

THE UPPER OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE of FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

The Upper Ohio Valley Conference of Free Will Baptists was organized on October 30, 1971. This Conference consisted of the Maple Lane FWB Church, Hebron, W.V., and Mount Hope FWB Church, Marr, Ohio. The North Eastern Ohio Conference of Free Will Baptists, located mainly in the Akron, Mansfield area, consisted of the, 5th Avenue, Cottage Grove, Columbia Heights, Good Hope, Maple Lane and Mount Hope FWB Churches. Due to the great distances that separated the churches, Maple Lane and Mount Hope set out to establish a Conference within their own area. Executive Board members from the North Eastern Ohio Conference, assisted in the organization meeting of the Upper Ohio Valley Conference.

Rev. Melvin Sanford was in charge of the meeting, and the Executive Board members were Rev. Lawrence Smith, Rev. Harlan Webb, and Rev. Melvin Cisco. These brethren examined the Constitution, By-Laws and Offices that had been set forth to govern the Conference. After finding everything to be in proper order, the Upper Ohio Valley Conference was officially organized. The minutes for this meeting have been lost, therefore we are relying on the memory of persons who were present, for the above information. We cannot guarantee that this information is absolutely correct.

The offices were filled as follows:

Clerk- Roy Lee Cox

Treasurer- Rex Hadley

Executive Board - -

Chairman- Rev. George Flynn

Rev. Thomas Cox Sr.

Rev. George Burns

Ordination Council - -

Chairman- Rev. Thomas Cox Sr.

Rev. Lee Cox

Rev. George Burns

The first Quarterly meeting of the Upper Ohio Valley Conference was held on January 22, 1972 at the Maple lane Church in Hebron, W.V. Rev. George Burns was Moderator.

The Conference voted to request membership in the West Virginia State Association, on April 22, 1978, and was accepted into the State Association, in June 1978.

Past Members

Paradise View Free Will Baptist Church, Mansfield, Ohio
Brenda Drive Free Will Baptist Church, Mansfield, Ohio
Lawford Free Will Baptist Church, Lawford, Ohio
Rose Free Will Baptist Church, Falls Mills, W.V.

Present Members

Beech Run Free Will Baptist Church, Arvilla, W.V.
Bonds Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Ellenboro, W.V.
Evergreen Hills Free Will Baptist Church, Cottageville, W.V.
Good Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Reed, W.V.
Maple Lane Free Will Baptist Church, St. Marys, W.V.
Mount Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Marr, Ohio

Current Ministers

Rev. Robert (Bob) Cornell, Parkersburg, W.V.
Rev. Rex Cox, St. Mary's, W.V.
Rev. Rex Hadley, St. Mary's, W.V.
Rev. Mark Price, Cottageville, W.V.
Rev. John Price, LeRoy, W.V.
Rev. James Pyles, Sr., Cairo, W.V.

Current Deacons

Horner Blair, Rinard Mills, Ohio
Keith Hadley, St. Mary's, W.V.
Bob McIntire, Walker, W.V.
John Poling, St. Mary's, W.V.
Roland Price, Millwood, W.V.
Jim Stanley, Cottageville, W.V.

Current Clerk

Keith Hadley, St. Mary's, W.V.

The Conference belongs to the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist, and the National Association of Free Will Baptist.

NOTE: *This information was given to the Historical Committee of the
West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist, sometime
in, or around June 2008.*
