

Official Publication of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

June 2000

Vational Association of Free Will Baptists 64th Annual Convention 1uly 16-20, 2000

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Anaheim Convention

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**JUNE 2000** 

- 4 The Sin of Gluttony Part six of a seven-part series on the Seven Deadly Sins.
- **6** National Convention Program
- **9** WNAC Convention Program
- **10** NYC Program

#### VOLUME 47, NO. 6

#### **14** Convention Pre-Registration Form

- **15** Convention Housing Form
- **17** Delegate Cards
- 17 Cartoon: Beyond Belief

Front Cover Art: Ron Watson

#### COLUMNS .....

- 3 The Secretary Speaks Remember the Rest
- **24** The Department Pages
- 28 Green Tree Bible Study Friends in High Places
- 29 Especially for Young Preachers To the Young Preacher's Wife

- **30** Top Shelf
- 31 Briefcase Of Fathers and Sons

#### NEWS .....

18 Free Will Baptist Newsfront South Carolina State Association Illinois State Association CCC Trains Russians Discount Air Fares Media Commission Plans Arizona District Association New Student Officers at FWBBC FWBBC Seeks Teachers Asia Seminary Start-Up Distance Education at FWBBC Jesse Meade Death/Scholarship

22

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# I'hie Siecrietaary Speaks



Melvin Worthington

## Remember the Rest

he Together Way plan adopted by the National Association of Free Will Baptists is the denominational plan for the financial support of all national ministries. It is one plan with two methods of support: Cooperative and Designated. A church participating in The Together Way plan may choose to use either method to support national ministries. The bottom line remains the same—support all national ministries.

#### Special Days

The Together Way plan calls for four special offerings each year—Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering, Benjamin Randall Day Offering, Paul J. Ketteman Memorial Christmas Fund Offering and the Rest of the Family Offering. These four special days make The Together Way plan a unique plan. Each church is expected to observe the four days. Departments depend on the offerings on these days to make a difference in underwriting their annual budgets.

#### Specific Dates

The Together Way plan established specific dates for each of the four special offerings.

The month of April emphasizes the Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering. April 30, 2000, was designated for this offering. This special offering provides urgently needed funds to maintain the Foreign Missions program operating in several countries.

November 19, 2000, has been designated Benjamin Randall Day. Churches are asked to receive a special offering to help with the Home Missions general fund. The Home Missions Department currently supports missionary families in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

The month of December emphasizes the Paul J. Ketteman Memorial Christmas Fund. Every gift Free Will Baptist Bible College receives in December is accepted in memory of Brother Ketteman who served 25 years as public relations director.

The month of September emphasizes the Rest of the Family Offering. This offering, scheduled for September 24, provides opportunity for Free Will Baptists to focus on the smaller denominational ministries and their financial needs.

#### The Secretary's Schedule June 2000

- 1-2 RCMA Board Meeting
- 5-6 North Carolina State Association
- 6-8 Missouri State Association
- 7-9 Texas State Association
- 9-10 Kansas State Association
- 15-16 Virginia State Association
- 16-17 Indiana State Association
- 23-24 Ohio State Association
- 23-24 Northeast District Association
- 29-7/2 Atlantic Canada District Association

#### Solemn Duty

While we do not want to de-emphasize the other three Together Way Offerings, we do want to challenge and encourage each church to participate in the Rest of the Family Offering on September 24.

Ten national agencies share in this offering: the Executive Office, Retirement and Insurance Department, Free Will Baptist Foundation, Women Nationally Active for Christ, Master's Men, National Youth Conference, and four commissions: the Historical, Media, Music and the Commission for Theological Integrity.

The first Rest of the Family Offering in 1994 was less than \$5,000. By 1999 the offering exceeded \$16,000. A small number of churches participate in this special offering. Many more could and should remember the Rest of the Family Offering.

The National Association of Free Will Baptists is made up of many different ministries. Each ministry has a special place, a precise need and a distinctive budget. The Together Way plan recognizes these needs in the budgets adopted at each National Association.

Mark September 24, 2000, on your church calendar. This date has been designated as the Rest of the Family Offering. Challenge each member of your congregation to give in this special offering. Your generous gift will help underwrite the ministries of those national agencies participating in the Rest of the Family Offering.

#### Part six of a seven-part series on the Seven Deadly Sins

**The Sin of Gluttony** 

By Kevin Riggs<sup>1</sup>

hen I was in high school, my grandmother<sup>2</sup> would say, "Kevin, if you stand sideways and stick out your tongue you would look like a zipper." This means that I used to be skinny.

I played college basketball at 195 pounds. At 6'4", I was at my *ideal weight*. Now, in order to be my ideal weight, I need to be at least 8'9" tall. I'm not fat, I'm just short for my weight.

Having a weight problem is something new to me. I used to joke about going on a diet, but I have learned it is no joking matter. I don't consider myself a gluttonous person, but I do wish I had more discipline to eat healthy. I used to be able to eat anything and not gain weight. Now I can look at food and gain five pounds.

#### **Evils of Gluttony**

Many early church fathers consid-

ered gluttony to be the deadliest of the seven deadly sins.<sup>3</sup> I don't know if I agree, but I am willing to bet that of the seven sins, gluttony is the most practiced by Christians, and the most neglected from the pulpit by preachers.

I don't recall ever hearing a sermon on gluttony. I do know I have dreaded this subject more than any other in this series. My granddad used to say, "When you point a finger at someone, there are three fingers pointing back."

One evening at a revival meeting, an evangelist who was extremely overweight preached hard against smoking. After the sermon, an elderly lady who had smoked most of her life and who was a long-time member of the church, said to the evangelist, "Preacher, I'll quit smoking when you quit eating."

Her point was well made. Many believers, myself included, are quick to judge the lazy, lustful, angry, prideful, envious and greedy, and not so quick to look in the mirror and ask ourselves what we are going to do about the sin of gluttony in our own lives.

Gluttony, however, reaches beyond eating too much. Gluttony is the sin of no self-control, and includes over-indulgences in any area of life. The drug addict is a glutton. The alcoholic is a glutton. A person addicted to caffeine, tobacco, power or possessions is as guilty of gluttony as the obese.

The Apostle Paul said, "All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any," (I Cor. 6:12). In other words, too much of a good thing is sinful!

Gluttony could also be defined as the abuse of God-given, natural desires. The Bible calls this "lust of the flesh," (I Jn. 2:16). God created us with four basic desires meant for enjoyment, but gluttony corrupts each one into sin. Those four desires are eating, drinking, sleeping and intimacy.

Gluttony turns eating into obesity,

drinking into alcoholism,<sup>4</sup> sleeping into laziness and intimacy into immorality. Gluttony is the abuse of God-given privileges, but why is it a deadly sin?

#### Expression of Materialism

First, gluttony is an expression of materialism. Materialism is the worldly philosophy stating that happiness can be found in acquiring stuff. Gluttony is the physical expression of that worldview (Col. 2:8).

Another aspect of materialism is living for the present instead of living for eternity, and that is exactly what the gluttonous person does. The addict no matter what the addiction—doesn't care about anything but the next high, the next cigarette, the next big money deal or the next piece of chocolate cake.

In the parable of the Rich Fool, the fool stored up stuff and then said to himself, "Soul, thou hast much good laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry," (Lk. 12:19).

At that moment God said, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee," (Lk. 12:20).

The attitude of the gluttonous person is, "Let us eat and drink: for tomorrow we die," (I Cor. 15:32).

#### **Epitome of Selfishness**

A second reason gluttony is considered deadly is because it is the epitome of selfishness. The Christians in Corinth were scorned for abusing the Lord's Supper. Instead of being a time of worship, reflection and celebration, they turned it into a feast, gorging themselves and then eating more (I Cor. 11:17-34).

Paul writes, "For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken," (I Cor. 11:21). Gluttony is the pursuit of pleasure through indulgences, and it blinds me to the needs of others.

#### Defiles the Body

Third, gluttony defiles the body. It doesn't take a doctor to see that our society is full of sicknesses and diseases that are a direct result of unhealthy diets and ungodly addictions. Whether it is addiction to food, drugs, caffeine, sex, pornography, tobacco, power or prestige, if I allow myself to become a slave to something other than the Holy Spirit, I harm my own body.

#### **Conquering Gluttony**

The Apostle Paul describes the gluttonous person as being an enemy of the cross. He writes, "For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things," (Phil. 3:18-19).

Way back in the Old Testament, God said, "Man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live," (Deut. 8:3). How can I conquer the sin of gluttony? The answer comes by practice!

#### Moderation

The first thing I need to practice is moderation. When I was a boy I loved watermelon. One summer evening, however, I ate so much it made me sick. Without being crude, I'll just say the watermelon did not stay down. When it decided to come up, I thought I was vomiting blood and knew I was dying. For years I could not and would not eat watermelon. Since then, I have overcome my fear of watermelon, but I am always careful to enjoy it in moderation.

#### Self-Control

A second thing I must practice is self-control. I am amazed at what athletes will give up for the chance to win a medal. They will abstain from all kinds of things, push themselves to the limits and torture their bodies, all for a prize.

On the other hand, it is amazing how little I am willing to give up in order to follow Christ. The Bible says, "For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come," (I Tim. 4:8).

#### Fasting

One way I can implement moderation and self-control in my life is by practicing fasting. If I set aside one meal per week, all meals one day per month, or even all meals one day per week, I would demonstrate that my stomach is not god, but God is my God.

Fasting, however, goes beyond abstaining from food. Anytime I put off a satisfaction or normal desire and dedicate that time, or the money spent on that item, to God, I am practicing fasting and defeating gluttony.

Gluttony, unlike many of the other seven sins, is hard to conceal. It is deadly because it is an expression of materialism, the epitome of selfishness, and it is deadly because it defiles the body. Gluttony is a sin, and like all sins, needs to be confessed and forsaken. By practicing moderation, self-control and fasting, I can defeat gluttony in my life. ■

#### Endnotes

1. I would love to hear from you with any comments, questions, or opinions. I can be reached via email at gkriggs43@aol.com, or by snail mail at 149 Arsenol Dr., Franklin, TN, or by telephone at 615.790.3229.

2. In case anyone was wondering, ond doesn't know, my grandmother was Winona Riggs. I say this with pride because she was a special person. I also say this because if you knew her, you understood her sense of humor.

3. Near the end of the 6th century, Pope Gregory the Great, with the help of other church leaders, categorized all sins under seven headings. They referred to these seven headings as the "chief" or "cardinal" sins. They believed from these sins came all the evils of the world. These categories became known as the "seven deadly sins" and include laziness, lust, anger, pride, envy, gluttony, and greed.

4. For the record, 1 am using this as an illustration only. 1 am a teetotaler and in no way candone drinking alcoholic beverages for any reason, under any circumstance.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Kevin Riggs pastars Franklin Free Will Baptist Church in Franklin, Tennessee.

# **The National Association of Free Will Baptists** 64th Annual Session/July 16-20, 2000 **Anaheim Convention Center**

Anaheim, California



Winston Sweeney Tennessee



Arkansas



North Carolina



Florida



**David Shores** Illinois

# Theme: "Witnesses in the World"

Moderator: Music Coord Organist: Ja Pianist: Jerry Orchestra C Registration Headquarte		on Center
SUNDAY A	MORNING / July 16	
10:00-10:45	Sunday School (Adults)	Convention Center Arena
	Presiding: Brent Nix Adult Teacher: Paul Kennedy	
10:00-10:45	Sunday School (Youth) (See NYC Program)	Anaheim Marriott Hilton Anaheim
10:45	Intermission	
11:00-12:00	Morning Worship (Adults)	Convention Center Arena
	Presiding: Brent Nix Message: Winston Sweeney	
11:00-12:00	Morning Worship (Youth) (See NYC Program)	Anaheim Marriott Hilton Anaheim
SUNDAY A	AFTERNOON / July 16	
12.30-1.15	WNAC Executive Committee	Hilton Anabeim

12:30-1:15	WNAC Executive Committee	Hilton Anaheim
	Luncheon (See WNAC Program)	

1:00	Early Registration (Pre-registered only)	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
1:15	Registration Orientation	Hilton Anaheim Laguna-A
1:30-4:30	WNAC Executive Committee Meeting (See WNAC Program)	Hilton Anaheim
3:00	<b>REGISTRATION</b> for National Convention, WNAC and NYC	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
5:00	Usher Orientation	Convention Center Room AR-2
5:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
SUNDAY	EVENING / July 16	
7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center

00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE Presiding: Doice McAlister Message: R. Edward Cook	Convention Center Arena
00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	(See NYC Program)
30	Convention Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
30-10:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
00-10:00	NYC Judges' Reception	(See NYC Program)

6 Contact, June 2000

9:00-11:00	NYC Activities	(See NYC Program)
9:15	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
MONDAY	MORNING / July 17	
7:00-7:45	General Board Breakfast	Hilton Anaheim Capistrano-A

		Capisitatio-A
7:00-7:45	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
7:30-8:30	Foreign Missionary Orientation (For Exhibit Schedule)	Hilton Anaheim Laguna-A
8:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
8:00-2:30 p.m.	GENERAL BOARD CONVENES	Convention Center Arena
8:00-6:00 p.m.	Media Commission Film Room	Hilton Anaheim San Clemente Room
8:30	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	(See NYC Program)
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee (See WNAC Program)	Hilton Anaheim

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	(See NYC Program)
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar (See WNAC Program)	Hilton Anaheim
3:00	Exhibit Area Opens	Convention Center Arena Lobby
3:00-4:00	WNAC State Leaders Meeting (See WNAC Program)	Hilton Anaheim
3:00-5:00	Pastors/Laymen Conference Presiding: Melvin Worthington Speaker: H. B. London, Jr.	Convention Center Arena
5:15-6:30	Benjamin Randall Appreciation Dir (By invitation only)	nner Hilton Anaheim Laguna-A
6:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena

#### MONDAY EVENING / July 17

2.2.2

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Arena
	Presiding: Jay Baines	Arena
	Session Called to Order and Introduced: Clerk Keith B	
	Appointment of Committee of Carl Cheshier, Moderator	on Committees:
	Welcome to Anaheim: Nuel	Brown
	Executive Secretary, Califo Message: Doug King	ornia State Association
7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	(See NYC Program)
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Arena Lobby

8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
9:00-10:00	Board of Retirement Information Meeting	Hilton Anaheim Capistrano-A
9:00-10:30	NYC Activities	(See NYC Program)
9:00-10:30	Youth Workers' Reception	(See NYC Program)
9:15	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

#### TUESDAY MORNING / July 18

7:00-7:45	State Promotional Personnel Breakfast	Hilton Anaheim Palos Verdes-A
7:00-7:45	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
8:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
8:00-6:00 p.m.	Media Commission Film Room	Hilton Anaheim San Clemente Room
8:15	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	(See NYC Program)
8:30-10:30	Foreign/Home Missions Rally Speaker: Richard Atwood Theme: 1,000 in 2000	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
8:30-10:50	Women Nationally Active for Chr (See WNAC Program)	ıst Convention Center Arena
10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Arena Lobby
11:00	WNAC Missionary Service	Convention Center Arena

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

1:00	NYC Activities	(See NYC Program)
12:30-2:30	WNAC Fellowship Luncheon (See WNAC Program)	Hilton Anaheim
3:00-4:30	Theological Trends Seminar Presiding: Leroy Forlines Subject: <i>Four Views of the Lord</i> Speaker: Thomas Marberry	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C d's Supper
3:00-4:30	Sunday School Workshop Speaker: Alton Loveless Subject: Trends in the American Community	Hilton Anaheim Laguna-A that Can Affect the American Church
4:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
5:00	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
TUESDAY	EVENING / July 18	
7:00-8:30	Worship Service Presiding: Fred Hanson	Convention Center Arena

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	(See NYC Program)
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Arena Lobby
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
9:00-10:00	NYC Activities	(See NYC Program)
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

#### WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 19 •

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7:00-7:45	State Leaders Breakfast	Hilton Anaheim Capistrano-A	
7:00-8:00	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena	
7:00-8:30	Home Missions Board Breakfast	Hilton Anaheim Palos Verdes-A	
8:00-12:00	NYC COMPETITIVE FINALS	(See NYC Program)	
8:00-12:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor	
8:30-6:00 p.m.	Media Commission Film Room	Hilton Anaheim San Clemente Room	
9:00-11:45	CONVENTION BUSINESS SESSION	Convention Center Arena	
	Moderator's Message: Carl Cheshier Report of Credentials Committee and Seating of Delegates Partial Report of General Board Partial Report of Nominating Committee		
	REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS (Board members elected at conclusion of each report Executive Office: Melvin Worthin Master's Men: Tom Dooley Home Missions: Trymon Messer Board of Retirement: William Ev Free Will Baptist Foundation: Wi	ans	
10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Arena Lobby	
12:00 Noon	REGISTRATION CLOSES		
WEDNESD	AY AFTERNOON / July 19		
12:00-1:15	Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon	Hilton Anaheim Capistrano	
1:00	NYC Activities	(See NYC Program)	
1:30-3:00	Music Commission Seminar	Hilton Anaheim Laguna-A	
1:30-4:00	CONVENTION BUSINESS RECONVENES	Convention Center Arena	
	Scripture Reading and Prayer		
	Assistant Moderator: Tim York	k	

	Free Will Baptist Bible College Sunday School and Church Train Commission for Theological Inte Media Commission: Steve Fai Music Commission: Randy Sa Historical Commission: Thom	ning: Alton Loveless egrity: Leroy Forlines son wyer
3:30	General Board Final Report Partial Report of Nominating ( Election of General Board Me	Convention Center Committee Arena mbers
4:00	BUSINESS SESSION RECESSED	
4:00	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
5:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
6:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Arena
WEDNES	DAY EVENING / July 19	
7:00-9:00	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Arena
	Presiding: Tim York Recognition of Missionaries: I Message: David Shores	'rymon Messer/James Forlines
8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Arena Lobby
9:00-11:00	NYC Awards Ceremony	Convention Center Arena

#### THURSDAY MORNING / July 20

Exhibit Area Closed

10:00

7:00-8:00	Presidents' Breakfast	Hilton Anaheim Lido-B
7:00-8:30	Foreign Missions Board Breakfast	Hilton Anaheim Lido-A
7:30-9:00	Sunday School Board Breakfast	Hilton Anaheim Lido-C
9:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Arena Lobby
9:00	CONCLUDING BUSINESS SESSION	Convention Center Arena
	Scripture Reading and Prayer Assistant Clerk: John Hibbard NYC Report: Dean Jones WNAC Report: Marjorie Workm	
	Report of Committees: — Educational Task Force — Registration Committee — Budget Committee — Obituary Committee — Resolutions Committee Nominating Committee Final Re	apat
4.0	Election of General Officers	epon
11:45	Adjournment	
12:15	Exhibits Closed (30 minutes after convention ad	djournment)

# **Women Nationally Active for Christ** 65th Annual Session/July 17-18, 2000 **Convention Center Arena** Anaheim, California





Marjorie Workman Tennessee

**Debe Taylor** Arkansas

Annette Aycock Brazil

Hilton Anaheim

Oceanside Room







California



**Elaine Holland** Côte d'Ivoire

Theme: Opportunities: A Door Ajar Scripture: Revelation 3:8 Hymn: "Anywhere With Jesus" Music Coordinator: Sue Myers

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 16

12:30-4:30	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon/Meeting	Hilton Anaheim Manhattan Room
1:15	Registration Orientation	Hilton Anaheim Laguna-A
3:00	Registration	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor

#### MONDAY MORNING / July 17

9:00-11:00 WNAC Nominating Committee

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

1:30-2:30	WNAC SEMINAR	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
	Theme: <i>When Cancer Comes to</i> Presiding: Dawn Sweeney Speaker: Joanna Felts	Your House
3:00-4:00	WNAC STATE LEADERS MEETING	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
	Presiding: Marjorie Workman	di moni o
	Topic: Treat Yourself to a Retreat	
	Procontores Jude Desers Data	

Presenters: Judy Posner, Deborah Honevcutt Rhonda Hodges, Sherri Sloan

#### **TUESDAY MORNING / July 18** WOMEN NATIONALLY ACTIVE FOR CHRIST COnvention Center 8:30 Arena Presiding: Debe Taylor Congregational Singing Special Music: Sue Myers Devotional: Elaine Holland Welcome: Melba Hibbard Creative Arts Awards: Rhonda McReynolds Credentials Committee Report/Seating of Delegates Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Marjorie Workman **Resolutions Committee Report** Appreciation Committee Report Partial Registration Report 11:00 MISSIONARY SERVICE **Convention** Center Arena **Congregational Singing** Offering Special Music: The Sunrise Quartet Message: Annette Aycock 12:00 Adjournment **TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 18** 12:30-2:30 WNAC FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON Hilton Anaheim

Invocation: Yvonne Brown Speaker: Pat Clary **Benediction: Diana Bryant** 

Pacific-A

# National Youth Conference 33rd Annual Conference / July 16-20, 2000 Anaheim, California



Theme: I Press Toward the Goal . . . Conference Director: Dean Jones Program Director: Steve Greenwood Children's Coordinator: Lisa Jones Conference Office Manager: Mitchell Cooper Conference Registration Coordinator: Jill Pointer Conference Pre-School Worship Coordinator: Katie Greenwood NYC Office: Anaheim Marriott/Gold Key 1 (NYC operates under the auspices of the Sunday School and Church Training Department.)

#### SUNDAY MORNING / July 16

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	Preschool Class (Ages 3-5)	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1-3
	Children's Class (Grades 1-3)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Tweener Class (Grades 4-6)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
	Teen Class (Grades 7-12)	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
10:45	Intermission	
11:00-12:00	MORNING WORSHIP	
	Preschool Class (Ages 3-5)	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1-3
	Children's Worship	Anaheim Marriott

Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 16

(Grades 1-3)

Teen Worship

(Grades 7-12)

Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6)

3:00	NYC Registration	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
4:00	Horizon/Turning Point Pre-Test Session #1	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
4:00	Reach That Guy Service Project Orientation Newport Bea	Anaheim Marriott ch/Rancho Las Palmas



#### SUNDAY EVENING / July16

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	
	Preschool Worship (Ages 3-5)	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1-3
	Children's Worship (Grades 1-3)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
	Teen Worship (Grades 7-12)	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
9:00-10:00	NYC Judges' Reception	Hilton Anaheim Capistrano-A
	Children's Activities	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Tweener Activities	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
9:00-11:00	Krazy Kalifornia Karnival (Open for all ages)	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-D
MONDAY A	MORNING / July 17	
8:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
8:00-5:00 p.m.	Art Gallery Opens	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom 304
8:00-6:30 p.m.	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom Foyer
8:30	NYC Assemblies (Required of all competito	ors and coaches)
	Music and Arts Assembly	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
	Bible Bowl	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 4-5
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Anaheim Marriott

Orange County Ballroom 2-3

10 Contact, June 2000

	Sword Drill/Memorization	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1
9:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	
	Music and Arts Section 1	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
	Music and Arts Section 2	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-D
	Music and Arts Section 3	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Music and Arts Section 4	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
	Bible Bowl	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 4-5
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 2-3
	Bible Sword Drill	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1
9:00	Reach That Guy Service Project Anaheim Marriott Orientation Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas	
10:00	Bible Memorization	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITI	ES
	Music and Arts Section 5	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-D
	Music and Arts Section 6	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Music and Arts Section 7	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
	Bible Bowl	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 4-5
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 2-3
	Bible Sword Drill	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1
1:00-2:00	SEMINARS	
	Youth	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
	Children	Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs
	Youth Workers New	Anaheim Marriott port Beach/Rancho Las Palmas
2:00-3:00	SEMINARS	
	Children	Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs
	Youth	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
	Youth Workers New	Anaheim Marriott port Beach/Rancho Las Palmas
2:00	Bible Memorization	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1
3:30-4:30	Turning Point/Horizon Pre-test Session #2	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles

#### MONDAY EVENING / July 17

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	
	Preschool Worship (Ages 3-5)	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1-3
	Children's Worship (Grades 1-3)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
	Teen Worship (Grades 7-12)	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
8:30-10:00	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom Foyer
9:00-10:30	Youth After Service Activity	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
9:00-10:30	Youth Workers' Reception	Hilton Anaheim Laguna-A
9:00-10:30	Krazy Kalifornia Kamival (Open for all ages)	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-D

TUESDAY /	MORNING / July 18	
8:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
8:00-5:00 p.m.	Art Gallery	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom 304
8:00-6:30 p.m.	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom Foyer
8:15	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	
	Music and Arts Section 8	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-D
	Music and Arts Section 9	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Music and Arts Section 10	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
	Bible Sword Drill	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 2-3
9:00-12:00	Horizon/Turning Point Playoff Rounds	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 4-5
9:30	Bible Memorization	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1
10:00-11:00	SEMINARS	
	Youth	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
	Youth Workers Newpo	Anaheim Marriott ort Beach/Rancho Las Palmas
	Children	Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs

11:00-12:00 SEMINARS Youth

Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles

June 2000, Contact 11

	Children		Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs	8:15-12:00
TUESDAY	AFTERNOON /	July 18		4
1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE	ACTIVITIES		
	Music and Arts Se	ection 11	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-D	10:00-11:00
	Music and Arts Se	ection 12	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-K	
1:00-2:00	Seminars			
	Youth		Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles	88 G.
	Youth Workers	Newport E	Anaheim Marriott Beach/Rancho Las Palmas	1.7
2:00-3:00	SEMINARS			11:00-12:00
	Youth Workers	Newport E	Anaheim Marriott Beach/Rancho Las Palmas	

#### **TUESDAY EVENING / July 18**

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	
	Preschool Worship (Ages 3-5)	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 1-3
	Children's Worship (Grades 1-3)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
	Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6)	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K
	Teen Worship (Grades 7-12)	Hilton Anaheim California Pavilion-C
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
8:30-10:00	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom Foyer
8:30-9:00	Judges' Post-Competition Meeting Newp	Anaheim Marriott oort Beach/Rancho Las Palmas
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom G-H
9:00-10:00	Tweener Activities	Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom J-K

#### WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 19

8:00	Registration Continues	Hilton Anaheim 2nd Floor
8:00-12:00	Art Gallery	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom 304
8:00-5:00 p.m.	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Anaheim Marriott Ballroom Foyer

	(Competing in the Turning Point/Hor Bible Bowl Bible Tic-Tac-Toe Bible Sword Drill	Order Listed) California Pavilion-C zon
10:00-11:00	SEMINARS	
	Youth	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
	Children	Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs
	Youth Workers	Anaheim Marriott Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas
	Children's Workers	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 5
11:00-12:00	SEMINARS	
	Youth	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
	Children	Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs
	Youth Workers	Anaheim Marriott

Hilton Anaheim

Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

Final Bible Competition

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 19

1:00-2:00	SEMINARS	
	Youth	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
	Children	Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs
	Youth Workers	Anaheim Marriott Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas
	Children's Workers	Anaheim Marriott Orange County Ballroom 5
2:00-3:00	SEMINARS	
	Youth	Anaheim Marriott La Jolla/Los Angeles
	Children	Anaheim Marriott Desert Springs
	Youth Workers	Anaheim Marriott Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 19

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES (combined with adults)	Convention Center Arena
8:50-9:00	Children's Choir Presentation	Convention Center Arena
9:00-11:00	NYC Awards Ceremony	Convention Center Arena

NOTE: This schedule is subject to change. Specific competition times will not be determined until June 20, after all entries have been received. Please call 1-800-877-7030 after this date for more information.

## CONVENTION HERAL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS, ANTIOCH, TENNESSEE

Volume 64, No. 3

#### June 2000

# **Registration Important**

ANTIOCH, TN-Convention officials note that registration for the national convention in Anaheim is important for all attendees.

Registration gives officials a more accurate attendee count plus other vital statistics important for this and future conventions.

Registration provides badges for attendees. Badges are required for convention events.

Badges help identify registered visitors and delegates to the convention. Proof of registration (i.e. badge) allows attendees to participate in convention events.

Pre-registration is open to all who plan to attend (see related story elsewhere on this page for badge preview).

All badges identify attendee, status (visitor, minister, local church delegate, etc.), convention(s) registered for, and voting status.

#### Joe Attendee YourTown, ST Visitor WNAC National

July 16-20, 2000

**Pre-Registration Perk** National Association of Free Will Baptists

.loe

**Check Out Web Page** ANTIOCH, TN-Pre-registration materi-

als for the convention are available at www.nafwb.org for the following items:

- Pre-Registration Form
- Housing Form
- Delegate Cards

Print the form, fill out completely and mail to appropriate address (see below).

For the first time, you will have the option of pre-registering on line if no money is involved (i.e. meals, delegate fees, NYC fees, etc.).

ANTIOCH, TN-As a special incentive, convention attendees who pre-register will receive attractive full-color badges in a quality vinyl pouch with bulldog clip and pin for attaching. Convention 2000's badge has a palm tree and sun design. On-site registrants will

receive plain black and

white badges with no graphics. These badges come in plastic covers with only pin-on attachments.

NYC

Anaheim, California

See above sample of pre-registration badge. The real thing will be in full color.

Don't delay. Pre-register now!



# In This Issue

This issue of Contact contains forms for pre-registration including the following:

> **Pre-Registration Form** Housing Form Local Church Delegate Card WNAC Delegate Card

Fill out forms completely (one person to a form, please) and mail to the proper address. Take special note of each address for each form.

Mailing addresses: **Pre-Registration** 

P. O. Box 5002 Antioch, TN 37011-5002

**Housing Form** Mail, FAX, phone or email to the hotel of your choice (addresses on form).

Local Church Delegate Card Attn: Melody Hood P. O. Box 5002 Antioch, TN 37011-5002

**WNAC Delegate Card** WNAC P. O. Box 5002 Antioch, TN 37011-5002

www.nafwb.org

Attention Pre-Registrants Early pick-up available at Hilton Anaheim for those who pre-register by June 9.

In Anaheim: order tapes from the Tape Booth!

**Times:** Saturday, July 15 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Sunday, July 16 1:30 - 6:30 p.m.



Happy Father's Dayl

June 2000, Contact 13

# Pre-Registration Form

National Association of Free Will Baptists Women Nationally Active for Christ National Youth Conference Anaheim, California / July 16-20, 2000

DEADLINE: Must be postmarked on or before June 9, 2000

#### Please Print: (Only one person per form-make copies if needed.)

Name: Name desired on badge	Last Name	
		•
Home Address: (		State Zip
Phone #: () Male D Female		
Church Name:	City	State
Pastor's Name:		
Note: You may register for all three conventions on	this form. (Badges require	ed for convention events.)
National Association Registration     Voting Delegates:     All voting delegates must be members in good standing of a FWB church.     Check only one:     Image: Image	For identification purposes: all NYC participants and all You must pay \$22* Pre-Ref • You are in Grades 1-12 • You are Ages 3-6 and p Check  Grades 1-12/atte	spectators must wear a badge. egistration Fee if: 2 and plan to attend NYC events. blan to attend Pre-School Worship. ending NYC events—\$22 (y12) ng Pre-School Worship—\$22 (y26)
WNAC Registration     Voting Delegates:     Check only one:     Ational Officer (wof)     State President (wsp)     State Fresident (wsp)     State Field Worker (wfw)     State Delegate (wsd)     Local WNAC Delegate—\$5 (wld)     Non-Voting Attendees:     Visitor (wvi)   Missionary (wmi)	☐ Visitor (yvi) Birthdate: Age: Parent/Guardian:	Grade completed Spring 2000:
Payment enclosed for:		
Tickets: Youth Workers Reception—\$15 WNAC Fellowship Luncheon—\$28 FWBBC Luncheon—\$25 Delegate Fees: Local Church Delegate—\$50 (Must enclose signed delegate Local WNAC Delegate—\$5 (Must enclose signed WNAC dele Youth Registration Fee: Pre-Registration Fee=\$22 *On-Site Registration Fee—\$25 Send one check for total amoun	Quantity x \$25 card; see <i>Contact</i> , page 17 or www. nafwb egate card; see <i>Contact</i> , page 17 or www. n	nofwb.org) 
	r June 9, 2000.	
P. O. Box 5002 (Contact us if you	ters will be mailed. do not receive one.) 767-7659	For Office Use Only       Date Rcv'd       Ck/MO#       From

14 Contact, June 2000

#### Housing Form National Association of Free Will Baptists / National Convention <u>Anaheim, California • July 16-20, 2000</u>

**Print** or **type** all information requested and phone, mail or FAX form to the hotel of your choice by **June 16**, 2000. If form is faxed, keep your transaction report as proof of transmittal. You will receive acknowledgment of your hotel assignment by mail within two weeks of the time the form is received by the hotel. All reservations, changes and cancellations should be made directly with the hotels.

**DEPOSIT REQUIRED:** An advance deposit of **\$135 per room** is required. Your deposit will be charged to your credit card by providing the information requested below. Deposits being made by check should be for **\$135 per room** payable to the hotel of your choice and mailed to the address below. Forms received without credit card information or a check for the deposit will be returned and reservations will not be processed. Hotel refund policies vary. The hotels *prefer* credit cards rather than checks.

**Changes** or **cancellations** should be made directly with the hotel. Check your hotel confirmation for instructions regarding cancellation policies and check-in times. Reservations received after June 16, 2000 (or once block is full) will be on a space and rate available basis.

#### ◆ CIRCLE ROOM TYPE REQUESTED BELOW

Check Hotel choice ↓	Hotels		SINGLE bed / 1 person	DOUBLE 1 bed / 2 persons	DBL/DBL 2 beds / 2 persons	TRIPLE 2 beds / 3 persons	QUAD 2 beds / 4 persons	Self Parking
7.5.761	Hilton Anaheim (Headquarter	5)	\$119	\$119	\$119	\$119	\$119	\$9 day in/out
	Anaheim Marriott		\$119	\$119	\$119	\$119	\$119	\$10 day max
Four	vays to make reservations:	[Only one rollaw						
				Dhama	D. FAV		12 14 11	
rourv	Hilton Anaheim: (Headquarters Hotel)	By Internet hilton.com Group CodeAFW	In CA:1-8 Outs	Phone 00/233-6904 side CA: /222-9923	By FAX 714/740-4737	777 Con	By Mail eservations vention Way n, CA 92802-3497	
rourv	Hilton Anaheim:	hilton.com	In CA:1-8 Out: 1-800, 714/7	00/233-6904 side CA:	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	777 Con Anahein Attn: Re 700 Wes	eservations	

Card Number		
NAME ON CARD:	SIGNATURE	
CHECK ENCLOSED. CHECK #		
ROOMMATES: (LIST ALL OCCUPANTS OF ROOM)		
(1)	(3)	
(2)	(4)	
PERSON TO WHOM CONFIRMATION SHOULD BE MAILED. (Plea	ase Print or Type Clearly.)	
Name		Send only
Address		one (1)
City/State/Zip		form per room.

PHONE (

FAX (

June 2000, Contact 15

# Anaheim, California



### **Hotels**

- 1. Hilton Anaheim Hotel
- 2. Anaheim Marriott Hotel

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# Free Will Baptist M C W S I I O M I

#### **FWBBC Helps Open Asia Seminary**

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College's president Tom Malone, academic dean Milton Fields and director of institutional effectiveness James Cox traveled with Foreign Missions director James Forlines to sign an agreement of accord and to participate in the opening of the Asia Free Will Baptist Theological Seminary in Seoul, South Korea, March 1. The opening of the school is the result of several years of joint planning by the college and the Foreign Missions Department.

The seminary operates under the auspices of the Free Will Baptist Church for All Nations, pastored by Dr. John Chang and located in Seoul.

The graduate division is under the leadership of Dr. Hack Bong Chung, as dean. The dean of the undergraduate division is Rev. Kyu Suk Park. The goal of the seminary is to prepare students to serve as cross-cultural missionaries to countries around the Pacific rim.

For the present, the seminary meets in the Free Will Baptist Church for All Nations, but land is being purchased outside of Seoul to which the school can eventually move.

The Bible College will work in cooperation with the seminary, including short-term student and faculty exchanges. The exchanges will be overseen at FWBBC by Tom McCullough, missions training coordinator, and Terry Forrest, director of lifetime learning.

Drs. Malone, Fields and Cox were also given the opportunity to preach to Korean Christians.



Signing the accord between FWBBC and Asia FWB Theological Seminary: (I-r) Dr. Chang, President Malone, Dr. Fields, Dr. Park.

#### Media Commission to "Raise Standard"

CEDAR SPRINGS, GA—During a March 21 telephone conference, the five-person Media Commission unanimously approved a proposal to hire full-time staff.

Chairman Steve Faison (GA) said that "At the national convention in Anaheim, Free Will Baptists will be asked to 'Raise the Standard' and commit to enhancing the image of the Free Will Baptist denomination to North America and the rest of the world."

Faison continued, "We are all very excited about the possibilities that lie before us. We must strive for excellence in every aspect of our Christian walk; that includes how we project Christianity and our Free Will Baptist denomination to the rest of the world."

For more information, contact the Commission in care of Steve Faison at 912/372-4949 or email media@nafwb.org.

#### South Carolina Senior to Lead Bible College Students

NASHVILLE, TN—Darin Miles, a senior from Florence, South Carolina, was elected for a second term as student body president at Free Will Baptist Bible College in elections held on campus in early March. Darin is a missions major who's minoring in music.

Serving with him are:

 Vice President: Jack Ketteman, a junior from Nashville studying youth ministry and music.
Secretary-Treasurer: Joni Thomas, a senior elementary education major from Albany, Georgia.

— Chaplain: **Tyler Penn**, a junior pastoral training major from Decatur, Illinois.

 Worship Leader: Jeremy Thomas, a senior from Albany, Georgia, majoring in music.



(I-r) Darin Miles, Jack Ketteman, Joni Thomas (seated), Tyler Penn, Jeremy Thomas.

#### Illinois Adopts \$274,000 Budget

GRANITE CITY, IL—Delegates to the 40th annual Illinois State Association approved a \$274,000 budget, according to promotional secretary David Shores. The Together Way allocations were adjusted to: National Association (25%), State Missions (24%), Promotion Fund (16%), Camp Board (16%), General Fund (9%), Sunday School and C. E. Board (5%), CTS Board (4%), Master's Men Board (1%).

The March 16-18 session met at Peace FWB Church in Granite City. Moderator Larry Clyatt was elected to his 12th consecutive term. Some 144 people registered for the session.

Four sermons by three preachers developed the association theme, "Preach the Word." Free Will Baptist Bible College president Tom Malone preached twice; Effingham pastor John Hollis and Sesser pastor Larry Cook spoke once each.

Master's Men director Tom Dooley presented a Thursday evening seminar on "Family Life Issues." State Master's Men sponsored a 7:00 Saturday breakfast.

Three men were appointed to the state Nominating Committee for 2001. Larry Cook will chair the committee and serve along with Jerry Myers and Daryl Ellis.

Delegates were introduced to Alexander Drozdov, pastor of Good News FWB Church in Wheeling, who is establishing a Russian Free Will Baptist church in the Chicago area.

The 2001 state association will meet March 16-17 at Pittsburgh FWB Church in Pittsburgh, Illinois.

#### Bible College Hosts Distance Education Summit

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College welcomed educators from the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges (AABC) to campus April 7-8 to study how member schools might cooperate in developing and delivering distance education courses in the 21st century, according to Milton Fields, FWBBC academic dean. Dr. Fields is a member of the working committee that looks into potential and possibilities of distance education for AABC schools.

An expected result of the meeting will be the organization of a consortium of AABC schools to develop online learning with a full array of course offerings. A web site has already been set up for the study group.

Dr. Larry Moulds, chairman of the Electronic Learning Institute of Largo, Florida, moderated the meeting. He also provided technology consultation for participants. ELI is a private Christian company with a successful history in distance learning, course development and faculty training.

Following the AABC annual meeting in Orlando, representatives from 21 Bible colleges took part in a post-convention consultation on how they could share in training people who cannot leave homes and jobs to pursue on-campus studies. The summit at FWBBC was an outgrowth of that meeting. When developed, the AABC consortium could offer international study possibilities to Christians in foreign cultures, either residents or visitors.

#### Pastor Jesse Meade Dies, Scholarship Established

PAINTSVILLE, KY—Kentucky minister Jesse Meade died January 18 at age 58. Reverend Meade was pastor of Southside FWB Church in Paintsville.

Born June 27, 1941, the oldest of 11 children, he answered the call to preach in 1964 at Joliet, Illinois, and moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he attended and graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College (1969).

During his 36-year ministry, Brother Meade pastored six churches—two in Illinois, two in Tennessee and two in Kentucky.

Jesse and Joanne Meade met while serving in the U.S. Army. They have three children: Jeffrey and Jonathan, both of Columbia, Tennessee; and Sara J. Murray of Paintsville.

Funeral services were officiated by Reverends Belmont Johnson, Steven Swango and Robert Wells.

Reverend Swango, who served



five years as Meade's associate pastor at Loyal Chapel FWB Church in Columbia, Tennessee, said, "Jesse had a straightforward, magnetic personality. His sense of humor was legendary. He was also a man of powerful and deeplyheld convictions. He knew how to deal with and help difficult people. He never stopped learning."

The South Central Quarterly of Tennessee's Cumberland Association where Brother Meade pas-

.....

tored 15 years has established a memorial scholarship in his honor at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

The scholarship will be available to a married student from any state who is in ministerial training and is at least a junior. The student must demonstrate a legitimate financial need and will be chosen by the Free Will Baptist Bible College scholarship committee.

If a qualified ministerial student is not found, the scholarship committee will choose a missions student meeting the same criteria. Contributions for the scholarship fund may be sent to: Free Will Baptist Bible College, Attention: Financial Aid Department, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205.

**Note:** Checks must be designated to the Jesse Meade Memorial Scholarship Fund. Otherwise, the money will go to the general fund.

#### **California Christian College Trains Russians**

FRESNO, CA—Four of the five Russians employed by the Home Missions Department to plant Free Will Baptist churches in the USA were trained at California Christian College, reported CCC president Wendell Walley in the March 2000 issue of *The Voice*, official publication of the California State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Other students in the program serve as laity alongside the pastors. This includes churches in North Carolina and Illinois as well as California in Sacramento and Santa Barbara.

President Walley said, "California Christian College is the only Bible college in the United States offering this kind of training for these refugees to our shores. The program began in 1997, enrolling a high of 74 students in 1998. Bible and Christian ministry classes are taught in the Russian language, and qualifying students may receive up to 50% of the B.A. degree through these classes.

"Students are also encouraged to enroll in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to improve their English skills so they will be able to finish their B.A. degree in classes taught in the English language.

"Special prayer is needed for the program, however, because more stringent regulations are now being imposed by the state of California, and students can no longer enter the program unless they are able to transfer in with at least 33 college units. Enrollment has fallen to around 20 students, jeopardizing the future of the program because it is no longer cost effective."

President Walley concluded, "This program is vital to the denomination's cross-cultural commitment and is absolutely essential if we are to evangelize these Russian-speaking communities. San Francisco and Los Angeles together have over a quarter-million Russian-speaking people. It will be criminal for Free Will Baptists to blow this golden opportunity. However, if this educational program is to survive, we desperately need your prayers and financial support."

#### Discount Air Fares to National Convention Available

ANTIOCH, TN—The National Association of Free Will Baptists has made special travel arrangements for attendees and their families who will be flying to the national convention in Anaheim, California, July 16-20, according to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington.

Artists Travel Corporation in Nashville has been selected as the agency of record to provide members attending the convention with discount travel services.

Discounts for air travel to Anaheim have been secured on Delta Air Lines. The airline offers a 5% discount on excursion rates and 10% discount on full coach fares. These fares cannot be purchased through another travel agency or directly with the airlines. These are contracted group air fares. First class tickets may also be booked if desired.

Special note: Book your ticket 60 days in advance and receive 10% discount on excursion rates.

Artists Travel Corporation has contracted for travel dates July 12 through July 24 for the convention.

To book airspace at the offered discounted rates, call Artists Travel Corporation toll free at 1-800/489-2009. Ask for **Janice Jakobik** and identify yourself with the Free Will Baptist national convention. The agent will need the following:

- · your name
- number of passengers
- home phone number
- correct mailing address
- · city of flight origin
- business phone number

For easy billing, have a **current credit card** ready at the time of booking. Artists Travel will process and mail the tickets to you.

# Bible College Looking for Teachers

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College is on a search for two new teachers needed for this fall. Applicants must have at least master's-level training. Teaching experience is preferred.

**Computer Education:** To teach introduction to computers, business applications and user support classes. Also give general in-service support to faculty and staff. Microsoft certification desirable.

English: To teach English and Literature classes.

Send resume to Dr. Milton Fields, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205.

#### South Carolina Re-Elects Lee

CONWAY, SC—Pastor Sherwood Lee was elected to his fifth term as moderator of the South Carolina State Association during the February 24-25 meeting at White Savannah FWB Church in Conway. Lee pastors Sand Hill FWB Church in Coward.

Promotional director Mike Jones said that 173 people registered for the 58th annual session which included 108 ministers. Five plaques were awarded to churches supporting the South Carolina Plan of Support. A plaque was also presented to Ron Moore for his four years of service as promotional director.

Delegates approved a \$354,000 state budget. That amount includes \$67,000 (promotional office), \$275,000 (bookstore) and \$12,000 (treasurer). They also raised annual church dues from \$90 to \$115, reflecting the increase in National Association representation fees.

Six resolutions won approval—moral purity, opposition to homosexual marriage, opposition to gambling/lottery, opposition to abortion and two courtesy resolutions.

Six ministers preached sermons during the meeting: South Carolina ministers Ricky Evans, Johnny Bullman, James Childers and Ron Moore; former Free Will Baptist Bible College dean Robert Picirilli and California minister Larry Bell.

The 2001 state association which meets February 22-23 will be hosted at a site to be determined in the Eastern Conference.

#### **64** Attend Arizona District

PHOENIX, AZ—Sixty-four people registered for the March 11 Arizona District Association, according to moderator George Harvey, Jr. The annual gathering met at North Valley FWB Church in Phoenix.

Tucson pastor Bob White preached on the subject of fellowship with God and one another. Layman Charles Spears, Sr., gave a devotional using the same theme.

Delegates approved a triennial audit by a professional firm, with more frequent audits approved if the district clerk changes. Delegates also recommended moderator George Harvey, Jr., as General Board member to the National Association.

The 2001 district association will meet March 10 at First FWB Church in Phoenix, if the congregation get into their new building.

# currently

*Contact* welcomes *Accord*, quarterly publication of the South Central Quarterly (Cumberland Association) in **Tennessee**. Editor **Steve Swango** and his volunteer staff printed their first edition in January. **Caron Moore** serves as reporter, **Mark Boshers** as printer and **Theda Wallace** handles production.

Taft FWB Church in Taft, CA, celebrated their 50th anniversary in April. The church organized with eight members in 1950, purchased a building from another group, then bought property and built in 1962. The church expanded in 1964 and 1977 with more classrooms. Seven men have been called to preach from the church membership. Merle Guess pastors.

Bruce Thurman now pastors Waltonville FWB Church in Waltonville, IL, no thanks to *Contact*. The March issue ("Currently") named someone else as pastor. That same issue ("Directory Update") wrongly identified Pastor Thurman as having moved from another Illinois church to Waltonville; in fact, he relocated from a church in Arkansas. Two errors about one minister . . . and he still had a smile in his voice when he called. Glad to set the record straight. Finally.

Home missionary **Robert Trimble** reports 12 conversions, 10 baptisms and several new families attending **Berea FWB Church** in **Battle Creek**, **MI**.

Good news from **Bethel FWB Church** in **Kansas City, KS**, according to Pastor **Clifford Ball**. The congregation witnessed 12 conversions and 15 baptisms, and received 12 new members. Attendance surged from 14 in March 1998 to 61 in March 2000.

**Crossland FWB Church** in Norman, OK, organized on March 2, according to founder Wade Jernigan. Nine days later, the church joined First Oklahoma Association. First Oklahoma moderator **David Sutton** presided during the organizational service. The fiveman associational Executive Board set the church in order. Seventeen people joined as new members at **Fairview FWB Church** in **Mount Vernon, OH. Crate Sparks** pastors.

Pastor Richard Hensley reports nine conversions, four rededications and four new members at South Columbus FWB Church in Columbus, OH.

The word from **Pleasant Hill FWB Church** in **Delaware**, **OH**, is 20 conversions, eight baptisms and five new members. **Wayne Keith** pastors.

Twenty people came to the altar for salvation and/or rededication at **Gahanna FWB Church** in **Gahanna**, **OH**. Pastor **Curtis Booth** baptized 10.

High Street FWB Church in Ada, OH, sent \$740 in cash, food and merchandise to FWB Family Ministries (Greeneville, TN). Pastor James Webb reports seven new members.

Eight baptisms and six new members helped Sunday School superintendent **Brian Brown** push to develop a new adult class as well as special activities at **Canaan Land FWB Church** in **Grove City, OH. Tim Stout** pastors.

The new sanctuary at **Pleasant Valley FWB Church** in **Pedro, OH**, has been completed. January dedication services attracted 211 people, according to Pastor **Don Friend, Jr.** 

Rescue FWB Church in Whittington, IL, set their centennial celebration on April 16, remembering 100 years of community service. Pastor Randy Jones reports 10 new members.

That 15-passenger, 1999 Dodge Ram van seen scooting around **Pen**sacola, FL, belongs to **Beulah FWB Church.** The first week in service, van drivers brought 10 people to church. **David Baker** pastors.

*The Arrow,* Kansas state newsletter, has a new editor, **Tammy Palmer.** Her first issue provided email access to readers who want to submit news items.

Aquila and Priscilla plaques for lay leadership were awarded to James Hunt and Julie Mathis at First FWB Church in Hutchinson, KS. Larry **Collins** pastors. He baptized three adults on a cold February Wednesday night.

Home missionary **Cliff Donoho** was the guest speaker at the March 17-18 Kansas State Men's Retreat. The state youth camp in late July will feature **Allen Pointer** (Russellville, AR) as camp evangelist.

Members of **Colquitt FWB Church** in **Colquitt, GA**, had a January groundbreaking for their new building project. Pastor **Matt Pinson** said the structure will include a sanctuary, vestibule, pastor's study, choir room and sound room. The existing sanctuary will be renovated into a fellowship hall and sanctuary. The existing fellowship hall will be remodeled for educational ministry.

Pastor **Tom Scott** welcomed five new members at **Red Bay FWB Church** in **Red Bay, AL.** The church averages 170 in Sunday School and is pushing for a 220 average.

Members of White Oaks FWB Church in Macon, GA, accepted a \$530,000 concept-design to build a twostory building. Another \$100,000 will be needed for site work, parking and landscaping. Charles Barnard pastors.

Brotherhood Mutual insurance sent a \$4,359 check to the **Illinois** State Association, according to Promotional Secretary **David Shores**.

After three years' work, members of **Blue Springs FWB Church** in **Blue Springs, MO**, completed a new building valued at \$750,000. Pastor **Alvin Hook** says that attendance stays over 100 each Sunday. By the way, the congregation erected that new structure for \$190,000. They have come a long way from meeting in the basement of a home three years ago.



March 2000

Receipts: State	Designated	CO-OP	Total	Year To Date Designated	Year To Date CO-OP	Year To Date Total
Alabama	\$ 344.78	\$ 125.70	\$ 470.48	\$ 867.08	\$ 602.43	\$ 1,469.51
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Arkansas	15,479.29	14,561.57	30,040.86	44,281.69	43,691.32	87,973.01
California	.00	.00	.00	.00	2,213.03	2,213.03
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	130.00	.00	130.00	130.00	.00	130.00
Georgia	31,886.43	1,354.28	33,240.71	93,302.98	5,604.10	98,907.08
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Illinois	9,726.42	1,601.78	11,328.20	31,962.48	6,613.61	38,576.09
Indiana	1,143.02	132.58	1,275.60	3,541.29	376.81	3,918.10
lowa	.00	.00	.00	175.00	1,158.80	1,333.80
Kansas	.00	.00	.00	.00	237.72	237.72
Kentucky	583.00	1,416.48	1,999.48	3,254.67	3,675.45	6,930.12
Louisiana	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Maryland	.00	131.25	131.25	.00	131.25	131.25
Michigan	31,414.52	2,459.24	33,873.76	62,844.00	11,307.78	74,151.78
Michigun Mississippi	20.00	2,437.24	20.00	20,293.63	1,677.40	21,971.03
		14,975.85		126,520.08	41,976.50	168,496.58
Missouri	44,431.00		59,406.85		41,778.30	30.00
Montana	30.00	.00	30.00	30.00		
Nebraska	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Jersey	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Mexico	.00	.00	.00	1,702.14	76.08	1,778.22
North Carolina	638.29	2,081.25	2,719.54	3,550.88	6,874.97	10,425.85
Ohio	13,691.39	1,378.49	15,069.88	51,635.34	9,351.84	60,987.18
Oklahoma	43,459.27	10,480.44	53,939.71	163,729.25	29,573.64	193,302.89
South Carolina	60,841.41	.00	60,841.41	116,499.10	.00	116,499.10
South Dakota	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Tennessee	9,707.69	429.70	10,137.39	37,419.94	4,601.05	42,020.99
Texas	9,021.38	307.48	9,328.86	29,674.20	924.00	30,598.20
Virginia	714.85	.00	714.85	2,119.06	.00	2,119.00
Virgin Islands	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
West Virginia	1,112.02	80.05	1,192.07	4,065.33	242.62	4,307.95
Wisconsin	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Canada	1,381.40	28.20	1,409.60	1,381.40	28.20	1,409.60
Northwest Associat	ion .00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northeast Associati	ion .00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Other	.00	(0.03)	(0.03)	.00	.15	.15
Totals	\$ 275,756.16	\$ 51,544.31	\$ 327,300.47	\$ 798,979.54	\$170,938.75	\$ 969,918.29
Disbursemen	ts:					
Executive Office	\$ 2,028.16	\$23,194.97	\$ 25,223.13	\$ 5,725.60	\$ 76,922.40	\$ 82,648.00
Foreign Missions	155,108.03	6,520.38	161,628.41	456,194.33	21,623.77	477,818.10
FWBBC	24,307.86	6,520.38	30,828.24	56,082.21	21,623.77	77,705.98
Home Missions	64,600.29	5,102.87	69,703.16	231,798.77	16,922,91	248,721.68
Retirement & Insu		3,968.92	4,359.24	1,291.15	13,162.30	14,453.45
Master's Men	329.22	3,968.92	4,298.14	1,079.59	13,162.30	14,241.89
Com. for Theo. Inte		141.73	4,270.14	659.90	470.08	1,129.98
	251.30	1,700.95	1,952.25	961.19	5,640.98	6,602.17
FWB Foundation					5,640.98	540.73
Historical Commiss		141.73	168.13	70.65		
Music Commission	5.46	141.73	147.19	55.50	470.08	525.5
Media Commission		141.73	166.36	103.52	470.08	573.6
Hillsdale FWB Coll	•	.00	1,965.74	5,487.99	.00	5,487.9
Other	26,663.17	.00	26,663.17	39,469.14	.00	39,469.14
Totals	\$ 275,756.16	\$ 51,544.31	\$ 327,300.47	\$ 798,979.54	\$170,938.75	\$ 969,918.29

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- day trips
- baby's things
- toddler's things
- your things
- lots of things!

June 2000, Contact 23

The Master's Men Department is pleased to announce the selection of 42-year-old Kentucky native Ken Akers as the newest staff addition. Mr. Akers will serve as the director of ministry development.

The director of ministry development will be responsible to work closely with pastors and enlist new churches to participate in the national Master's Men program. He will also provide training sessions for pastors and key laymen to equip them to start and implement men's ministry in the local church.

Brother Akers is an ordained minister who has worked in youth and men's ministry. He is a member of the Cookeville FWB Church in Cookeville, Tennessee, where he has served as the local Master's Men president. He also has ministered as the youth director of Ten-



Ken Akers

# Master's Men Adds Staff Member

that through fellowship and encouragement from other Christian men, this is possible. I would like to see our Master's Men programs double in chapters within the next two vears. I would like to see more service projects on a denominational level by working with our Home and Foreign Missions Departments. I believe when the Free Will Baptist men serve God like we are capable, we will make a difference in our families, our churches and our communities. I will be glad to help any church organize and develop a Master's Men chapter."

Ken and his wife Sandra have been married 20 years and have two children, Brandon (17) and Matthew (14).

#### Upcoming Master's Men Events

The national Mas-

nessee's Liberty Association, director of Upper Cumberland Youth Camp and director of "Mountain Faith Mission," a medical mission ministry. He has traveled extensively on mission trips to Russia, Mexico and Haiti.

A licensed optician, Akers made a major commitment in joining the Master's Men staff. In order to take this position, he sold "Visual Fashions," a successful optical business in Crossville, Tennessee, that he has owned and operated since 1983.

Brother Ken said, "I feel 100% that God has placed me in Master's Men to be a servant to His people. He has opened every door to make this possible. I believe God has placed me here to work with Brother Dooley so that the talents He has given each of us will work together to benefit the Master's Men Department, our denomination and the advancement of the gospel of Jesus Christ."

en brings a variety of experiences as well as enthusiasm to this position. When asked about his goals, he stated:

"I want to see the men of our denomination step up and be the spiritual leaders God expects. I believe

Master's

ter's Men Golf Tournament will meet August 3, 2000, at Montgomery Bell State Park near Dixon, Tennessee. If you would like a brochure about this event, call our office toll free at: 1-877/767-8039.

The national Master's Men Softball Tournament is set for August 4-5, 2000, in Nashville, Tennessee. A packet of information concerning the softball tournament is available from the Master's Men Department. This information may also be accessed on the Master's Men web page. The address is: www.nafwb.org (click on Master's Men).

National Operation Saturation will be September 30, 2000. The Master's Men Department is coordinating this denomination-wide event to assist our home missionaries in placing the gospel and information about their churches in homes in their communities. We need the involvement of every Free Will Baptist. If you would like information concerning "Operation Saturation," please contact Master's Men.

Men

24 Contact, June 2000

By Tom Dooley





**Do** attend the WNAC National Retreat, September 14-16, 2000.

# **Re** 33333

*Remember* to leave your worries behind, come expecting a blessing.

Missions



*Missions* moments will be shared by attending missionaries. A missions offering will be received. Come prepared to give.



**Face the music. Learn the "Keys to Growth" as the re**treat theme is developed by Gail Smith and Rebecca Pugh. Gail will make a melody to be remembered. Rebecca will conclude the retreat on a "grace" note.



*Sol*utions to growth can be found as you sing, listen, meditate, and pray.



*La*ugh with Joanne King during fun time. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine," (Prov. 17:22).

*Tis* a good weekend for the women from your church to bond together by going to Ridgecrest Conference Center, Ridgecrest, North Carolina, for an enriching "get-a-way."



**Do** pray! A retreat bathed in prayer will truly be a "retreat." For reservation forms, look in state papers, *Co-Laborer* magazine or write WNAC at P. O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. ■

Women Nationally



#### **Dear Church Member:**

According to our Yearbook, we have a large number of pastors who work in two different worlds, the church and commercial establishments. Figures from the last 14 years show about 1,000 or 44% of our churches have bi-vocational pastors. Possibly your church is one of them.

An Open Letter to Free Will Baptists

**By William Evans** 

f so, there are a lot of questions you face. How and what can we provide in salary package? You may be faced with the struggles of a new start-up congregation, or you may be in a more established rural setting with limited prospects for growth. Either way, your budget is probably stressed. You face the question of what can we provide, how can we allocate it to achieve the most good. While searching for answers to these very important questions, be sure to consider the long-term issues as well.

Without question, there is a limit to what any church can do in meeting these financial needs. Limited funds do not mean doing nothing, however. It simply means that the church should carefully consider what and how it meets the pastor's needs.

Should we provide our bi-vocational pastor a church-sponsored retirement program?

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Board thinks we should. We believe that those who labor in the work should be provided through that work. Our belief is evidenced in the way our plan is designed. Consider the following:

- Anyone employed by a Free Will Baptist church or agency is eligible to enroll. No age limit or required number of hours of service for the retirement plan (restrictions may apply if insurance is desired).
- Contributions may be determined by individual circumstances, \$10 and up monthly, and may differ in amounts month to month.

Contributions may be made by the pastor, other individuals, the church or agency.

Contributions may be made and allowed to grow taxsheltered.

The plan is portable and always belongs to the individual. Some states provide additional contributions (Missouri, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida and Oklahoma).

Accounts are immediately available in the event of disability or death.

As a retirement settlement, funds are available at age 62 or later.

Settlement payments may be designed as housing for the ordained.

ow can you help your bi-vocational pastor prepare for retirement? Your church may arrange the salary to provide tax-free benefits to maximize the income, such as housing allowance, car allowance and/or health insurance protection. When the pay package is arranged this way, there may be little or no taxable salary. Although it is appropriate to shelter income from taxes, it should not be the only consideration. A small amount provided for retirement through the years of pastoral service will also provide through the years of retirement.

The bi-vocational church is not expected to provide a full-time retirement package. However, providing a proportional contribution during his pastoral service will provide a proportional income during retirement.

contribution of only \$10 each month earning 9% over a life of service (age 23-67) would cost the church only \$5,280 but provide the pastor \$68,100.75 at the time of retirement. If he would match that from his pocket, it becomes \$136,201.50. Larger monthly deposits may be made during later years as the church grows and family obligations decrease to increase the final benefit.

Your bi-vocational pastor may already be in his 40s or 50s, even 60s and it seems too late for you to do anything for him. It isn't. Anything you do now will be more than he would have otherwise, and what about future pastors? Start now doing what you can for your present pastor. You can't change the past, but you can do something today and into the future.

If you would like an enrollment packet or additional information, call our office toll-free at 877-767-7738. Our staff would enjoy helping you help your pastor and church.

Sincerely,

William (Bill) Evans, Director



26 Contact, June 2000

**DEPARTMENT** PAGES

ree Will Baptists amaze me. A growing topic of our conversation, even among pastors, focuses on investments: stocks, bonds, the Dow and mutual funds. Maybe I hear more of these subjects because of my work with the Foundation and Retirement, but I am not sure that is the major reason.

Without question the last few years have delivered great financial news. Unemployment is low, productivity is high, inflation is low and the Dow is Stewards of Our Assets high. But Charles Dickens may have described our day in The Tale of Two Cities, "It was the best of

times, it was the worst of times .... " The best of times for income and investments, the worst of times for giving it to the Lord. Christians (Free Will Baptists) have more than ever, yet the need to supply the message of redemption has never been greater.

**By Bill Evans** 

iving in a sin-darkened world, while sharing the most affluent society in history, produces great personal temptations. Growth in our savings and investment accounts often tempts us to want

#### Did you know . . .

- In 1999 FWB Foreign Missions had 114 missionaries and workers on 13 fields?
- Our missionaries, pastors and overseas churches reported 1,344 conversions in 1999?
- Total Sunday attendance in our overseas churches and works averaged 12,314 in 1999?
- Free Will Baptists had 150 national pastors and 236 lay workers in 537 overseas works last year?

Foreign

more; and the more we have, the more we seem to need. Is it possible that God allows us to live at this time in this country to fund His work?

Remember, what the market giveth the market can take away. In light of the sudden drop in the Dow early this year and the NASDAQ in March, it might be wise to "cash" out some earthly investments to make some heavenly ones. Is the Lord reminding us to rebalance our investments or simply transfer some profits? Stewardship involves everything we are or have, even if it isn't simply ordinary income.

Do you need to transfer to the Lord's work some accumulated asset value?

ifts of appreciated value may be given specifically for Foreign Missions, producing no capital gains tax liability while allowing a charitable deduction for 100% of their fair market value. Check with the office of the Free Will Baptist Foundation for details.

Bill Evans is director of the FWB Foundation, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002.



Missions

June 2000, Contact 27

# Green Tree Bible Study



**Garnett Reid** 

# Friends in High Places

his month we continue our look at some of the people whose lives Jesus touched while He was here on earth. All three Synoptic gospels record one of Jesus' most well-known miracles: the healing of the paralytic man who was lowered through the roof by his friends. This incident is a favorite of children's Sunday School teachers because most kids delight in the idea of breaking open a hole in the roof—any roof!

Yet beyond the novelty of how the four men got their friend to Jesus lie some remarkable lessons about the Lord Himself. This encounter is filled with people whose needs Jesus met. While Matthew (9:1-8) and Luke (5:17-26) mention the miracle, Mark (2:1-12) gives the fullest account.

#### For Those Who Need Truth, Jesus Speaks the Word

Jesus was back in Capernaum, center of His early Galilean travels. The time was apparently during His first year of ministry when large crowds followed Him. News had spread quickly about Jesus' miracles—the changing of the water to wine at Cana and His healing of the nobleman's son here at Capernaum, for instance.

Now He is in a house—perhaps where He and His mother lived. The place is packed with people. Archaeological findings of similar houses in Palestine reveal that most were not very large, holding only 50 or so people at the most. Mark notes that "many" were there, even crowded outside the doorway. From Luke we learn that some of the number included Jewish leaders. Apparently word of Jesus' popularity had reached Jerusalem and they had come to investigate.

What they heard was the "word" Jesus preached to the crowd (Mk. 2:2). His message was the truth of

the kingdom of God, the fulfillment of the salvation promised in the Old Testament (see Matt. 4:17).

#### For Those Who Need Help, Jesus Sees Faith

Apparently these five men had agreed on their plan; they knew if they could get to Jesus, somehow He'd help the sick one. When they reached the crowded house and couldn't get in, the four men carrying their friend on a pallet climbed the outside staircase to the roof. They removed some of the mud-brick tiles and lowered their friend to Jesus below.

Sure enough, "when Jesus saw their faith," he responded to the need. Such faith is rare today. Yet the faith Jesus demands will not turn away until it finds the help Jesus provides, whatever stands in its way.

#### For Those Who Need Atonement, Jesus Forgives Sin

As desperately as the paralytic man needed a healing touch, Jesus knew his greatest need. "Son," the Lord said tenderly, "Thy sins be forgiven thee." Matthew's account (9:2) mentions that Jesus first told him, "be of good cheer," or "take courage." While we know very little about this man's background, we do know that, like each one of us, his sins had separated him from God.

Through His own inherent authority, Jesus immediately removed that barrier. This occasion marks one of only two times in the gospels when Jesus explicitly pronounces sins forgiven.

#### For Those Who Need Evidence, Jesus Challenges Unbelief

The Jewish leaders present that day seethed with outrage. Their religion rightly taught them that only God can forgive sins. Since Jesus had claimed that right, He had blasphemed. He was not God—or was He?

Jesus knew exactly what they were thinking. Ironically, such insight into the human mind is also evidence of deity. After all, only God knows what people are thinking (see Jn. 2:24-25)!

Jesus challenged His critics with a question: which is easier, to forgive sins, or to say to the sick, get up and walk? The answer: none of them knew because only God can do either one of these things. As the "Son of Man," a Messianic title from Daniel 7:13, Jesus has the power to do both, to forgive and to heal.

#### For Those Who Need Healing, Jesus Provides Strength

With an authoritative command, Jesus told the paralytic man, "Arise, take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house." The man's response was "immediate," notes Mark. He did as the Lord had said.

While not every occasion of healing is as instant or dramatic as this one, it is still a fact that Jesus makes sick people whole. In this life, wholeness may entail healing or it may simply involve the God-given strength granted to cope with human weakness, as with Paul (II Cor. 12:9). In the next life, though, wholeness will be absolute and never-ending.

#### For Those Who Need Hope, Jesus Incites Wonder

Out of this simple encounter comes the greatest miracle of all: "they were all amazed, and glorified God." Whatever works of grace God performs in your life, just remember that they all have one great purpose: to glorify Him. Those people left the place saying that they had never seen anything like this before. Neither have we.

# Especially for Young Preachers



Dennis Wiggs

## To the Young Preacher's Wife

roverbs declares, "A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband" and "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord." A good wife is the most important ingredient to a good ministry. A young preacher's calling will be greatly affected by his wife. She will either be a blessing or a curse.

Permit me to speak to the wife of the young preacher. Young lady, you are becoming accustomed to living in the glass house of the church, often called a parsonage. Quite a challenge! But being a vital part of your husband's ministry can be a daily blessing that produces eternal rewards. Here are a few suggestions.

#### Be Quiet

Talking too much to church members can be detrimental to your husband's successful ministry. Remember that almost everything (if not everything) you say is going to be repeated. People just love to hear something, especially if it is bad, and tell someone else. Church members will lose respect for the pastor if his wife relates personal matters that should be kept in the prayer closet.

That which transpires in the parsonage should be kept in the parsonage. Furthermore, the wife must be extremely careful how she speaks about other church members. A good rule would be to only declare about others that which is good.

#### Be Submissive

Practice Ephesians 5 and submit to your preacher-husband. He should love you as the queen. You should love and respect him as the king. Church members are watching. The manner in which the young preacher and his wife treat each other publicly goes a long ways in influencing other young couples.

#### Be Prayerful

The preacher-husband desperately needs a prayer warrior to soak him in prayer. While he is preparing sermons, pray for him. When he is visiting, call his name before the Lord. As he preaches, petition the Lord for His power to rest upon the one you love.

Tell him as you walk into the church door, "Honey, I'm praying for you today." Write short notes, assuring him of your prayer support. Very few will pray for the man of God. His wife should.

#### Be Supportive

When the young preacher faces an unfriendly church board, listen to your husband vent his feelings (without comment). Yes, he will make mistakes, but don't rebuke him. That's the last thing he needs. When the situation calms down, then, and only then, ask him if you can discuss the matter and offer your suggestions or evaluation.

The young preacher will be attacked. His wife is not called to form a battalion and declare war upon the accusers. Better to pray for him. Assure your loved one with kind words of your support. Quietly undergird your pastor-preacherhusband with the utmost support.

#### Be Faithful

Male church members or men at the office where you work may come at you with a vicious intent. Don't give them the time of the day. Yes, be friendly, smile, dress neatly and modestly. Never, never, leave the door cracked for a sexual advance. Men will repress their intentions if the woman will keep herself holy and free of intimate settings.

Brag on your preacher-husband. Be by his side as much as possible. Kindly introduce your mate to every man with whom you work. Always give the impression you are happily married, committed to the Lord, satisfied with the church and deeply in love with the man of your life.

#### Be Effective

The Lord anoints the young preacher's wife with special spiritual gifts, talents and abilities. She should not spread herself too thin, but by all means devote her time to that which she does well. Participate in church activities. Set the example.

Being a younger person, the wife of the young preacher often will spend time with the teens and children. That's good. But don't neglect the older ones in the congregation. A smiling, hand-shaking young pastor's wife sharing kind words, will go a long ways in assisting her husband to minister effectively to the congregation.

E-mail: denniswiggs@always-online.com

# TOP SHELF

## New Directions for Youth Ministry

By Wayne Rice, Chap Clark, et. al. (Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, Inc., 1998, 127 pp., paperback, \$16.99).

outh ministry is one of the most important and challenging ministries in the church today. It is also one of the most difficult. Pastors, parents and youth leaders need all the help they can get. There are no guarantees of quick and easy success in youth ministry.

This book is a collection of essays by veteran youth workers from a variety of denominational backgrounds. It can help provide useful ideas and suggestions for implementing a successful youth program.

The book begins with a useful introduction written by Mark H. Senter III, vice president of the Division of Open Studies and associate professor of Christian Education at Trinity International University in Deerfield, Illinois. In this introductory essay he deals with the philosophy of youth ministry.

He suggests that before a church begins to invest a lot of resources in youth ministry it should develop a model or strategy for youth ministry. The target audience it will seek to reach should be determined. No youth program can minister effectively to all young people.

The church must also decide how it will establish contact with its youth audience, how it will disciple them, and how it will train leaders for the youth work. If the church does not establish a basic plan or model, the participants will become frustrated and the youth program will accomplish little.

In chapter one of the book John Ruhlman, high school pastor at Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, discusses his experience with student-led cell groups. These cell groups are small groups of young people who meet each week, usually in a home, under the direction of student leaders with coaching and direction of adult mentors. These groups emphasize Bible study, prayer, and discipleship. The author of chapter two is Harvey F. Carey, youth pastor at Salem Baptist Church of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. The church is located in one of the poorest areas of Chicago. This area is characterized by "crime, unemployment, drug use, gang violence, low academic test scores, and hopelessness." The church has successfully developed a large youth church within its regular congregation. This youth church has its own worship services and other activities.

Chapter three, written by Chap Clark and Pamela J. Erwin, discusses familybased youth ministry. The authors note that too many youth programs in local churches function without significant family involvement. Sometimes youth ministries may schedule so many activities that they are actually harmful to family life. These authors offer practical suggestions on how a youth ministry can work with families and minister to the entire family.

Wayne Rice discusses mentoring in chapter four. He notes that many young people today do not grow up in strong two-parent homes. These young people confront difficulties and challenges which people of older generations can scarcely understand. Mentoring by a Christian adult or family can make all the difference in the life of a teenager.

The author notes that mentoring programs are not easy to start or maintain. They can, however, be one of the most rewarding aspects of an effective youth ministry.

Chapter six tells the story of a youth church. This church was founded by a group of adults who had a desire to win lost young people of their neighborhood to Christ. Over the years, they have developed a program of services and ministries designed specifically to win unchurched young people to Christ and then disciple them.

It is, in effect, a church composed

Thomas Marberry

almost entirely of young people. This young congregation functions in conjunction with area churches, but it is not under the control of any of these churches.

As the variety of approaches found in this book demonstrate, there is no one way of doing youth ministry that will be right for every situation. There are, to be sure, certain biblical principles that should be incorporated into every youth program. Church leaders must not be afraid to try new strategies and new approaches to ministry.

Young people today are open to the gospel; they can be reached for Christ. Reaching them will take a significant degree of commitment from the entire congregation including the senior pastor and other church leaders. Youth ministry cannot simply be left to the youth pastor and interested volunteers. They need the support and help of the entire church.

All the youth ministries discussed in this book have been successful in leading many young people to Christ and helping them grow in the Lord. Free Will Baptists can learn many valuable lessons about youth ministry from them. We should not, however, just imitate what the churches described in this book are doing. We should use them as sources for ideas that we can then apply to our individual churches and situations.



# BRIEFCASE



Jack Williams

## **Of Fathers and Sons**

hey say that when a boy grows up he spends the rest of his life trying to make his father proud of him. That's probably true. At least, it was with me.

My father died 33 years ago this spring at age 41. I had just finished college, was heavily in debt and working 16 hours a day at two jobs, trying to figure which way to turn to get some financial wiggle room.

The futher I remember was a strong man, mule strong, with shoulders that popped the seams on his store-bought shirts. A whisper under six feet tall, he packed 195 pounds into his khakis and gazed at the world through ice-blue eyes that looked right down inside the mind of a teenage boy. Scary.

The thing is, everybody seemed to like him. Some because he worked hard and wouldn't quit until the job got finished, regardless of the strain or how long it took. Others because he laughed easily and had a ready smile.

**Naturally, I could never** please him—at least it came across that way to me at the time. For instance, he played catcher on his high school baseball team, fearlessly hunkering just under the swish of the bat. He bought gloves for my brother and me—a first baseman's glove for my brother, a catcher's mitt for me.

He practiced long and hard with us, but it didn't take with me. My brother went on to become an all-star pitcher and a powerful slugger. Not me. I didn't even make the team. I was proud of my brother and embarrassed at myself.

My father was a man of sweeping contradictions. On the one hand, he admired the Ku Klux Klan and despised civil rights demonstrations. Yet on the other hand, he addressed almost with reverence the old black grandfather who lived on the next hill.

I remember the day he kicked a

black teen out of our front yard and beat him on the head with a club, because he had borrowed my bicycle without asking permission. I never understood his rage, and he refused to discuss it. That day I was ashamed to be white and afraid of my father.

His friends, and they came from all walks of life, called him "W. L." or "Dub." Mother called him "William L." When their fourth child was born in 1958, Dad wanted to name him "Bradford" because he liked the strong, masculine name. He named the third son after my high school basketball coach instead, because my brother and I set up a howl.

In order to get some cash money after farming all week, he worked Saturday nights as a floor bouncer at a place across the bayou called the Cotton Club. He carried a nickel-plated .38 revolver, a blackjack and a jaw-breaking uppercut. He needed all three. To me, he seemed like Superman.

A hunter and fisherman, he never got enough of either. Once he fell out of a tree stand on a deer hunt, broke four ribs and walked five miles back to the truck. Guns, bicycles, old cars and John Wayne movies—such was my childhood with the man who could do it all.

**He was a heroic** son-of-a-gun. When a wild cow got loose at an auction, everybody scattered except Dad. He bull-dogged the steer with his town clothes on and didn't lose his hat. As you can imagine, that was the stuff of legends for us boys.

While working on a pipeline, he tackled a man whose clothes had caught fire from a bucket of blazing gasoline, only to have someone kick the fiery contents over on him. Doctors told him that if he wanted to live, they'd have to amputate his legs. When he died four years later on an oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico, he still had both legs.

**He came running** the day I had my first automobile accident. He went to church with me the morning I got baptized in Bayou Macon. He took me to the hospital for stitches the afternoon I cut off my trigger finger, and the night an angry forward from Lake Providence kicked me in the head during a basketball game.

He heard me preach twice. I was afraid to ask what he thought about my sermon, and he never came back a third time.

He whipped me for the last time when I was 15, and it still hurts, thank you. He was an old man of 34 when I graduated high school. I left home two days later. Our trails, which had been so intermingled for 17 years, crossed only a few more times. One of the most important came in September 1961 when he bought me a plane ticket to Nashville and sent me off to learn how to preach better.

When the word came late one night in New Orleans, I knew I'd lost my last chance to make him proud. By the time the helicopter lifted off the barge, W. L. Williams was dead. And a lot of me died with him that night.

Two years later in a small hospital in south Arkansas, my son was born. There was never a question what we would name him—William Bradford. "William" after the grandfather he never knew; "Bradford" because of its strong, masculine sound.

And for the record, I hope that William Bradford Williams never has to ask if his father is proud of him. He's everything his grandfather could have wanted and far more than I dared dream. However, if I ever catch the rascal in Nashville again wearing my stolen cowboy boots, I'll send him back to Red Bay, Alabama. Barefooted.

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