

**Minutes of the 62nd Annual Session of the
North Carolina Association of Free Will Baptists**

Hold Fast: Hebrews 10:23

Embassy Suites Hotel; Greensboro, North Carolina June 2-3, 2025

Josh Baer, Moderator; Jeff Silver, Clerk

MONDAY MORNING SERVICE- June 2, 2025, 9:30AM

Brother Kevin Justice led the congregation in the singing of “Oh How I Love Jesus.” Brother Josh Baer welcomed everyone to the 63rd North Carolina State Meeting. Brother Josh then welcomed Brother Reuben Cason to welcome everyone and open the meeting in prayer. Rejoice Ministry Team ministered through music. Brother Sherman Branch introduced Rev. Leonard Bowers as the speaker.. Brother Leonard read from 1 Peter 5:1-9. Three things to help us battle Ugly. 1) Help Me to remember what my work is and who owns the work from verse 2. 2) The Shepherd’s Reward is Sweet from verse 4. 3) Help is Available from verse 1. Brother Kevin led the body in singing, “I surrender All” for the altar call.

MONDAY MORNING SERVICE- June 2, 2025, 10:50 AM

Brother Kevin Justice led the congregation in the singing of “The Solid Rock.” Brother Christian Powell introduced Rev. Daryl Grimes as the speaker. Sounds of Praise Ensemble ministered through music. Brother Daryl read from 2 Timothy 1:13-18 on this thought; Making Sound Doctrine a Priority. 1) Receive Sound Doctrine 2) Guard Sound Doctrine 3) Live Sound Doctrine. Brother Josh closed in prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS SESSION June 2, 2025

Brother Josh welcomed everyone back from lunch. He then read Hebrews 10:19-25 and prayed. Brother Josh then seated delegates and lay delegates. M/S/C
Brother Josh welcomed visiting ministries and recognized them.

The following Committees were appointed by the Moderator:

Credentials Committee

Steve Crank- Chair
Don Droughn
Henry Potter

Obituary Committee

Jack Ward- Chair
Colby Davis
Stuart Harmon

Resolutions Committee

Nate Ange- Chair
Allen Hall
David Murphy

Nominating Committee

Brian Cameron- Chairman
Daryl Grimes
Justin Grigg

Troy Bordeaux
Mike Harper

Executive Board Report presented by the clerk, Jeff Silver. He referred to the minutes of the Executive Board meetings as reported on pages 18-20. M/S/C

Brother Reuben, the state Promotional Director presented his report. Thanked the state for their support and expressed his appreciation for his family. Asked Brother Norman Gordon and his wife to stand and be recognized. He is the pastor of the Northern Free Will Baptist Church from the Original Association has joined us. Reported on the Pastor and Wives Retreat and the Minister's Retreat. Read a card from the Swannanoa Church to express their appreciation for the support. Finance report found on page 24 for Benevolent Fund and Car Fund. Budget and Expenses report found on page 30. Proposed Budget found on page 33. Brother Josh presented the budget for 2025. M/S/C

Brother Reuben presented the Leah Waddell Scholarship Fund found on page 55 and 56.. Encouraged others to support. M/S/C

Brother Rueben closed with some personal remarks. Thanked the state for the support during the time of his mother's passing.

Brother Jeff Manning presented the Treasurer's report found on page 21-22. The Executive Board Proposed Budget is found on page 22. M/S/C

Brother Cliff Donoho gave the Home Missions Board report. Brother Jeff Davis was recognized to give the Missions' Treasurer's report. Brother Chuck Overcash was recognized in order to recognize Brother Brian Bird for his service on the NC Mission Board over the last 12 years. M/S/C Brother Josh called Brother Brandon to the stage to give an update on the Equip Church.

Brother Derek Cominskie presented the Youth Board Report which is found on page 43. Talked about the "SHINE" conference. Hosted a March Madness for Missions, raised over \$7928.00. 97 entries at the State competition. M/S/C

NC Women's Ministry- Sister Michelle Sailors presented their report which is found on page 42. M/S/C

Steve Crank presented a partial report for the Credentials.

All 8 associations

149 churches

74 Ordained Ministers

0 Licensed Minister

0 Appointed Delegates

20 Associate Pastors

5 Registered Missionaries
112 Visitors Registered
Registered Deacons 3
214 Total People Registered

Brother Ken Cash presented a report for Southeastern FWB College. M/S/C

Dr. Moody presented a report from the National Executive office.

Brother Todd Parrish from Welch College was recognized to bring greetings and a report.
Brother Josh closed in prayer.

MONDAY EVENING SERVICE-June 2, 2025 6:30 PM

The choir began the service by singing, Surely Mercy. Brother Sam Harris opened the service by leading everyone in the singing of "This is Amazing Grace" and "I Will Say of the Lord Melody." "Brother Chris Truett welcomed everyone to the service. He called for the ushers and indicated that it would go to offset the cost of the State meeting. Brother Sam led the choir in the singing of "All Because of Mercy." Brother Chris Truett introduced Brother Mark Clifton as the speaker for tonight. Rejoice Ministry Team sang and prepared out hearts for the word. Brother Mark read from Luke 3:21-22, Luke 7:18. "Jesus are you the one? 1) Circumstances 2) Listening to outside influences 3) Unmet expectations 4) Incomplete Revelation. Brother Chris closed in prayer.

TUESDAY MORNING SERVICE- June 3, 2025 9:00 AM

Brother Sam Harris led the congregation in the singing of "Love Lifted Me." Brother Doug Western introduced Brother Mark Clifton. Sounds of Praise Ensemble ministered through a couple of songs. Brother Mark Clifton read from John 4:5-10. Brother Mark closed the session in prayer.

TUESDAY MORNING SERVICE- June 3, 2025 10:20AM

Brother Sam Harris led the congregation in the singing of "Victory in Jesus." Brother Rueben Cason led in prayer and introduced Brother Mark Clifton as the speaker. Rejoice Ministry Team ministered through a couple of songs. Brother Mark How Do you begin to dig the wells? 1) Preach 2) Pray 3) Love 4) Stay" Preparing for the Storm 1) Have a Scripture 2) Have a Song 3) Spiritual Discipline 4) Have a friend. Brother Josh called for Brother Chris Truett to lead prayer as we laid hands on brother Mark.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BUSINESS- June 3, 2025 1:30PM

Brother Chris Truett opened the afternoon session with scripture reading from Ephesians 5:17-21 and prayer. Brother Josh recognized brother Danny Gasperson from International Missions and all of our foreign missionaries that are present.

Brother Josh recognized Brother Rick Bowling from North American Ministries to give an update.

Brother Josh recognized Dr. Ron Hunter from D6 Family Ministries to give a ministry report.

Brother Josh recognized Chris Compton the Richland Ave. Financial to give a ministry report.

Brother Josh recognized Scott Coghill from the board of FWB Foundations to give a ministry report.

Brother Josh recognized Ruth McDonald from FWB Women's Ministries (WNAC).

Brother Josh recognized brother Carl Miller who represents Harvest Time Child Care Ministries for a ministry update.

Brother Josh recognized brother Jim McComas from FWB Family Ministries to give a ministry update.

Brother Josh recognized Sherman Branch to give a ministry update on "Songs in the Night"

Brother Josh recognized Daryl Grimes to present the Ray of Hope ministries.

Brother Josh recognized Coel Sours to advocate for Youth Camp for your students.

Brother Josh recognized Luke Johnson to promote the Landon Story Foundation.

Mike Harper made a motion from the floor to continue the Pastor and Wives retreat for the funding of 1 night hotel stay for each pastor. M/S/C

Credentials Committee Final Report

149 Churches

8 Associations

72 Ordained Ministers

0 Licensed Ministers

0 Appointed delegates

19 Associate Pastors

5 Missionaries

107 Visitors

Total 205 M/S/C

Stuart Harmon presented the obituary report for 2024-2025

Janice Cason

Bobby Aycock

Sue Aycock

Jared Johnson

Brian Cameron presented the Nominations for the state.

Executive Board

Travis Moots Replacing Jeff Silver as Clerk
Sherman Branch replacing Sherman Branch

NC State Mission Board

The Nominating committee nominated Steve Crank
Daryl Grimes was nominated from the floor and won the vote.
Daryl Grimes to replace Brian Bird whose terms expired.

Youth Board

Cutler Harris replacing Jonathan Reed(moving out of the state)
Jonathan Cribb Replacing Devin Cominski (moving out of state)
Cole Sours replacing Cole Sours

M/S/C

Resolutions Committee

Whereas, North Carolina Free Will Baptist met for the 63rd annual meeting at the Embassy Suites of Greensboro, North Carolina entitled, "Hold Fast", and

Whereas the pastors and lay leaders of North Carolina enjoyed the arrangements, the services, and other accommodations;

Therefore, with a rising vote, we thank Reuben Cason and his family, the Executive Committee, and the Embassy Suites for making this session a great success.

Nate Ange

Allen Hall

David Murphy

M/S/C

TUESDAY EVENING SERVICE- June 3, 2025 6:00PM

Brother Kevin Justice began the service by leading the congregation in singing "This is Amazing Grace." Brother Jeff Manning called the Men's Ensemble to the stage and called forth the ushers. He read from Psalm 133 and Ephesians 4. Brother Jeff prayed over the offering and The Men's Ensemble sang, "It will be worth it all." Brother Kevin led the congregation in the singing of "Trust in God." Brother Jeff Manning introduced Brother Scott Coghill as tonight's speaker. The Sounds of Praise Ensemble ministered through song. Brother Scott read from 1 Timothy 3:14-16. "Purpose of the Church." 1) When we are consumed by Jesus it brings Structure to the body. Verse 14-15. 2) It also brings Unity in the Body 3) It Gives the body purpose. V15b. 4) It brings a purity or integrity to the body. Brother Josh closed out the meeting with prayer.