

Minutes of the 56th Annual Session of the NC Association of Free Will Baptists

Dedicate to Replicate – 2 Timothy 2:2

Embassy Suites Hotel; Greensboro, NC, June 4-5, 2018

Sonny Thomas, Moderator; Josh Baer, Clerk

MONDAY MORNING SESSION – June 4, 2018 9:30 AM

The morning session was opened with congregational singing led by Sam Harris. Reuben Cason gave a welcome and led in prayer. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Sonny Thomas. The standing delegates were recognized and the body voted to seat the delegates sent by churches and associations.

M/S/C to seat the delegates.

Visitors were recognized from several state and national ministries. **The Nominating Committee was appointed ahead of time by the Executive Committee:**

Nate Ange (Chairman), Randy Arrowood, Leonard Bowers, Gerald Fowler, Jeff Silver

The 9:30 AM service began with prayer by Gene Williams, who presided over the service. Sam Harris led the congregational singing. The *Sounds of Praise* ensemble from Southeastern FWB College provided the special music. Nate Ange preached from 2 Kings 2:1-11 and Acts 1:8-9 on “The Needed Power for This Hour.” Sonny Thomas closed with announcements and the appointing of committees.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator:

Credentials Committee

Eddie Moody, Chairman
Billy Keith
Don Draughn

Obituary Committee

Henry Potter, Chairman
Jerry McClain
Jonathan Ange

Resolutions Committee

David Young, Chairman
Mike McCauley
Richard Cole

The 10:45 AM service was presided over by Danny Gasperson with Kevin Justice leading the congregational singing. Special music was provided by the *Rejoice* ensemble from Welch College. Rusty Russell preached from Galatians 4:19-20 on “Life Change.” Sonny Thomas closed with announcements and prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION – June 4, 2018 1:30 PM

The afternoon session was opened with congregational singing and prayer, led by Kevin Justice. The **AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION** was called to order by the Moderator.

A partial report from the **Credentials Committee** was given by Eddie Moody, Chairman. All associations have paid except for the Foothills (in the mail). 158 churches have reported. 191 registered attendees.

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **Executive Board** report was given by the Clerk, Josh Baer. He referred to the minutes of State Meeting and the Executive Board meetings as reported in the Digest (pp. 11-20).

M/S/C to accept the report.

Moderator Sonny Thomas opened the floor to take the motion off of the table from 2017. The tabled motion: “After much discussion, an amendment to the motion was made by Phil Ange to drop sections 9.07 and 10.03(3). Todd Parrish amended the amendment that we 1) proceed with Incorporation and 2)

with voting in the newly drafted Constitution, tabling 9.07 and 10.03(3) until next year, so that the Executive Board might reconsider and bring a revision.”

M/S/C to bring the motion off the table.

M/S/C to pass the original motion to permanently drop sections 9.07 and 10.03(3).

Reuben Cason, Promotional Director gave his report.

1. Luke Johnson gave an update on the medical progress of his son, Landon.
2. Reuben reviewed the report given in the Digest (pp. 26-37).
3. 28 in attendance at last year’s Minister’s Retreat. This year’s retreat will be September 24-26.
4. 130 members in the Benevolent Fund.
5. 375 subscribers to Reuben’s weekly newsletter. 119 signed up to receive prayer requests by text.
6. 39 churches have the Promotional Department in their budget.
7. The Promotional Department recently traded in the department vehicle and purchased a newer vehicle with lower miles.
8. *Savings through the ending of 2016*: Beginning Balance \$15,413.89. Ending balance \$24,963.71.
9. *Checking through the ending of 2016*: Beginning Balance \$25,265.32. Ending balance \$64,589.35.

M/S/C to accept the report and adopt the Promotional Office budget.

Reuben Cason shared some special prayer requests for ministers in our state. Hal Jones led in prayer.

Treasurer **Scott Coghil** gave the Treasurer’s Report (Report on pp. 21-25).

1. Scott explained the purpose of each account:
 - a. General Checking: general expenses of the State, including board meeting expenses, mileage reimbursements, etc.
 - b. General Fund Trust Account: savings account for State funds.
 - c. Freedom Trust Account: renaming to the NC FWB Missions Account, as it is used for future mission works.
 - d. CELF Account: net cash proceeds of the Rest Home, to earn a better interest rate.
 - e. Integrity Senior Properties Stock: we own 4.1% of Integrity Senior Property’s company. Current value of Integrity: \$40 Million in assets.

M/S/C to accept the report.

M/S/C to rename the Freedom Trust Account to the NC FWB Missions Trust Account.

The **NC Mission Board** report was given by the Board Chairman David Robinson (Report on pp. 38-44).

1. The Freedom work in Roanoke Rapids is working with the Board on an 18 month exit strategy to become self-supporting. They still need our prayers and financial support.
2. The Board brought on Glad Tidings in Asheboro (former mission work) as a revitalization effort. This is a four-year project, not an open-ended plan. They need our prayers and financial support. Clarification of a statement on p. 38, “Bro. Dale has completed his itinerate travels...” Correction, Dale has completed the first phase of his itinerate travel, but he is still traveling and raising funds.
3. The Board is looking for a new missionary and researching potential areas to begin a new church.
4. Correction to address for contributions: NC State Home Missions, **PO Box 34**, Davis, NC 28524.
5. Financial reports for the Mission Board were given by Board Treasurer Jimmy Mercer.

M/S/C to accept the report and adopt the budget.

The **Youth Board** report was given by Chairman Jake Manning (Report on pp. 46-50).

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **North Carolina Women Active for Christ** report was given by Carolyn Riddick (Report on p. 45).

1. Update on the IM State Project. The goal was \$10,000. They met that goal at their annual meeting.

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **Leah Waddell Scholarship** report was given by Betty Hill (Report on p. 51).

Glenda Fulcher and Terry Cason will replace Eureka Rackley and Betty Wiggs on the committee.

Betty Hill is the new treasurer.

M/S/C to accept the report and send a note of appreciation to Betty Wiggs for her faithful years of service and that she receives a rising vote of thanks.

We received greetings from the following ministries:

- *NCLL* – Rudy Holland, Representative
- *FWB Foundation* – David Brown, Director
- *FWB Board of Retirement* – Joshua Eidson, Accounting Administrator
- *NAFWB Executive Office* – Keith Burden, Executive Secretary
- *FWB North American Ministries* – Rick Bowling, Director of Hispanic Ministry
- *Randall House Publications* – Ron Hunter, Executive Director & CEO

Report from the Nominating Committee by Nate Ange, Chairman. Vote will take place tomorrow during the business session. The nominees are:

Moderator (2020): Gene Williams (replacing Sonny Thomas)

Assistant Moderator (2020): Danny Gasperson (replacing Jeff Jones/Todd Parrish)

Treasurer (2020): Scott Coghill (replacing himself)

Clerk (2020): Josh Baer (replacing himself)

Member at Large (2019): Pat Hall (replacing Danny Gasperson)

Member at Large (2021): Jeff Jones (replacing himself)

NC Mission Board (2023): Chuck Overcash (replacing himself)

Youth Relations Board (2020): Sonny Thomas (replacing Devin Cominskie)

Youth Relations Board (2023): Darren Walker (replacing himself)

M/S/C to recess at 4:10 PM.

MONDAY EVENING SERVICE– June 4, 2018 7:00 PM

Pre-service (6:00 pm) music was provided by the combined groups from Welch College and Southeastern FWB College. The Convention Camp Meeting Choir provided the Call to Worship for the Evening Service. Sam Harris led the congregational singing. Jeff Silver opened in prayer and presided over the service. The offering was received to benefit the Glad Tidings Revitalization (Asheboro) and the Matt Price family (France). The Convention Camp Meeting Choir sang during the Offertory. Jeff Silver introduced the speaker Frank Woods who preached from Luke 14:25-27 and 2 Timothy 2;1-3 on “Committed to Discipleship.” Following an altar service, the meeting was closed in prayer.

Following this service, panel discussions (8:45 pm) were held:

- “Biblical Foundations for Making Disciples,” Rusty Russell, Aaron Pierce, Ben Crabtree, Ron Hunter, moderated by Chris Truett
- “Discipleship & Ladies Ministry,” Cristina Price, Brenda Evans, Cindy Bird, moderated by Carolyn Riddick

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION – June 5, 2018 9:00 AM

North Carolina Home Missions Service

Kevin Justice opened the service by leading congregational singing. The *Rejoice* Ensemble from Welch College provided special music. David Robinson welcomed everyone and led in prayer. Rex Evans gave a report on the work at Freedom FWB Church (Roanoke Rapids, NC). They, along with the NC Home Mission Board, have developed an eighteen month exit strategy to go self supporting. Prayers and financial support are still needed.

The Home Missions Offering was received, with prayer by Chuck Overcash. Special music was provided by the *Majesty Ladies Quartet* from Southeastern. Brian Bird introduced the speaker, Dale McCoy. Dale gave a report on the revitalization effort in Asheboro, NC. He then preached from John 12:1-7, “At the Feet of Jesus.” Jimmy Mercer concluded the service in prayer.

BUSINESS SESSION 10:15 AM

Moderator Sonny Thomas called the meeting to order and led in prayer.

We received greetings from the following Free Will Baptist ministries:

- *FWB International Missions* – Clint Morgan, General Director
- *Welch College* – Matt Pinson, President
- *WNAC* – Carolyn Riddick
- *Southeastern Free Will Baptist College* – Jim Marcum, President
- *Free Will Baptist Family Ministries* in Tennessee – Mike Allison, NC Field Rep.
- *Harvest Child Care Ministries* in Virginia – Carl Miller, NC Field Rep.

Chris Truett gave information about a network of NC pastors interested in discipleship. They are compiling an email list. He also reminded everyone that the D6 Conference will be in our state (Greensboro) September 19-21, 2018. Also, Peace Church in Wilson will offer a conference on October 23, 2018. Reuben Cason will share more information through his newsletter.

Jeff Jones and the Executive Committee presented Sonny Thomas with a gift in appreciation for his leadership as moderator. The voting body gave a standing ovation.

The **Credentials Committee Report** was presented by Eddie Moody, Chairman.

158 churches from 8 district associations (7 associations paying dues)

Registration:

Ordained Ministers	81
Delegates	10
Associates	20
Missionaries	6
Visitors	80

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **Obituary Committee Report** was given by Henry Potter, Chairman.

The following went home to be with the Lord this past year in our churches:

<u>NAME:</u>	<u>CHURCH:</u>	<u>ASSOCIATION:</u>
Jewell Andrews	Calvary, Durham	Randall
Willie Bell		Palmer
Earl Bittle		Blue Ridge
Jimmy Blackman	Unity, Smithfield	Randall
Bob Cable		
James Dixon		Pamlico
Rev. James Greene	Emmanuel, Washington	Pamlico
Steve Harrell	Cramerton, Cramerton	Southern Piedmont
Crystal Kimbrel	First, Washington	Pamlico
Rev. Jack Lassiter		Palmer
Myron Martin	Calvary, Durham	Randall
Bobby McCorkle	Calvary, Durham	Randall
Harold McManus	Ben Avenue, Kannapolis	Southern Piedmont
Myrtle McRay	Liberty, Greenville	Palmer
Morris Mercer		Coastal
Liston Parker	Calvary, Maple Hill	Coastal
Rev. David Paramore	Bethel, Kinston	Palmer
Cathy Parker	Belvoir, Greenville	Palmer
Rev. Ted Reynolds	Pisgah, Canton	Blue Ridge
Rev. Gordon Sebastian	Peace, Wilson	Palmer
Ola Mae Seymour *	Trinity, La Grange	Palmer
*a founder and charter member		
Horace Shoemaker	Cramerton, Cramerton	Southern Piedmont
Marjorie Stapels	Five Points, Washington	Pamlico
Virginia Tillman	Calvary, Durham	Randall
Virginia Willis	Davis, Davis	Coastal

Following a moment of silence, Henry Potter led in prayer.

M/S/C to accept the report.

The **Resolution Committee Report** was given by David Young, Chairman.

1. Whereas, we understand that a great deal of time and effort is required to organize the North Carolina State Meeting, *Be it resolved* we would like to give a vote of appreciation to the Executive Committee along with our State Promotional director for the leadership of our state meeting, and to the Embassy Suites for their helpful accommodations.

M/S/C to receive report and pass the resolution.

The **Nominating Committee** report was given by Nate Ange, Chairman. Nominations were also received from the floor, and the following were elected:

Executive Board

Moderator: Sonny Thomas (2018) 2 nd term	replaced by <u>Gene Williams</u> (2020) 1 st term
Asst. Moderator: Jeff Jones (2018) unexp. term	replaced by <u>Danny Gasperson</u> (2020) 1 st term
Treasurer: Scott Coghill (2018) 1 st term	replaced by <u>Scott Coghill</u> (2020) 2 nd term
Clerk: Josh Baer (2018) unexp. term	replaced by <u>Josh Baer</u> (2020) 1 st term
Danny Gasperson (2019) serving 1 st term	replaced by <u>Pat Hall</u> (2019) unexpired term

NC State Mission Board

Chuck Overcash (2018) unexpired term	replaced by <u>Chuck Overcash</u> (2023) 1 st term
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Youth Relations Board

Devin Cominskie (2020) unexpired term	replaced by <u>Sonny Thomas</u> (2020) unexpired term
Darren Walker (2018) 2 nd term	replaced by <u>Darren Walker</u> (2023) 3 rd term

M/S/C to elect item by item.

Sonny Thomas recognized Gene Williams, the newly elected moderator, who closed in prayer.

M/S/C to adjourn the meeting.