanao, and Luzon. An evangelism film shown in November had over 200 in attendance.
- The First FWB Christian School in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, began the 2016-2017 school year with 175 students and 12 teachers. A program regarding Nutrition Month Celebration emphasized the value of a healthy body and nutritious eating.
- The Church in Bulgaria responded to the need of food on Stralja and to homeless people of Asparhovo, singing songs about God in Turkish, Bulgarian, and Gypsy and praying with them.

- Although persecution continues, the churches in Guinea are doing well. Last year, one branch relocated four times due to persecution from Muslims, yet growth never ceases.
- Telethon to be held March 26 with a goal of \$225,000.
- Short-Term Mission trip to Mexico planned for July 8 – 15.
- Harold wants invitations to share information with churches.
- Harold and Sandra will go to the Philippines April 18 – May 4 to attend a Convention and a wedding.

The Executive Committee of the Convention of OFWB is working to clear issues with Home Missions. Reports will be forthcoming. Kits, Kids Kare boxes, and other projects are not needed now, but may be in the future. Be in special prayer for Home Missions. It is a critical time for Home Missions as well as a critical time in our denomination.

In promoting Missions, May also helped hand out bags for freshmen at UMO on August 20, attended Central District Auxiliary meeting, Central District study courses, Central Conference Meeting, Friends of Children at Children's Home, and Directed Woman's Retreats at Cragmont.

As Director of Cragmont Woman's Retreats, May gave a report on the 2016 retreats. She also reported on speakers for the 2017 retreats.

Joan Little, Cragmont Registrar, reported a bank balance as of December 28, 2016 of \$4,629. She had no report as Field Secretary. Gail Hooks moved to transact the business of filling vacancies of Standing Committees by technology and add to the minutes before the Convention. Dianne Riley-Gray seconded and the motion passed.

Carolyn Jernigan, Study Course, reported that she gave a presentation on Bulgaria at Smith's New Home.

Benevolence Chair, Gail Hooks reported the following for Retirement Homes.

- Currently have 24 clients.
- One client, Betty Campbell, passed away in August and two others have been voluntarily removed due to changes in their situations. Expecting to add a new client in February.
- Offices in Ayden are being moved to the front of building and remodeled.
- Biggest need is some maintenance on storage building. 5

Regarding the Children's Home, the following was reported.

- Always need for supplies. Check website for needs and happenings.
- The Christmas season was a blessed time with many churches giving.
- Remember the children and staff in prayers. Some who have left the home recently are having trouble dealing with their situations and their pasts.
- The Children's Home will celebrate 100 years of service in 2020.

No Youth report was given.

The Christian Education Committee will set a meeting with Dianne Riley-Gray; Bren Best, representing the Board of Christian Education (Sunday School); Sharlene Scott, representing UMO; and Heather McPherson, representing the Youth Convention; to discuss the viability of the committee and report at the next Executive Committee meeting.

The Literature Committee will review the Manual of Methods Section V – Standard of Achievement, Part III – Ministry Publications, Section B, Page 5.5 and Section 6 – Appendix, pages 6.4-6.7 (report form sent to the district secretaries.)

Cragmont Representative, Carolyn Best, reported: of Methods

- Since 2020 will be 75 years of service for Cragmont, a 2020 Campaign will be unveiled at the 2017 Convention.
- The Watson house is available for rent.
- Pastor/Deacon Retreat is set for April 6 – 8 with Dr. Neal Cox as Speaker.
- The Cragmont Challenge Youth Group Fundraiser funds are due March 1, 2017.
- Weeks of 2017 camps published in January edition of Community Magazine (The FWB).
- Include Cragmont in church budget as spending per camper exceeds funds paid.

- Ministers stay free any Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday during February, March, and April if their church uses the facilities.
- Need for year-round prayer and donations.
- Velma Morris, longest serving board member, will be 99 on February 1, 2017.

Dianne Riley-Gray moved to send flowers from the Executive Committee to Velma Morris for her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. May Pittman seconded the motion which passed.

Sharlene Scott gave the Literature Committee report on printing a cookbook with stories that have been collected from Woman's Auxiliary members from across the state. Carolyn Jernigan moved for the Literature Committee to proceed with printing and ordering cookbooks to be sold for \$15.00 and have them for sale at the convention. Carol Pittman seconded the motion which passed.

Becky Jo Sumner, outgoing Compiling Editor, reported the *Devotion 2017* is available for purchase. The 2018 *Devotion* programs are complete, and the manuscript should be at the FWB Press by January 31, 2017. Other information will be up-dated by June 1, 2017. Sheryll Wood is excited about becoming the new Compiling Editor and has ideas for upcoming years. Let her know if you are willing to write a program.

Joan Little moved for prices of the Woman's Auxiliary pin to be \$45.00, Life Membership to be \$40.00, and leave off the seal. Sandy White seconded the motion which passed.

Dianne Riley Gray moved to accept revised wording concerning the Anna Phillip Scholarship pending approval of the Scholarship Committee of the University of Mount Olive. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Jernigan and passed.

Carol Pittman moved to place Crystal Dunn Jones of King's Crossroads to be website manager for the OFWB Woman's Auxiliary website and Facebook page and included to go with a free web host and a paid domain for the website. Joan Little seconded the motion which passed.

Bren Best, Program Prayer, presented an outline for the 2017 Woman's Auxiliary Convention. The theme for the program is "Better Than We Found It" to be held on Thursday, May 11 at Marlboro OFWB Church, Central District. Miriam Lamm presented a report on the membership meeting of the OFWB Press held September 20, 2016.

The project to present a gift to freshmen and transfers at UMO in August resulted in 200 backpack bags given to students.

May Pittman, Gail Hooks, and Sharlene Scott were appointed to the Life Membership Committee.

The Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be hosted by the Central District at Marlboro OFWB Church, Farmville, NC, May 11, 2017 with the program beginning at 9:00. The Executive Committee will meet following lunch after the convention.

Spring District meetings:

- Albemarle – April 8 – Soundside – 9:30
- Cape Fear – April 1 – Lee's Chapel – 9:00
- Central – March 25 – Rose of Sharon, Bear Grass – 9:30
- Eastern – March 18 – Soundview, Newport – 9:30
- Pee Dee – April 1 – Beaverdam – 10:00
- Western – April 1 – Pleasant Grove – 8:30

Becky Jo Sumner closed the meeting with prayer.

Becky Jo Sumner, President

Teresa Grubbs, Recording Secretary

A called business session was held for the Executive Committee of Woman's Auxiliary Convention of OFWB on May 10, 2017 with a quorum present. The following correction is to be made to the January 2017 minutes:

The last sentence of the 14<sup>th</sup> paragraph states, "*The Christian Education committee will also review the A-1 credentials Part III B and the report forms to the Districts and Convention for any needed changes.*" That sentence should read, "**The Literature Committee will review the Manuel of Methods Section V – Standard of Achievement, Part III – Ministry Publications, Section B, page 5.5 AND section 6 – Appendix, pages 6.4 – 6.7 (report forms sent to district secretaries.)**"

**Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**  
**Executive Meeting**  
**May 11, 2017**

The executive committee of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention of OFWB met on May 11, 2017 at the Marlboro OFWB Church, Farmville, North Carolina with the following present: Becky Jo Sumner, President; Dianne Riley-Gray, Vice President; Teresa Grubbs, Recording Secretary; Carol Pittman, Treasurer/Life Membership; Sandy White, Corresponding Secretary and Albemarle District President; May Pittman, Missions Chair and Cragmont Woman's Retreats Director; Bren Best, Program Prayer Chair; Heather McPherson, Youth Representative; Sharlene Scott, Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary President and Chair of the Literature Committee; Miriam Lamm, Western Woman's Auxiliary President and Cragmont Board Representative; Judith Kennedy, Eastern Woman's Auxiliary President; Jean Averette, Central District President; Carolyn Best, Cragmont Board Representative; Sheryll Wood, Devotion Editor; and Crystal Dunn Jones, Website Coordinator.

President Sumner opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She led in a responsive reading of Psalm 23. Becky Jo then led in prayer.

The minutes, which were printed in the Convention program, were reviewed. Treasurer/Life Membership, Carol Pittman, reported seven life membership pins sold since the last convention, two sold this year. The current balance of the treasury, before bills, is \$4893.55. The Convention received and paid out \$24,391.35 for Denominational Ministries. A copy of all reports given is available for reference in the recording secretary's book.

Dianne Riley-Gray, Vice President, commented that we may need to revise the registration form. Sandy White, Corresponding Secretary, had no report. Field Secretary, Joan Little, had no report.

Missions chair, May Pittman, reported:

- President Roxas OFWB Church, started in 2009, held a dedication service for their building with about 200 in attendance.
- President Roxas OFWB Church ordained as pastor the Reverend Djeck Elton L Munos.
- The Church in Varna carried clothes, hats, gloves and scarves to some very poor families in hope of sharing the Gospel with them later.
- The Church in Varna took children from the Day of the Christian Family to enjoy some pizza and see a movie. Pastor Kosta talked to them about Christian values in the family.
- The church in Balchik enjoyed a Christmas with the children, youth, and disables children. They helped sick people and fed the hungry, giving thanks to the OFWB Missions program.
- It is requested that VBS contributions go to Caleb's Dollar Ministry to feed the children in our schools in other countries.
- In Liberia, the traveling companion of Rev. Gnininte, the Rev. Moses Targblor, passed away in January. On February 11, a church in Pleebo City, Maryland County, was completely destroyed by a violent storm.
- Churches in Guinea face persecution on a daily basis. They are still strong and growing. Pastor David organized a crusade where many gave their lives to Christ. Pray daily for them.
- Telethon goal of \$225,000 is short with only \$155,000 in contributions, down from previous year.
- Mission trips to Mexico cancelled due to unrest there. No future trips planned unless finances pick up.
- Harold and Sandra returned from visiting Cebu and Palawan in the Philippines. They attended the annual convention, a wedding, and visited several churches.

The Executive Committee of the Convention of OFWB decided to sell all equipment and belongings of the Harvest Connection in an auction held April 1. Please continue to remember Home Missions in special prayer at this critical time in our denomination.

May gave a report on the Cragmont Woman's Retreats. Morning Star went well and other retreats are to follow through the summer. She also attended the Cinderella Sisters Retreat at Cragmont, LIFE institute, Central District Convention, and directed Morning Star Retreat.

We were asked if we need to review the Study Course responsibilities. Does it need new life? Is there a way to make it more relevant for younger people? Bring thoughts and suggestions to the January meeting.

No Benevolence report was available.

Heather McPherson, Youth Representative, reported:

- All Youth Districts represented at a day at the Children's Home in October. Lunch, fellowship, a worship service, games, and crafts were provided for all in attendance. Many churches carried needed supplies. The Youth Convention donated a new dryer, gift cards to fast food restaurants, paper products, packaged food items and a study Bible for each resident. These were provided with funds raised from a glow walk service held at the 2016 Convention. Hopes are to make this an annual event.
- 2017 Convention to be held May 19-21. The theme is "The Storm" with scripture from Psalm 107:29, guest speaker, the Reverend Doug Seymore and a band from Marsh Swamp OFWB Church. A "Storm Walk" is planned to raise monies for Camp Vandemere with a goal of \$4,500.
- Youth Officers held a workshop for representatives at the LIFE Conference.
- The Youth Convention of OFWB Endowed Scholarship recipient was Morgan Edmonds.

The Christian Education Committee had no report.

Carolyn Best, Cragmont Board Representative, reported:

- Continue to support Cragmont through prayer, donations, and use of the facilities.
- Pray for God's divine guidance in seeking new leadership to replace John and Arlinda Williams upon their planned retirement in 2020.
- Many opportunities are available for financial support:
  - Pledge to the 20/20 Vision Campaign.
  - Become a Cragmont club member.
  - Memorialize or honor friends or relatives with a donation
  - Attend retreats and weeks of camp.
  - Help pay for repairs to the Main Building outside north stairway.
  - Donate to fund for the removal of decaying trees between Lassiter Family Center and the highway.
  - Attend Minister's Conference.

The Literature Committee report was given by Sharlene Scott. Three hundred cookbooks have been received and were available for sale at the Convention for \$15 with a possible 34 being sold. They will be sold at UMO, the FWB Press, and OFWB Headquarters. Work is still being done to revise the A1 and report forms. Sharlene also reported that the total gifts for the Anna Phillips Scholarship from May 2016 through April 2017 is \$415.00. The student receiving the scholarship this year is Derrick Lawrence.

The 2018 Devotion is at the FWB Press except for address and date changes per Becky Jo Sumner. Sheryll Wood is the new compiling editor.

Bren Best, Program Prayer Chair, said the Convention went well. The worship with the Denominational Ministry leaders' presentations was inspirational and informative.

Crystal Dunn-Jones, via text message, reported on the website:

- The Woman's Auxiliary website is up to date and is being kept current.
- The Facebook page is getting more likes and all positive feedback.

Dianne Riley-Gray reported that the FWB Press will no longer have memberships. The Convention will elect board members.

Jean Averette gave a report on the February Barrow Committee.

- Dr. John Blackwell reported on the Barrow Center of Faith and Life and the Center for Church Leadership, which will be housed in the new Chapel Complex at the University of Mt. Olive. A Mission Statement is to be written to define the purpose of the Center.
- Dr. John Blackwell reported on the Challenge for High School Students. A total of 26 students have been served thus far.
- The Committee voted to send \$300 to support the retreat for Minister's wives, widows, and women in ministry and \$500 to Cragmont to support the Pastor/Deacon retreat.
- A page will be added to the UMO website for the Barrow Family Endowed Fund for Christian Ministries.

Dianne Riley-Gray moved to give \$500 to give gifts to freshmen entering UMO. Heather McPherson seconded the motion which passed. May Pittman and Carol Pittman agreed to co-chair. Any individual or Auxiliary wanting to contribute to the bags may contact May or Carol.

Dates to remember:

- Saturday, January 20, 2018, Executive Committee meeting at 9:00 am (prayer time 8:45 am) at FWB Children's Home. Refreshment volunteers: Bren Best, Carol Pittman, and May Pittman.

Fall District Auxiliary Meeting:

- Albemarle – Oct. 7 – Trinity, Pantego – 9:30
- Cape Fear – Oct. 7 – Oak Grove – 9:00
- Central – Sept. 23 – Tarboro – 9:00
- Eastern – Sept. 16 – Sandy Plain, Pink Hill – 9:30
- Pee Dee – Oct. 7 – Cypress Creek
- Western – Oct. 14 – Mt. Zion – Nash Co. 9:00

Becky Jo Sumner dismissed the meeting with prayer.

Becky Jo Sumner, President

Teresa Grubbs, Recording Secretary

**Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**  
**May 11, 2017**

The ninetieth annual session of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists met on May 11, 2017 at the Marlboro OFWB Church, Farmville, NC, hosted by the Central District Woman's Auxiliary Convention. A copy of the convention program is in the secretary's book. The program theme was "Better than We Found It". Becky Jo Sumner, Convention President, and Lynn Watson, President, Marlboro Auxiliary welcomed everyone.

Seventeen A-1 Auxiliaries were recognized by Dianne Riley-Gray, Vice President. The Woman of the Year Life Membership was presented by May Pittman to Miriam Barrow Lamm.

The program was filled with scripture, music, and presentations by women from across the state. The denominational ministries provided short messages of how they are making their ministry better and how the Woman's Auxiliary can help. Those presenting for the ministries were Darren Davenport, Free Will Baptist Press; Gary Lee, Free Will Baptist Children's Home; Reverend Gary Bailey, Convention Executive Committee for Home Missions and Evangelism; Reverend Harold and Sandra Jones, OFWB International; Gail Heath, Christian Education Ministry; Angela Mattox, Cragmont Assembly, Inc.; Reverend Don Fader, OFWB Minister's Program; Reverend Ronnie Taylor, OFWB Retirement Homes; Reverend Gary Bailey, Convention of OFWB; Reverend Don Fader, Church Finance Association; and Sharlene Howell, University of Mount Olive.

President Becky Jo Sumner closed the Convention program by thanking all involved with the Convention and challenging everyone to give better to Christ and their community. What are we doing NOW with what we have and what are we leaving behind for others to build upon?

President Becky Jo Sumner called the business session of the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Woman's Auxiliary Convention of OFWB to order. Her opening scriptures were from Psalm 119:72 and Matthew 22:36-39. The devotional thought was concerning our love for God and our neighbor. Do I love my neighbor as myself? President Sumner followed this with a prayer.

Committee members were appointed by mail prior to the convention. They were as follows:

- Registration and Credentials Committee: Chairwoman – Dianne Riley-Gray (Vice President), Donnie Sumner (Eastern), and Gertrude Davis (Albemarle).
- Finance Committee: Chairwoman - Carol Pittman (Treasurer), Amanda Gardner, (Eastern), and Kathy Hayes (Central)
- Resolutions Committee: Chairwoman – Linda Simmons (Pee Dee), Carolyn Jernigan (Cape Fear), and Sandra Joyner (Western).

Cindy Bergess moved to accept the minutes as they appear in the program book with corrections. Christy Bailey seconded the motion which passed.

The Registration and Credentials Committee reported 151 registered with 61 Auxiliaries represented. Dianne Riley-Gray gave this report as information. At this time the presidents of each District were recognized.

A written treasurer's report was in the program book. The Finance Committee report was given by Carol Pittman with \$462.00 offering collected. Jean Averette moved to accept the Treasurer's and Finance Committee reports. Lois Swinson seconded with the motion passing.

The following Resolutions Committee report was presented by Carolyn Jernigan:

- We resolve, our organization today is a result of Christian women who had the insight for the structure of our Convention which we enjoy the heritage today.
- We resolve to support our denominational enterprises with prayer and monetary support.
- We resolve to ask our churches to pray and remember our local, state, and national leaders to be led by His will in all situations.
- We wish to thank Marlboro OFWB Church and Central District for hosting our 90<sup>th</sup> Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

President Becky Jo Sumner gave the Nominating Committee report in the absence of Joan Little, Field Secretary and Nominating Committee chair. The following were nominated to the Standing Committees:

- Christian Education – Sheryl Wood – 2017-2020
- Cragmont Board Representative – Carolyn Best – 2017-2020
- Literature Committee – Gail Heath – 2017-2022

Sharlene Scott moved to accept the report. Connie Weeks seconded the motion, which passed. Dorothy Dorkin moved to elect the nominees to fill the positions. Jane Parker seconded the motion which passed.

With no further business, President Sumner offered a prayer.

The Ninetieth Woman's Auxiliary Convention of OFWB was adjourned.

Becky Jo Sumner, President

Teresa Grubbs, Recording Secretary



**Woman's Auxiliary Convention of OFWB  
Officers 2016 - 2018**

**President**

Becky Jo Sumner  
1233 North Fork Rd.  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
Phone – (252) 209-6202

**Vice President**

Dianne Riley-Gray  
801 Hawkins Rd.  
Selma, NC 27576-8105  
Phone – (919)738-8025  
[drileymoc@gmail.com](mailto:drileymoc@gmail.com)

**Recording Secretary**

Teresa Grubbs  
402A South St.  
Bayboro, NC 28515  
Phone – (252)772-3540  
[stpaul7@hotmail.com](mailto:stpaul7@hotmail.com)

**Corresponding Secretary**

Sandy White  
101 East River Watch Rd.  
Winton, NC 27986  
Phone – (252)358-1184  
[81bands@gmail.com](mailto:81bands@gmail.com)

**Treasurer and Life Membership**

Carol Pittman  
900 Evergreen Dr.  
Wilson, NC 27893  
Phone – (252)237-5687 Cell – (252)245-4059  
[Cpittman47@myglnc.com](mailto:Cpittman47@myglnc.com)

**Mission Chairwoman**

May Pittman  
200 Dellwood Dr.  
Greenville, NC 27858  
Phone – (252)756-3517  
[stearlepittman@suddenlink.net](mailto:stearlepittman@suddenlink.net)

**Program Prayer Chairwoman**

Sande Brown  
11642 Camp Charles Road  
Bailey, NC 27807  
Phone – (252)239-0399  
[sbrownsnsh@hotmail.com](mailto:sbrownsnsh@hotmail.com)

**Study Course Chairwoman**

Carolyn Jernigan  
1895 Easy Street; Dunn, NC 28334  
Phone – (910)567-6387  
[booklady@intrstar.net](mailto:booklady@intrstar.net)

**Benevolence Chairwoman**

Gail Hooks  
P.O. Box 195  
Black Creek, NC 27813  
Phone – (252)289-6897  
[ghooks80@gmail.com](mailto:ghooks80@gmail.com)

**Field Secretary**

Joan Little  
3207 Pine Ct.  
Farmville, NC 27828  
Phone – (252)753-3217  
[joanlittle1911@gmail.com](mailto:joanlittle1911@gmail.com)

**Youth Coordinator**

Heather McPherson  
2410 Beaverdam Road  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
Phone – (919)770-2380  
[heathermcpherson@gmail.com](mailto:heathermcpherson@gmail.com)

**Honorary Life Member (emeritus)**

Jean Ackiss  
1371 Old Smithfield Road  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
Phone – (919)735 6013  
[jfackiss@moc.edu](mailto:jfackiss@moc.edu)

**Woman's Auxiliary Website**

Crystal Dunn Jones  
965 Spring Forest Road, Apt. A8  
Greenville, NC 27834  
Phone – (252)347-9420  
[cld0528@gmail.com](mailto:cld0528@gmail.com)

**Cragmont Woman's Retreat Staff**  
(Appointed by Executive Committee)

May Pittman, Director  
200 Dellwood Drive  
Greenville, NC 27858  
Phone – (252) 756-3517  
[stearlepittman@sudenlink.net](mailto:stearlepittman@sudenlink.net)

Joan Little, Registrar  
3207 Pine Ct.  
Farmville, NC 27828  
Phone – (252) 753-3217  
[joanlitttle1911@gmail.com](mailto:joanlitttle1911@gmail.com)

**Standing Committees**  
(Committee chairperson selected within the committee)

**Christian Education**

Sheryll Wood – 2017-2020  
738 Darrell Drive; Greenville, NC 27834  
Phone – (252) 321-2321  
[sheryllros@aol.com](mailto:sheryllros@aol.com)

Kathy Hayes - 2015-2018  
140 Bartlett Rd.; Pikeville, NC 27863  
Phone – (919)734-9277 Cell – (919)222-9277

Pam Braxton – 2016-2019  
P.O. Box 116; Deep Run, NC 27893  
Phone – (252) 526-7547 Cell – (252)526-7547

**Cragmont Board Representatives**

Carolyn Best – 2017-2020  
3938 Hockaday Road  
Four Oaks, NC 27524  
Phone – (919) 894-3865

Miriam Lamm – 2015-2018  
1192 Princeton-Kenly Rd.  
Kenly, NC 27542  
Phone (919) 284-3527 Cell – (919)464-1589

Joan Little – 2016-2019  
3207 Pine Ct.  
Farmville, NC 27828  
Phone – (252)753-3217  
[joanlitttle1911@gmail.com](mailto:joanlitttle1911@gmail.com)

**Nominating Committee**

Field Secretary, Joan Little, and District Presidents

**Standard of Achievement and Recognition**

Vice President, Dianne Riley-Gray

**Devotion Compiling Editor**

(Appointed by Executive Committee)  
Becky Jo Sumner  
1233 North Fork Rd.  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
Phone – (209) 209-6202

**Literature**

Gail Heath – 2017-2022  
154 Christiana Avenue  
Smithfield, NC 27577  
Phone – (919) 633-9407 Work – (919)299-4553  
[director@ofwbsundayschool.org](mailto:director@ofwbsundayschool.org)

Carolyn Jernigan – 2013-2018  
1895 Easy Street  
Dunn, NC 28334  
Phone – (910)567-6387  
[booklady@intrstar.net](mailto:booklady@intrstar.net)

Sharlene Scott, Committee Chair – 2014-2019  
5092 NC 581 North  
Kenly, NC 27542  
Phone – (919) 252-9889 (919)284-5028  
[ushowells2@yahoo.com](mailto:ushowells2@yahoo.com)

Linda Jenkins – 2015-2021  
3704 Mark N. Smith Rd.  
Deep Run, NC 28525  
Phone – (252)568-3981

Carol Pittman – 2016-2021  
900 Evergreen Drive  
Wilson, NC 27893  
Phone (252)237-5687 Cell (252)245-4059  
[cpittman47@myglnc.com](mailto:cpittman47@myglnc.com)

David Furlough- *Present* PO Box 533, Columbia NC 27925

### **Proceedings**

The 73<sup>rd</sup> annual session of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists was held at Malachi Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church in Columbia, North Carolina on Wednesday October 4, 2017, with the Reverend Al Markuson moderating.

The session convened at 9:30 a.m. with the singing of the hymn “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” led by Brother Lloyd Jones Jr., with Sister Lucy Jones serving as pianist. The morning devotion was brought by The Reverend Keith Pelletier of Malachi Chapel Church, speaking on the topic of “the importance of relationships” from the Book of Ecclesiastes, closing with prayer. The moderator recognized The Reverend Keith Pelletier of the host church for the welcome. Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. gave the response thanking Malachi Chapel Church for their hospitality.

The session was called to order by the clerk Sister Shirley Pelletier, using the call to order established by the late Brother Oscar Webster, “I, Shirley Pelletier, clerk of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, do declare the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the Conference is now officially in session; for prayer and praise to God, for the preaching of His Word, and for the transaction of any business pertinent to the ongoing business of said conference. May God to our good and His Glory bless our coming together. The Reverend Al Markuson now presiding.” The moderator presented the program for the annual session. A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the program.

The moderator called for the roll call of churches. There were 9 churches with delegates present. They included Free Union, Hickory Chapel, Malachi Chapel, Mt. Tabor, Mt. Zion, First Plymouth, Soundside, Trinity, and Union Chapel. Saint Paul Church and Sidney Church were represented by letter. The moderator called for the roll call of ministers. There were 5 ministers present, 1 absent, 2 excused and 1 licensed minister. Six (6) visiting ministers were recognized; they included The Reverend Otis Hamm, Jr., The Reverend Bobby Taylor, The Reverend Harold Jones, The Reverend Ronnie Taylor, The Reverend Tim Heath, and Brother Santiago Arias.

The moderator, Reverend Al Markuson brought the moderator’s address from James 1:22, speaking on the need for our working together for God and the growth of His Kingdom. He challenged the attendees to “consider the vision for the next generation.”

Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. led the session in singing the offertory hymn, “Victory in Jesus.” The moderator, The Reverend Al Markuson led the offertory prayer. Reverend Keith Pelletier and Brother David Furlough served as ushers.

The moderator appointed the following temporary committees. Sister Carolyn Reynolds and Sister Kathy Markuson were appointed to the Memorial Committee. Reverend Keith Pelletier and Reverend Jim Skipper were appointed to the Resolutions Committee.

The moderator opened the floor for the presentation of reports:

- Executive Committee, Sister Shirley Pelletier, Clerk, read the minutes from the Executive Committee Meetings.
- Trustees, No Report
- Board of Ordination, Rev. Royce Reynolds reported on the work of the Ordaining Council
- Board of Home Missions, Rev. Al Markuson and Brother Santiago Arias reported on the Mt. Sinai Mission and asked for continued prayers for that work.
- Convention Ministry Reports were presented from the following:
  - Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and Executive Committee by Sister Lynn Paul
  - Children’s Home by Brother Gary Lee
  - Foreign Missions by Reverend Harold Jones
  - Retirement Homes by Reverend Ronnie Taylor
  - Christian Education by Sister Gail Heath
  - Women’s Auxiliary by Sister Sarah Jane Parker

After a short intermission, the Conference continued with the Business Session.

The Conference Memorial Service was led by Sister Kathy Markuson, speaking from John 14:1. She read the names of the deceased members and led the session in prayer. Nine (9) brethren were remembered. Sister Markuson led the congregation in the singing of “Sweet Hour of Prayer” and closed with prayer.

The moderator called for the Resolutions Committee report which was given by the Reverend Jim Skipper. One (1) resolution was presented, resolving a rising vote of thanks to Malachi Chapel for being gracious hosts to the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the Albemarle Conference. The resolution passed unanimously with a rising vote of all in attendance.

The moderator called for the Nominating Committee report. The moderator opened the floor for nominations for Officer and Board positions. Being none, a motion was extended, seconded and passed for the reelection of current Conference Officers and current Board members to succeed themselves.

The moderator asked for the Treasurer’s report which was given by Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. He reported a general fund balance of \$4,615.24 and a Mission’s Fund Balance of \$10,752.28, moving that the report be accepted. The motion was seconded and passed.

The moderator called for old business:

- Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. gave a short report on the status of Belhaven Church Property; ownership has now been transferred to the Albemarle Conference.
- Reverend Al Markuson reported that the OFWB Historical Marker has been placed in Chowan County.

The moderator then called for new business:

- The Reverend Royce Reynolds made a motion that the members of the Board of Ordination be allowed to succeed themselves. The motion was seconded and passed.
- The moderator asked if any church was interested in hosting the 2018 Annual Session on October 10, 2018. Soundside OFWB Church volunteered to host the 2018 Annual Session. A motion was made, seconded and passed to close the business session.

The Conference Worship Service began with Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. leading the session in singing “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus.” Brother David Furlough and members of the choir from the host church provided special music. The moderator then introduced Brother David Furlough, licensed minister of the host church to bring the Worship Message. Brother Furlough spoke from Ephesians Chapter 1. He spoke on the “guarantees of” and “the power of God and His Word” reminding the congregants that “only in Jesus could we get day to day encouragement.” Brother Furlough closed with prayer. The Worship Service closed with the singing of “Amazing Grace.”

The moderator asked for the reading of the minutes. The minutes were read by the clerk, Sister Shirley Pelletier. Reverend Keith Pelletier made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and passed. The moderator recognized the Reverend Royce Reynolds who led the Conference in the closing prayer. The Conference then enjoyed lunch and fellowship with the host church.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Shirley T. Pelletier, Clerk*

*Al Markuson, Moderator*

## **Report of the Executive Committee August 31, 2017**

The Executive Committee met on Thursday evening, August 31, 2017 for the purpose of planning the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Albemarle Conference program for October 4, 2017 to be hosted at Malachi Chapel OFWB Church. The conference program was determined. Plans were made for the 2018 Albemarle Conference-wide Revival to be held at Union Chapel OFWB Church on March 25, 2018. Union Chapel OFWB has volunteered to host the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Albemarle Conference on October 9, 2019. Closing prayer was given by Rev. Keith Pelletier.

*Al Markuson, Moderator*  
*Shirley Pelletier, Clerk*

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **General Fund**

Brought forward from 2016	\$4575.49
Amount received after Conference	111.54
Amount received from churches	523.86
Amount received in Conference offering	<u>92.00</u>
Total Received	\$5302.89
Amount Paid Out	<u>-687.65</u>
Balance in General Fund	\$4615.24

#### **Mission Fund**

Brought forward from 2016	\$10748.72
Amount received during year	0.00
Bank Interest	<u>3.56</u>
Total Received	\$10752.28

Respectfully Submitted:  
*Lloyd Jones, Jr.*

**MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
HELD AT SHADY GROVE OFWB CHURCH  
DUNN, NORTH CAROLINA  
NOVEMBER 14, 2017**

**Moderator:** The Reverend Aubrey Williamson (2018)  
**Assistant Moderator:** The Reverend Frank Grubbs (2018)  
**Clerk:** Eva Ballance (2019)  
**Assistant Clerk:** Carolyn Jernigan (2019)  
**Treasurer:** The Reverend Brad Williamson (2018)  
**Member at Large:** The Reverend Jeff Daughtry (2019)

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Aubrey Williamson, Frank Grubbs, Eva Ballance,  
Carolyn Jernigan, Brad Williamson, Jeff Daughtry

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

William “Corky” Herring (2018) Brad Barbour (2019)  
Jim Best (2020) Carlton Barefoot (2021) Doug Seymour (2022)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Peyton Lee (2018) Doug Seymour (2019)  
Vicki Medlin (2020) Wayne Puckett (2021) Martha Parsons (2022)

**ORDAINING BOARD**

Aubrey Williamson (2018) Sam Weeks (2019)  
Joe Ballance (2020) Ricky Warren (2021) Stephen Prescott (2022)

**ORDAINED MINISTERS**

(P – Present, A – Absent, E – Excused)

<b>P Fred Baker</b>	<b>P Tod Creech</b>	<b>E Emmitt Jones</b>	<b>E Alan Price</b>
<b>P Joe Ballance</b>	<b>P Ken Dabbs</b>	<b>P Alan Lamm</b>	<b>P Pete Radford</b>
<b>P Ken Benton</b>	<b>P Jeff Daughtry</b>	<b>P David Langley</b>	<b>E Scott Satterfield</b>
<b>E Cecil Blackmon</b>	<b>E Wade Daughtry</b>	<b>P Donnie Massey</b>	<b>P Doug Seymour</b>
<b>E Gene Britt</b>	<b>A Jesse Fulcher</b>	<b>P Tony McLamb</b>	<b>E Elijah Smith</b>
<b>A John Butler</b>	<b>E Frank Grubbs</b>	<b>P Vicki Medlin</b>	<b>P Ricky Warren</b>
<b>E Rayford Byrd</b>	<b>P Chris Hall</b>	<b>E Joe Myrick</b>	<b>P Sam Weeks</b>
<b>P Charlie Carroll</b>	<b>E Otis Hamm</b>	<b>P Billy Nowell</b>	<b>P Richard Whitman</b>
<b>E Duane Casey</b>	<b>P Frank Harrison</b>	<b>P Charles Petit</b>	<b>P Aubrey Williamson</b>
<b>E Scott Casey</b>	<b>P William Herring</b>	<b>P Dennis Pollock</b>	<b>P Brad Williamson</b>

**LICENSED MINISTERS**

P	Eddie Mooring	P	Marci Rollins-Smart
P	Kevin Phillips	P	Kaye Ward

## PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred and Sixty-Third Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists (OFWB) convened at Shady Grove OFWB Church, Dunn, North Carolina on November 14, 2017. Moderator Aubrey Williamson welcomed everyone. Moderator Aubrey Williamson presented the program for adoption. Motion was made to accept the program for adoption. Motion carried.

The congregation opened in singing, “He Keeps Me Singing,” *Bridger’s*, led by song leader, Peyton Lee. Licensed Minister Kevin Phillips offered scripture and prayer from Psalm 105:1-5. The conference was welcomed by Rev. Chris Hall, pastor of Shady Grove OFWB Church of Dunn. The response was heard from Rev. Dr. Brad Williamson, pastor of Lee’s Chapel OFWB Church.

Clerk Eva Ballance called the session to order. The rules of registration were then explained by Rev. William “Corky” Herring, member of the Credentials Committee, as adopted by the One Hundred Fourteenth Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Clerk Eva Ballance called the Roll of Officers and Standing Boards, Churches, and Ministers. Rev. Chris Hall requested to join the Cape Fear Conference. Moderator Aubrey Williamson recognized Pete Radford, who had transferred to the Cape Fear Conference by letter in 2016. Motion was made to accept Rev. Chris Hall and Rev. Pete Radford in the Cape Fear Conference. Motion was carried. The right hand of fellowship was extended by Moderator Aubrey Williamson to Rev. Chris Hall and Rev. Pete Radford on behalf of the Cape Fear Conference.

Motion was made to appoint the following Temporary Committees by Moderator Williamson. The motion carried.

**Resolutions Committee:** Chair Stephen Prescott, Jeff Daughtry,  
Vicki Medlin

**Obituary Committee:** Chair Tod Creech, Donnie Massey

**Credentials Committee:** Chair Carolyn Jernigan, Teresa Eason,  
William “Corky” Herring, Connie Weeks

**Nominating Committee:** Chair Brad Williamson, Carla Williamson,  
Duane Casey

**Parliamentarian:** Ricky Warren

The Moderator recognized visiting ministers and guests. Moderator Aubrey Williamson recognized Wall of Honor recipients, Rev. Dr. Sam and Connie Weeks for their outstanding leadership in the Cape Fear Conference and Convention.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson offered words of encouragement to the conference from John 14, John 16 and Philippians 4:6-14. He expressed the importance of our churches having peace, power and purpose with all that God gives us. We should pray without ceasing and love one another. Our churches should be full of love and prayer. He closed by reading, “The Prayer of Cyrus Brown,” followed with prayer.

Motion was made to receive the written report of the Executive Committee as information. Motion carried.

Rev. Gary Bailey, Director of Convention Services of the Original Free Will Baptists was recognized and he introduced the denominational ministry representatives. encouraging all churches to extend an invitation to the denominational ministries

Representatives from our denominational ministries were present and given an opportunity to speak on the behalf of each ministry. The following ministries were represented: University of Mount Olive – Dr. Philip Kerstetter, Retirement Home Ministry – Rev. Ronnie Taylor, OFWB International – Rev. Harold Jones, FWB Children’s Home – Gary Lee, Free Will Baptist Press – Rick Watson, Ministry of Christian Education – Brad Williamson, Minister’s Program – Rev. Doug Seymour, Executive Committee of the Convention and Home Missions & Evangelism – Josh Whitfield. Moderator Aubrey Williamson recognized Rev. Dr. Ricky Warren for a report from the N.C. Foundation for Christian Ministries. Rev. Dr. Brad Williamson provided a report from the Ministerial Association of OFWB. He recognized Rev. Al Warrick who presented a new program, Pastoral Leadership Institute, to equip pastors to be effective leaders within the Free Will Baptist Church by providing a deeper understanding of the history and development of the OFWB denomination and its ministries.



The Morning Worship Service began with singing, "Standing on the Promises," *Carter*. An offering was received, and the offertory prayer was given by Rev. William "Corky" Herring. Special music was provided by Mr. Mike Lee. Rev. Chris Hall, pastor of Shady Grove OFWB Church of Dunn, brought the morning message, "The Greatest Need of the Church." He defined the church as people, not a building. He stated that the church has a great need, to fall head over heels in love with Jesus Christ. People who love Jesus should become soul saving, serving, submissive, sharers of Jesus and sweet. Rev. Chris Hall prayed the closing prayer for the worship service.

The following reports of Standing Boards were received by the conference (see attached reports of the Standing Boards). Rev. Doug Seymour gave the Blended Fellowship Missions report. Rev. Aubrey Williamson gave the Conference Missions report. Rev. Joe Ballance gave the report of the Minister's Association. The Board of Christian Education report was given by Martha Parsons.

Rev. Chris Hall led the closing prayer for the morning session and prayed the blessing on the meal. The conference recessed for lunch.

### **AFTERNOON SESSION**

Moderator Aubrey Williamson called the session to order. The afternoon session began with the congregation singing, "Victory In Jesus," *Bartlett, Sr.*, led by song leader Peyton Lee. Scripture from Matthew 7:7-13 and prayer were offered by Licensed Minister Eddie Mooring.

Reports of Standing Boards continued. Rev. Dr. Sam Weeks gave the Ordaining Council report. Moderator Aubrey Williamson asked for a motion to receive the Standing Board reports by acclamation. Motion carried.

The following reports of the Temporary Committees were received (see attached reports of the Temporary Committees). The Resolutions Committee presented two resolutions. Motion was made to accept these resolutions. Motion carried. Motion was made to receive the Credentials Report as information. Motion carried. The Nominating Committee made its recommendations to the conference. The floor was opened to receive nominees. There being no nominations from the floor, the list of candidates were elected by acclamation. The Obituary Committee reported the passing of one Cape Fear Conference minister, Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez during the past year. Motion was made to adopt the report. Motion carried.

The conference then moved into its business session. The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Brad Williamson and was received by motion (see attached report). There was one item of old business which was information about the Hillsberry Property. A report will be given at a later date. There was one item of new business. Motion was made for the Cape Fear Conference to give \$500.00 to the Pastoral Leadership Institute. Motion carried. The 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference will be held at Snow Hill OFWB Church of Mount Olive on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. The 165<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference will be held at Robert's Grove OFWB Church on Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

Motion carried to adjourn the 163<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Cape Fear Conference and the conference was dismissed by praying The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Aubrey Williamson, Moderator  
Eva Ballance, Clerk

## **CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### **163<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference**

**Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met at Yelverton Grove OFWB Church on January 26, 2017 at 6:30 P.M.** Members present were Aubrey Williamson, Brad Williamson, Eva Ballance and Frank Grubbs. Moderator Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from John 1:1-5 and Brad Williamson prayed the opening prayer. Aubrey welcomed Rev. Frank Grubbs as the assistant moderator.

Treasurer Brad Williamson gave the treasurer's report. Balance is \$3,855.69 of which \$1,312.00 is in the Education Fund. Motion made to accept the treasurer's report (MSP).

It was requested that the announcement for the fellowship meeting include a reminder to pay the dues to the conference.

Motion was made to purchase one flag to keep on hand and replace when used for a service (MSP).

The minutes of the 162<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference of the OFWB held at Lee's Chapel OFWB Church in Dunn, NC on November 8, 2016 were reviewed. Motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected (MSP).

New business was to discuss the Spring Fellowship meeting. Motion made to contact Blended Fellowship Mission to host the meeting with Blended Hands performing on April 6, 2017 or May 4, 2017 and the conference will cover the cost of the meal (MSP).

Include a statement requesting all churches to make a separate contribution to offset the cost of the meal since the conference has agreed to cover the cost.

At the next meeting we will plan the Annual Meeting of the Cape Fear Conference at Shady Grove OFWB Church in Dunn. The Wall of Honor recipients were determined (MSP).

Motion was made to adjourn (MSP). Rev. Frank Grubbs prayed the closing prayer.

**The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met at Yelverton Grove OFWB Church on September 18, 2017 at 6:30 P.M.** Members present were Aubrey Williamson, Brad Williamson, Eva Ballance, Frank Grubbs and Stephen Prescott. Moderator Aubrey Williamson prayed the opening prayer and gave the devotion from Psalm 24.

The minutes of the Executive Committee on January 26, 2017 were reviewed. Motion was made to adopt the minutes (MSP).

Treasurer Brad Williamson gave the treasurer's report. Balance is \$2,930.69 of which \$800.00 is in the Education Fund. Motion made to accept the treasurer's report (MSP).

Next meeting there will be a discussion of ways to encourage churches to support the Fellowship Meeting with payment of \$100.00 for conference dues and a discussion of establishing an age for retirement status of CFC ministers.

New business was to discuss and plan the program for the Annual Meeting of the Cape Fear Conference that will be held at Shady Grove OFWB Church in Dunn on Tuesday, November 14, 2017.

Motion was made to adjourn (MSP). Eva Ballance prayed the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Ballance, Clerk of the Cape Fear Conference

### **Blended Fellowship Mission Report**

### **163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

Thank you so much for your faithful support of Blended Fellowship through prayer, financial support, donated items, volunteer help and various other forms of assistance. As I was writing this report, I heard the sounds of our Deaf volunteers as they were working, laughing and moving about throughout the building and I was reminded of how grateful I am that we can provide a place of purpose, meaning and communication for these precious people. Many of

you have helped us to have the facility they think of as their second home. Thank you for caring, giving and working to vastly improve the quality of life for these special people.

Our ministry is similar to that of the Salvation Army except that we are committed specifically to meeting the needs of Deaf families and blended families, those that include Deaf and hearing members. The services we provide have evolved based on the needs we have discovered. To meet these needs, we either connect our client families with available resources or we provide direct assistance. The services we provide can be grouped into three major programs. The first is **Spiritual Development**. This area of ministry focuses on helping each individual to reach their full potential in Christ. Spiritual development is foundational and integral with all we do. Our congregation is a part of this program.

The second program is **QLI**, which stands for **Quality of Life Improvement**. This program includes all the "hands on" ministry areas such as managing a food pantry, receiving and distributing donated items, providing hot meals, making appointments, scheduling transportation, assisting with housing needs and helping with personal financial management.

The third program we call **FACES**, which is an acronym for **Family Awareness and Communication Enhancement Services**. The focus here is on communication within blended families of deaf and hearing. We provide training and counseling for these families to bring about awareness of the differences between the hearing and deaf cultures. We also offer sign language training to improve communication and understanding. The Blended Bridges summer day camp we provide each July falls under this program.

This year has been one of many successes and blessings. With the help of a Raleigh based consulting firm, we recently received our very first grant and have applied for a second one.

You may recall from last year's report that a dear family included us in their estate planning which enabled us to begin renovation of the previously unusable half of our building. That renovation project has been progressing steadily and the work is near completion.

Also this year, we have begun weekly meetings with advisors to plan and coordinate improvements to our infrastructure and clarify our work. Though it has been a challenge to add these meetings to our schedule, the resulting improvements are making us more effective and also more attractive to potential significant funding sources. Another result of these planning sessions has been the establishment of teams of volunteers with their own leaders to help distribute the tremendous workload.

Recently, at our annual Deaf Judgement House event, 122 people attended of which 44 accepted Christ as Savior! 43 of those saved were Deaf! To God Be the Glory!

This year has also presented some challenges. We are about \$28,000 short of what we need to complete our renovation project. Some of you have heard about this need and responded and we are forever grateful to you. To those of you just hearing about this need today, we thank you in advance for anything you can do to help.

Also, due to an increase in needs and a reduction in the donations we receive from Walmart, we are asking for your help with care packages. These packages will be given to our clients twice a year in July and December. Your help with these items will enable us to distribute more perishable food items each week.

One other current need is more regular funding to enable us to add much needed trained professional staff and to fairly compensate our current staff who have not received a pay increase in 10 years.

To those of you who are providing regular support I want to assure you that you are the backbone of our ministry and we could not continue to meet the countless spiritual and physical needs without you.

If you would like more information about the services we provide or if you would like to be more involved in our work, we encourage you to contact us, plan a visit or invite me to your church and I would be happy to share with you what God is doing through Blended.

Again, thank you for your support of the ministry of Blended Fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Seymour

Pastor/Director

**Cape Fear Conference Missions Report**  
**163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

Blended Fellowship Mission has already given a detailed report of their work through the leadership of Rev. Doug Seymour. It is apparent that God is at work in this mission. Prayerfully consider support of this mission to continue the work that was begun many years ago. Faith Mission, a new mission presented at last year's conference, has disbanded and is no longer meeting so there is nothing further to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Aubrey Williamson, Moderator

**The Report of the Minister's Association**  
**163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

During the past year, the Cape Fear Minister's Association met for four meetings. The guest speaker in January 2017 was the Rev. Gary Bailey, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, N.C. Brother Gary shared information about his position as Interim-Director of Convention Services. He informed us of upcoming Convention activities and stated if anyone has suggestions to improve our Conference to contact him or the Convention Headquarters. In April 2017, Licensed Minister Kaye Ward was the speaker. She gave a very heart touching personal testimony and concluded with the verse from Romans 8:31, "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

In July 2017, Dr. Neal Cox gave an update on the Religion Department at the University of Mount Olive. In October 2017, the speaker was Rev. Frank Harrison. His presentation was about the early history of the Free Will Baptist and how it came to be what it is today.

A prayer was offered for all prayer requests at each meeting. Cape Fear Conference Ministers and Licensed Ministers are invited to attend the Cape Fear Minister's Association meetings which are held on the Monday before fifth Sunday. There are 30 ministers on roll with an average attendance of 16 ministers at each meeting. All of the meetings were held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield. Dr. Sam Weeks and his wife, Connie prepared the noon meals that were served after each meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Joe Ballance, Secretary/Treasurer

**Christian Board of Education Report**  
**163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

The Board of Christian Education received one application for the 2017 Scholarship. A \$500.00 scholarship was awarded to Caleb Andrew Weeks from Robert's Grove OFWB Church. The committee wishes to thank the applicant for his participation, the churches for promoting this scholarship and those who provide funds for this distribution.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Parsons, Chairperson

**Report of the Board of Ordination**  
**163<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference**

**I) The Ordaining Board was scheduled to meet on January 25, 2017, at the First FWB Church Smithfield.** Those present were Sam Weeks and Aubrey Williamson, since there was not a quorum present, there was no formal meeting held and no action was taken for consideration. A prayer was offered before departing.

**II) The Ordaining Board met on April 24, 2017, at the First Free Will Baptist Church Smithfield at 12:30 pm.** Those present were Sam Weeks, Joe Ballance, Ricky Warren, Aubrey Williamson and Frank Harrison proxy for Roger

Hill. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted. c) The Board met with Mr. Kevin Phillips and discussed the Riverside Church. After discussion MSP to approve Mr. Phillips to continue to serve at Riverside for 90 days. d) The board met with Mr. Eddie Mooring and advised him to contact his mentor, Roger Hill to discuss his ministry. e) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

**III) The Ordaining Board met on June 8, 2017, at the Blended Fellowship Mission.** Those present were Sam Weeks, Joe Ballance, Ricky Warren, Roger Hill and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The board gathered at the annual Fellowship Meeting to discuss examining Mr. Kevin Phillips for licensing. c) The Board met with Mr. Kevin Phillips to seek approval for licensure. A letter from the Riverside Church has been received recommending that the Board of Ordination examine him. The board examined him and discussed the application procedure. Motion, seconded and passed that Mr. Kevin Phillips is approved, and his church may proceed to license. d) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

**IV) The Ordaining Board met on July 24, 2017 at the First Free Will Baptist Church Smithfield.** Those present were Sam Weeks, Joe Ballance, Ricky Warren and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the June 8 and the April 24 meetings were read and approved. c) The board met with Mr. Jason Bordeaux, licensed minister from the mother church of the Blended Fellowship Mission, Haymount Church, Fayetteville. Discussion concerning the fact that his five-year limit for being licensed is expiring and he has not prepared for following through with the next steps to become ordained. After discussion concerning Mr. Bordeaux's present intentions, the board recommended that since his time is expiring that he may consider returning if he desired to re-apply for approval for relicensing by his church after a minimum of one year (MSP). d) The board met with Mr. Jason Pittman, licensed minister from the mother church of the Blended Fellowship Mission, Haymount Church, Fayetteville. Discussion concerning the fact that his five-year limit for being licensed is expiring and he has not prepared for following through with the next steps to become ordained. After discussion concerning Mr. Pittman's present intentions, the board recommended that since his time is expiring that he may consider returning if he desired to re-apply for approval for relicensing by his church after a minimum of one year (MSP). e) The board met with Mr. Wes Holmes from the Snow Hill Church, Mt. Olive. Mr. Holmes was accompanied by his pastor. The reason for their meeting was to discuss Mr. Holmes' interest in one day making an application for Licensing and discuss those requirements for the intent of ordination in the future. Mr. Holmes feels a call to pastoral ministry but is not yet prepared to proceed at this time. The requirements were shared with Mr. Holmes and his pastor and he was encouraged to return when he was ready. f) The meeting adjourned with prayer.

**V) The Ordaining Board met on October 24, 2017 at the First Free Will Baptist Church Smithfield.** Those present were Sam Weeks, Ricky Warren, and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting opened with prayer, b) The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. c) The board met with Rev. Chris Hall requesting permission to serve Shady Grove Church as a member of the Western Conference. Rev. Hall also expressed his desire to transfer his conference membership to the Cape Fear. Procedure for the transfer was discussed. The board approved Rev. Hall with permission to serve Shady Grove as pastor. d) The board met with Mr. Jacob Cottle who is currently serving as Associate Pastor of Youth and Worship of Lee's Chapel Church. Mr. Cottle was accompanied by Rev. Dr. Brad Williamson, pastor of Lee's Chapel. Mr. Cottle and the pastor inquired as to what is necessary for him to begin the procedure to become a Licensed minister in the Cape Fear Conference. Mr. Cottle stated that he previously began the process for Licensure in the Eastern Conference and he had halted that process. Pastor acknowledged that Mr. Cottle has made Lee's Chapel aware of his intentions and are in support. Procedures were discussed with Mr. Cottle and he states he is planning to begin that process upon meeting the requirements of this Conference. He will return to meet with this board when he is ready to proceed. e) The board met with Mr. Kevin Phillips, Licensed Minister from Riverside Church who is seeking approval to serve Riverside as pastor for a 90 day approval by this board (MSP). f) Discussion followed concerning the positions of Chairman and Secretary of the Ordaining Board. The Rev. Dr. Sam Weeks expressed his desire to serve the Board, but not as Chairman. He stated that he had previously had positive, although unofficial discussion with members of the Board of Ordination concerning his decision. After the discussion

Rev. Aubrey Williamson was nominated as Chairman of the Board and Rev. Dr. Ricky Warren was nominated as the Secretary of the Board. Being no other nominees, by motion the board proceeded to elect (MSP). These elections will be in effect after the Annual Conference on November 14, 2017. g) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Dr. Sam Weeks, Chairperson  
Rev. Aubrey Williamson, Secretary  
Rev. Joe Ballance  
Rev. Dr. Ricky Warren  
Rev. Roger Hill

### **Resolutions Committee**

#### **163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

Whereas, Shady Grove OFWB Church has been a wonderful host of the 163<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Cape Fear Conference

—

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Conference give a rising vote of thanks to congregation and pastor of Shady Grove OFWB Church for their outstanding service.

#### **Resolution adopted**

Whereas, the Reverend Chris Hall has offered a crucial challenge to the Conference to “Fall head over hills in love with Jesus” —

Now therefore, be it resolved that we accept this challenge and, with a greater resolve, demonstrate with intention our love for Jesus through renewed service to people of our churches and communities.

#### **Resolution adopted**

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Stephen Prescott, Chairperson, Rev. Jeff Daughtry, Rev. Vicki Medlin

### **Obituary Committee**

#### **163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

We, the Obituary Committee do offer the following report to the 163<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Reverend Edmundo Gonzalez is the only minister of the Cape Fear Conference who has passed since the last annual meeting. Let us remember members from our churches and families that have passed also. The service closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Tod Creech, Chairperson  
Reverend Donnie Massey

**Credentials Committee**  
**163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

Present at the One Hundred and Sixty-Third Annual Session of Cape Fear Conference are as follows:

Ministers	28
Licensed Ministers	4
Officers	2
Delegates	18
<u>Visitors and Visiting Ministers</u>	<u>23</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Jernigan, Chairperson, Teresa Eason, Rev. William “Corky” Herring,  
Connie Weeks

**Nominating Committee**  
**163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

The Nominating Committee submitted the following to serve the conference:

Executive Committee- Clerk (2019): *Eva Ballance*

Assistant Clerk (2019): *Carolyn Jernigan*

Member at Large (2019): *Jeff Daughtry*

Member of the Board of Trustees – (2022): *Doug Seymour*

Member of the Board of Education - (2022): *Martha Parsons*

Member of the Ordaining Board – (2022): *Stephen Prescott*

Respectfully submitted,

Reverend Dr. Brad Williamson, Chairperson, Carla Williamson, Reverend Duane Casey

**Cape Fear Conference Treasurer's Report**  
**163<sup>rd</sup> Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

*Balance from November 1, 2016* \$2,962.40

**Receipts**

2016 Conference Offering	\$310.00
2016 Conference Church Dues	\$3,600.00
2016 Church Dues since Conference	\$950.00
2017 Fellowship Meeting Offering	\$225.00
2017 Fellowship Meeting Dues	\$1,800.00
2017 Conference Church Dues	\$350.00
Designated gift for Blended Fellowship Mission	\$500.00
Miscellaneous	
Total	<u>\$7,735.00</u>

*Total to account for in Checking Account* \$10,697.40

**Disbursements**

Conference Expense	\$816.71
North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries	\$1,200.00
Foreign Missions	\$950.00
Home Missions	\$950.00
Convention of OFWB (Report Book)	\$450.00
Convention of OFWB (Delegates)	
Convention of OFWB (Wall of Honor)	\$500.00
Education Scholarships	\$500.00
Blended Fellowship Designated Gifts	\$500.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,900.00

(Riverside Hurricane Matthew recovery assistance and Cape Fear Fellowship Meal)

Total Disbursements \$7,766.71

*Total in Checking account as of October 31, 2017* \$2,930.69

(Out of this balance \$800.00 is in the Education Fund)

Formula for disbursement of Conference Dues and Offerings:

Missions = 25% (half to Foreign and half to Home)

Christian Education Fund = 20%

Conference and other expenses = 55%

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Brad Williamson, Treasurer



**Minutes of the 268<sup>th</sup> annual session of the  
Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists  
November 10, 2016\***

**\*These minutes were omitted from the 2016 Report Book\***

The 268th session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists opened with Scripture and prayer by the Reverend Tom Malin.

The moderator's address was given by the Reverend Bryant Hines.

Reverend Kelley Smart shared words of greeting and welcome of visiting ministers and denominational ministries.

The Central Conference offering was taken by ushers from Rose of Sharon OFWB.

Reverend Hines appointed a parliamentarian, resolutions committee, and nominating committee.

Ministry Care Committee report was given by the Reverend Dr. John Hill and Dr. Janie Taylor.

Reverend Hines and Dr. Hill explained the revisions and constitutional changes per the distributed copies. Dr. Hill explained the revisions by detail.

The Revisions Committee moved to suspend the conference rule to read aloud the constitutional amendments. Motion approved.

The Revisions Committee moved to approve the proposed constitutional revision. Motion approved.

The Revisions Committee moved to table the proposed constitution and bylaws until the afternoon session. Motion approved.

Dr. H. Mac Wallace led those in attendance through two well-delivered and relevant sessions regarding the mental health of ministers.

The session reconvened for business.

Constitutional items addressed to read as follows:

Article Five: Meetings

5.1 - Day

The Central Conference shall meet in November at a date, time, and place set by the Executive Committee. The date, time, and place shall be communicated to the Conference membership at the previous annual session, and to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Article 3.2 – Eligibility for Membership

a) Ordained Minister: An Ordained Minister shall...

- i. be required to attend the annual session of the Conference each year, or at least once in three years. Requests for excusal shall be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Conference before the Conference, or within thirty days after the Conference for those with unanticipated causes for absence. Ministers who fail to attend the annual Conference for three consecutive years without an excusal shall surrender their credentials.

The new constitution and bylaws were voted on. Motion approved and moved forward.

The Reverend Josh Whitfield was extended the right hand of fellowship after being received into the Central Conference from the Eastern Conference.

The conference adopted reports of the nominating, resolutions and credential committees.

Central Conference ministers were then recognized for their years of service.

The conference was concluded by observing the ordinance of Holy Communion.

The 269<sup>th</sup> session of the Central Conference will be at Free Union OFWB in Walstonburg, NC.

Motion to Adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Reverend Bryant Hines, moderator  
The Reverend Todd Sutton, clerk  
1-17-17

Those present: Kelley Smart, Tom Malin, Barry Williamson, Todd Sutton, Greg Barnes, and Josh Hobgood.

Call to order by Kelley Smart.

Word of welcome to Greg Barnes and Josh Hobgood as new members, assistant clerk and assistant treasurer.

Devotion from Psalm 27 by Kelley.

Kelley shared a prayer request for his mom, cancer concerns.

Josh shared about a concern he has for helping people with sexual issues.

Kelley led in prayer

Tom sent through treasure's report and explained several key elements.

Tom asked about certain ministers transferring in regards to paying fees.

Also, about certain churches

Motion made and seconded to receive treasurer report as information. Adopted into our minutes.

Kelley shared information about Hillside FWB.

- They acquired a pastor and did not care if he was FWB or not. They have not sent any type of contribution to conference in a number year. Kelley has not received any correspondence from them however they have a loan with church finance (Don Fader).
- Hillside does not really want to be associated with FWB, we as the board need to contact them.
- Barry asked about the loan and how much they owe
- Kelley shared some history about the situation with Hillside FWB
- Church will not arise from its current position until a leader gets in the church to lead them in a positive direction.
- They need to decide what they will do.
- Barry suggested we get an update with them and ask them to part ways.
- Butch Haddock,
- Michael Lewis was pastoring there.
- We will ask Bryant to inform us of how many times he contacted Hillside when he was president.
- Kelley to ask Bryant and correspond with us via email.

Albamarle Conference is getting small. Perhaps invite them to join the Central Conference. Kelley will talk with Royce Reynolds/Al Markuson to see if he thinks there is any interest.

Discussed the previous conference.

Talked about previous conferences, topics and speakers.

Talked about the Press and the strides they have made.

**November 9, 2017 at Free Union will be next Central Conference – 9:00-12:00.  
Morning format, end with lunch.**

Leading from the Pews – possible theme

Using the idea of a lay speaker, perhaps Rick Watson.

In 2018 potentially have the Conference at La Grange FWB? – Ronnie Hobgood

In 2019 Greenville 1<sup>st</sup>? – Keith Gardner

Kelley to check on a CareNet event and email the group.

Dismissed in prayer by Greg

4-25-17

Kelley began with Scripture from Ezekiel, with a time of devotion and meditation on the importance of vision and following God's guidance. Followed by prayer.

Minutes read by Todd. Motion by Tom and seconded by Josh to receive minutes as information.

Tom shared Treasure's report and updated board about churches and ministers who have not paid dues. Presented concerns of Matthew Forrest and financial difficulties he is facing. Recommended to forego his dues and offer grace. Motion made and seconded to let him forego the dues this year. Board voted to waive this year's dues in light of his difficulty.

Tom shared about Ray Williamson is also in need of paying his dues. Contact has been attempted.

Motion made and seconded to approve treasure's report.

- Carenet Event with Janie Taylor will be rescheduled from May 2017 to September 2017.
- Rev. Bill Groce gave report from Church Growth and Evangelism Committee. He shared his hopes for evangelism so far as our conference, and as the committee he is chairperson for.
  - Reignite the passion and redream the dream again...
  - Bill requested the board to prepare a writing (something written) to address and provide permissions to expand the purpose of the Church Growth Committee. With their willingness to broaden their horizons and opportunities in the conference and beyond. Prepare a document given them permissions to be free to a certain degree for church growth committee to broaden and expand these responsibilities.
  - Prepare a letter to church growth and evangelism committee expanding their permissions. Put in Dropbox for committee to access. Motion made and seconded to prepare a letter. Seek Bill's input to make amendment to the Church Growth Committee's description per our Central Conference and Bylaws.
- Dr. Franklin Baggett will be rotating off this year from ordination board. The executive board needs to be in prayer for the right person to succeed Frankie's position.
  - Possibly will need to revamp the ordination exam to discern where candidates are in relating the information in examination.
- Ed Croom was approached by Kelley to speak at Central Conference this year at Free Union.
- 2018 La Grange FWB - confirmed
- 2019 Greenville First FWB – confirmed
- Hillside Discussion
  - Need a healthy pastor to go in – however it would be a serious investment for the minister to go into to do the work necessary (while at the same time – they cannot afford to pay someone)
  - Considered different available pastors
  - Kelley will check with De Eakes to see if he can fill in for a couple of weeks
- Piney Grove – Pitt County
  - Scott Wright, one week, girlfriend of one of the sons
  - Minority of the group wants to get rid of Scott as pastor
  - Kelley advised that there has to be formal letter to Executive board requesting assistance of board and signed by members of the board other than only Mrs. Everette.
- Motion adjourned and seconded. Dismissed in prayer by Josh.

August 1, 2017

- Executive Board Met in session at La Paz restarant. Members present, Kelley, Tom, Barry, Josh, Greg and Todd.
- Piney Grove – Mr. Wright has been informed of his requirements to complete. May 2018 will be deadline of his provisional license.
  - Mr. Wright will provide us with a transcript of when courses are finished.
- Hillside – perhaps ask Josh Whitfield to supply there when he completes his remaining time at Deep Run.
- CareNet workshop Sept. 18 & 25 – Winterville FWB 9am – 1pm. To sign up – Look to facebook invitation and article of FWB in August (inside of back cover – registration information), as well as email sent out.
  - Workbook is \$25 – to be purchased by each participant. Make Check out to “CareNet Counseling East” for \$25.
- Possible suggestions for nominating committee.
  - Doug Skinner, chair, Donald Ribeiro, Leon Grubbs
- Resolution Committee
  - Keith Gardner, chair, Mike Rowell, Ron Braxton
- Letter to the churches, ministers, etc. - reiterate the time change and concluding at lunch
- Letter to go out by September 15, 2017.
- Central Conference – will be at Free Union, Walstonburg, NC

9-28-17

Executive Board meeting at Free Union OFWB

Members present: Kelley Smart, Tom Malin, Barry Williamson, Josh Hobgood, Greg Barnes, Todd Sutton  
Treasurer’s report presented by Tom Malin. Report approved.

Kelley informed us that Josh Whitfield is supplying as interim at La Grange Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Committee expressed concerns that he is working outside of denomination and he is the president of (Vice-President of Convention).

Also expressed concern regarding the Piney Grove situation with Scott Wright. The woman who initiated the assistance of the executive board is considering leaving the church, yet she is the one who began the concerns regarding Scott Wright. Down to 10-12 members, but yet representative has said, that the remaining members have a unified mentality. (will wait to see how things work out and if they contribute to the conference).

Scott has May 2018 as deadline for ordination board. He only has a few classes remaining to take.

Sweet Gum Grove was discussed – they have withdrawn from denomination, but they still carry the “Original Free Will Baptist” name.

Committees discussed for conference:

Nominating Committee in place, Doug, Leon Grubbs, Don Ribeiro

Resolutions Committee – Mike Rowell, Ron Braxton (not sure), Phillip

John Hill will be parliamentarian

Josh – will continue to work with the committees to

Credentials Committee – Greg Barnes, still has term ending 2019.

Continuing Ed – Keith Phillips, Tony Glass, Greg Barnes

Other committees and candidates were also discussed.

Credentials Committee will need assistance

Updated Minister’s in good standing cards.

Streamlining the information for next year. File for each church with officers and such. And send a list of current officers and any changes each year.

We discussed current status of pastor search for Stoney Creek.

Tom has been assisting when needed at Rose of Sharon during their interim.

Motion made and approved to pay \$250 to Ed Croom for serving as conference speaker for this year.

Motion made and seconded to approve treasure's report.

Motion made and seconded to correct the wording of the motion for last year's change to the bylaws by Dr. Frankie Baggett to read verbatim as follows:

### 3.2 – Eligibility for Membership

vi. be required to attend the annual session of the Conference each year. Requests for excusal shall be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Conference before the Conference, or within thirty days after the Conference for those with unanticipated causes for absence. Ministers who fail to attend the annual Conference physically for three consecutive years shall be subject to lose their credentials.

Executive Board to have a tour around facilities for conference

Motion made and seconded for adjournment

## **Report of the Church Growth Committee of the Central Conference**

“On November 9, 2001 the Central Conference formed the Church Growth Committee. As stated by the Conference the purpose of the Church Growth Committee is, “to promote and provide financial support for church growth and /or leadership development. Through the work of the committee, Central Conference churches will be more fully equipped to effectively reach people without Christ in their communities.”

The following guidelines were established for distributing funds:

1. The church Growth Committee will submit an annual budget to the Central Conference for approval.
2. The maximum amount of allocated funds will not exceed \$500 per quarter per church.
3. Funds must be used for church growth and/or leadership development.
4. The Church Growth Committee will strive to equally fund (contingent upon church requests) growth projects and leadership development programs.
5. Approvals for funds by the Church Growth Committee will be submitted to the Central Conference Treasurer for actual disbursement.

We invite your church to submit applications to this committee to request funds to help your church with growth projects and/or leadership development programs. When we receive an application, we will review and do all that we can to get funds to you for this program. We encourage every church to use this resource that has been made available by the Central Conference.

The following dates are deadlines for applications to be submitted. The dates are based on the four quarters of the church year. please submit your application within plenty of time of the event or project.

February 1, 2018      April 1, 2018      July 1, 2018      October 1, 2018

This past year 2016 – 2017 your Church Growth Committee received requests from two churches and approved them both. Reedy Branch Church was given \$500 to assist with the expenses of new stage lighting for their youth dramatic presentations.

Rose of Sharon Church was given \$500 to send their youth director to a youth leaders' conference in Tennessee to gain new ideas for the growth of their group.

The Church Growth Committee also met on February 24, 2017 at the Reedy Branch Church to discuss ways we as a Committee may be of greater service to the churches and leadership teams of the Central Conference.

It was noted that our annual budget is \$1,000. This amount may need to be expanded in the near future.

Ideas were discussed in sort of a brainstorming manner for impacting our Central Conference Churches for church growth and evangelism.

The following questions were discussed:

- How could we promote outreach ministries in our local churches? leadership development?
- How could we help pastors and church leadership to recover a sense of passion and begin to dream again?

The following ideas were mentioned:

- Send out a book to pastors/ churches to encourage and facilitate church growth and evangelism
- Send out a digital copy of such resources to save money
- Sponsor and plan a seminar on church growth and or evangelism
- Compile a database of email addresses of pastors and churches in the Central Conference
- Use this database to occasionally let churches know that we exist and are waiting and willing to serve their needs
- Call for a Day of Prayer for Church Growth
- Ask the pastors and churches for their ideas of how we could assist them
- Make a link to lots of videos on Church growth and evangelism and make this available to churches and pastors
- Make an app with daily inspirational comments that would be available to our churches and pastors

It was decided that Reverend Bill Groce would serve as chairman of this committee. We look forward to serving you in the year to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reverend Bill Groce, Chairman

Committee Members: The Reverends Kevin Jackson, Carlton Oakley, Todd Sutton

**269<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the  
Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists  
Held at Free Union OFWB Church  
November 9, 2017**

The theme of the 2017 Conference of Original Free Will Baptists is: Being Invested in God's Future

The Rev. Kelley Smart briefly shared information regarding the scheduling of the conference as well as other information. Scripture-

The Rev. Todd Sutton read Scripture from Romans 8:15-25 and began the meeting off with prayer. The congregation joined in singing, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing."

The 269<sup>th</sup> annual session was called to order by the Rev. Todd Sutton.

A word of welcome was offered by the Rev. Stephen Prescott, pastor of Free Union Original Free Will Baptist, and information was shared regarding the facilities.

The Rev. Josh Hobgood welcomed visitors to the conference

The Rev. Kelley Smart appointed committees and responsibilities as follows:

Parliamentarian: The Rev. Dr. John Hill

Resolutions: The Rev. Philip Wood

The Rev. Michael Rowell

The Rev. Ron Braxton

Nominating: The Rev. Doug Skinner

The Rev. Dr. Don Ribeiro

The Rev. Leon Grubbs

The Rev. Keith Gardner gave the report of the Memorial Committee with the remembrance of the Rev. Bryant Hines.

The Rev. Kelley Smart gave moderator's address from Genesis 12:1-5, 15:1-7. Rev. Smart reminded of God's call upon each person's life and the need to be invested in God's plan. Rev. Smart stressed the role person has to fulfill in each church—as members as well as ministers. He further issued the challenge to be invested in the future of the church. The challenge was issued with a Kingdom-Focused purpose to be reminded of our vision in light of the Great Commission.

Reports were shared by the denominational ministries:

- Christian Education Ministry report was given by Gail Heath,
- Convention Services report was given by the Rev. Gary Bailey and the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood.
- Home Missions report was given by the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood.
- Children's Home report was given by Gary Lee.
- Cragmont report was given by Angela Mattox.
- Foreign Missions report was given by the Rev. Harold Jones.
- FWB Press Foundation report was given by Darren Davenport.
- Retirement Home report was given by the Rev. Ronnie Taylor.
- University of Mount Olive report was given by the Rev. Dr. David Hines – focusing on leading by servant leadership and instilling that in faculty and students.
- Ministerial Association executive committee report was given by the Rev. Johnny Sullivan.
- OFWB Ministerial Association report was given by the Rev. Al Warrick – pastoral leadership institute for FWB ministers – leadership team
- Woman's Auxiliary
- Laymen's League

After pausing for a short break, the conference reconvened with the Conference Offering being taken by the Rev. Tom Malin.

By motion it was decided to receive the report of the clerk, the Rev. Todd Sutton.

By motion it was decided to receive the report of the treasurer, the Rev. Tom Malin.

The Rev. Johnny Sullivan gave the Board of Ordination report. The Rev. Dr. Frankie Baggett addressed article 7, “a minister would lose ordination if performed the marriage a couple of the same sex.” The Rev. John Hill provided direction about the wording of the ordination report. By motion it was decided to clarify the position of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptist Central on the performing of marriages:

The Central Conference of OFWB prohibits Central Conference ordained ministers, and any ordained minister from any other conference serving within our conference, from officiating same-gender marriages. Ordained ministers who violate this rule will be subject to the disciplinary actions issued by the Board of Ordination and the minister may lose ordination credentials.

Dr. Baggett addressed the concern of licensed ministers filling pulpits over the approved amount of time and clarified what is allowed per the Articles of Faith. By motion it was decided to receive the report of the Ordination Board.

The Rev. Bill Groce gave the report of the Church Growth Committee. By motion it was decided to receive the report of the Church Growth Committee.

The Rev. Dr. John Hill gave the report of the Ministerial Care Committee. By motion it was decided to receive the report of the Ministerial Care Committee.

By motion it was decided to donate \$500 to the ministerial leadership institute sponsored by the OFWB Ministerial Association.

The Rev. Doug Skinner gave nomination committee report from nomination committee. By motion it was decided to receive the report

The Rev. Greg Barnes gave credentials committee report. The Central Conference had 122 ministers, delegates, and visitors representing 36 conference churches and our denominational ministries. By motion it was decided to receive the report.

The Rev. Philip Wood gave resolutions committee report. By motion it was decided to receive the report.

The Rev. Barry Williamson recognized ministers for their years of service.

Mr. Ed Croom gave address from his experience with strategic planning.

- Meet people where they are; not where we think they ought to be.
- How will we use our talent?

Following the address by Mr. Croom, the Rev. Phillip Wood gave the report of the Resolutions Committee:

**Resolution number one:** Whereas the people of Free Union Church have been so gracious to us during the 269<sup>th</sup> session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, be it resolved that we give Free Union Church and their pastors a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality.

By motion the 269<sup>th</sup> session of the Central Conference adjourned.

The 270<sup>th</sup> session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will be November 8, 2018 at La Grange Original Free Will Baptist

**North Carolina Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists  
Report of the Board of Ordination  
November 9, 2017**

**Central Conference Board of Ordination**

Rev. Dr. Franklin Baggett, Chairman

Rev. Mark Hobbs

Rev. Dustin Bannister

Rev. Gary Bailey

Rev. Johnny Sullivan, Secretary



The Board of Ordination has met 7 times since the last conference.

The following were dropped from the list of Licensed Ministers:

Michael Blake Bryan

Robbie Rouse - (Will be added back November 28, 2017 / due to change of Church membership)

Dropped from the list of Provisional Licensed Ministers - Van Mitchell, Jr.

The Reverend Arnold Price has been dropped from the list of duly ordained ministers of the Central Conference.

The Reverend Dr. Josh Whitfield, the Reverend Bryl Simmons, the Reverend Jonathan Whitford were added to the list of Ordained Ministers.

The Reverend Stephen Prescott of the Cape Fear Conference was given clearance to serve as pastor of the Free Union Original Free Will Baptist Church.

The Reverend Sonny Williams of the Pee Dee Association was given clearance to serve as pastor of at the Rocky Mount Original Free Will Baptist Church.

Added to the list of Licensed Ministers – Scott Wright.

Anyone who wishes to meet with the Board of Ordination should contact either the chairman or a member of the board prior to the scheduled meeting. The 2018 scheduled meetings of the Board of Ordination will be held at the LaGrange Original Free Will Baptist Church at 10 am on the following dates:

Tuesday - January 9, 2018

Tuesday - April 10, 2018

Tuesday - July 10, 2018

Tuesday - October 9, 2018

The Board of Ordination will conduct a workshop for all Licensed Ministers and ministers holding a Provisional Certificate of Ordination at the Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church Saturday - February 24, 2018 at 9 am. **All Licensed Ministers and those holding a Provisional Certificate of Ordination must attend at least one workshop before being considered for ordination.**

Inclusions to this report:

1. The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists in Section 1: The Local Congregation states the following concerning the church's calling of a pastor: ***"The church shall call its own pastor, from among the duly Ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers who are approved by the Conference of which the church is a member."*** We wish to remind any church in our Conference, when extending a call to a minister to serve as your pastor, to be sure that the minister gets proper clearance from the Conference Board of Ordination before assuming duties as pastor of the church.
2. All candidates for ordination in the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists must meet the educational requirements set forth by the Conference of November 8, 2007 and take and pass the Ordination Examination.
3. We wish to remind all Central Conference ordained ministers be required to attend the annual session of the Conference each year. Requests for excusal shall be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Conference before the Conference, or within thirty days after the Conference for those with unanticipated causes for absence. Ministers who fail to attend the annual Conference physically for three consecutive years shall be subject to lose their credentials.
4. In accordance with "The Articles of Faith and Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of The English General Baptist Heritage) under 'The Rules of Church Government,' 'Section 1: The Local Congregation,' 'Meetings Of the Local Congregation:' ***'The ordinances of the Gospel are administered only by ordained ministers.'***" **These ordained ministers must be ministers approved by the Central Conference Board of Ordination.**
5. Upon requests, the Central Conference gives a Christian flag to the family of a deceased ordained minister who is a member of the Conference.

6. All Ordained Ministers of the Central Conference must maintain membership in an Original Free Will Baptist Church.
7. In accordance with the Convention of Original Free Will Baptist resolution, Central Conference Ministers are permitted only to marry a man and a woman, no same sex marriage.
8. Licensed Ministers from any conference are not allowed to be interim pastors in the Central Conference. Licensed Ministers cannot supply speak more than four Sundays in a calendar year in the same congregation, and two of those Sundays must have ninety days separating them.

**The Board of Ordination stands ready to help people called to the Gospel Ministry.**

**Central Conference Treasurer's Report November 9, 2017  
2017-2018 Budget**

	<b>2016-17 Budget</b>	<b>2016-17 Actual</b>	<b>2017-18 Proposed</b>
Church Contributions	<b>5200.00</b>	6375.00	<b>6200.00</b>
Conference Offering	<b>500.00</b>	552.00	<b>500.00</b>
Endowment Income	<b>1500.00</b>	1360.16	<b>1050.00</b>
Interest			
Ministers Membership Dues	<b>1800.00</b>	1560.00	<b>1700.00</b>
Miscellaneous	<b>250.00</b>		<b>250.00</b>
Transfer from Savings	<b>4800.00</b>		<b>5800.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>14050.00</b>	9847.16	<b>15500.00</b>
Bank Charges (PNC)	<b>100.00</b>		<b>50.00</b>
Board of Ordination	<b>200.00</b>		<b>100.00</b>
Church Growth Committee	<b>1000.00</b>	1000.00	<b>2000.00</b>
Conference	<b>500.00</b>		<b>500.00</b>
Continuing Educ. Committee	<b>500.00</b>	500.00	<b>1000.00</b>
Convention of OFWB Support	<b>750.00</b>	750.00	<b>750.00</b>
Ministry Care Committee	<b>4000.00</b>	1445.00	<b>4000.00</b>
Convention-- OFWB Yearbook	<b>1000.00</b>	570.00	<b>1000.00</b>
Executive Committee	<b>500.00</b>	633.06	<b>600.00</b>
Office Supplies	<b>300.00</b>	877.33	<b>300.00</b>
Clerk	<b>100.00</b>	100.00	<b>100.00</b>
Treasurer	<b>100.00</b>	100.00	<b>100.00</b>
Foundation Endowment	<b>500.00</b>	500.00	<b>500.00</b>
Foundation Scholarship Fund	<b>1000.00</b>	1000.00	<b>1000.00</b>
Foreign Missions	<b>2000.00</b>	2000.00	<b>2000.00</b>
Miscellaneous	<b>500.00</b>	500.00	<b>500.00</b>
Non-Budgeted Items	<b>1000.00</b>	1303.00	<b>1000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>14050.00</b>	11278.39	<b>15500.00</b>

**Nominating Committee Report 2017**

## **Central Conference Boards and Committees**

### **Executive Committee**

Kelley Smart – Moderator (2018)  
Barry Williamson – Assistant Moderator (2018)  
Todd Sutton – Clerk (2018)  
Josh Hobgood – Assistant Clerk (2018)  
Tom Malin – Treasurer (2018)  
Greg Barnes – Assistant Treasurer (2018)

### **Board of Ordination (5 year term)**

Johnny Sullivan (2018)  
Gary Bailey (2019)  
Dustin Bannister (2020)  
Mark Hobbs (2021)  
Philip Wood (2022)

### **Church Growth (3 year term)**

Kevin Jackson (2018)  
Carlton Oakley (2019)  
Bill Groce (2020)

### **Continuing Education (3 year term)**

Ron Braxton (2018) – To fill the unexpired term of Dr. Michael Pelt.  
Chuck Branch (2019) – To fill the unexpired term of Harry Grubbs  
Keith Phillips (2020)

### **Conference Board of Trustees (3 year term)**

Irvin Mizzell (2018)  
Linda Weathersby (2019)  
Stearle Pittman (2020)

### **Minister Care Committee (3 year term)**

Todd Sutton (2018)  
Harry Grubbs (2019) – To fill the unexpired term of Bryant Hines.  
Dr. John Hill (2020)

### **Credentials (3 year term)**

Tony Glass (2018)  
Frank Cockrell (2019) – to fill the unexpired term of Greg Barnes  
Keith Phillips (2020)

### **Representative to Church Finance Association (2 year term)**

Ray Williamson (2019)

### **Representative to the FWB Press (Was a 2-year term)**

### **Conference Historian (2 year term)**

Dr. Michael Pelt (2019)

### **Memorial Committee (3 year term)**

Barbara Wilson (2018)  
Roger Haithcock (2019)  
Keith Gardner (2020)

## **Report of the Church Growth Committee**

## **of the Central Conference**

“On November 9, 2001 the Central Conference formed the Church Growth Committee. As stated by the Conference the purpose of the Church Growth Committee is, “to promote and provide financial support for church growth and /or leadership development. Through the work of the committee, Central Conference churches will be more fully equipped to effectively reach people without Christ in their communities.”

The following guidelines were established for distributing funds:

6. The church Growth Committee will submit an annual budget to the Central Conference for approval.
7. The maximum amount of allocated funds will not exceed \$500 per quarter per church.
8. Funds must be used for church growth and/or leadership development.
9. The Church Growth Committee will strive to equally fund (contingent upon church requests) growth projects and leadership development programs.
10. Approvals for funds by the Church Growth Committee will be submitted to the Central Conference Treasurer for actual disbursement.

We invite your church to submit applications to this committee to request funds to help your church with growth projects and/or leadership development programs. When we receive an application, we will review and do all that we can to get funds to you for this program. We encourage every church to use this resource that has been made available by the Central Conference.

The following dates are deadlines for applications to be submitted. The dates are based on the four quarters of the church year. please submit your application within plenty of time of the event or project.

February 1, 2018   April 1, 2018   July 1, 2018   October 1, 2018

This past year 2016 – 2017 your Church Growth Committee received requests from two churches and approved them both. Reedy Branch Church was given \$500 to assist with the expenses of new stage lighting for their youth dramatic presentations.

Rose of Sharon Church was given \$500 to send their youth director to a youth leaders' conference in Tennessee to gain new ideas for the growth of their group.

The Church Growth Committee also met on February 24, 2017 at the Reedy Branch Church to discuss ways we as a Committee may be of greater service to the churches and leadership teams of the Central Conference.

It was noted that our annual budget is \$1,000. This amount may need to be expanded in the near future.

Ideas were discussed in sort of a brainstorming manner for impacting our Central Conference Churches for church growth and evangelism.

The following questions were discussed:

- How could we promote outreach ministries in our local churches? leadership development?
- How could we help pastors and church leadership to recover a sense of passion and begin to dream again?

The following ideas were mentioned:

- Send out a book to pastors/ churches to encourage and facilitate church growth and evangelism
- Send out a digital copy of such resources to save money
- Sponsor and plan a seminar on church growth and or evangelism
- Compile a database of email addresses of pastors and churches in the Central Conference
- Use this database to occasionally let churches know that we exist and are waiting and willing to serve their needs
- Call for a Day of Prayer for Church Growth
- Ask the pastors and churches for their ideas of how we could assist them
- Make a link to lots of videos on Church growth and evangelism and make this available to churches and pastors
- Make an app with daily inspirational comments that would be available to our churches and pastors

It was decided that Reverend Bill Groce would serve as chairman of this committee. We look forward to serving you in the year to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reverend Bill Groce, Chairman

Committee Members: The Reverends Kevin Jackson, Carlton Oakley, Todd Sutton

<b>ORDAINED MINISTERS</b>	<b>Ordained</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Michael Pelt	9/30/1950	Retired P	Retired P	A	Retired P
Charles Branch	1/5/1969	Retired P	Retired L	Retired	Retired
Bruce Jones	9/5/1971	P	P	P	P
Gary Bailey	7/12/1972	P	A	P	P
Bobby Taylor	11/2/1973	L	L	L	P
Leon Grubbs	9/5/1968	P		P	P
Ronnie Hobgood	8/13/1978	P	P	E	P
Melvin Moore	12/31/1959	Retired L	Retired	Retired	Retired
Harry Grubbs	2/24/1967	P	A	P	P
Frank Flowers	6/2/1972	Retired E	Retired	R	Deceased
Clifford Ball	8/20/1981	P	P	L	Retired
Ray Williamson	5/11/1977	P	P	A	P
Mark Hobbs	11/20/1980	P	P	P	P
Ronald Braxton	2/3/1983	P	P	P	P
Donald Ribeiro	10/27/1983	P		P	
Stanley Buck	9/17/1976	P	P	P	P
Philip Wood	5/12/1979	P	P	P	P
Thomas Bowen	11/25/1990	P	P	P	P
Larry Letchworth	8/23/1992	P	P	P	P
Carroll Bradbury	8/23/1992	P	P	P	P
Jack Weathersby	2/27/1994	P	P	P	P
Joey Williams	1/15/1995	P	P	P	P
Frankie Baggett	10/22/1987	P	P	P	P
Grady Tucker	12/6/1978	Retired P	Retired	Retired	Retired P
Edward Thornton	3/10/1981	A	P	A	
Tony Glass	3/28/1999	P	P	P	P
Frank Cockrell	11/7/1999	L	P	P	P
Johnny Sullivan	5/21/2000	P	P	P	P
Kevin Jackson	12/26/1982	P	P	P	P
Barry Williamson	9/17/2000	P	P	P	P
Todd Sutton	2/11/1996	P	A	P	P
John Simpson	4/29/2001	Retired E	Retired	Retired	Retired
Doug Owens	5/6/2001	P	P	P	P
Roger Haithcock	8/26/2001	p	L	P	P
Philip Boykin	12/7/1980	E	P	P	P
Jacky Raper	6/8/1988	P	P	P	p
James Owens	11/10/1981	P	P	P	P
Charles Russell	11/21/2004	P	P	P	P
Kelley Smart	2/27/2005	E	P	P	P

Michael Rowell	5/15/2005	p	P	P	p
Charles Sutton	8/14/2005	P	P	P	P
Doug Tyson	10/16/2005	P	P	P	
Alvin Keener	1988	A		P	P
Arnold Price	69	P	P	Retired	Retired
Bryant Hines	6/7/1979	P	P	P	Deceased
Ronnie Mohn	Mar-80	P	P	A	P
Doug Skinner	7/2/1972	P	P	L	P
Glenn Batten	10/25/2008	P	P	P	P
Dustin Bannister	9/26/2010	P	P	A	P
Keith Phillips	9/17/2010	P	P	P	Excused
Tom Malin	5/15/2011	P	P	P	P
Carlton Oakley	12/5/2010	E	P	P	P
John Hill	6/4/2004	P	P	P	P
Bill Groce	9/16/2012	P	P	P	P
Spencer Owens	9/23/2012	A	P	P	P
Joshua Hobgood	1/13/2013	P	P	P	P
Jim Skipper	7/28/2013	P	P	P	Transferred
Greg Barnes	8/11/2013	P	P	P	P
Keith Gardner	7/13/2014		P	A	P
Matthew Forrest	2/22/2015	P	P	A	
Michael Woolard	11/8/2015	P		E	
David Hines	6/7/1979			P	P
Josh Whitfield	12/13/2008			P	P
Byrl Simmons					P
<b>LICENSED and Provisional MINISTERS</b>	<b>Licensed</b>	2014	2015	2016	2017
Michael Arthur	1/18/2011		P	P	Dropped
Michael Blake Bryan	7/9/2012	P	P	A	Dropped
Robbie Rouse	7/8/2013	P	P	P	P
Van Mitchell- /provisional	7/14/2015		A	P	Dropped
Chuck Branch	11/15/2015		A	A	P
Scott Wright					P

## Central Conference Financial Report Summary 2016-2017

*Balance from October 31, 2016*

**\$9,240.71**

**Receipts**

2016 Conference Offering	\$552.00
2016-17 Church Contributions since Conference	\$1,420.00
2016-17 Ministers Dues	\$2,778.00
2017-18 Ministers Dues	\$900.00
2017-18 Church Contributions Before Conference	\$4,036.00
2018-19 Ministers Dues	\$60.00
Transferred from Maury Endowment	\$151.13
Transferred from Endowment Fund	\$1,209.03

Total

\$11,106.16

Total to account for in Checking Account

**\$20,346.87**

**Disbursements**

PNC (Bank Charges)	\$0.00
Conference Clerk	\$100.00
Conference Treasurer	\$100.00
Executive Committee Expenses (Travel)	\$633.06
Convention of FWB (Year Book)	\$570.00
Office Supplies (FWB Press)	\$877.33
Continuing Education Expenses (Josh Whitfield)	\$500.00
Church Growth Expenses	
Reedy Branch, Rose of Sharon)	\$1,000.00
OFWB Convention Support	\$750.00
North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries	
Central Conference Endowment	\$500.00
Shepherd's Fund	\$1,000.00
OFWB International	\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous	
CareNet	\$1,445.00
Dr. Mac Wallace--Speaker	\$500.00
CareNet--MFHA Course	\$1,303.00

Total Disbursements

\$11,278.39

*Total in Checking account as of October 31, 2017*

**\$9,068.48**

***Central Conference Endowment Fund (APYE 1.75%--1/1/17)***

**\$60,000.00**

(See minutes from Central Conference 11-09-01, Mission Board & Executive Committee Proposal)

Interest 03-31-17	\$300.00	\$262.50
Interest 06-30-17	\$301.50	\$263.65
Interest 09-30-17	\$303.01	\$264.80
Interest 12-31-16	\$304.52	

Total

*Xfer to Checking Account*

\$1,209.03

\$60,790.95

**Total**

**\$60,790.95**

***Maury Endowment Fund (For Annual Training Conference)***

***(APYE 1.75%--1/1/17)***

**\$7,500.00**

(Please see Minutes of Executive Committee September 22, 1988)

	<b>1.75%</b>	Interest 03-31-17	\$37.50	\$32.81
<b>1/1/2017</b>		Interest 06-30-17	\$37.69	\$32.96
		Interest 09-30-17	\$37.88	\$33.10
		Interest 12-31-16	\$38.07	
Total		Xfer to Checking Account	\$151.13	<b>\$7,598.87</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$7,598.87</b>
<b>Savings Account with Church Finance</b>	<b>(APYE 0.75%--1/1/17)</b>			<b>\$57,660.64</b>
		Interest 03-31-17	\$142.72	\$108.11
		Interest 06-30-17	\$143.08	\$108.32
		Interest 09-30-17	\$143.43	\$108.52
		Interest 12-31-16	\$143.79	
Total			\$573.02	<b>\$57,985.59</b>
NC Foundation Endowment for Central Conference Scholarships				<b>\$13,050.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OF ALL MONEY</b>				<b>\$148,493.89</b>

## Central Conference Church Contributions 2017-2018

LaGrange, First	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$140.00	
Little Creek	\$140.00 110/30	\$121.00	\$162.00	\$100.00	\$84.00	
Marlboro	\$328.00	\$293.00	\$288.00	\$280.00	\$220.00	\$275.00
Ormondsville		\$290.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Otter's Creek	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Owens Chapel	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$60.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Peace	\$130.00 100/30	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	
Piney Grove (Beau. Co.)	\$58.00 28/30	\$28.00	\$53.00	\$23.00	\$53.00	\$30.00
Piney Grove (Pitt Co.)	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$25.00		
Pleasant Hill		\$105.00	\$100.00	\$105.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Reedy Branch	\$150.00 120/30	\$370.00	\$230.00	\$200.00	\$170.00	\$150.00
Rocky Mount, First	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$80.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Rose Hill	\$500.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$370.00
Rose of Sharon	\$250.00 220/30	\$220.00	\$250.00	\$245.00	\$220.00	
Saints Delight	\$30.00	\$45.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	
Saratoga	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.0
Spring Branch	\$180.00 150/30	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Tarboro, First	\$80.00/30	\$50.00	\$110.00	\$80.00	\$80.00	
Walnut Creek	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Watery Branch	\$105.00 65/30/10	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	
Williamston, First	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Winterville	\$245.00 185/60	\$170.00	\$170.00	\$185.00	\$185.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,795.00</b>	<b>\$6,741.00</b>	<b>\$6,822.00</b>	<b>\$6,066.00</b>	<b>\$6,175.00</b>	<b>\$4,036.00</b>



**Constitution and Bylaws**  
**For**  
**The Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**  
**of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists**

**Preamble**

We, the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination of North Carolina, desiring to be in fellowship in a bond of union, do ordain this constitution revised at annual session: November 7, 1979, November 4, 1981, November 10, 1982, November 8, 1984, November 9, 2000, November 8, 2001, November 4, 2004, November 4, 2010, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Article One: Name of the Organization**

The name of the organization shall be The Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists (referred hereafter in this document as “the Organization” or “the Conference.”)

**Article Two: Purpose**

The Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists shall be a cooperative effort among member churches to advance the Kingdom of God by providing a disciplinary framework for ministers and churches, as well as supportive programs and mutual ministries.

**Article Three: Members**

3.1 – Class of Membership

- a) Ordained Minister: An Ordained Minister shall be an individual whose personal membership is in an Original Free Will Baptist congregation, who has met all of the criteria listed in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*, and the criteria listed in this document in Article 3.2(a). Ordained Ministers, who are in good standing, are those ministers who ascribe to *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*, attend the annual session of the Conference (or provide a letter of excusal), pay annual dues, and support the ministries of the Original Free Will Baptist Convention.
- b) Licensed Minister: A Licensed Minister shall be an individual whose personal membership is in an Original Free Will Baptist congregation, who has met all of the criteria listed in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*, as well as the criteria listed in this document in Article 3.2(b) and other criteria set by the Board of Ordination that is adopted by the Central Conference.
- c) Retired Ordained Minister: A Retired Ordained Minister shall be an individual whose personal membership is in an Original Free Will Baptist congregation and who has notified the Conference Clerk of their retirement from parish ministry. The Retired Ordained Minister may continue to preach, provide short-term interim services, or other pastoral duties on a *limited basis* as personally desired. The Retired Ordained Minister is absolved of the requirements for conference attendance and dues as listed in Article 3.2(c).
- d) Congregation Delegate: A Congregation Delegate is a member of an Original Free Will Baptist congregation who is in good standing with the Conference. The Delegate shall be entitled to attend all Conference meetings, hold Conference office(s), sponsor motions or resolutions, and vote on actions of the Central Conference as a representative of the congregation to which they belong as a member. A congregation shall have one delegate for each one hundred members, or part thereof. (Example: A congregation with a membership of 201 are allowed three delegates.) Eligibility to serve as a Congregation Delegate is found in 3.2(d).
- e) Member Congregation: A Member Congregation is a gathered body of Christian believers who meet for worship and service within the membership of the Conference. Member Congregations, who are in good standing, are those congregations who ascribe to *The Articles of Faith and*

*Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*, attend the annual session of the Conference, and contribute financially to the work and ministry of the Central Conference and the Ministries of the Original Free Will Baptist Convention. The criteria to become a Member Congregation is found in 3.2(e).

### 3.2 – Eligibility for Membership

- b) Ordained Minister: An Ordained Minister shall...
  - i. possess evidence of a divine call to Christian Ministry.
  - ii. hold membership in an Original Free Will Baptist congregation.
  - iii. maintain a good moral standard in keeping with the calling of the office of a minister.
  - iv. maintain a solid Biblical theology observant of the doctrine of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination, as indicated in the latest revision of *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.
  - v. properly register with the credentials committee before or at the annual session of the Conference.
  - vi. be required to attend the annual session of the Conference each year. Requests for excusal shall be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Conference before the Conference, or within thirty days after the Conference for those with unanticipated causes for absence. Ministers who fail to attend the annual Conference physically for three consecutive years shall be subject to lose their credentials.
  - vii. have all of the rights and privileges of the Conference; which include, but not limited to, making motions, drafting resolutions, voting, and holding office(s).
- b) Licensed Minister: A Licensed Minister shall...
  - i. possess evidence of a divine call to Christian Ministry.
  - ii. hold membership in an Original Free Will Baptist congregation.
  - iii. maintain a good moral standard in keeping with the calling of the office of a minister.
  - iv. maintain a solid Biblical theology observant of the doctrine of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination, as indicated in the latest revision of *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.
  - v. be required to attend the annual session of the Conference. Requests for excusal shall be submitted in writing to the Conference clerk before the Conference, or within thirty days after the Conference for those with unanticipated causes for absence. Licensed Ministers who fail to attend the annual Conference for three consecutive years without an excusal shall be referred to the Board of Ordination.
  - vi. properly register with the credentials committee before or at the annual session of the Conference.
  - vii. have all of the rights and privileges of the Conference, save that of voting; unless the Licensed Minister is a Congregation Delegate representing the congregation of which that one is a member.
  - viii. complete the requirements outlined in Article 3.4(a).
  - ix. be endorsed by their church, under the supervision of the Board of Ordination, and within the limits of their licensure time period as defined in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.
- c) Retired Ordained Minister: A Retired Ordained Minister shall...
  - i. give written notice of retirement to the clerk of the Conference.
  - ii. not serve a congregation or ministry as full or part time staff.
  - iii. hold revivals, short-term interims, and pulpit supply on a limited basis.
  - iv. not be required to attend or contribute dues to the Conference; however, should they choose to attend, they must properly register with the credentials committee before, or at the annual session of the Conference.

- v. have all of the rights and privileges of the Conference; which include, but not limited to, making motions, drafting resolutions, voting, and holding office(s).
- d) Congregation Delegate: A Congregation Delegate...
- i. shall serve at the will and endorsement of the congregation of which they are a member.
  - ii. shall vote in accordance with the general feelings of the majority of their congregation.
  - iii. shall properly register with the credentials committee before or at the annual session of the Conference.
  - iv. shall have all of the rights and privileges of the Conference; which include, but not limited to, making motions, drafting resolutions, voting, and holding office(s).
  - v. may be an ordained minister from another Conference, if the minister's personal membership is in the representative congregation, and the minister registers as a delegate with the expressed approval of the congregation.
- e) Member Congregation: The Member Congregation shall...
- i. send an annual church report indicating statistical and financial data demonstrating the congregation's health and benevolent work in their community, as well as to the denomination's ministries.
  - ii. contribute financially to the work of the Conference as specified in Article 3.3(c).

### 3.3 – Dues/Fees

- a) Due for Ordaining:
- i. Dues for Ordained Ministers are set by the Executive Committee and shall be communicated to the membership at least 60-days before the annual Conference.
  - ii. Dues for an Ordained Minister is waived only during the first year of Conference membership, or when the Ordained Minister properly registers as a Retired Ordained Minister.
- b) Dues for Licensed Ministers:
- The Conference waives all dues for Licensed Ministers.
- c) Dues for Member Congregations:
- The Executive Committee shall set a suggested contribution for Member Congregations payable to the Central Conference at (or before) the session of the annual Conference.

### 3.4 – Requirements to Become Members

- a) Becoming a Licensed Minister:
- i. The process for a member of an Original Free Will Baptist Church to become a Licensed Minister of the Central Conference is well-outlined in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* under the Rules of Church Government, Section Two, subsection titled, "Examination and Qualifications for License."
  - ii. The congregation in a business session must recommend the candidate to the Central Conference's Board of Ordination for examination for license with a letter signed by the clerk and pastor.
  - iii. The Board of Ordination shall give all applicants an examination of matters of faith, doctrine, polity, and work of the ministry. They shall also investigate matters of reputation, ability, educational, and professional qualifications.
  - iv. Having successfully passed the examination and investigation, the candidate is recommended back to the congregation, who shall issue the candidate a license for one year.
  - v. The license of the applicant must be renewed annually and not be allowed to lapse during the time before ordination.

b) Becoming an Ordained Minister:

- i. The process for a Licensed Minister of an Original Free Will Baptist Church to become an Ordained Minister of the Central Conference is well-outlined in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* under the Rules of Church Government, Section Two, subsection titled, "Examination and Qualifications for Ordination."
- ii. The candidate must have been licensed for one year and not more than five years.
- iii. The local congregation of which the Licensed Minister is a member shall request that the Board of Ordination give the Licensed Minister the examination for ordination. The request must be signed by the clerk and pastor of the candidate's church.
- iv. The candidate must have successfully completed the examination administered by the Board of Ordination. The inquiry into the candidate's educational achievements shall include knowledge of theology, homiletics, church history, the Bible, and church government with special emphasis on polity, doctrine, and history of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination.
- v. The candidate must also ascribe to the Ministerial Code of Ethics as adopted by the Central Conference.
- vi. Upon satisfactory completion of the examination and all other requirements of the Conference, the council administers the rite of ordination as outlined in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.

c) Becoming a Member Congregation:

- i. The process for a congregation to become a member of the Central Conference is well-outlined in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* under the Rules of Church Government, Section One, subsection titled, "Organizing and Establishment of a New Church from a Mission."
- ii. The congregation/mission shall make application to the Central Conference Executive Committee.
- iii. The Conference Executive Committee shall conduct an investigation of the congregation to assess at least, but not limited to; (1) a sufficient number of responsible believers, (2) doctrine, practice, polity, and purpose, (3) location, (4) potential for financial income, (5) potential for future growth and development.
- iv. When all requirements found in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* and the Central Conference Executive Committee have been satisfied, the Conference moderator shall extend the hand of fellowship and the congregation will be listed among the churches in good standing.

3.5 – Disciplinary Procedures

a) Disciplinary Procedures for a Licensed Minister

- i. If a Licensed Minister walks disorderly or is perceived to have done so, a charge may be brought against the minister by submitting the charge in writing to the Board of Ordination, signed by the accuser(s), along with evidence to support the charge.
- ii. The charges must be examined by the Board of Ordination to determine if they are legitimate in reference to matters of doctrine, polity, ethics, or morality.
- iii. The minister is entitled to face the author(s) of the charges and to present a proper defense. The Board of Ordination conducting the trial has an obligation to the minister to render a verdict of guilty, or to dismiss the charge(s) to clear the minister's name.
- iv. If the minister's name is cleared, no public record is made except at the request of the accused minister.
- v. If the minister is found guilty, the standing of the minister may be made known to the appropriate congregation(s) and to the Central Conference.
- vi. The minutes of the trial should be recorded only in the minutes of the Board of Ordination, or Executive Committee when they are involved in the trial.

- vii. The results of the trial shall be reported at the annual session of the Central Conference.
  - viii. There shall be no secret meetings/trials or “off the record” meetings in reference to a charge or accusation.
  - ix. There shall be no secret disciplinary actions taken or enacted that are not reported to the annual session of the Conference in the Board of Ordination’s report.
  - x. An appeal process is described, along with the trial process, in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* at Rules of Church Government, Section Two: the Ministry, Relationship to the Conference, 4(e).
- b) Disciplinary Procedures for an Ordained or Retired Minister
- i. If an Ordained or Retired Minister walks disorderly or is perceived to have done so, a charge may be brought against the minister by submitting the charge in writing to the Board of Ordination, signed by the accuser(s), along with evidence to support the charge.
  - ii. The charges must be examined by the Board of Ordination to determine if they are legitimate in reference to matters of doctrine, polity, ethics, or morality.
  - iii. If the charges reflect factionalism in the congregation, the matter will be referred to the Executive Committee of the Central Conference and the Board of Ordination.
  - iv. The minister is entitled to face the author(s) of the charges and to present a proper defense. The Board of Ordination conducting the trial has an obligation to the minister to render a verdict of guilty, or to dismiss the charge(s) to clear the minister’s name.
  - v. If the minister’s name is cleared, no public record is made except at the request of the accused minister.
  - vi. If the minister is found guilty, the standing of the minister may be made known to the respective congregation(s) and the Central Conference.
  - vii. The minutes of the trial should be recorded only in the minutes of the Board of Ordination, or executive committee when they are involved in the trial.
  - viii. The results of the trial shall be reported at the annual session of the Central Conference.
  - ix. There shall be no secret meetings/trials or “off the record” meetings in reference to a charge or accusation.
  - x. There shall be no secret disciplinary actions taken or enacted that are not reported to the annual session of the Conference in the Board of Ordination’s report.
  - xi. An appeal process is described, along with the trial process, in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* at Rules of Church Government, Section Two: the Ministry, Relationship to the Conference, 4(e).
- c) Disciplinary Procedures for a Member Elected to a Board or Committee
- i. If an officer or board member walks disorderly or is perceived to have done so, a charge may be brought against the officer or board member by submitting the charge in writing to the Board of Ordination and/or the Executive Committee, signed by the accuser(s), along with evidence to support the charge.
  - ii. The charges must be examined by the Board of Ordination to determine if they are legitimate in reference to matters of doctrine, polity, ethics, or morality.
  - iii. The officer or board member is entitled to face the author(s) of the charges and to present a proper defense. The Board of Ordination conducting the trial has an obligation to the minister to render a verdict of guilty, or to dismiss the charge(s) to clear the individual’s name.
  - iv. If the individual’s name is cleared, no public record is made except at the request of the accused person.
  - v. If the individual is found guilty, the standing of the individual may be made known to the congregation and to the Central Conference.
  - vi. The minutes of the trial should be recorded only in the minutes of the Board of Ordination, or Executive Committee when they are involved in the trial.
  - vii. The results of the trial shall be reported at the annual session of the Central Conference.
  - viii. There shall be no secret meetings/trials or “off the record” meetings in reference to a charge or accusation.

- ix. There shall be no secret disciplinary actions taken or enacted that are not reported to the annual session of the Conference in the ordination council's report.
- x. An appeal process is described, along with the trial process, in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* at Rules of Church Government, Section Two: The Ministry, Relationship to the Conference, 4(e).

### 3.6 – Resignation or Transfer of Membership

#### a) Resignation of Licensure by a Licensed Minister

- i. If a Licensed Minister wishes to surrender the license issued by the congregation, the minister should first consider the matter with fervent prayer.
- ii. The minister should meet with the pastor of the sponsoring congregation and surrender whatever certificate or document issued by the congregation.
- iii. The minister, along with the congregation's pastor, should inform the Central Conference Board of Ordination of this decision.
- iv. The Central Conference Board of Ordination shall include this decision in their report at the annual session of the Conference

#### b) Resignation of Credentials by an Ordained or Retired Minister:

- i. If an Ordained or Retired Ordained Minister wishes to surrender the ordination credentials issued by the Conference, the minister should first consider the matter with fervent prayer.
- ii. The minister should meet with the Central Conference Board of Ordination to discuss the decision to surrender credentials.
- iii. If no resolution or reconsideration is met, the minister will deliver the credential certificate with a written letter of intent.
- iv. The Central Conference Board of Ordination shall include this decision in their report at the annual session of the Conference.

#### c) Transfer of a Member Congregation to another Original Free Will Baptist Conference

- i. For congregations wishing to transfer Conference membership to another Original Free Will Baptist Conference, the congregation shall in a duly scheduled and announced business meeting, vote to transfer membership to a specific Conference within the Original Free Will Baptist denomination.
- ii. The intent to transfer shall be communicated in writing to the Executive Committee of the Central Conference, signed by the officers of the congregation.
- iii. The transferring congregation shall also make petition to the potential receiving Conference's Executive Committee according to their adopted process.
- iv. The Executive Committee of the Central Conference shall meet with the potential receiving Conference's Executive Committee to discuss the matter with the officers of the congregation.
- v. When, in the judgment of both Executive Committees, the congregation has sufficiently demonstrated its desire to transfer to another Conference, the congregation is granted transfer and removed from the list of member churches of the Central Conference.
- vi. In cases where the congregation's property is also deeded to the Central Conference, the Conference shall transfer all rights to the property over to the independent congregation as soon as feasible.
- vii. In cases where a congregation wishes to unite with the Central Conference, the congregation must fulfill the requirements for transfer set by their original Conference.

#### d) Transfer of Credentials of an Ordained or Retired Ordained Minister

- i. The process for transfer of credentials to another Conference is outlined in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* in Section Two: the Ministry, under Relationship to the Conference, item two.
- ii. The minister remains a member of the Central Conference until the transfer process is complete.

- e) Transfer of License of a Licensed Minister
  - i. A Licensed Minister may not transfer to another Conference and maintain licensure.
  - ii. If a Licensed Minister wishes to transfer to another Conference, the candidate must surrender the license and transfer personal membership to a church within the other Conference and start the process over again with the new Conference.
  - iii. If a Licensed Minister wishes to move their membership to another church during the licensure process, the original license issues by the candidate's home congregation will be voided, and the candidate shall start the process over again with the receiving congregation after one year of membership.

#### **Article Four: Organization Officers**

##### **4.1 –Name of Offices**

The Conference shall elect officers from among its members to fill the offices of Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. These officers shall serve as an Executive Board, whose duties are outlined in *Article Six: Executive Committee*.

##### **4.2 –Nomination and Election of Officers**

- i. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the moderator of the Conference for nominating to the Conference any properly credentialed Conference member to serve in the capacity in which he or she could be elected.
- ii. The nominating committee shall compose a list of offices eligible to be filled and seek possible candidates or recommendations to fill those availabilities. The list shall contain only one name per position. The list of nominations shall be placed before the Conference in one of the business sessions.

##### **4.3 –Eligibility to Serve as an Officer**

Any member, minister, or retired minister, who is a member of an Original Free Will Baptist Church within the membership of the Central Conference is eligible to serve in any capacity on the Executive Committee as an Officer.

##### **4.4 –Term of Service**

- a) All officers shall be elected from the membership of the Conference to fill terms of two years.
- b) Each office has a term limit of 4 years (2 two-year terms) except that of the Treasurer, who is granted a maximum of 10 years (5 two-year terms) before becoming ineligible to serve on the Executive Committee.
- c) An ineligible member may be eligible to serve again after one year off the board.

##### **4.5 –Removal of an Officer from Position**

- a) Should an officer need to be removed due to some ethical or moral indiscretion before the Conference, the executive committee (after sufficient investigation with the Board of Ordination) shall recommend to the annual session of the Conference for the officer's removal and proceed to elect a replacement.
- b) Should an officer need to be removed due to some ethical or moral indiscretion in the interim between annual sessions of the Conference, the executive committee (after sufficient investigation with the Board of Ordination) shall place the officer on suspension for the remainder of the interim period, recommend to the annual session of the Conference for the officer's removal, and proceed to elect a replacement.
- c) The Executive Committee may choose, if needed, to appoint an individual to temporarily fill the vacancy during the interim period.
- d) The accused officer maintains the right to a fair trial, appeal process, and if desired, the right to resign his or her office.
- e) An appeal process shall follow the outlined procedure found at 3.5(c) *Disciplinary Procedures for a Member Elected to a Board or Committee*.

#### 4.6 –Vacancies

- a) Vacancies that occur at the annual session of the Conference (or at the decision of the Executive Committee) shall be filled at the Conference following the nominating process outlined in *Article 4.2 Nominating and Election of Officers* and according to the adopted parliamentary authority.
- b) Vacancies that occur in the interim period between annual sessions of the Conference shall be filled by candidates appointed by the executive committee. These appointments shall be reported to the Conference in the executive committee's report.

### Article Five: Meetings

#### 5.1 - Day

The Central Conference shall meet in November at a date, time, and place set by the Executive Committee. The date, time, and place shall be communicated to the Conference membership, and to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, not less than 120-days before the annual session of the Conference.

#### 5.2 - Quorum

The annual session will be recognized as having a quorum when there is a majority of the members present for a meeting (ordained ministers and/or churches), as determined by the Executive Committee and records of the clerk, providing all the members of the Conference have been duly notified concerning the said meeting.

#### 5.3 - Special Meetings

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to transact the business of the Conference when the Conference is not in session. In the event a called special meeting is necessary for the entire Conference, the Executive Committee will set a date for said meeting with at least a four-week notice to member churches, licensed, ordained, and retired ordained ministers. The only business to be transacted at said meeting will be the specific business for which it is called.

#### 5.4 - Cancellation of a Regularly Scheduled Meeting

The Executive Committee will have the duty of cancellation of a regularly scheduled meeting with just cause. Notification will be at the earliest date known for the decision of cancellation and will be carried out by the Conference clerk, in writing, or by other expeditious communication, i.e., email, text message, phone call, etc.

### Article Six: Executive Committee

#### 6.1 –Board Composition

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected officers of the organization—the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

#### 6.2 –Meetings

The Executive Committee shall meet as often as necessary to conduct the business of the Conference between annual sessions; but not less than once per quarter.

#### 6.3 –Duties of the Officers of the Board

- a) Moderator: The Moderator shall...
  - i. preside, according to parliamentary law, over the annual session of the Central Conference;
  - ii. appoint temporary committees, delegates, and representatives;
  - iii. serve as ex officio member of all standing boards and committees;
  - iv. perform the duties of the office of moderator as described in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.
- b) Assistant Moderator: The Assistant Moderator shall...
  - i. perform the duties of the Moderator when that officer is not present and shall assist the moderator when called upon.
  - ii. in the event of resignation or death of the Moderator, the Assistant Moderator shall fill the vacancy until the next annual session of the Conference.
  - iii.



- c) Clerk: The Clerk shall...
  - i. record and preserve a permanent record of the proceedings of all sessions of the Central Conference.
  - ii. prepare and cause to be published the minutes of the annual sessions of the Conference
  - iii. hold trust of all documents not otherwise preserved and surrender documents at the direction of the Conference or at the end of the term of office.
  - iv. conduct all official correspondence and sign documents requiring Conference authorization.
- d) Assistant Clerk: The Assistant Clerk shall...
  - i. perform the duties of the clerk when that officer is not present and shall assist the Clerk when called upon to do so.
  - ii. in the event of resignation or death of the Clerk, the Assistant Clerk shall fill the vacancy until the next annual session of the Conference.
- e) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall...
  - i. hold in trust all money that belongs to the Conference, except that held by other boards and committees of the Conference and surrender all financials at the direction of the Conference or at the end of the term of office.
  - ii. keep an accurate account of all funds received and distributed and shall produce an annual treasurer's report to the membership of the annual Conference.
- f) Assistant Treasurer: The Assistant Treasurer shall...
  - i. perform the duties of the Treasurer when that officer is not present and shall assist the Treasurer when called upon to do so.
  - ii. in the event of resignation or death of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer shall fill the vacancy until the next annual session of the Conference.

6.4 – Duties of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall...

- a) act with the same authority as the Central Conference seated session during intervals between sessions on matters concerning ministers, churches, and other business as defined in as described in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.
- b) not have the authority to convey property, or to change what the Conference has enacted during an annual session of the Conference.
- c) plan and conduct the annual session of the Central Conference at a time and place according to *Article 5.1 Day*.
- d) serve on behalf of the Central Conference as the trial committee in cases of church disputes as described in *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.
- e) approve the minutes of the Conference meeting before publication.

## Article Seven –Committees and Representatives

### 7.1 – Board of Ordination

- a) The Board of Ordination, consisting of five ordained ministers of the Central Conference, shall be elected by the Conference. The term of office shall be for members to serve five-year rotational term and adjusted so one member rotating off each year.
- b) A member of the Board of Ordination is eligible to serve two consecutive full-term rotations (ten years) before being ineligible for a third consecutive full-term rotation.
- c) An ineligible member may be eligible to serve again after one year off the board.
- d) The board of ordination shall meet at least once per quarter at a time and place determined by the chairperson.
- e) It shall be the duty of the Board of Ordination...
  - i. to examine and recommend individuals sent by the member congregation for licensure by the member congregation.
  - ii. to examine, ordain, and discipline ministers in keeping with the provisions of *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* and

- iii. to examine ordained ministers seeking membership in this Conference and to make recommendations in keeping with their findings.

#### 7.2 – Church Growth Committee

- a) A committee of five shall be elected to serve as a Church Growth Committee with three members being elected to serve a three-year rotational term with one member rotating off each year, one elected annually from the membership of the Executive Committee, and one member elected annually from the membership of the Continuing Education Committee.
- b) It shall be the duty of the Church Growth Committee to promote and support local church growth through outreach ministry and leadership development, so the Central Conference will be more fully equipped for effective ministry.
- c) The committee shall establish and coordinate a process whereby local congregation of the Central Conference may apply for funds to subsidize the cost of special church growth projects or leadership development programs.

#### 7.3 – Clergy Care Committee

- a) A Clergy Care Committee shall be composed of three members. Each member will follow a three-year rotational term with one member rotating off each year.
- b) It shall be the duty of the Clergy Care Committee to provide and maintain a relationship with qualified and credentialed clinicians to provide counseling, coaching, and other supportive services for Ordained, Retired Ordained, and Licensed Ministers of the Central Conference and their immediate families.
- c) The Clergy Care Committee shall advise and foster relationships with other qualified mental health providers who will agree with the committee's effort and philosophy of mental health care.
- d) The committee shall establish a secure system for, when possible, anonymous service to clergy and families.
- e) The committee shall report at the annual Conference but hold in absolute confidence the personal information of clients. The report should include an up to date service utilization report and recommendations for funding.

#### 7.4 – Continuing Education Committee

- a) A Continuing Education Committee shall have five elected members, with three members elected to serve three-year rotational terms, one rotating off each year; one member elected annually from the Board of Ordination membership, and one member elected annually from the membership of the Executive Committee.
- b) It will be the duty of the Continuing Education Committee to set guidelines concerning what educational resources will be recognized as qualified disciplines for our ministers to receive credit(s) as continuing education and set the number of units that can be credited for such work.
- c) The committee is to plan and promote seminars and training opportunities that will be recognized as qualified disciplines for our ministers to receive credits as continuing education.
- d) This committee is to review annually such applications as may be submitted by our ministers for continuing education units of credit and report them to the Conference in session.

#### 7.5 Credentials Committee

- a) The Credentials Committee shall be composed of three members, shall be elected from the membership; the term of office shall be a three-year rotational term, but shall be adjusted to rotate one member off annually.
- b) The duties of the Credentials Committee shall be to check each church report for verification of delegates and to make recommendations to the Conference regarding their seat during the Conference.
- c) The committee shall also check registration cards of enrolling ministers and to make recommendations to the Conference regarding their seat during the Conference.

#### 7.6 – Free Will Baptist Press and Church Finance Association Representative(s)

- a) A representative shall be elected to represent the Conference's membership in the Free Will Baptist Press; the term of the office shall be two years.

- b) A representative shall be elected to represent the Conference's membership in the Church Finance Association, the term of the office shall be two years.
- c) Representatives are expected to attend the meetings of these ministries to represent the Central Conference's share of those ministries.

#### 7.7 – Historian

- a) A historian shall be elected from the membership; the term of office shall be two years.
- b) It shall be the duty of the historian to collect and preserve any historical data concerning the Conference.

#### 7.8 – Memorial Committee

- a) A Memorial Committee of three members shall be elected from the membership; the term of office shall be three-year rotational term but shall be adjusted to rotate one member off annually.
- b) It shall be the duty of the memorial committee to prepare and present a memorial service for all Central Conference ministers, spouses, or other Conference servants who die during the year preceding the Conference.
- c) The committee shall prepare a brief biographical sketch for the Historical Collection at the University of Mount Olive.

#### 7.9 – Publicity Representative

- a) A Publicity Representative shall be elected from the membership; the term of office shall be two years.
- b) The duty of the Publicity Representative shall be to publicize activities and work of the Central Conference and Original Free Will Baptist Convention.
- c) The Publicity Representative shall utilize the Original Free Will Baptist Convention's website, emails, The Free Will Baptist Magazine, and any other means of public announcement.

#### 7.10 – Conference Trustees

- a) A Board of Trustees consisting of three members shall be elected from the membership. The term of office shall be three years but shall be adjusted to rotate one member off annually.
- b) It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to hold in trust title(s) to all tangible property belonging to the Conference.
- c) It shall have the power to convey such property as authorized only by the annual session of the Central Conference.

### **Article Eight: Parliamentary Authority**

The organization shall recognize the most recent edition of *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* and the newest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* as its parliamentary authority in meetings of the organization. Should a conflict arise between these two documents, the organization shall adhere to *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* as the higher authority.

### **Article Nine: Amendment of the Constitution or Bylaws**

The bylaws of the organization may be amended by the two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled annual meeting of the organization. The amendment shall be presented and tabled in the first business session and acted upon in the final business session of the annual Conference meeting.

### **Article Ten: Dissolution**

Upon dissolution of the organization, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the organization, dispose of all of the assets of the organization exclusively to the North Carolina Foundation of Christian Ministries. Any assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Superior Court of the county in which the official office is located.

**Article Eleven: Miscellaneous Bylaws**

11.1 All reports, resolutions, and recommendations shall be submitted in writing to the moderator and clerk at the appropriate time before or during the annual Conference.

11.2 In the judgment of the Moderator, should any member show anger on any subject, the individual shall forfeit his/her seat in that session of the meeting.

11.3 No member shall be excused from any session of the Conference without the authorization of the moderator. Members wishing to leave the Conference meeting before adjournment shall speak to the moderator to be excused.

11.4 The meeting of the Conference shall open and close with suitable devotional services and prayer as designed by the executive committee.

**EASTERN CONFERENCE  
OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY SECOND ANNUAL SESSION**

**Meeting was held at Camp Vandemere on October 19, 2017**

Morning Session	The Reverend John Mark Windley, Presiding
Registration 8:30 - 9:00	
Call to Order 9:00	The Reverend Ray Lewis, Conference Clerk
Orders of the Day	The Reverend John Mark Windley, Moderator
Congregational Singing	The Reverend David C. Hansley, Song Leader
 The Reverend Craig Simmons, Pianist	 “To God Be The Glory”
 Scripture & Prayer	 The Reverend Craig Hanson, <b>Romans 12:1-8</b>
 Welcome	 Camp Board Chair, Victor Jones
Response	The Reverend Mitchell Parker
Recognition of Visiting Ministers, Union Moderators, and Licensed Ministers	The Reverend John Mark Windley, Moderator
 Update on the current state of Camp Vandemere	 Victor Jones
 Appointment of Committees	 The Reverend John Mark Windley, Moderator
Moderator’s Address	The Reverend John Mark Windley, Moderator
 “Casting NETS”	 The Need for support for Camp Vandemere Testimony

**Reports**

Treasurers, Executive Committee, and Examining Board reports (in handout) will be brought forth in afternoon session.

Nominating Committee Report (printed handout)	The Reverend Craig Simmons
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Nominations to be received in afternoon session

Layman’s League Report	Bro. Roy Wetherington
Woman’s Auxiliary Report	Mrs. Judith Kennedy
General Report of Denominational Ministries	
	The Reverend Justin Barnett
(Biker Prison Ministry, Home Missions, University of Mount Olive, Christian Education, Retirement Homes, Children’s Home, Foreign Missions, Minister’s Program, Cragmont, FWB Press, Ministerial Association, Church Finance)	

Special Pastoral Award Presentation	The Reverend John Mark Windley, Moderator
The Reverend Adrian Grubbs, Awardee	

Break

**Morning Worship**

Service began at 11:20

Congregational Singing	The Reverend David C. Hansley, Song Leader
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The Reverend Craig Simmons, Pianist	“Because He Lives”
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Offertory	The Reverend David Smith
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Morning Message

The Reverend Craig Simmons  
**2 Kings 6:1-7; “Recovering the Axeheads”**

Closing Hymn

The Reverend David C. Hansley, Song Leader

The Reverend Craig Simmons, Pianist

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

### **Lunch**

Afternoon Session  
Congregational Singing

The Reverend John Mark Windley, Presiding  
The Reverend David C. Hansley, Song Leader

The Reverend Craig Simmons, Pianist

“Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

Scripture and Prayer

Licensed Minister Jeff Kearney; **Timothy 6:11-12**

Memorial Committee Report

The Reverend Michael Wheeler  
The Reverend Earl Sadler  
The Reverend Joe Ard

Credentials Committee Report

The Reverend Bob Smith

Report was received as information

Digest Committee Report

The Reverend Mike Williams

Report was received as information

Resolutions Committee Report

Pastor Ashley Trogdon

Treasurer Report

The Reverend Don Fader, Treasurer  
(Treasurer’s Report in Reports Handout)

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept treasurer’s report

Executive Committee Minutes

The Reverend Ray Lewis, Clerk  
(Executive Committee Minutes in Reports Handout)

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept minutes

Ministerial Examining Board Report

The Reverend Joe Crumpler  
(Examining Board Minutes in Reports Handout)

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept minutes

Nominations from Nominating Committee Report placed on floor.

Nominations from floor were opened. Nominees were Rev. Mike Scott (Examining Board); John Hawkins (Camp Vandemere Board); Rev. Mike Ledbetter (Examining Board).

Motion was made and seconded to accept the unopposed nominees from the Nominating Committee report and place in office. Motion passed.

Rev. Mike Scott (48 votes) elected to Examining Board.

Elected to Camp Vandemere Board: Frankie Lane, Giles Stroud, and John Hawkins.

### **Other Business**

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to receive a special offering to go toward debt retirement for Camp Vandemere. Offering was received.

Whereas the Eastern Conference owns and solely operates Camp Vandemere and is solely responsible for the financial welfare, operation and obligations of the camp, and whereas the Camp is experiencing difficulties be it so moved that the Eastern Conference immediately suspend any and all regularly scheduled charitable support not associated with

the maintenance and liabilities of the Camp. This includes but is not limited to the distribution of interest income from the Conference endowment funds and scheduled contributions to other organizations currently provided for by the Conference. This motion would in no way prohibit requests made and approved annually by the Conference in session. Motion was seconded and passed.

Motion was made and seconded that the Conference approve the annual expenditure of \$500 to honor a recipient by placing their name on the Convention Wall of Honor.

Motion was made and seconded to remove the name of the Eastern Conference from the deed of Silver Creek OFWB Church. Motion was made and seconded to amend the motion by adding the stipulation that a declaration be added to the deed that if Silver Creek ever ceases to be an OFWB Church, that the property would revert back to the Eastern Conference. A motion was made and seconded to place this matter on the table until the next seating of the Conference, to allow for a resolution of the matter between Silver Creek and the Executive Committee. The motion to table passed.

Motion was made and seconded to allow voting by proxy within the Eastern Conference. Motion failed.

Lane Schools of Christian Theology Report

Pastor Ashley Trogon

Motion made, seconded, and passed to adopt the report.

Special Service Awards

The Reverend John Mark Windley, Moderator

The Reverend Walter Pence, Awardee

5 Year Incremental Service Awards

The Reverend John Mark Windley, Moderator

Adjournment and Benediction at 3:15 pm.

**\*\*The 123rd Annual Eastern Conference will be held October 25, 2018 at the Rock of Zion Original Free Will Baptist Church**

All other Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists historical records are placed in the Free Will Baptists Historical Archives, at the University of Mount Olive, after 5-year increments – One year's records rotating to the Archives annually. (For example, 2017 – 2012 Records & older are on file in the Eastern Conference Office – Older records are in the Archives)

For an updated Roll of Eastern Conference ordained ministers, licensed ministers, those ministers from sister conferences approved to serve in the Eastern Conference, and Certificate of Endorsements please contact:

Eastern Conference

Original Free Will Baptists

P.O. Box 151

Grantsboro, NC 28529

ecofwb@gmail.com

**MINUTES of the 148<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SESSION**  
*of the*  
**PEE DEE ASSOCIATION**  
*of*  
**ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**  
*in session at*  
**Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church**  
**Columbus County, North Carolina**

***October 14, 2017***

The next session will be held at Macedonia Original Free Will Baptist Church (Columbus County) on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October 2018 (October 20, 2018) beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**PEE DEE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

**MODERATOR:** Rev. Dean Cartrette      **ASST. MODERATOR:** Rev. Heath Conner  
**CLERK:** Dr. Danny D. McPherson      **TREASURER:** Ron Settle

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**MODERATOR**

Rev. Dean Cartrette  
409 Porter Rd. Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 377-2109

**ASST. MODERATOR**

Rev. Heath Conner  
727 Mt. Olive Rd. Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 740-4454

**CLERK**

Dr. Danny D. McPherson  
69 Brice Ward Rd. Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 642-5664

**TREASURER**

Ron Settle  
2651 Whitehall Rd. Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 642-7405

**MEMBER AT LARGE**

Rev. Larry Greenwood  
1783 Swamp Fox Hwy. Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 840-2034

**ORDAINING COUNCIL**

Rev. Dallas Byrd  
PO Box 57  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 640-7588

Rev. James H. Nobles, Chairman  
122 Mercer Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 653-4804



Rev. F. Buddy Seay  
726 Woodrow Cribb Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 653-7777

Rev. Jackie Strickland  
4058 Smyrna Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 234-0791

Rev. Jamey Ward  
2892 Will Inman Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 653-9053

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

G.C. Bryan  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Ricky Fowler  
3707 Walter Todd Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432

Marvin McPherson  
1128 Garland Duncan Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Nelson D. Soles  
1175 Carolina Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463

**ORDAINED MINISTERS**

George Benton  
305 E. Walter St.  
Whiteville, NC 28472

Joseph B. Benton, III  
510 Ole King St.  
Conway, SC 29526

Gary Bryan  
1902 Horseshoe Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Tommy Bryson  
241 Soles Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 641-0262

Larry Greenwood  
6083 Swamp Fox Hwy. W.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 840-2034

Dallas Byrd  
PO Box 57  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 640-7588

Bobby Carden  
PO Box 734  
Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 863-3792

Eddie Carter  
495 Brewer Drive  
Red Springs, NC 28377  
910 257-7357

Dean Cartrette  
409 Porter Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 377-2109

Wade McPherson  
Chevy Lane  
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Heath Conner  
727 Mt. Olive Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320  
910 740-4454

Pete Cribb  
18981 Peacock Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472

Freddie Edwards  
1799 Guyton Rd.  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Rickey Evans  
1320 Crockers Nub Rd.  
Middlesex, NC 27557  
843 503 4400

Jackie Strickland  
4058 Smyrna Rd.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 234-0791

Drake Harper  
298 Ward Town Rd. S  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 234-4948

William Hearl  
1115 Hwy. 548  
Conway, SC 29528  
843 365-9189

Donny Jernigan  
67 Sugar Plum Lane  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 625-7857

Paul Lambert  
4301 New Britton Hwy. E.  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 317-6223

Jimmy McNeill  
7680 Rennert Rd.  
Shannon, NC 28368  
910 827-2142

James Howard Nobles  
122 Mercer Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431  
910 653-4804

Hollon Norris  
8703 Old Stake Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 653-2430

Buddy Seay  
726 Woodrow Cribb Rd.  
Clarendon, NC 28432  
910 653-7777

Edward Spivey  
355 Spivey Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463

Clifford L. Strickland  
1740 Greenpond Rd.  
Loris, SC 29569  
843 756-0936

Jamey Ward  
2892 Will Inman Rd.  
Tabor City, NC 28463  
910 653-9053

William E. Ward  
5360 Peachtree Rd.  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577  
843 458-9531

Jeff Westerfield  
1273 Hinnant Rd.  
Selma, NC 27576  
301 751-6037

Sonny R. Williams, Jr.  
43 Phillips Road  
Selma, NC 27576  
919-634-8578

#### **LICENTIATE(S)**

Jeff Barton

Derek Batten

Johnny Johnson

Kenneth Woolwine

#### **MEMBER CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

(for year ending June 30, 2017)

<b><u>CHURCH</u></b>	<b><u>PASTOR</u></b>
Beaverdam	Rev. Buddy Seay
Branch Chapel	Rev. Rickey Evans
Cypress Creek	Vacant
Emerson	Rev. Heath Conner
Freedom	Rev. Jackie Strickland
Little Bethel	Rev. Dean Cartrette
Macedonia	Rev. Jamey Ward
Mission Valley	Rev. Paul Lambert
Mt. Beulah	Rev. William Hearl
Mt. Calvary	Rev. Jimmy McNeill
Mt. Olive	Vacant
Oak Grove	Rev. James Howard Nobles
Pine Level	Rev. Hollon Norris
Pireway	Vacant
Pleasant Meadow	Vacant
Thomasboro	Rev. Dallas Byrd
Trinity	Rev. Larry Greenwood
White Oak	Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden

## **PROCEEDINGS**

The One Hundred Forty-Eighth Annual Session of the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus County, NC, on October 14, 2017.

The session opened as the congregation sang “There Is Power in the Blood.” Moderator Rev. Dean Cartrette called the meeting to order and gave the devotional services, taking his text from Isaiah 1: 1 – 4, 10, and 16 – 18. Rev. George Benton led the congregation in altar prayer.

Rev. F. ‘Buddy’ Seay, Pastor of Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church, gave the welcome address with response by Bro. Elgin Cribb.

The moderator welcomed everyone and invited visitors to enjoy the association activities but reminded them that they could not take part in any business. Afterwards, the moderator announced the house in order for business.

The roll of churches was called, and all churches except Trinity Original Free Will Baptist Church were represented by letter and delegates.

The roll of ministers was called. Revs. Buster Benton, Gary Bryan, Eddie Carter, Larry Greenwood, Drake Harper, Donny Jernigan, Paul Lambert, Wade McPherson, Hollon Norris, Edward Spivey, Clifford Strickland, William Ward, and Sonny Williams were absent. Excuses were offered in behalf of Revs. Buster Benton, Paul Lambert, Hollon Norris, and Edward Spivey. Rev. George Benton made a motion to grant their requests (second by Bro. Ricky Fowler). Motion carried. The moderator called for a moment of silence in memory of Rev. Robert Sellers, a long-time minister of the Pee Dee Association who died since the 2016 annual meeting.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Leonard Alford, Wayne Tyler, & Mike Worley

OBITUARY: Bobby Cribb, Woodie Etheridge, & Paul Nobles

RESOLUTION: Jeff Barton, Patricia Settle, & Jackie Spivey

The moderator invited representatives from the denominational ministries to present their reports. Those present reviewed the work of their particular ministries:

Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, President of the NC Convention of Original Free Will Baptists began by sharing his personal vision as president of the Convention and that is “the value of the ministry of the local church;” also reviewed status of Home Missions & Evangelism;

Ila V. Penny—Pee Dee representative on the Children’s Home Board: shared statistics of those served and invited groups and individuals to visit the Children’s Home;

Gail Heath—Ministry of Christian Education: reviewed the ministry’s services as well as information regarding the annual Life Conference 2018— “Making a Difference” (encouraged churches to enter nominations for the Sunday school superintendent of the year and Sunday school teacher of the year);

Darren Davenport—Free Will Baptist Press: shared recent and forthcoming updates and improvements related to equipment, technology, and print resources;

Rev. Freddie Edwards—Pee Dee representative on the Retirement Homes Board: gave a summary of current status and services offered; and

David L. McPherson, Pee Dee representative on the University of Mount Olive Board of Trustees: shared growth in student enrollment and learning opportunities for those interested. McPherson also shared that the UMO current president, Philip Kerstetter, has announced his retirement effective the end of the 2017-2018 academic year; presidential search procedures for a new president have begun.

Rev. Rickey Evans moved to accept the reports as information; motion was seconded and carried.

The congregation sang a hymn and collected an offering for the Children’s Home.

Following a brief morning recess, the moderator called the house back to order. Rev. Heath Conner offered prayer.

Church letters were called for and read by the clerk.

The moderator called for the clerk to read the committees' reports.

## **REPORTS**

### **RESOLUTION**

We, the resolution committee, have no resolutions to bring at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff Barton  
Patricia Settle  
Jackie Spivey

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. George Benton.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

We, your committee, recommend that all our churches, homes, and schools use the King James Version of the Bible and that all literature distributed in our churches be of the King James Version only. We also request that more material exclusive to the King James Version be made available to local churches and that the material be free of references to other biblical versions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leonard Alford  
Wayne Tyler  
Mike Worley

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. Jamey Ward.

### **OBITUARY**

We, your committee, regret to report that to the best of our knowledge, we had 28 deaths during this past year. We ask the congregation to stand and pause in silent prayer in memory of these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobby Cribb  
Woodie Etheridge  
Paul Nobles

Report was received, and the committee was dismissed by motion of Rev. Pete Cribb.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning balance (October 15, 2016)	\$2727.61
Deposit from association (10/17/2016)	1565.00
Deposit from association (10/31/2016)	1636.00
Deposit from association (11/8/2016)	1000.00
Deposit from association (11/14/2016)	7208.46
Deposit from association (12/1/2016)	6733.23
Deposit from association (12/13/2016)	<u>200.00</u>
Total deposits	\$18642.69
TOTAL	\$21070.30
Checks for the past year	
#492 & #493	Void
# 494 Rev. Dean Cartrette	125.00
# 495 Dr. Danny McPherson	125.00
# 496 Ron Settle	125.00
# 497 OFWB Children's Home	231.00

# 498 Mission Valley OFWB Church	2000.00
# 499 White Oak OFWB Church	15832.69
# 500 Budget Printing	80.06
# 501 Budget Printing	480.38
# 502 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (yearbooks)	<u>\$390.00</u>

TOTAL CHECKS FOR LAST YEAR                      \$19389.13

Balance (October 14, 2017)                      \$1681.17

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Settle, Treasurer

Treasurer's report was accepted by motion of Rev. Jimmy McNeill.

### **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Johnny Johnson on November 15, 2016 after receiving a letter from Freedom Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Bro. Johnson for a minister's license. The council questioned Bro. Johnson on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Bro. Johnny Johnson as a licensed minister for one year.

The Ordaining Council met with Rev. Kenneth Woolwine on January 3, 2017 after receiving a letter from Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Rev. Woolwine for a minister's license. The council questioned Rev. Woolwine on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Rev. Kenneth Woolwine as a licensed minister for one year.

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Derek Batten on August 10, 2017 after receiving a letter from Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Bro. Batten for a minister's license. The council questioned Bro. Batten on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Bro. Derek Batten as a licensed minister for one year.

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Jeff Barton on October 10, 2017 after receiving a letter from Cypress Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church asking the council to examine Bro. Barton for a minister's license. The council questioned Bro. Barton on biblical truths and Free Will Baptist doctrine and found him to be sound in faith and doctrine. The council approved Bro. Jeff Barton as a licensed minister for one year.

Respectfully submitted,

The Pee Dee Association Ordaining Council

Rev. Dallas Byrd, clerk

Rev. Dallas Byrd moved to accept the report. Motion was seconded and carried.

### **NOTE:**

1. The right hand of fellowship as ordained ministers was extended to Rev. Jeffrey Westerfield.
2. The right hand of welcome as one-year licentiates was extended to Rev. Kenneth Woolwine, Bro. Jeff Barton, Bro. Derek Batten, and Bro. Johnny Johnson.
3. Revs. Drake Harper and Sonny Williams were not present, so the Association will extend them the right hand of fellowship at the 2018 annual meeting.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is thankful that, to the best of our knowledge, all is well among our churches. Still, we urge ministers and local congregations to remain faithful in their unity of the spirit, in their commitment to the local church, in their ministry to the saved and unsaved, and above all, in their absolute devotion to God.

The Executive Committee met Sunday, November 27, 2016 (2:00 p.m.) at Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church. At the annual session on October 15, 2016, the Pee Dee Association took action approving \$1500 from the Association account plus other donations from member churches to be used to assist churches within the Pee Dee that were damaged during Hurricane Matthew. Members of the Executive Committee were directed to distribute the funds to the affected churches. Total collections equaled \$18,032.69.

Beaverdam	3997.73
Branch Chapel	7208.46
Cypress Creek	200.00
Emerson	1000.00
Little Bethel	150.00
Macedonia	200.00
Mt. Olive	149.00
Oak Grove	287.00
Pine Level	340.50
Pireway	1000.00
Pee Dee Association	1500.00
Pee Dee Union #2	1000.00
Flood's Chapel FWB Church	1000.00

Two churches were most affected by the hurricane and subsequent flooding: Mission Valley and White Oak. Mission Valley experienced water damage in its fellowship hall as a result of minimal flooding, but the water soon receded allowing them to host our annual meeting. White Oak, however, was significantly damaged. Their fellowship hall and basement were under several feet of water. The basement is the space where most Sunday school classes meet. Not only was their physical structure significantly damaged but also materials and supplies. Church members refurbished the fellowship hall, doing much of the work themselves, but the church facility and basement required extensive contract work and expense. With these thoughts in mind, the Executive Committee took action awarding \$2000 to Mission Valley and \$15,832.69 to White Oak. NOTE: A \$200 contribution was received after the Executive Committee met, so the Committee will meet again to disburse that donation as well.

Letters were sent to all member churches stating all financial actions and the Executive Committee's actions.

Rev. Rickey Evans was selected to deliver the Association message.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dean Cartrette, Moderator  
Rev. Heath Conner, Assistant Moderator  
Ron Settle, Treasurer  
Rev. Larry Greenwood, Member at large  
Dr. Danny McPherson, Clerk

Rev. George Benton moved to accept the report; motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. George Benton moved to omit the reading of the 2016 Association minutes because minutes are printed annually and made available to all churches and are also available via the *Yearbook*. Motion carried.

### OLD or UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The clerk read the following letter of appreciation from White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church.  
September 21, 2017

White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church  
PO Box 734  
Bladenboro, NC 28320

Pee Dee Association of the Original Free Will Baptists  
Dr. Danny McPherson, Ed.D.  
69 Brice Ward Rd.  
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Dear Dr. McPherson and the Pee Dee Association of OFW Baptists:

On behalf of our church congregation and our pastor, Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden, I would like to thank you all for the generous donations that you provided toward the repair and restoration of our church.

As you know, it has been a busy and sometimes trying eleven months for us. But by the grace of God and the love of our fellowmen, the work is almost completed. Our church is more beautiful and well-built than ever before. We could not have accomplished this without our wonderful friends and concerned Christians who made contributions of prayers, money, time, and material. Thank you all. Please thank the following churches and organizations in your meeting on October 14, 2017: Beaverdam, Branch Chapel, Cypress Creek, Emerson, Little Bethel, Macedonia, Mt. Olive, Oak Grove, Pine Level, Pieway, the Pee Dee Association, Pee Dee Union #2, and from the Western Conference, Flood's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

It is easy to become discouraged when bad things happen, but our spirit has been renewed. We know God always enables us to do what He wants us to do. Thank you again for your contributions and your continued prayers.

Prayerfully yours,

Rev. Dr. Bobby Carden. Pastor  
Peggy Pope, Church clerk

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to pay officers as usual. Motion was seconded and passed.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to elect officers for the next two-year term ending October 2019. Motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to elect the same officers. Motion was seconded and carried. Therefore, officers are as follows:

Rev. Dean Cartrette, moderator  
Rev. Heath Conner, assistant moderator  
Bro. Ronny Settle, treasurer  
Bro. Danny McPherson, clerk  
Rev. Larry Greenwood, member-at-large of the Executive Committee

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to select a home for the annual meeting in 2018. Motion carried. Rev. Jamey Ward invited the Association to meet at Macedonia Original Free Will Baptist Church for the 2018 annual meeting scheduled for October 20, 2018. Rev. James Howard Nobles moved that the invitation be accepted; motion carried.

Rev. Rickey Evans moved that the Association give Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality. Motion was seconded and carried.

Bro. Elgin Cribb from Pireway Original Free Will Baptist Church offered sincere appreciation to those from Branch Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church and all others who assisted with replacing the steeple on the Pireway church.

Rev. James Howard Nobles moved to adjourn the annual meeting of the Pee Dee Association and to enter worship service. Motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Rickey Evans delivered the message titled “Being the Man of God.”

Rev. Dr. Tommy Bryson returned thanks for lunch prepared by Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church and adjourned the annual meeting with benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dean Cartrette  
Moderator

Dr. Danny D. McPherson  
Clerk



**MINUTES  
of the  
74th Annual Session  
of the  
Original Free Will Baptist  
Piedmont Conference**

**Held with  
Bethany Free Will Baptist Church  
Wadesboro, North Carolina  
July 22, 2017**

**Executive Board**

Moderator: Reverend Tim Burton (2019)  
Vice Moderator: Reverend John Daniel (2018)  
Treasurer: Reverend Junior Bingham (2019)  
Clerk: Wayne Hicks (2019)  
At Large: Reverend Audie Tucker (2019)  
At Large 2: Reverend Richard Martin (2019)  
Clerk Assistant: Mrs. Angela Garrett (2018)

**Ordaining Council**

Reverend Hillis Burton (2018)  
Reverend Gene Thompson (honorary)  
Reverend Jimmy Garrett (2019)  
Reverend Gino Thompson (2019)  
Reverend Johnny Johnson (2018)  
Reverend Charlie Tyler (2018)  
Reverend Charlie Garrett (2019)

**Memorial Committee**

Mrs. Neoma Garrett  
Reverend Carlee Stallard

**Conference Trustees**

Reverend David Atkins  
Reverend Carlee Stallard

**Ordained Ministers of the Piedmont Conference**

Rev. Perry R. Arrington, P.O. Box 72 Leland, NC 28451; Phone (910) 512-4274  
Rev. David Atkins 7205 St. Crispins Way Summerfield, NC 27358; Phone (336) 643-5162  
Rev. Michael Barnes 1034 Michael Road, Lexington, NC 27295; Phone (336) 247-1784  
Rev. Junior Eddie Bingham 729 Kennedy Road Thomasville, NC 27360; Phone (336) 688-3072  
Rev. Hillis Burton 200 Trexler Road Thomasville, NC 27360; Phone (336) 475-2605  
Rev. Tim Burton 109 H.E. Clement Lane Thomasville, NC 27360; Phone (Cell) (336) 880-5951  
Rev. Jerry Campbell 3243 Hauser Road, East Bend, NC 27018; Phone (Cell) (336)-880-5951  
Rev. John Daniel 501 East Broad Avenue Rockingham, NC 28379; Phone (919) 997-1233  
Rev. Charles Garrett 2027 Lake Road Thomasville, NC 27360; Phone (336) 687-3079  
Rev. Jimmy Garrett 123 Johnia Court Thomasville, NC 27360; Phone (336) 225-9230  
Rev. Dwight W. Herring Jr. 3972 Pine Ridge Drive Trinity, NC 27370; Phone (336) 862-6470

Rev. Allen Hudson 378 Northan Road Rockingham, NC 28379; Phone (910) 895-9696  
Rev. Donald Huggins 1019 Wildcherry Avenue Rockingham, NC 28379; Phone (910) 997-2643  
Rev. Johnny Johnson 183 Lake Point Drive Rockingham, NC 28379; Phone (910) 817-7496  
Rev. Richard Marsh 689 Ingram Mountain Road, Lilesville, NC 28091; Phone (704) 848-8508  
Rev. Richard Martin 444 Chapel Drive Thomasville, NC 27360; Phone (Cell) (336) 688-1347  
Rev. Roger Motsinger 1214 Colston Court Kernersville, NC 27284; Phone (336) 993-6947  
Rev. David Parrish 609 Lee Street Wadesboro, NC 28170; Phone (704) 699-6528  
Dr. Tom Parrish 404 East Main Street Chesterfield, SC 29709; Phone (843) 623-5793  
Rev. Tony Parrish 808 Jones Bridge Road Pine Town, NC 27865; Phone (252) 947-2805  
Rev. Carlee Stallard 415 Dewey Street Kernersville, NC 27284; Phone (336) 993-3675  
Rev. Gene Thompson P.O. Box 1924 Thomasville, NC 27361-1924; Phone (336) 848-3403  
Rev. Gino Thompson P.O. Box 1924 Thomasville, NC 27361-1924; Phone (336) 848-3403  
Rev. Charlie Tyler 241 Home Place Road Rockingham, NC 28379; Phone (910) 582-4517  
Rev. Audie, Tucker 4820 Poplar Ridge Road Trinity, NC 27370; Phone (336) 580-0513  
Rev. Cathy Vernon 620 Van Buren Road Stoneville, NC 27048; Phone (336) 427-7903

**Licensed Ministers of the Piedmont Conference**

Rev. Robert Alexander 1706 Hwy 55 East Kinston, NC 28501; Phone (252) 522-0236  
Rev. Harold Hopper 2430 Hickory Fork Road Walnut Cove, NC 27052; Phone (336) 427-4973

**Disabled Ministers of the Piedmont Conference**

Rev. J. A. Hodges 4880 Poplar Tent Road Concord, NC 28025; Phone (704) 875-3008  
Rev. Howard Starling P.O. Box 62 Gibsonville, NC 27249; Phone (336) 584-0590  
Rev. Carl Wood 117 Bowers Lane Ellerbe, NC 28338; Phone (910) 652-5007

**Clerk of the Piedmont Conference**

Mr. Wayne Hicks 221 Linwood Road Stokesdale, NC 27357; Phone (336) 548-4453

**Assistant Clerk of the Piedmont Conference**

Mrs. Angela Garrett 123 Johnia Court Thomasville, NC 27360; Phone (336) 225-9229

**Proceedings**

The Seventy Fourth annual session of the Piedmont Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist convened at Bethany Original Free Will Baptist Church in Wadesboro, North Carolina on July 22, 2017 with the Reverend Richard Marsh as the host pastor.

The business session started at 10:00 am on July 22, 2016 with the opening hymn, "I'll Fly Away". The Conference called to order by the Vice Moderator, Reverend John Daniel. Devotions were given by Rev. David Parrish  
**Titled:** A verse for everyday **Scripture:** I Thessalonians 5: 16-22.

**Executive Board:**

Camp Meeting: Will Discuss at our January 2018 meeting  
Elwood Lane OFWB Church searching for a Pastor, remember them in prayer  
OFWB Convention – Several ministers were able to attend  
Ministry Checks – should we still send one to Home Missions – decided to continue

**Ordaining Council:**

Re-instated Rev. Michael Barnes

**Denominational Ministries:** *These were present and came forward to give a report.*

*Mt. Olive:* No representative present or information sent

*Christian Education (Sunday School):* Sister Gail Heath unable to attend, Board Member Wayne Hicks filled in

- **Life Conference** First Saturday in March; March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018 @ the University of Mt. Olive; 2017 Life Conference was a success
- **“Teach Like Jesus”** training session to be held August 19<sup>th</sup> 9-12 at Reedy Branch OFWB Church in Winterville, NC, with Speaker Dr. Ken Coley
- **Widows Retreat:** February 1-4 with special guest speaker Mrs. Ruth Cotton West
- **Right Now Media:** Christian Education courses and material free of charge on-line with an invite from the Christian Education Ministries – just give Gail Heath your email address and she will forward the invite.

*Convention Services:* No Representative or information sent

**Nominating Committee** – (Rev. Tim Burton, Rev. Junior Bingham, Rev. Audi Tucker, Rev. Richard Martin Rev. John Daniel & Wayne Hicks) – Read by Clerk Wayne Hicks (**Executive Board**) Moderator-Rev Tim Burton to return; Treasurer-Rev. Junior Bingham to return, Clerk-Mr. Wayne Hicks to return; At Large-Rev. Richard Martin to return; At Large 2-Rev. Audie Tucker to return; Spoke with Mrs. Angie Garrett she agreed to be Clerk Assistant, replacing Rev. Jerry Campbell.; (Ordaining Council) Chairman- Rev. Jimmy Garrett to return; Rev. Gino Thompson and Rev. Charlie Garrett to replace Rev. Cecil Tucker.

**Resolutions:**

We here by resolve to give Bethany OFWB Church a rising vote of thanks for hosting the 74th Annual Session of the OFWB Piedmont Conference.

**Worship Hour:**

“Amazing Grace” was the opening hymn. Church Singers did the special singing. Message by: Rev. Tim Burton, Scripture: Matthew 13: 1-9 & Isaiah 55: 10-11 & 53: 1-2 Title of Message: Jesus and the Farmer Dismissal Prayer, Rev. David Parrish Everyone adjourned to the fellowship hall for a wonderful meal that had been prepared, thank you Bethany OFWB Church for your hospitality.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Tim Burton, Moderator  
Wayne Hicks, Clerk

**Minutes of the  
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY FIRST SESSION  
of the  
WESTERN CONFERENCE  
of  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST  
Held with  
Micro OFWB Church  
Micro, NC**

**October 12, 2017**

**Executive Committee**

The Reverend Charles L. Renfrow, Moderator (2018)  
The Reverend Buddy Sasser, Vice Moderator (2017)  
The Reverend George Futrelle, Clerk (2018)  
The Reverend Sherman Dilley, Treasurer (2017)  
The Reverend David Currie, Member at large (2017)

**Board of Trustees**

The Reverend Don Fleming (2017)  
The Reverend Anderson Barnes (2018)  
The Reverend Chris Bagley (2018)

**Board of Ordination**

The Reverend Ray Wells (2022)  
The Reverend Norman Gordon, (2021)  
The Reverend Howard Scott (2023)  
The Reverend Rudy Owens (2017)  
The Reverend Almond Warrick (2018)  
The Reverend Franklin (Barry) Stallings (2019)  
The Reverend De Wayne Eakes (2020)

**Credentials Committee**

The Reverend John Davis (2018)  
The Reverend Cody Proctor (2017)  
Brother Tim Beasley (2018)  
The Reverend Stanley Kirby (2017)

**Western Conference Ministers**

ALLEN, JERRY: 217 Corbett Rd. Clayton, NC 27520; 919-553-5232

ASH, WILLIAM CAMERON: 5110 Master Lane, Wilson, NC 27896; 252-205-1353

BAGLEY, CHRISTOPHER: 2830 Powhatan Rd. Clayton, NC 27527; 919-669-3011 [cebagley85@yahoo.com](mailto:cebagley85@yahoo.com)

BARBOUR, LARRY: 2502 Saint Christopher Circle Unit 10, Wilson, NC 27893; 252-291-8449

BARNES, ANDERSON: 104 Jordan Bluff Place, Pikeville, NC 26863; 919-223-8980 [revanderson.barnes@gmail.com](mailto:revanderson.barnes@gmail.com)

BEASLEY, TIMOTHY SCOTT: 127 Chadford Place, Clayton, NC 27520; 919-464-0886 [bsly137@gmail.com](mailto:bsly137@gmail.com)

BISSETTE, WILLIAM G: 6800 Frazier Rd. Bailey, NC 27807; 919-210-3338 [garrybissette@yahoo.com](mailto:garrybissette@yahoo.com)

BLACKMAN, WALTER: 950 Branch Chapel Church Rd. Selma, NC 27576; 919-965-3918 [walter95013@gmail.com](mailto:walter95013@gmail.com)

BOGLE, JAMES E: 504 Deer Flag Lane, Clayton, NC; 919-934-4022 [mcorret@embarqmail.com](mailto:mcorret@embarqmail.com)

BRANTLEY, WILLIAM V. SR. 5228 Water Front Drive, Rocky Mount, NC 27803; 252-883-3020 [wvbrantley@aol.com](mailto:wvbrantley@aol.com)  
BROWN, HARRY: 3308 Hope Valley Rd. Durham, NC 27707; 919-489-8584 [harrybrownministriesinc@gmail.com](mailto:harrybrownministriesinc@gmail.com)  
BUNN, RONEY: 7655 Leonard Rd. Kenly, NC 27542; 252-293-4428 [roneybunn@aol.com](mailto:roneybunn@aol.com)  
COATS, JAMIE: 1503 Kenmore Drive, Clayton, NC 27520; 919-879-8179; [jamescts357@aol.com](mailto:jamescts357@aol.com)  
CRANK, FRED  
CUDDINGTON, RICHARD JR: 761 Cuddington Rd. Kenly, NC 27542; 919-284-6837 [richard.cuddington.jr@gmail.com](mailto:richard.cuddington.jr@gmail.com)  
CURRIE, DAVID: 5062 NC Hwy 581 Sims, NC 27880; 252-235-3105 [revdavidcurrie@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidcurrie@gmail.com)  
DAVIS, JOHN JOSEPH: PO Box 342 Clayton, NC 27528; 919-625-0105 [johndavis@nc.rr.com](mailto:johndavis@nc.rr.com)  
DAVIS, LUKE RYEN 640 Rosewood Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530; 919-222-2346 [lukedavisld@gmail.com](mailto:lukedavisld@gmail.com)  
DEANS, RON: 10067 Liles Rd. Bailey, NC 27807; 252-290-4407 [rdeans318@gmail.com](mailto:rdeans318@gmail.com)  
DILLEY, SHERMAN: 105 Woods Circle Mt. Olive, NC 28365; 919-738-0237 [shermamdilley@att.net](mailto:shermamdilley@att.net)  
EAKES, DE WAYNE: P.O. Box 298 Lucama, NC 27851; 252-230-3241 [easkesde@gmail.com](mailto:easkesde@gmail.com)  
ELLIS, JAMES TERRY: 2007 Ridge Ct. Clayton, NC 27520; 919-553-5358 [terryellis93@gmail.com](mailto:terryellis93@gmail.com)  
ELLIS, MATTHEW: 105 Twin Oaks Place Goldsboro, NC 27530; 919-440-8319  
EVANS, DUANE: 1370 Old Moore Rd. Selma, NC 27576; 919-796-1101  
FERRELL, BOBBY: PO Box 746 Lucama, NC 27851; 252-239-0026  
FLEMING, DON: 2005 N. Salemburg Hwy., Salemburg, NC 28385; 919-222-6177 [donflemingofwb@gmail.com](mailto:donflemingofwb@gmail.com)  
FLOWERS, FRANK: 1257 Buck Swamp Road, Pikeville, NC 27863; 919-735-0769 [fjflowers@bellsouth.net](mailto:fjflowers@bellsouth.net)  
FOREHAND, KENNETH: 4 Kings Grand Ct. Durham, NC 27703-2740; 919-596-7148 [kenforehand@aol.com](mailto:kenforehand@aol.com)  
FORSYTHE, LEWIS: 7648 Woodbridge Road, Stantonsburg, NC 27883; 919-920-4000 [lewisandshirley@earthlink.net](mailto:lewisandshirley@earthlink.net)  
FUTRELL, BOBBY: 345 Lancaster Road Pikeville, NC 27863; 252-289-5097 [blfutrell1@juno.com](mailto:blfutrell1@juno.com)  
FUTRELLE, GEORGE H: 705 Hillcrest Dr. Mount Olive, NC 28365; 910-296-7244 [futrellegh@gmail.com](mailto:futrellegh@gmail.com)  
GARDNER, BARRY: 7501 S. Old Carriage Rd. Rocky Mount, NC 27803, 252-442-3879  
GLOSSON, RICHARD: 6280 US Hwy 17, Vanceboro, NC 28586; 919-922-5829 [glossonrichard@yahoo.com](mailto:glossonrichard@yahoo.com)  
GODFREY, GORDON: 6979 Hinnant-Edgerton Road Kenly, NC 27542; 919-210-6651 [ggordon125@yahoo.com](mailto:ggordon125@yahoo.com)  
GODWIN, LEWIS: 120 Hilltop Drive Four Oaks, NC 27524; 919-938-1568 [fredgodwin@hotmail.com](mailto:fredgodwin@hotmail.com)  
GORDON, NORMAN JR: 405 Orange Factory Rd. Bahama, NC 27503; 919-471-8171 [nhg1964@gmail.com](mailto:nhg1964@gmail.com)  
HALL, PHILLIP CHRIS: 7541 Newton Grove Highway, Dunn, NC 28334; 910-366-3787 [chris1971hall@gmail.com](mailto:chris1971hall@gmail.com)  
HALL, RONNIE: 422 Barbour St. Clayton, 27520; 919-553-6070 [ihall@centurylink.net](mailto:ihall@centurylink.net)  
HARGROVE, WAYNE: 15649 NC 131 Hwy., Bladenboro, NC 28320; 919-634-5282 [mwhargrove@twc.com](mailto:mwhargrove@twc.com)  
HARGIS, LLOYD: PO Box 625 Clayton, NC 27528; 919-592-6416 [preacherhargis@gmail.com](mailto:preacherhargis@gmail.com)  
HARWOOD, CLIFFORD Jr: PO Box 511 Black Creek, NC 27813; 252-246-0620  
HOLMES, RICHARD: 118 B Fort Warren Avenue. FE Warren AFB, Wyoming, 82005; 318-734-7777 [richkatchloe@att.net](mailto:richkatchloe@att.net)  
JOHNSON, FRED: 11 Epping Ct. Durham, NC 27703; 919-596-2389 [jfredjohnson@nc.rr.com](mailto:jfredjohnson@nc.rr.com)  
JONES, CURTIS: 733 Lightfoot Dr. Clayton, NC 27520; 919-553 5338 [cjones5338@aol.com](mailto:cjones5338@aol.com)  
JONES, HAROLD: 1791 Worthington Rd. Greenville, NC 27858; 252-756-9732 [harold@ofwbi.org](mailto:harold@ofwbi.org)  
KING, G. WAYNE: 16 Talmont Pl, Little Rock, AR 72223-9054; 318-541-1828 [gwayneking7@gmail.com](mailto:gwayneking7@gmail.com)  
KIRBY, STANLEY W: 5128 NC 222 East, Kenly, NC 27542; 919-222-3124 [kirbys1@embarqmail.com](mailto:kirbys1@embarqmail.com)

KRIGER, DAVID: PO Box 655 Fremont, NC 27830; 919-242-7106 [revdrk53@yahoo.com](mailto:revdrk53@yahoo.com)

LANCASTER, H. DANIEL 1084 Pikeville-Princeton Road, Pikeville, NC 27863; 252-205-1190 [dlancaster@wilsonnc.org](mailto:dlancaster@wilsonnc.org)

LEE, TROY JR: 1197 Mabry Road, Angier, NC 27501; 919-422-6696 [troylee@johnston.k12.nc.us](mailto:troylee@johnston.k12.nc.us)

MASSENGILL, JOHN: 3255 Lassiter Rd. Four Oaks, NC 27524; 919-938-3693 [massengil@gregpoole.com](mailto:massengil@gregpoole.com)

MATTHEWS, LARRY N: 2210 Mt. Zion Church Rd. Nashville, NC 27856; 252 955-3010 [lnm2891@icloud.com](mailto:lnm2891@icloud.com)

MATTHEWS, STANLEY G, 207 Nor-Am Rd. Pikeville, NC 27863; 919-921-0642 [stanmatthews04@gmail.com](mailto:stanmatthews04@gmail.com)

MCFATTER, TIMMY R.: 3916 Country Club Drive, Wilson, NC 27896-8128; 252-245-2033 [trmc5@yahoo.com](mailto:trmc5@yahoo.com)

NARRON, ERIC: 500 Crockers Nub Rd. Middlesex, NC 27557; 919-284-0087 [senarron@gmail.com](mailto:senarron@gmail.com)

NICHOLSON, PAUL: 298 Parrish Memorial Rd. Selma, NC 27576; 919-284-5962 [pnicholson5@nc.rr.com](mailto:pnicholson5@nc.rr.com)

OWENS, CHUCK: 107 Harding Drive, Washington, NC 27889; 252-289-7669

OWENS RUDY: 1515 U.S. 70-A East, Selma, NC 27576; 919-965-2796 [rudyowens27@gmail.com](mailto:rudyowens27@gmail.com)

PEARCE, JAMES ROGER: 11738 Liles Rd. Bailey, NC 27807; 252-235-4141 [pecancracker@embarqmail.com](mailto:pecancracker@embarqmail.com)

PEARCE, JONATHAN L. 118 Spring Branch Dr. Four Oaks, NC 27524; 919-989-4812 [jmpearce1995@gmail.com](mailto:jmpearce1995@gmail.com)

PIERCE, FREDERICK: PO Box 35 Pikeville, NC 27863; 919-920-7715 [piercefreddie@gmail.com](mailto:piercefreddie@gmail.com)

PROCTOR, CODY: 306 Santa Gertrudis Dr. Clayton, NC 27520; 919-631-6813 [jcproctor92@gmail.com](mailto:jcproctor92@gmail.com)

RADFORD, DOUG: 4335 Nantucket Dr. Wilson, N 27896; 252-230-9742 [doug@harvesters.net](mailto:doug@harvesters.net)

RENFROW, CHARLES L: 10300 Old Beulah Rd. Kenly, NC 27542; 919-965-7495 [crenfrow86@gmail.com](mailto:crenfrow86@gmail.com)

ROGERSON, JR., JAMES MELVIN: 405 Holly Drive, Rocky Mount, NC 27803; 252-886-2564 [graddyx5@hotmail.com](mailto:graddyx5@hotmail.com)

SANDERS, DOUG: 809 Iris St. Clayton, NC 27520; 919-553-7916

SASSER, BUDDY: 808 N Webb St. Selma, NC 27576; 252-560-2845 [bsasser73@gmail.com](mailto:bsasser73@gmail.com)

SCOTT, HOWARD: 5092 NC 581 N., Kenly, NC 27542; 919-284-5028 [howardfscott@gmail.com](mailto:howardfscott@gmail.com)

SHERMAN, JASON: 216 West Harper Street, Snow Hill, NC 28580; 919-524-6895

SHERROD, DENNIS: 3487 Macedonia Rd. Spring Hope, NC 27882; 252-478-3708 [desherrod23@hotmail.com](mailto:desherrod23@hotmail.com)

SINGLETON, HEBER (DICK) JR: 2100 A Memorial Church Rd. Fremont, NC 27830; 919-242-4723 [heber@centurylink.net](mailto:heber@centurylink.net)

SMITH, PRESTON: 100 N. Applewood Ct. Rocky Mount, NC 27803; 252-443-1226 [psmith105@suddenlink.net](mailto:psmith105@suddenlink.net)

STALLINGS, FRANKLIN (BARRY): 1660 Davis Mill Rd. Fremont, NC 27830; 919-242-9743 [pastorbub@nc.rr.com](mailto:pastorbub@nc.rr.com)

STANLEY, ALLEN: 102 Creekside Dr. Selma, NC 27576; 919-965-3383 [stanleyallen@me.com](mailto:stanleyallen@me.com)

TYNDALL, WALTER 5473 Appie Rd. Walstonburg, NC 27888; 252-753-5005 [pastorwalt1@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorwalt1@yahoo.com)

WAGNON, KENNETH (BUDDY): 5812 Phillips Landing Dr. Wake Forest, NC 27587; 919-554-4427 [kenlwagnon@aol.com](mailto:kenlwagnon@aol.com)

WARD, THOMAS: 4644-B Hwy 222 E. Kenly, NC 27542; 919-242-8181 [thomasward04@aol.com](mailto:thomasward04@aol.com)

WARRICK, ALMOND JR: 20 Azalea Dr. Smithfield, NC 27577; 919-989-9407 [almondwarrick@gmail.com](mailto:almondwarrick@gmail.com)

WATFORD, HEYWARD: 2402 N. Old Carriage Rd., Rocky Mount, NC 27804; 252-801-5967 [hwatford@hotmail.com](mailto:hwatford@hotmail.com)

WELLS, RAY: 6661 Rock Ridge School Rd. Sims, NC 27880; 252-243-6498, 252-230-0925 [ray@marshswamp.org](mailto:ray@marshswamp.org)

WHITLEY, WAYNE: 4332 Winfield Ct. Elm City, NC 27822; 252-245-1211

WILLIAMS, JOHN 1233 North Fork Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711; 828-669-7677 [jwilliecrag@icloud.com](mailto:jwilliecrag@icloud.com)

## **Ordained Ministers from other Conferences serving in the Western Conference**

BARNES, GREG, Central Conference, serving Milbournie  
CASEY, DUANE, Cape Fear, serving Micro  
HANSLEY, DAVID CHARLES, Eastern Conference, serving Black Jack Grove  
LETCHWORTH, LARRY Central Conference, serving Harmony  
SMART, KELLEY, Central Conference, serving Little Rock Church  
STANCIL, GREG: Eastern Conference, serving Antioch  
SULLIVAN, JOHNNY: Central Conference, serving Rains Crossroads  
WILLIAMS, JOSEPH D. Central Conference, serving Stoney Creek Church  
WILLIAMSON, AUBREY Cape Fear, serving Kenly  
WILLIAMSON, BARRY WAYNE Central Conference serving Stoney Creek Church

## **Approved or Renewed for License to Preach in the Western Conference**

BENSON, CLARENCE MICHAEL: 1233 Tulip Street, Clayton, NC 27520; 919-669-7912  
KELLEY, WILLARD: 8950 Hwy 22, Middlesex, NC 27557; 919-796-2597 [mr.kelley@live.com](mailto:mr.kelley@live.com)  
SEXTON, JASON: 4613 Windsor Rd. Elma City, NC 27822: 252-289-0907 [giddyupsexton@yahoo.com](mailto:giddyupsexton@yahoo.com)  
WESTERFIELD, JEFFREY C. 1273 Hinnant Road, Selma, NC 27576; 301-751-6037 [agrl4boyz@gmail.com](mailto:agrl4boyz@gmail.com)  
VESTER, DANIEL POPE, 14175 NC Hwy 42 E, Kenly, NC 27542; (252) 230-4303 [daniel@marshswamp.org](mailto:daniel@marshswamp.org)  
WHEELER, WILLIAM BRYAN: 5271 US Highway 117 North, Pikeville, NC; 919-921-2579  
[27863William.B.Wheeler@ncdps.gov](mailto:27863William.B.Wheeler@ncdps.gov)

## **Licensed Ministers from other Conferences serving in Western Conference**

None

## **Proceedings:**

The One-Hundred and Thirty First Session of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptist convened at Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, North Carolina, on October 12, 2017, at 9:00 am. The Reverend George Futrelle, Clerk, called the conference to order. A warm welcome, devotion and invocation was offered by the Reverend Duane Casey, followed by a congregational hymn, "When We All Get to Heaven." The Reverend Charles L. Renfrow, Moderator, recognized visitors. The Moderator directed the Clerk to call the roll of the Ministers and Churches. The roll was called and documented. The Reverend Charles L. Renfrow gave the Moderator's Address entitled "Evangelism – Planning Our Church Strategy," with Scripture from Acts, Chapter 1. Brother Renfrow admonished the attendees to examine the early church model as seen in the Acts of the Apostles. The Moderator then appointed the Temporary Committees; Nominating, Resolutions, Credentials and Memorial.

The Western Conference Executive Committee report was given by the Clerk, Rev. George Futrelle. There was only one meeting in 2017.

**Minutes**  
**Western Conference Executive Committee Meeting**  
**August 24, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at Micro OFWB Church**

Rev. Charles L. Renfrow, Moderator, Rev. Sherman Dilley, Treasurer and Rev. George Futrelle, Clerk, attended. Rev. Buddy Sasser, Vice Moderator and Rev. David Currie, Member-at-Large, were unable to attend.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Charles L. Renfrow, who opened with prayer.

The Moderator reported there had been no business to come before the Executive Committee since the 2016 Annual Conference. The purpose of this meeting was to plan the 2017 Annual Conference, which will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at Micro OFWB Church at 9:00 a.m.

The Treasurer reported that the current checking account balance was \$6,443.51.

The upcoming annual conference program was discussed. Committee appointments were made by the Moderator and the program was planned.

There was no other business to discuss. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. George H. Futrelle, Conference Clerk

Motion to accept the Executive Committee Report was made, seconded and passed.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed and given by the Reverend Sherman Dilley. A detailed report copy can be obtained from Rev. Dilley. A summary is as follows:

**Western Conference Treasurer's Report**  
**October 12, 2017 – Micro FWB, Micro, NC**  
**Financial Report Oct. 13, 2016-Oct. 12, 2017**

Beginning Balance October 2016)	\$8,801.46
Deposits	\$5,085.00
Total	<b>\$13,886.46</b>
Total Disbursements	\$- 8,167.81
<b>Checkbook Balance as of Oct. 12, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 5,718.65</b>

Motion to accept treasurer's report was made, seconded and passed.

Rev. Ray Wells gave the Board of Ordination report in the absence of Rev. Norman Gordon.

**REPORT OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE**  
**BOARD OF ORDINATION**  
**SESSION NUMBER 131 OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE**  
**MICRO OFWB CHURCH**  
**OCTOBER 12th, 2017**

The Western Conference Board of Ordination met (7) times since the last annual session of the Conference. Four were scheduled meetings, two were electronic meetings where action was taken via e-mail and one was for an Ordination Service. Your Board of Ordination submits the following report and makes the following recommendations for your approval:

**1. Approved for License to Preach the Gospel:**

Clarence M. Benson  
Daniel Vester

Everett Chapel OFWB Church  
Marsh Swamp OFWB Church



2. **Renewed License to Preach the Gospel:**

Willard T. Kelley  
Jason L. Sexton  
William B. Wheeler

Everett Chapel OFWB Church  
Kenly OFWB Church  
Pleasant Grove OFWB Church

3. **Ministers Ordained since the last Conference:**

Rev. Luke Davis

Stoney Creek OFWB Church

4. **Credentials Reinstated:**

Rev. James Rogerson  
Rev. Chuck Owens

5. **Credentials Revoked:**

Rev. Archie Brock  
Rev. Charles Suggs

6. **Ministers Approved to Pastor in Western Conference:**

Rev. David Charles Hansley  
Rev. Braxton Carter  
Rev. Fred Crank  
Rev. Hayward W. Watford III

Black Grove OFWB Church  
Mt. Zion (Wilson) OFWB Church  
Stancil's Chapel OFWB Church  
Mt. Zion (Nash Co.) OFWB Church

7. **Ministers Transferring/Exchanging Credentials with the Western Conference:**

Rev. Chris Hall (Credentials Exchange)  
Rev. Fred Crank (Credentials Exchange)  
Rev. Hayward W. Watford III (Credentials Exchange)

8. **Ministers No Longer Approved to Pastor in Western Conference**

Rev. Archie Brock  
Rev. Charles Suggs

9. **License Period:**

There is a one-year term on the license to preach the gospel with a five-year maximum on the amount of time allowed to preach under license in preparation for ordination. If at any time the *licensed minister allows the license to lapse*, the entire licensing process must be restarted beginning with the recommendation of the local church to the Board of Ordination.

10. **Requirements for Ordination:**

We commend to our member churches and to all of our licensed ministers the attached *Requirements for Ordination*. This document will serve as a checklist for our licensed ministers as they move toward ordination. This document will also aid our churches in answering initial questions that a candidate might have in regard to the requirements for ordination.

11. **Conference Attendance:**

A. Any minister (licensed or ordained) holding membership in the Western Conference, who fails to attend the annual session of the Conference for two consecutive years or fails to send a letter showing reasonable excuse for non-attendance, is subject to censure and/or the revocation of his credentials of ordination.

B. All ministers (licensed or ordained) serving in the Western Conference in any pastoral position are **required to register and attend the annual session of the Western Conference**. Pastoral positions include but are not limited to pastors, associate pastors, and youth ministers. Failure to attend two consecutive years or failure to send a letter showing reasonable cause for non-attendance will subject the minister to censure and/or the revocation of credentials.

12. **Annual Convention Attendance:**

Any minister (licensed and ordained) holding membership in the Western Conference **is required to register and attend at least one day of our annual two-day OFWB Convention** which meets Wednesday and Thursday following the second Sunday of May on the Mount Olive College Campus. A letter stating reasonable cause will also be accepted in lieu of this requirement. It may be sent to either the **Clerk of the Board of Ordination** or the **Clerk of the Conference (not to the Convention office or the President of the Convention)**.

13. **Ministers Transferring into the Western Conference:**

A. From Sister Conferences: These ministers must be cleared with the Western Conference Board of Ordination **prior to assuming** the pastorate to which they are called. This is the responsibility of the church calling the minister; however, the minister should be sure it has been done **prior to** beginning the prospective work. This is a simple procedure designed to protect our churches from harm. Our churches are not independent of the Conference as is true in some other denominations and groups.

B. From other Denominations: For this information you are referred to page 89 of our *Articles of Faith & Principles of Church Government*.

14. **The Christian Flag Service for Ministers:**

The Board of Ordination will serve as the Conference Christian Flag Committee. Any minister serving in the Western Conference at the time of his death will be given the Christian Flag Service if the minister has so requested or the family so desires. The flag will be purchased by the Conference.

15. **Items for Praise:**

1. Our newly licensed and ordained ministers
2. Our new members by baptism or transfer into the member churches of the Western Conference.

16. **Things a Licensed Minister *Can* and *Cannot* Do:**

1. A licensed minister **cannot** be called or hired as pastor (or associate) of any church (we need the cooperation of both our churches and our ministers on this item).

2. A licensed minister **can** serve a church on an interim or supply basis under the supervision of his Board of Ordination Advisor or another ordained minister as directed by the Board of Ordination. This service is to be limited to six months in any one church. If the church wishes an extension on the services of the licensed minister, the church must appeal to the Board of Ordination.

3. A licensed minister **cannot** administer the ordinances of the Gospel.

4. A licensed minister **cannot** perform wedding ceremonies.

5. A licensed minister **can** conduct worship services, preach, and teach as the opportunities are afforded to the licensed minister.

6. A licensed minister **can** officiate in a funeral service.

7. A Licensed minister **can** be elected to serve as temporary chairman of a business meeting with the exceptions as outlined on pg. 74, paragraph 2 of *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government*.

8. A licensed minister **can** vote at the annual conference.

17. **Recommendations to the Conference:**

1. The minister ordained since our last conference, the Reverend Luke Davis be welcomed into the Conference with the Right Hand of Fellowship by the Moderator and his name be added to the list of duly ordained ministers of the Western Conference by the Conference Clerk.

2. The ministers joining our conference by exchange of credentials – The Reverend Chris Hall, the Reverend Fred Crank, and the Reverend Hayward W. Watford III, be welcomed into the Conference with the Right Hand of Fellowship by the Moderator and their names be added to the list of duly ordained ministers of the Western Conference by the Conference Clerk.

3. The newly licensed ministers, Clarence Michael Benson and Daniel Vester be added to the list of licensed ministers by the Conference Clerk.

4. That all our ministers, both ordained and licensed, continue to abide by our current ***Ministerial Code of Ethics***.

5. That our churches **not call** ordained or licensed ministers from other denominations to serve as interim or to do supply work. Our churches be reminded of the statement from page 68 of ***The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (Of the English General Baptist Heritage)***: “*The Church shall call its own pastor from among the duly ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers who are approved by the Conference of which the church is a member, upon such terms as shall be mutually agreeable.*”

6. We request that our ministers inform the board of ordination when they resign from their church. This is so that we can assist our churches in the search process and interim period.

7. The Board of Ordination recommends that the Conference strongly encourage all current and future licensed ministers to attend annual workshops conducted by the Western Conference Ordaining Council or in conjunction with workshops of other Ordaining Councils, or other groups within our denomination.

8. That this report, in its entirety, be received by the Conference and these recommendations be accepted by the Conference as submitted.

Respectfully submitted,  
Western Conference Board of Ordination:  
Ray Wells, Chair  
Rudy Owens  
De W. Eakes  
Al Warrick  
Howard Scott  
Barry Stallings  
Norman Gordon, Clerk

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to receive the Board of Ordination report as presented.

The Moderator recognized the newly ordained minister, Rev. Luke Davis and welcomed him into the conference. Clarence Benson and Daniel Vester, licensed ministers, were unable to attend. Rev. Fred Crank and Rev. Hayward Watford, III were introduced and all were welcomed into the Western Conference with the right hand of fellowship.

The Moderator opened the floor for any new business. Rev. Braxton Carter requested permission to transfer his membership to the Western Conference from the Cape Fear. The Moderator directed the Clerk to send a letter requesting letter of recommendation from the Cape Fear Conference.

Rev. Ray Wells made a motion for the conference to contribute \$500 to the Wall of Honor in honor of Rev. Rudy Owens and Rev. Norman Gordon for their service on the Board of Ordination. The motion was seconded and passed.

A motion was made by Rev. Dr. De W. Eakes for the conference to contribute \$500 to the North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries and \$250 to each of the other denominational ministries. The motion was seconded and passed.

Rev. Ray Wells made a motion for the conference to purchase a new computer for the Board of Ordination, or repair the computer they currently have, not to exceed \$500. The motion was seconded and passed.

The Moderator asked for the denominational ministry representatives to come forward and report. Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, Convention President, represented Convention Services in the absence of Rev. Gary Bailey. Rev. Hobgood encouraged the conference to get back to the basics of faith as demonstrated in Acts 2. Rev. Harold Jones reported on behalf of Foreign Missions. Ms. Angela Mattox reported on behalf of Cragmont Assembly. Mr. Gary Lee reported on behalf of the Children's Home. Mrs. Gail Heath reported on behalf of Christian Education Ministry. Mrs. Sharlene Scott reported on behalf of the University of Mount Olive. Rev. Ronnie Taylor reported on behalf of Retirement Home Ministries. Mr. Rick Watson reported on behalf of the Ministerial Association. Rev. Dr. De W. Eakes reported on behalf of the Minister's Program and Rev. Dr. Rudy Owens reported on behalf of Carolina Bible Institute and Seminary. A break was enjoyed, and the conference reconvened with a congregational hymn, "Praise Him, Praise Him." An offering was then accepted.

The Reverend Charles L. Renfrow introduced the Reverend Anderson Barnes who brought a message from II Corinthians 5:16-21.

The Moderator called for the Temporary Committee reports. The Nominating Committee Report was given by Rev. David Currie. The report was received upon motion and a proper second. The floor was opened for nominations from the floor. A motion to close the nominations was made, seconded and passed. The nominating committee put into nomination the following names: Credentials Committee: Rev. Cody Proctor and Rev. Stanley Kirby with terms expiring in 2019. Board of Trustees: Rev. Don Fleming, term expiring 2019. Executive Committee: Rev. Buddy Sasser, Vice Moderator, Rev. Sherman Dilley, Treasurer and Rev. David Currie, Member-at-Large, terms expiring 2019. Board of Ordination: Rev. Terry Ellis, term expiring 2024; Rev. Lewis Forsythe to fill the unexpired term of Rev. Norman Gordon, term expiring 2021. The report was submitted by Rev. David Currie, Chair, Rev. Lloyd Hargis and Rev. Lewis Forsythe. A motion to elect the officers as presented by the Nominating Committee was made, seconded and passed.

The Moderator called for the Resolutions Committee Report and the report was given Rev. Terry Ellis. There we three resolutions presented. First, a resolution honoring Dr. Phillip Kerstetter was read. A motion to accept the resolution as presented was made, seconded and passed. Second, a resolution was presented thanking the Micro Original Free Will Baptist Church for hosting the annual conference. A motion to accept the resolution as presented was made, seconded and passed by a rising vote of thanks. Finally, a resolution stating that member churches of the Western Conference not condone or permit same sex marriages was read. A motion to accept the resolution as presented was made, seconded and passed.

Rev. Stanley Kirby gave the Credentials Committee Report. It was reported that 54 Ministers, 38 Delegates and 12 Visitors were registered, totaling 104.

The Memorial Committee Report was given by Rev. Braxton Carter who gave honor to God for the lives of the Rev. Billy Toler and the Rev. Nelson Rollins.

The Moderator opened the floor for any final business to be brought before the conference. Rev. Ray Wells made a motion that the Moderator send a letter to Dr. Phillip Kerstetter along with a copy of the resolution made in his honor. The motion was seconded and passed. A motion was made by Rev. Lewis Forsythe to give \$500 to the New Minister's Leadership Institute. The motion was seconded and passed.

Rev. Ray Wells made a motion to adjourn, leaving all unfinished business in the hands of the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded and passed, and the conference was adjourned. A delicious meal was served in the fellowship hall by members of the Micro Original Free Will Baptist Church.

Respectfully submitted:

Rev. Charles L. Renfrow, Western Conference Moderator

Rev. Buddy Sasser, Vice Moderator

Rev. Sherman Dilley, Treasurer

Rev. David Currie, Member at Large

Rev. George Futrelle, Conference Clerk



*The Convention of  
Original Free Will Baptists  
Presents in Concert:  
Friday, July 27, 2018  
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