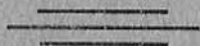


MINUTES
OF THE
Fourth Annual Session
OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
Original Free Will Baptist Churches
HELD WITH
Una Church Near Spartanburg, S. C.
NOVEMBER 14-15, 1946



The Next Session Will Be Held With Little Lamb Church
Near Conway, South Carolina

PROCEEDINGS

The fourth annual session of the South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptists opened at 10:15 A. M., Nov. 14, 1946. Devotions were conducted by Una Church.

The address of welcome was made by Rev. A. F. Lawter of Lockhart, S. C., a member of Una Church and Rev. Seldon Bullard of Darlington responded.

Officers elected for a term of two years were:

Rev. L. A. Holliday, President.

Rev. Paul Shehan, Assistant President.

Rev. H. J. Sawyer, Secretary.

Field Secretaries were:

Rev. Daniel Cronk, Missions.

Rev. J. A. Hucks, Orphanage.

Rev. Luther Gibson, Education.

Trustees: C. E. Sawyer, G. W. Shelby, J. G. Williams, Julius Vance, Jim Thigpen.

Executive Committee: Rev. M. H. Mellette, Chairman; Rev. T. A. Williams, Mr. Floyd A. Sawyer, Rev. J. A. Hucks, Rev. L. L. Moore. 11:00 A. M.—Sermon by Rev. Paul Ketterman.

Text: Jeremiah 2:13. Subject: "Hewed Cisterns of Free Will Baptists."

Rev. Ketterman brought a fine message calling upon us to return from our way back to "God's way".

2:00 P. M.—Enrollment of Churches in South Carolina Conference.

Little Star, for association expenses \$10.00.

Liberty Church, for association expenses \$5.00, for education \$24.00.

Tabernacle, for association expenses \$15.00, for education \$5.00.

Horse Branch association expenses, \$10.00, education, \$43.00.

Salem for association expenses, \$5.00, education, \$100.00.

New Zion, for association expenses \$10.00.

Darlington, \$25.00.

Bethany, \$10.00.

Bulah, for association expenses \$10.00, for education \$100.00.

Mt. Elon for association expenses, \$10.00, education \$75.00, foreign missions, \$12.50, home missions, \$12.50.

Lebanon Church, for association expenses \$5.00.

Sand Hill, for association expenses \$30.00.

Camp Branch, for association expenses \$25.00.

S. C. Conference, for association expenses \$10.00, education fund \$824.72.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Oak Grove Church, for association expenses \$5.00.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Little Lamb Church, \$10.00.

BEAVER CREEK ASSOCIATION

Saxon Avenue Church, for association expenses \$5.00.

Coles Chapel, for association expenses \$5.00.

Whitney Church, for association expenses \$10.00, education fund \$15.00

Clover Church, for association expenses \$5.00.

Mt. Carmel, for association expenses \$5.00.

Lockhart Church, for association expenses \$5.00.

Lancaster Church, for association expenses \$5.00.

The Beaver Creek association also sent \$150.00 for home missions.

Rev. Arthur Williams made a very encouraging verbal report on the Eastern Conference, where there has been some defections. Rev. Williams seems very hopeful of more unity in his conference in the future.

Rev. M. H. Mellette, who for the past two years has been secretary of Christian Education, made a very splendid talk on the subject, followed by a report that South Carolina has again become one of the first states to pay its quota for the college expansion program—in fact, about one-half of our 1947 quota has been met.

The report on Missions was made by Rev. H. J. Sawyer, outgoing secretary of Missions.

According to the report, our state contributed more than three times as much this year for Foreign Missions as were contributed by our people two years ago. Also a Home Mission Program has been started—the first in South Carolina.

This report was followed by a soul-stirring sermon on Missions by Rev. Daniel Cronk, newly chosen Mission secretary.

At this time the Committee on Constitutions and By Laws made their report, which was read and passed upon one article at a time.

Most of the report was accepted and Rev. L. L. Moore was given a rising vote of thanks for his work in preparing it.

It was also decided to print the Constitution and By Laws, as they are after amendments in our minutes. (This will appear elsewhere in the Minutes).

THURSDAY EVENING, 7:00 O'CLOCK

The evening service was opened with singing by the congregation, and prayer. After which Rev. Luther Gibson, of Columbia, conducted the devotional part of the service in which a great number took part in an old fashioned experience, or testimony meeting.

This was indeed one of the highlights of the association, for which we praise the Lord.

Promptly at 8:00 o'clock Brother Gibson introduced to us the Rev. Robert B. Crawford, of Nashville, Tenn., national secretary, who had been chosen as the main speaker.

It was really a treat to our souls to hear Rev. Crawford report on the progress of our denomination as a whole, and too, he commended our people for the work in South Carolina.

After this encouraging report the Reverend preached a splendid sermon on the "Characteristics of John the Baptist", using for a text Matthew 11:11. "None Greater than John the Baptist".

The speaker compared John the Baptist to Christ; bringing out that Christ was born of the virgin Mary. John had to be born again; his parents were holy and loved God.

John was "Great in His Origin" and "Great in His Convictions."

A man of "Great Humanity"; a man with a "Great Courage."

His message "Behold the Lamb of God that Taketh Away the Sin of the World."

Three of our young ministers in college asked to be excused from the body as the needed to be back in school on Friday. They were: Rev. Paul Ketterman, Rev. Daniel Cronk, and Rev. Luther Gibson.

The were excused.

FRIDAY, 9:00 A. M.

After song and prayer, the Association opened in short order. It was decided to omit the morning message so as to devote the morning to business.

A question was asked concerning the Orphanage work, followed by the report on Orphanage work by Rev. M. H. Mellette.

The discussions were very encouraging. Several of the brethren discussed the subject.

Reports of Resolutions Committee were called for at this time and the following resolutions were offered and passed, with amendments as follows:

Whereas, the Free Will Baptist Denomination is more than 100 years old in the state of South Carolina, and has operated on a plan which has proven to bring only minimum results rather than maximum results, and

Whereas, there seems to be an awakening among some of our people, relative to our obligations and privileges in making a contribution to a thorough evangelization of our state, be it therefore resolved:

First: That during the 1946 session of the South Carolina State Association, the body elect or appoint a state Evangelist, who is missionary-minded and who will give his entire time to field work; and whose duties shall be to visit the Churches throughout the state, preach, and promote the cause of Home Missions; and to raise funds for the purpose of promoting the plan of work; and accumulating funds with which to set in motion a special program of evangelization in our state.

Second: That a special board, or committee, be elected or appointed to which said Evangelist shall be responsible for the conduct of the affairs of his office.

Third: That the special board or committee arrange the salary for the Evangelist, plus necessary traveling expenses. Said salary and expenses to be paid out of funds raised by the Evangelist.

Fourth: That at such time as there may be sufficient funds on hand with which to justify such move, a competent minister be employed to set into motion a program of evangelization, who shall serve under the supervision of a "Special Board" mentioned in the second article of this resolution.

Fifth: That the Ministry and other leaderships of our Churches, be urged to give their full support this proposed movement.

The Association placed this work in the hands of the Executive Committee, who were instructed to meet soon and appoint the Evangelist.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your committee, wish to report the following:

For Association Expenses	\$ 215.00
For College Expansion Program	1,216.72
For Foreign Missions	12.50
For Home Missions	162.50
Total	<hr/> \$1,606.50

The Association voted to pay the corresponding secretary \$25.00, and to send \$40.00 to the National Association.

The matter of appointing delegates to the National Association was left to the Moderator.

Invitations for the 1947 session were presented by Oak Grove Church, of the Central Conference, and Bulah Church, of the S. C. Conference, and Little Lamb Church, of the Eastern Conference.

Both the Oak Grove and Bulah delegates yielded to Little Lamb, so the next session will be held at Little Lamb Church, Horry County, near Conway, S. C., Nov. 13-14, 1947, beginning at 10:00 A. M. on the 13th.

On motion, the body extended to the officers of the Association a rising vote of thanks for the able manner in which this session was conducted; and also to Una Church and others who did so much to make us feel at home in the community.

Much good has been done in our state during the past year, as the results of the activities of the state association, and too, this has been the most inspiring session in the short history of the organization, for which we are thankful to God.

Let us go forward to new and greater accomplishments in the year to come, and expect even a greater session in 1947.

In the meantime, if there are any questions in anyone's minds as to the work, I will be more than glad to answer them if I am contacted. My address is Rev. H. J. Sawyer, 452 Railroad Avenue, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Rev. L. A. Holliday, Moderator

Rev. H. J. Sawyer, Secretary.

GREETINGS FROM OUR FIELD SECRETARIES

Due to illness in his home, Rev. J. A. Hurks, secretary of Orphanage work, could not send a greeting, other than to say that he will do his best to further the cause.

Rev. Hucks is one of the leading ministers in the eastern part of the state; is moderator of the Central Conference, and pastor of four Churches.

You may contact him at this address: Rev. J. A. Hucks, Route 3, Conway, South Carolina.

Perhaps you are rejoicing with me that the Free Will Baptists of South Carolina have done so well in the support of missions during the past year. Before us is a new year in which we can exceed ourselves in giving of prevailing prayer and generously of our material blessings. South Carolina is feeling as never before the awfulness of the millions in China, India, and other parts of the world, who are dying without Christ, our precious Lord.

We must realize that in no other generation there has been such a challenge to Christians to carry out Acts 1:8 and Acts 5:42. "They ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." Europe is staggering and drunken with the horrors and devastations of war. China bleeds while India riots. Yet in this, we see that Christ, the Prince of peace, is the only solution and is what they really want. Will you, as Christians and as Free Will Baptists, throughout this year ask God "What is thy will for me to help spread the good news?" My prayer is that God shall do mighty things through us.

Your co-worker,

Daniel Cronk,

Secretary of Missions.

THE MINISTRY OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA:

Let me urge each of you to put before your people of each of your local Churches, the needs of Christian Education. God has blessed and is still blessing, us with many opportunities to serve Him better. He has given us a wonderful Bible college, where you, your son and daughter can go and prepare themselves for a greater service for God. It will be your responsibility and my responsibility to see that these young people get the right training. If our young people are to be established in the faith and practices of Free Will Baptists, they must have a place to be trained. God help us to go forward this new year as never before in a greater service for Him. If we are to go forward, we must pray, and we must teach, and we must give to the cause. May God bless every effort you put forth to serve Him this new year. "To Know Him and To Make Him Known."

In Christ Jesus,
Luther Gibson,
Chairman of Christian Education,
Columbia Bible College,
Columbia, South Carolina.

Send all gifts for Christian Education to the above address.

Rev. Daniel Cronk, secretary of missions, is a young man who with his wife, has consecrated himself for work in the mission fields of India..

He has finished at the Free Will Baptist College and is now in his last year in Columbia Bible College, and is pastoring one church in South Carolina.

You will do well to cooperate with him.

Rev. Luther Gibson, secretary of Christian Education, is also a product of the Free Will Baptist College, and this is his first year at Columbia Bible College.

He is a fine preacher, and he too is pastor of one of the leading churches in our state.

We are proud of these young men, and we urge the people of our state to give them your full support in the work they are doing.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS.

CONSTITUTION

Preamble: We, the officials, ministers, and delegates, members of this the South Carolina Stte Association of Original Free Will Baptists, while in session at Una Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina, November 13-14, 1946, do accept and adopt the foregoing constitution and by-laws:

Article One: This body shall be known henceforth as the South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptists.

Article Two. It shall be the purpose of this organization to co-operate with the National Association in its efforts to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of the Free Will Baptist Church, for the promotion of home and foreign missions, christian education, Sunday school, Free Will Baptist League, and Ladies Auxiliary Work, and for the extension of the kingdom of God in general.

Article Three. Section One. This association shall consist of delegates duly appointed or elected by the church or organization to represent, and ordained, and licensed Free Will Baptist ministers, who are of good repute in the Original Free Will Baptist Church, and who reside in South Carolina, or holds membership in, or pastors a church in South Carolina.

Section Two. Each Association or Conference, may represent in this association on the basis of two delegates for each association and conference of one thousand members or less, and one additional delegate for each additional thousand members of fractions thereof.

Section Three. Any Local Church who desires to, may send an additional delegate, provided said Church sends a contribution for association expenses of not less than \$5.00.

Article Four. This Association shall have an Executive Committee of five, composed of ordained ministers and lay members in good standing in the association, one to be appointed by the moderator each year for a five year term, to act officially in the event any case may arise in this association or in any church, association, or conference composing this association, when, and only when it is deemed necessary or expedient for the best interest of the cause of the church in general.

Article Five. The officers of this association shall be a president, first, second, and third vice-presidents, a corresponding secretary, a recording secretary, and a reading clerk. Said reading clerk to take the place of the recording secretary in his absence, and a treasurer.

Section 2. These officers are to be elected by the association to serve a term of two years.

Article 6. All officers of this association, all members of its committees and boards, all its secretaries, missionaries, and agents appointed by the association, or by any of its boards, shall be members of regular Free Will Baptist organizations in South Carolina, co-operating with this association.

Article 7. All missionaries, teachers and christian workers approved, appointed, or supported by this association must be fundamental in their views of the Bible and its teaching, and in harmony with the doctrines of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. They must also give evidence of genuine christian piety, for fervent zeal in the service of Christ, and of ability to do the work for which they are considered.

Article 8. This association shall hold its meetings annually on Thursday and Friday of the week between the second and third Sundays in November, beginning at 10:00 A. M., unless, or until, some change of time of the year shall be thought best.

Article 9. These Articles may be altered or amended at any regular session of the association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, providing the change is recommended at least one day before the vote is taken.

BY-LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. A portion of the Scripture shall be read and Prayer offered at the beginning of each morning and afternoon session of the association, and Prayer shall be offered at the close of each session.

This is to be done by the President, or someone appointed by him.

2. The President or the Vice-President shall call the association to order at the hour designated by the Program Committee.

When neither the President or Vice-President is present, the Recording Secretary shall call the association to order and a President Pro Tem shall be elected by the body, who shall preside for that session of the association.

3. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to enroll the delegates of the association who shall present themselves with proper evidence of their right to seats therein, and those enrolled by the Secretary shall compose the association.

4. Each organization represented in the association shall send into the association as large a contribution as they can from time to time. This money to be used to meet the expenses of the association and to promote the work it overtakes.

5. On the first day of the association meeting the President shall appoint a Resolutions Committee to consist of three members, all resolutions not connected with the reports of boards and committees shall be referred to this committee, which shall report on all resolutions referred to it, with or without recommendation.

6. The officers of the association, the departmental secretaries, the executive committee, and all boards shall be elected by the association. All other committees may be either appointed by the president or elected by the body.

In the election of officers, boards, or committees, the votes may be by ballot if preferred, or by any other method agreed upon by the body.

7. In the event of a standing executive committee, the members shall be elected for a term of five years except the first four elected, who shall serve a period of one, two, three and four years respectively.

8. The duties of the executive committee shall be as follows: 1. To act for the association in matters that demand its consideration between the regular annual sessions of the association. 2. To have oversight of arrangements for meetings of the association with the authority to change, if necessary, the time and place of meeting. 3. To fill vacancies in the association that may be caused by death, resignation, etc., between the regular sessions of the associations.

9. It shall be required of all members of the association to remain throughout the entire session, unless they are excused by a majority vote of the body.

10. Anyone desiring to speak shall rise and address the president, and shall wait until he is recognized before speaking further.

11. The president shall not allow discussions that are unchristian in spirit and that tend to create envy and strife among the brethren, and anyone resenting the ruling of the president in such matters shall be liable to the censure of the body.

12. No one shall be allowed to speak more than 15 minutes or more than twice on the same subject without permission of the body.

13. It shall be the duty of the president to have his annual message so prepared and arranged that it can be handed to the secretary for publication in the minutes of each session of the association.

14. The officers of this association, except that of the board of trustees and executive committee, shall be for a term of two years.

15. These By-Laws may be altered at any regular session of the association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, providing the change is recommended at least one day before the vote is taken.