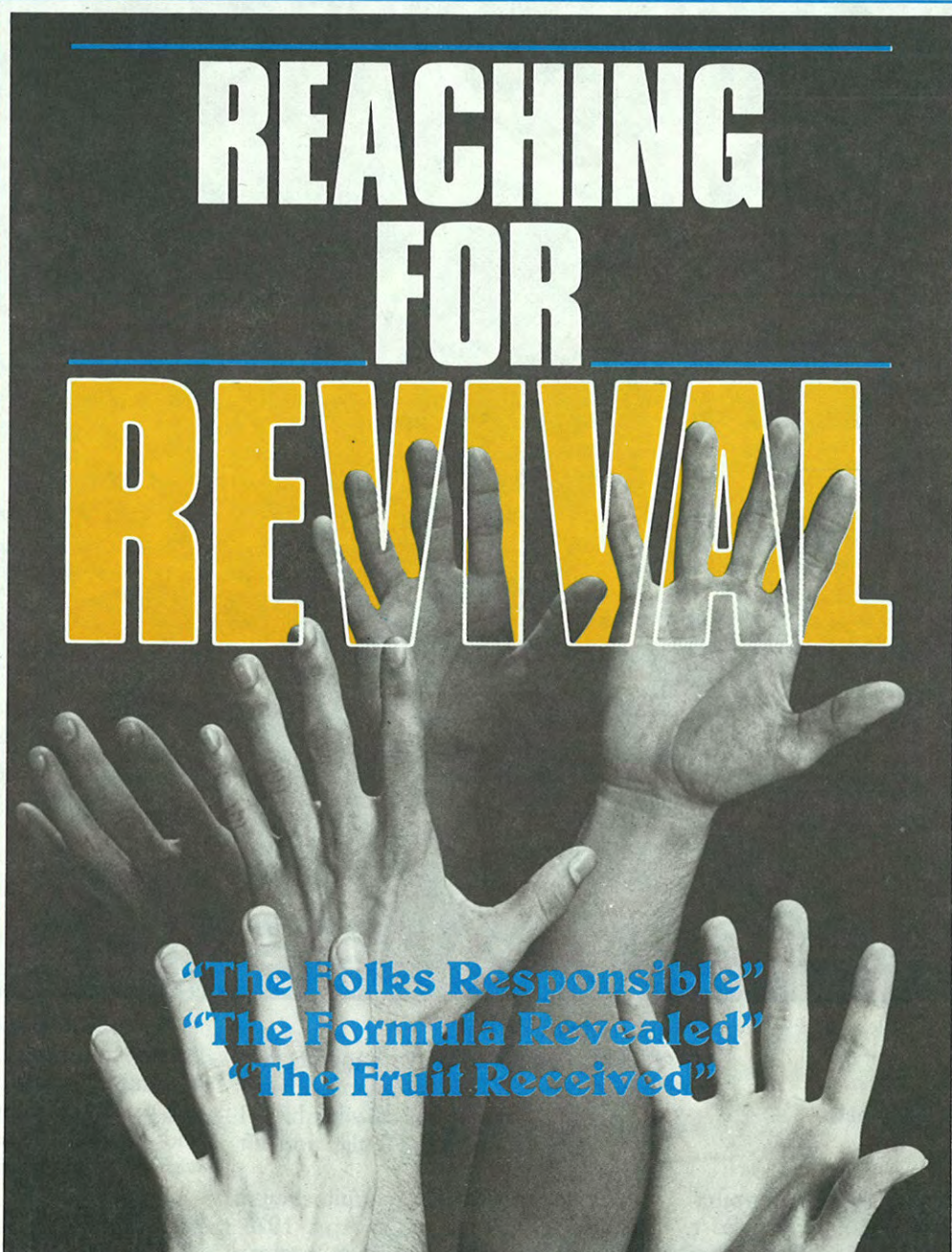


# Contact

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
June 1984



**REACHING  
FOR  
REVIVAL**

**"The Folks Responsible"**  
**"The Formula Revealed"**  
**"The Fruit Received"**

**National Association of Free Will Baptists**

48th Annual Convention/July 15-19, 1984

Statehouse Convention Center

Little Rock, Arkansas



# Ministering To Older Adults



H. Armstrong Roberts

By Lee Whaley

**O**ne late afternoon in the summer of 1980, I received a phone call informing me that one of my shut-ins, an 82-year-old man, was in the hospital seriously ill. I went to the hospital and directly to his hospital room.

As I approached his bed, I said, "Brother, how are you feeling? I am so

sorry you are sick."

He tried to raise his hand toward me, and said, "There is my preacher." After a few more words with him, I prayed for him and the family and left the room.

Ministering to older adults began falling in place for me in April 1978. After attending a funeral in eastern North Carolina, my wife, Ethel, and I drove to Bessemer City where I pastored. Passing through Kinston, 20 miles from where I was reared, we stopped to visit an older friend in the hospital. A short time later he died.

His death awakened within me a burden to minister to the elderly in the community where I grew up. I was 65 and would soon retire. For 30 years I had ministered to all ages. Now I wanted to minister to older adults.

## *Kinston Decision*

Nine months later I resigned my pastorate. Not long after that I returned to Kinston to visit Pastor David Paramore of Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, a good friend of mine.

When I told him my plans, he con-



fided, "You're just the man our church needs. We plan to start a ministry with older adults." I accepted the invitation as a call from God.

In July 1979, Ethel and I moved to Kinston, and a month later held our first meeting with 22 older adults. We named our group the "Senior Saints of Bethel." Now, after five years, we count 100 enrolled. The largest attendance at a regular meeting hit 147.

Working with older adults, I learned, is not only a ministry to the dying but to the living as well. I assure our senior adults there is a place for them to serve in the church and community. I encourage them to make the hymn, "We'll Work 'Till Jesus Comes", their theme song.

Our Senior Saints are church-oriented and they stay involved. Our prayer group is ready to pray for special needs at any time. They minister to one another and to others in times of sickness and bereavement.

When one of our group is hospitalized, we send cards and flowers from the Senior Saints of Bethel. When one dies, we send flowers to the funeral home. We raise our own money to pay for these expenses.

One lady came to us two years ago soon after her husband passed away. In less than a year, both her legs were amputated. As a result of this shock, she went into deep depression. Our pastor, her family, doctors and I worked with her several weeks before she recovered.

Now, at age 65, she resides in a nursing home. She uses her time to move around the home in her wheelchair to encourage others, and says she feels this is where God wants her.

Every week we tape our Sunday services for shut-ins. One 93-year-old lady, who lives alone says listening to the tape is the highlight of her week.

My wife and I visit a retirement complex twice a month where we conduct services and eat lunch with them.

The potential for outreach by older adults to older adults in our community seems unlimited.

### Special Banquets

One of the special times of the year is our Valentine's Day banquet. We involve the Senior Saints in the program and entertainment which includes crowning a king and queen.

The ladies wear red dresses and prepare their best dishes.

At one of the banquets, I asked several to share with us memories of their wedding. One said she and her husband were married before the headlights of a Model T Ford.

Our annual banquet is another big event. This year, 145 Senior Saints and guests attended. One of the most appreciated parts of this event is our memorial service. At our fourth annual banquet held in October 1983, we lit a candle for each of 37 who had passed on to their eternal home since our work had its beginning.

As I gave the name of a deceased member of our group, a candle was lit in memory of that person. Yes, my emotions got pretty high as I remembered the last words or events of each deceased person.

One year we celebrated Old-Fashioned Day with everyone wearing the styles of their childhood. The good food served with a flair from yesterday soon stirred memories of humorous incidents, sick remedies, and bygone entertainment.

### Retreats and Activities

Since I have been on staff at Bethel as associate pastor and minister to older adults, our pastor has given me complete freedom to plan and direct the ministry to the aging. The pastor and I contact each other every morning, discuss the work for the day, and proceed to do it.

I have the cooperation of all departments of the church. One lady works with my wife in planning and preparing for all parties, dinners, and banquets. The ladies of the Senior Saints Club bring their covered dishes of food, and the younger ladies of the church serve as waitresses.

During my first year at Bethel, the Finance Committee recommended that \$5,000 be added to the budget for a down payment on a bus for the Senior Saints. This recommendation passed, and a 40-passenger bus was purchased that summer. The church paid the entire \$30,000 in cash!

Every year we spend two or three days in the mountains. Then, several times during the summer, we caravan to the coast for a seafood dinner. We

### Contents June 1984

**2 Ministering To Older Adults**  
Lee Whaley

**5 Briefcase: What Is a Father?**  
Jack Williams

**6 Should Children Vote In Church?**  
Larry Hampton

**8 National Convention Program**

**12 National Youth Conference Program**

**14 Woman's National Auxiliary Convention Program**

**18 Spotlight on Missouri**  
Clarence Burton

**20 FWB Newsfront**

**23 Green Tree Bible Study**  
Robert Picirilli

**24 Top Shelf**

**25 On Little Lanes**  
Donna Mayo

**26 The Free Will Baptist Pulpit**  
Leroy Cutler

**27 Preserving The Program**  
John Neal

**28 Discipleship—A Way Of Life**  
Jim Puckett

**29 Let's Have a Growing Church!**  
Floyd Wolfenbarger

**31 Happy Husbands**  
Melvin Worthington

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## OLDER ADULTS (From Page 3)

often go out for dinner and afterwards attend a revival at some neighboring church.

Last summer, during the late evening, we took a boat cruise out from Morehead City and stopped for a seafood dinner in one of the coastal

Christmas, I received my greatest and most rewarding Christmas gift.

A lady of about 65 years had had two major strokes. The last one left her body paralyzed. She can't eat or use her throat or voice in any way. She takes food in liquid form through a tube. Her only form of communication is through signs or expressions in her

**"Working with older adults is not only a ministry to the dying but to the living as well."**



restaurants. In October we made a five-day trip to Nashville, Tennessee. We spent one day as guests of Free Will Baptist Bible College, then took a couple of tours around the city.

We enjoy being together whether traveling or singing hymns. We jokingly say one of the reasons we understand each other is we all have an ache or pain one place or another. When one of them complains, "My leg hurts," we laugh and someone replies, "Well, mine does too."

### Precious Visits

Visiting in the homes of a shut-in or an elderly couple blesses my heart. They welcome me with open arms and make me feel wanted. I have learned what they like most is taking their minds back to bygone days. I love this type of conversation which comes naturally for me.

I don't ever visit a person as if it's my duty or my job. I let them know I wanted to come, "Sorry I have been so long in getting back," and letting them know this is a special visit for a special person. I also let them know I love them.

I usually spend 15 to 30 minutes on a home visit. I use the above methods on a retirement home or hospital visit, but a shorter one depending on the recipient.

On one such visit to one of our residents in a retirement home before

eyes and face.

The day of my visit, I found her lying on her bed with her eyes half open staring into space without any expression whatsoever. I spoke softly, "This is Preacher Whaley, and I have come to visit you."

She did not move or even blink her eyes. I came to the end of my visit and addressed her, "I have to go. Suppose we have prayer. I think I will read some from the Bible. What would you like for me to read? Let's read Psalm 23."

At the sound of Psalm 23, her face lit up as if life had suddenly returned. During the reading of this scripture, her expression continued to show the Lord's blessings on her face. I came out of that room with my cup more than running over.

### With The Dying

My most rewarding ministry is to the dying. In the past five years, 40 older adults in our church-related ministries have died.

I recall one man who was saved at age 78. He was a giant of a man who always asked to hold my hand as I prayed with him. He spent his final two weeks in a hospital. When I last visited him, he was so weak he could hardly open his eyes.

At first, I thought he was asleep or in a coma. But when his daughter-in-law told him I was there and asked if he wanted me to pray, he whispered,

"Yes." That was the last word I ever heard him speak. She took his hand and joined it with mine as I prayed. He died before morning.

Memories of people like these are my reward. I also minister to the families of the dying. During these last illnesses, families need comfort and encouragement.

Soon after Ethel and I returned home from Nashville on the night of December 30, 1983, our pastor informed me that one of our Senior Saints had died. She was 83 and in declining health, but somehow her death came as a surprise.

I called her 86-year-old husband to offer my sympathy and assure him my prayers were with him. I suggested that since it was late I would not come over to his house that night but meet him at 10:00 the next morning; the two of us would go to the funeral home and stay with his wife's body for a while. He agreed.

The next morning, after we had spent some time just being there and looking at her dressed so beautifully lying in her casket, her husband slipped his wedding band off his finger and asked me to place it on her finger. Beside the casket the two of us joined hands, and I prayed a simple prayer thanking the Lord for keeping this couple's hearts beating together as if in one breast for 62 years and keeping them true to their marriage vows "until death do us part."

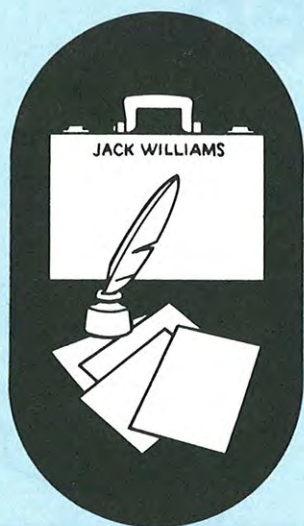
As the Holy Spirit overwhelmed us there with His presence, I knew "this is my life" ministering to older adults. ▲

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**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Reverend Lee Whaley is associate pastor and minister to the aging at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina. He has served as a minister for 35 years, eight years as missionary to Alaska.

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# What Is A Father?

**F**athers are universal. Everybody's got one.

They come in assorted sizes and colors. Some are dumpy, some rail thin. Some creak with age, some are little more than grown-up Huckleberry Finns.

But most fathers come in one size and color—just right! The best ones are those who never lose the joy of being a boy.

Fathers have broad shoulders to ride on and sometimes to cry on. Fathers can fix things that break like the webbing in a Hank Aaron fielder's mitt or the door on somebody's favorite doll house.

**There are no short cuts** to being a father. He may be vice-president downtown and bark orders from nine to five, but everything slips back into perspective when he gets home, takes out the garbage, and becomes a horsey for his four-year-old trail boss.

Fathers are tall enough for little boys to admire and cuddly enough for daughters to hug. When things go bump in the night, fathers get up to find out why.

Fathers don't mind wearing old suits if it means buying that new bike or that special dress for you know who. All fathers are taken for granted because that's the way things are with fathers.

There comes a time in every father's life when a gawky 15-year-old looks

him in the eye and grins, "You're not as tall as you used to be, Dad."

**Fathers are the final** court of appeals on hair cuts and report cards. They're usually called on to settle family skirmishes like how long someone can tie up the telephone, what TV channel to watch, and who gets the car keys tonight.

Fathers want their sons tough as whip leather, yet gentle enough to kiss Mom goodbye before leaving for camp. They want their daughters pretty as morning dew on a magnolia blossom, but practical enough to change the oil in the family sedan.

Fathers rule the yard with lawn mowers and hedge trimmers. But they walk softly in the kitchen, and aren't nearly as afraid of dish water as they'd have you believe.

**For every bad father,** there's a hundred who'd tackle a bull moose barehanded to protect his wife and children.

Fathers are the guardians of children's fantasy worlds. They know the tooth fairy personally and seem to have a hot line to the North Pole.

For Christmas, fathers prefer socks and handkerchiefs wrapped by stubby fingers to that shiny \$500-shotgun they've been admiring all year.

Fathers don't need anything on birthdays, but they never forget when a boy turns 10 and are always surprised that a daughter is old enough for her first pair of nylons.

**Fathers are tough.** They never get sick, and if they do catch a sniffle, they make such a fuss about it that the whole family laughs at them.

And it's a known fact that fathers are smarter when their children turn 30 than when their children were 16, at least the children think so.

Fathers work eight or 10 hours a day so they can make car payments

and buy six pairs of sneakers a year for one pair of growing boy's feet.

Fathers never have enough time, but they're always there when you need them. They yell like banshees at Little League games and twist uncomfortably during the third act of the fourth grade rendition of Romeo and Juliet.

When it comes to TV programs, fathers would rather watch a Bugs Bunny special Monday night than the Dallas Cowboys game that conflicts with Mr. Bunny.

**Fathers are a magic** combination of John Wayne and Frosty the Snowman. They're the long arm of the law, but they'll melt in your livingroom with just a little love.

Fathers are nice to have around on dark nights when thunder and lightning send brave children scurrying to their parents' bedroom to make sure Mom and Dad are all right.

There are no training wheels for fathers. Rookie dads blunder through the first few months like a hog on ice.

Fathers excel at teaching survival skills to offsprings—such as how to fly a box kite, the art of un-knotting knots, how to wash dogs, how to move pianos across carpet, and how to be playing golf when the piano needs to be moved.

**They are heroes** to their daughters and competitors to their sons. The best thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother.

A father's faith in God gives his children an edge in life. His job is never done; the kids just leave home.

But when he opens the car door after a tough day at the office, there's not a father alive who'd swap the moment of ecstasy when a muddy 5-year-old bounces through the shrubbery and chirps to his friends, "That's my dad!" ▲





By Larry Hampton

**O**ne year ago First Free Will Baptist Church of Anywhere, USA, elected Rev. John Q Public as pastor. Twenty-five preteens helped capture the pastoral prize for the dynamic leader of First Church.

Rev. Public reports that 52 weeks and 50 conversions later his congregation has voted by a narrow margin to build a new 500-seat sanctuary. The difference in the extremely close vote was the overwhelming support of the church's children.

Are pastors being voted in by the children of this denomination? Are building programs predicated on the support of Free Will Baptist children?

In the hypothetical cases outlined above, the children were in large part responsible for the measure adopted. The support of a pastor and the construction of a building both require

large sums of money over an extended period of time. Obviously, children are unable to contribute heavily to meeting either of these expenses.

If children vote, they are likely to reflect their parents' views. In such cases, there is a danger that parents will use their children to effect their own plans.

Should children vote in church? Does their lack of familiarity with the world of business dictate that they be denied the right to vote?

A limited survey conducted as preparation for this article unearthed no major problem involving child voters, but it did reveal a widespread awareness of the possibility for abuse.

Of the 13 men consulted, 10 are currently pastoring churches. The other three are denominational employees. Some reported on the practices in former pastorates as well as the policy of their present charge.

Six churches have specific constitutional provisions limiting the voting age. Voting age requirements ranged from 12 to 18. None of the churches

the men represent deny membership to children.

Theoretically, a church could be run by children. However, in practice none of the churches surveyed have been plagued by a children's coalition.

Pastor Bob King of Cramerton, North Carolina, stated that while the members of his church have not taken action to restrict voting privileges, parents do not allow their children to vote.

Although Faith Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville has no official limitation on voting, according to Pastor J. W. Love, children are urged to wait until they are 12 to 13 before voting. Rev. Love reported no difficulties with this policy.

Columbus, Ohio, pastor David Boggs said that although children are free to join Heritage Temple, he does not pressure them to do so. Once they join, they can vote. Few do either.

Jim Walker, pastor of Nashville's Woodbine Free Will Baptist Church which limits the right to vote to post 13-year-olds, acknowledged that few

children join his church. Although no one is turned away from membership on the basis of age, preteens are not encouraged to join the congregation. Most who come into the church do so at the same time as their parents. But kids, whose parents do not attend church, do not usually become church members when they are saved.

Milton Worthington indicated that Central Church in Royal Oak, Michigan, does not allow anyone under 12 to vote.

Sylvan Park's (Nashville) new pastor, Lonnie Skiles, said that none of the churches he has pastored had age requirements for voting. Neither has any of these churches had problems related to children voting.

The Donelson Free Will Baptist Church (Nashville) allows children to join the church. Not many do. Each situation is considered on an individual basis.

Robert Morgan, pastor, noted that there is no official age limit on voting at Donelson. However, he did point out that there has been no problem due to the lack of a definite policy.

Smaller churches with few children old enough to be church members are not concerned with a take-over by the junior set. An additional factor limiting the influence of children in churches of all sizes is the reality that few children attend church conferences.

All the pastors queried recognized a danger in children voting. Children lack the maturity and experience necessary for a proper understanding of issues that are voted on in conferences.

In most instances, a child voting can be expected to follow his parents' example. Thus, a family with four or five children becomes a significant factor in any vote. If numerous families with several children each share the same position, they could "rule the roost."

If a church had several children with unchurched parents, an influential adult could sway them to vote with him. Such a bloc could become a key determinant in charting church policy. If the person orchestrating the voting pattern of the church kids is improperly motivated, he could make a pastor's life miserable or even threaten the

survival of the church.

All the pastors I spoke with agreed that church business ought not be left to children. While children voting does not seem to be a major problem in our churches, it appears that the surest way to guarantee the wise handling of business matters is for each church to limit the right to vote to older teens and adults. ▲



**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Larry D. Hampton is editorial manager of *Randall House Publications*. He pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He holds three degrees—Bachelor of Arts (Free Will Baptist Bible College), Master of Religious Education (Covenant Theological Seminary), and Master of Arts in Christian Ministries (Wheaton Graduate School).



## July 8 National Convention Day of Prayer and Fasting

# THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## Theme: "Reaching For Revival"



Vernon Barker



Lonnie DaVoult



Terry Forrest



Jimmy Aldridge

## 48th Annual Session/July 15-19, 1984 Statehouse Convention Center Little Rock, Arkansas

**THEME:** "Reaching For Revival"  
**MODERATOR:** Bobby Jackson  
**MUSIC COORDINATOR:** Blaine Hughes  
**ORGANIST:** Brenda Pursell  
**PIANIST:** Sue Patton  
**REGISTRATION COORDINATOR:** Yvonne Wolfenbarger  
**HEADQUARTERS HOTEL:** Little Rock Excelsior  
**CONVENTION OFFICE:** Statehouse Convention Center  
The Quapaw

### SUNDAY MORNING/July 15

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL	Excelsior Hotel
	Presiding: Dale Skiles	
	Music: Free Will Baptist Bible College	
	Primaries: Kay Hampton	La Harpe Room
	Juniors: James Dunbar	La Salle Room
	Teens: Curt Gwartney	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
	Adults: Almon Calvert	Grand Ballroom Salons B, C

10:45	Intermission	
11:00	MORNING WORSHIP	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salons B, C
	Presiding: Dale Skiles	
	Song Service: Larry Clyatt	
	Solo: Boyd Osborne	
	Offertory: FWBBC	
	MESSAGE: "The Folks Responsible"	
	Vernon Barker	
	Primary Church: Toby Jenkins	La Harpe Room
	Junior Church: Barbara Johnson	La Salle Room
	Teen Church: Youth Evangelistic Team	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 15

3:00	REGISTRATION for National Convention and WNAC	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
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3:00	REGISTRATION for National Youth Conference	Camelot Hotel Meeting Room Level
3:30	Master's Men Board	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
4:00	Mass Youth Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
5:00	Usher Orientation	Convention Center John Pope Room

## SUNDAY EVENING/July 15

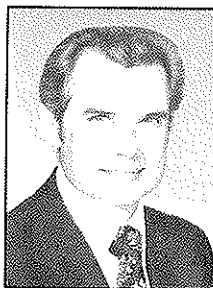
7:00-8:30	NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE Keynote Service Speaker: Keith Burden	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage

## MONDAY MORNING/July 16

7:00	NYC Breakfast (staff, judges and officials)	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
8:00-8:45	WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
8:30	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
8:30	NYC Competitive Activities (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel
9:00	GENERAL BOARD Convenes	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salons A, B
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Excelsior Hotel Valley Room
9:00-11:45	WNAC Executive Committee	Excelsior Hotel Finley Vinson Room

## MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 16

12:00-12:45	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
12:00-1:15	General Board Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel Arkansas Tennis Hall of Fame
1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel
1:30	GENERAL BOARD Reconvenes	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salons A, B
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar Theme: "Your Attitudes Are Showing"	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salon C
2:30-3:30	Youth Seminar Speaker: Howard Gwartney	Camelot Hotel Plaza East Room



**Melvin Worthington**  
Exec. Secretary  
Nat'l. Assoc.



**David Joslin**  
Prom. Secretary  
AR State Assoc.



**Bobby Jackson**  
Moderator  
Nat'l. Assoc.

2:30-3:30	Youth Workers Seminar Speaker: Greg McAllister	Camelot Hotel Arcade West Room
3:00-4:00	Presidents and Field Workers	Excelsior Hotel River Valley Room
4:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
5:00	EXHIBIT AREA OPEN	Convention Center Exhibition Hall

## MONDAY EVENING/July 16

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
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Presiding: Carl Sullivan  
Song Service: I. L. Stanley  
Music: Mass Adult Choir  
Waves of Faith Quartet

Session Called to Order and  
Moderator Introduced: Waldo Young, Clerk

Report of Committee on Committees:  
Bobby Jackson, Moderator

Welcome to Little Rock:  
David Joslin  
Arkansas Promotional Director

Roll Call of States: Carl Sullivan

Offertory: Hillsdale FWB College

Solo: Bill Gardner

MESSAGE: "The Formula Revealed"  
Lonnie DeVault

8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Riverfront Park Camelot Hotel
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
10:30	Exhibit Area Closed	





## PROGRAM (From Page 9)

### TUESDAY MORNING/July 17

7:00	Music Ministries Fellowship Breakfast Speaker: Ted Wilbanks	Excelsior Hotel La Harpe Room
7:00	Home Missions Board Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel Arkansas Tennis Hall of Fame
8:00-11:00	<b>BIBLE CONFERENCE</b>  Presiding: Lincoln Varney Song Service: Boyd Osborne  8:00 Music: Waves of Faith Quartet Speaker: Ken Walker  9:00 Music: FWBBC Speaker: J. M. Creech  10:00 Music: Hillsdale FWB College Speaker: Billy Jackson	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salons A, B
8:00	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel Robinson Center
8:30	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage

1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel
1:30	WNAC Reconvenes	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
2:30-3:30	Youth Seminar Speaker: Bobby Sebastian	Camelot Hotel Plaza East Room
2:30-3:30	Youth Workers Seminar Speaker: Doug Little	Camelot Hotel Arcade West Room
4:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
5:00	Learner/Adventurer Banquet	Robinson Center Rooms 102, 103
5:00-6:45	<b>WNAC FELLOWSHIP DINNER</b> Speaker: Beatrice Bixler	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom

### TUESDAY EVENING/July 17

7:00-8:30	<b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b>  Presiding: John Smith Song Service: Raymond Lee Music: Mass Adult Choir Offertory: Mary Nell Beck Solo: David Bates  <b>MESSAGE: "The Fruit Received"</b> Terry Forrest	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
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## Bible Conference Speakers



**Walker**



**Creech**



**Jackson**

8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
9:00	<b>WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION</b> Presiding: June Rolan, President	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
11:10	WNAC Missionary Service Message: Fred Hersey	Convention Center Exhibition Hall

### TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 17

12:00-1:15	Friends of Hillsdale College Alumni Luncheon Speaker: Thomas Marberry	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salon C
12:15-1:15	State Leaders Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel River Valley Room

8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	Historical Commission	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
9:00	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
9:00	Youth Banquet	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
10:30	Exhibit Area Closed	



## WEDNESDAY MORNING/July 18

7:00	Master's Men Breakfast Speaker: Luther Sanders	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salon A
8:00-9:30	NYC Competitive Finals	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	Registration Continues	Convention Center Caddo/Osage
9:00-11:45	CONVENTION BUSINESS SESSION	Convention Center Exhibition Hall

Moderator's Message: Bobby Jackson  
Report of Credentials Committee  
and Seating of Delegates  
Partial Report of General Board  
Partial Report of Nominating Committee

REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS  
(Board members are elected at conclusion  
of each report.)

Executive Office: Melvin Worthington  
Home Missions: Roy Thomas  
Board of Retirement: Herman Hersey  
FWB Foundation: Herman Hersey  
Master's Men: James Vallance

9:30-12:00	NYC Awards Celebration	Robinson Center Music Hall
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## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON/July 18

12:00	REGISTRATION CLOSES	
12:00	FWBBC Alumni Luncheon Speaker: Charles Thigpen	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
12:00-1:15	Friends of Southeastern FWB College Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salon A
1:00	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel
1:30	CONVENTION BUSINESS RECONVENES	Convention Center Exhibition Hall

Scripture Reading and Prayer  
Assistant Moderator: Ralph Hampton

1:35	REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS (continued)	
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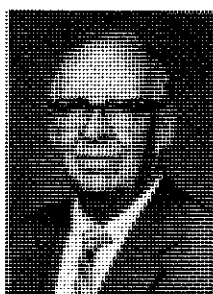
Foreign Missions: Rolla Smith  
Free Will Baptist Bible College: Charles Thigpen



**Thompson**



**Eagleton**



**Breeden**

Sunday School and Church Training: Roger Reeds  
Commission on Theological Liberalism: Leroy Forlines  
Radio-TV Commission: George Lee

2:15	General Board Final Report Partial Report of Nominating Committee Election of General Board Members	
2:30	Youth Service (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel
4:00	Business Session Recessed	
4:00	Men's Chorale Rehearsal (or immediately following business session)	Convention Center Exhibition Hall

## WEDNESDAY EVENING/July 18

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
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Presiding: Reford Wilson  
Song Service: Blaine Hughes  
Music: Men's Chorale

Home Missionary: Paul Thompson  
Foreign Missionary: Ken Eagleton  
Home Missionary: Bob Breeden

Missions Offering: Reford Wilson  
Offertory: FWBBC

Solo: Beverly Welch

MESSAGE: Jimmy Aldridge

8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Camelot Hotel
10:30	Exhibit Area Closed	

## THURSDAY MORNING/July 19

7:00	Sunday School Board Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
9:00	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Riverfront Park Camelot Hotel Robinson Mall
9:00	CONCLUDING BUSINESS SESSION	Convention Center Exhibition Hall

WNAC Report: Cleo Pursell  
Historical Commission Report: Alton Loveless  
Report of Committees:

—Registration  
—Budget  
—Resolutions

Nominating Committee's Final Report

Election of General Officers

11:45	Adjournment	
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12:15	Exhibits Closed (or 30 minutes after convention adjournment) ▲	
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# NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

## 17th Annual Conference/July 15-19, 1984

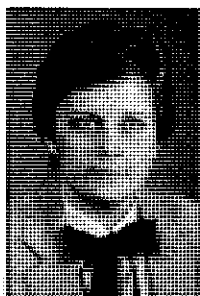
### Camelot Hotel/Little Rock, Arkansas



**BURDEN**



**LAUTHERN**



**NEWSOME**



**LEWIS**

**THEME:** "Rejoice!"—Philippians 4:4

**NYC DIRECTOR:** Jim Lauthern

**NYC COMPETITION COORDINATOR:** Clarence Lewis

**NYC ACTIVITIES COORDINATORS:** Pam Newsome  
Allen Pointer

**NYC REGISTRATION COORDINATOR:** Janita Warren

**NYC OFFICE COORDINATOR:** Shirley Lauthern

**NYC MUSIC COORDINATOR:** Stephen Messer

**NYC HEADQUARTERS HOTEL:** Camelot Hotel

#### SATURDAY EVENING/July 14

7:00	Youth Rally/Prayer Service	Camp Beaverfork Tabernacle Conway
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#### SUNDAY MORNING/July 15

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL	Excelsior Hotel
	Primary: Kay Hampton	La Harpe Room
	Junior: James Dunbar	La Salle Room
	Teen: Curt Gwartney	Camelot Hotel
		The Great Hall
	Adult: Almon Calvert	Grand Ballroom
		Salons B, C

11:00-12:15	MORNING WORSHIP	Excelsior Hotel
	Primary Church: Toby Jenkins	La Harpe Room
	Junior Church: Barbara Johnson	La Salle Room
	Teen Church: Youth Evangelistic Team	Camelot Hotel
		The Great Hall

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 15

1:30	Information Tables	Camelot Hotel Lobby Excelsior Hotel Lobby
3:00	NYC Registration	Camelot Hotel Meeting Room Level
4:00	Mass Youth Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Exhibition Hall

#### SUNDAY EVENING/July 15

7:00-8:30	NYC KEYNOTE SERVICE Speaker: Keith Burden	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	Youth Activities	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
8:30	Children's Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
8:30	Registration	Camelot Hotel Meeting Room Level

#### MONDAY MORNING/July 16

7:00	NYC Breakfast (staff, judges and officials)	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
8:30	Bible Bowl Assembly ALL Teams and Coaches	Camelot Hotel Black Knight Room
	Bible Tic Tac Toe Assembly ALL Teams and Coaches	Camelot Hotel White Knight Room
	Music & Arts Assembly ALL Teams and Coaches	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight Room
9:00	Bible Bowl	Camelot Hotel Black Knight Room



	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Camelot Hotel White Knight Room
	Music & Arts, Section 1	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight Room
	Music & Arts, Section 2	Robinson Center Rooms 102, 103
	Music & Arts, Section 3	Camelot Hotel Arcade West Room
	Bible Sword Drill, Grade 4	Camelot Hotel Silver Knight Room
10:00	Bible Memorization, Grade 1	Camelot Hotel Silver Knight Room

### MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 16

1:00	Bible Bowl	Camelot Hotel Black Knight Room
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Camelot Hotel White Knight Room
	Music & Arts, Section 4	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight Room
	Music & Arts, Section 5	Robinson Center Rooms 102, 103
	Bible Sword Drill, Grade 5	Camelot Hotel Silver Knight Room
1:00-3:30	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
2:00	Bible Memorization, Grade 2	Camelot Hotel Silver Knight Room
2:30-3:30	Youth Seminar Speaker: Howard Gwartney	Camelot Hotel Plaza East Room
2:30-3:30	Youth Workers Seminar Speaker: Greg McAllister	Camelot Hotel Arcade West Room

### MONDAY EVENING/July 16

7:00-8:30	MAIN CONVENTION SERVICE	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	YouthFest '84	Riverfront Park

### TUESDAY MORNING/July 17

8:00	"Catching The Rainbow" Devotional	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight Room
	Bible Bowl	Camelot Hotel Black Knight Room
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Camelot Hotel White Knight Room
	Music & Arts, Section 6	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight Room
	Music & Arts, Section 7	Robinson Center Rooms 102, 103
	Bible Sword Drill, Grade 6	Camelot Hotel Silver Knight Room

	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
9:30	Bible Memorization, Grade 3	Camelot Hotel Silver Knight Room

### TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 17

1:00	Music & Arts, Section 8	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
1:00-3:30	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
2:30-3:30	Youth Seminar Speaker: Bobby Sebastian	Camelot Hotel Plaza East Room
2:30-3:30	Youth Workers Seminar Speaker: Doug Little	Camelot Hotel Arcade West Room
5:00	Learner/Adventurer Banquet	Robinson Center Rooms 102, 103

### TUESDAY EVENING/July 17

7:00-8:30	MAIN CONVENTION SERVICE	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
9:00	Youth Banquet	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
9:00	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room

### WEDNESDAY MORNING/July 18

8:00	Bible Competition Finals	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
9:30	NYC Awards Celebration	Robinson Center Music Hall

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON/July 18

1:00	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room
2:30	Youth Service: "Season of Rejoicing"	Camelot Hotel Golden Knight Room

### WEDNESDAY EVENING/July 18

7:00-8:30	MAIN CONVENTION SERVICE	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
8:30	Youth Activities	Camelot Hotel The Great Hall
	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Plaza West Room

### THURSDAY MORNING/July 19

9:00	Youth Activities	Riverfront Park
	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Camelot Hotel Robinson Mall ▲



# WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION

## 49th Annual Session/July 16-17, 1984

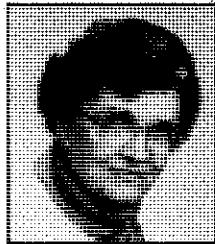
### Statehouse Convention Center/Excelsior Hotel Little Rock, Arkansas



**Pursell**



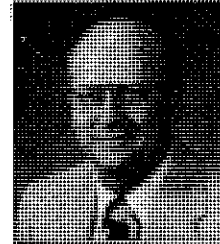
**Miley**



**Bixler**



**Rolan**



**Hersey**

**THEME:** "Ask of Me"

**SCRIPTURE:** "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession" (Psalm 2:8).

**SONGS:** "Teach Me to Pray"  
"I Asked the Lord" (Chorus)

**SONG DIRECTOR:** Jayne Hannah

**ORGANIST:** Brenda Pursell

**PIANIST:** Sue Patton

**REGISTRATION CHAIRMAN:** Anne Worthington

**WNAC HEADQUARTERS HOTEL:** Little Rock Excelsior

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 15

12:00-6:00	Information Tables and Ticket Sales	Convention Center Excelsior Hotel
1:30	Registration Committee Orientation	Convention Center Osage Room
3:00	REGISTRATION	Convention Center Osage Room

#### MONDAY MORNING/July 16

8:00-8:45	WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Excelsior Hotel Valley Room
9:00-11:45	WNAC Executive Committee	Excelsior Hotel Finley Vinson Room

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 16

12:00-12:45	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	Excelsior Hotel Doyle Rogers Room
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar: "Your Attitudes Are Showing"	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom Salon C
3:00-4:00	Presidents and Fields Workers	Excelsior Hotel River Valley Room

#### TUESDAY MORNING/July 17

9:00	WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
	Presiding: June Rolan Song Service: Jayne Hannah	
9:15	Devotion: Steve Riggs	
9:30	Duet: Peggy Henderson and Beverly Newman Welcome: Linda Harvey Creative Arts Contest Awards: Lorene Miley Credentials Committee Report/Seating of Delegates Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Cleo Pursell Resolutions Committee Report Appreciation Committee Report	
11:10	WNAC MISSIONARY SERVICE	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
	Offertory: Brenda Pursell Sue Patton Solo: Patty McCullough Message: Fred Hersey, Japan	
12:00	Recess Arkansas and WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 17

1:30	Song Service: Jayne Hannah	Convention Center Exhibition Hall
	Offertory: Brenda Pursell Sue Patton Duet: Henry and Virginia Van Kluyve Missionary Panel: "Holding The Ropes" Lorene Miley Registration Committee Report	
3:00	Adjournment	
5:00	WNAC FELLOWSHIP DINNER Speaker: Beatrice Bixler	Excelsior Hotel Grand Ballroom ▲



## PLEASE USE THIS ADDRESSED FORM FOR YOUR HOUSING RESERVATIONS

## INSTRUCTIONS:

The Little Rock Housing Bureau will handle all housing requests.

Rooms will be held until 6:00 p.m. unless guaranteed. If you fail to occupy a guaranteed room, you will be billed for the first night's revenue and the room will be released. If you wish to charge your room or guarantee by a major credit card, please list name of card, account number and expiration date:

The Housing Bureau will not take phone reservations until after June 30, 1984. However, if you have a problem, the number is (501) 376-4781.

Credit Card Name \_\_\_\_\_

When your room request has been processed and assigned, you will receive a confirmation direct from the hotel.

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

All changes and cancellations must be made through the Housing Bureau prior to June 30, 1984. After this date make changes directly with hotel assigned.

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotels & Locations** (Hotels will not take phone reservations direct)

Hotels		1 Bed 1 person	1 Bed 2 persons	2 Beds 2 persons	2 Beds 3 persons	2 Beds 4 persons
1. CAMELOT HOTEL NYC Headquarters Markham & Broadway Children under 18 free	Rollaway - \$10 Sleeping Bag - \$5 Free parking to guests (1 block from Headquarters)	\$44	\$44	\$52	\$52	\$52
2. CAPITAL HOTEL Markham & Louisiana Children under 18 free	Rollaway - \$10 Free parking to guests (Across street from Headquarters)	\$50	\$54	\$54	\$60	\$60
3. LITTLE ROCK EXCELSIOR Headquarters Hotel Markham & Main	Children under 18 free Rollaway - \$10 Free parking to guests	\$46	\$52	\$52	\$56	\$60
4. HOLIDAY INN CITY CENTER 6th & Broadway Children under 18 free	Rollaway - \$5 Free parking to guests (Six blocks from Headquarters)	\$34	\$38	\$38	\$42	\$46
5. RIVERFRONT HILTON Washington & Maple North Little Rock All age children free	Rollaway - \$8 Free parking to guests (Across Arkansas River bridge from Headquarters)	\$43	\$43	\$43	\$52	\$52

\*The above rates do not include sales tax

**HOTEL PREFERENCE:** If you fail to list a 2nd, 3rd or 4th choice and your list choice is full, we will assign you to the best possible facility available.

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 4th Choice \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS DESIRED:** (Please check)

\_\_\_\_\_ one bed, one person \_\_\_\_\_ one bed, two persons \_\_\_\_\_ two beds, two persons

\_\_\_\_\_ two beds, three persons \_\_\_\_\_ two beds, four persons

\_\_\_\_\_ need rollaway for one person \_\_\_\_\_ will use \_\_\_\_\_ number of sleeping bags

(no more than five to a room)

(if two people share a room at the Camelot or Little Rock Excelsior, they will be assigned a room with one double or king bed)

Date of Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Confirmation To: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

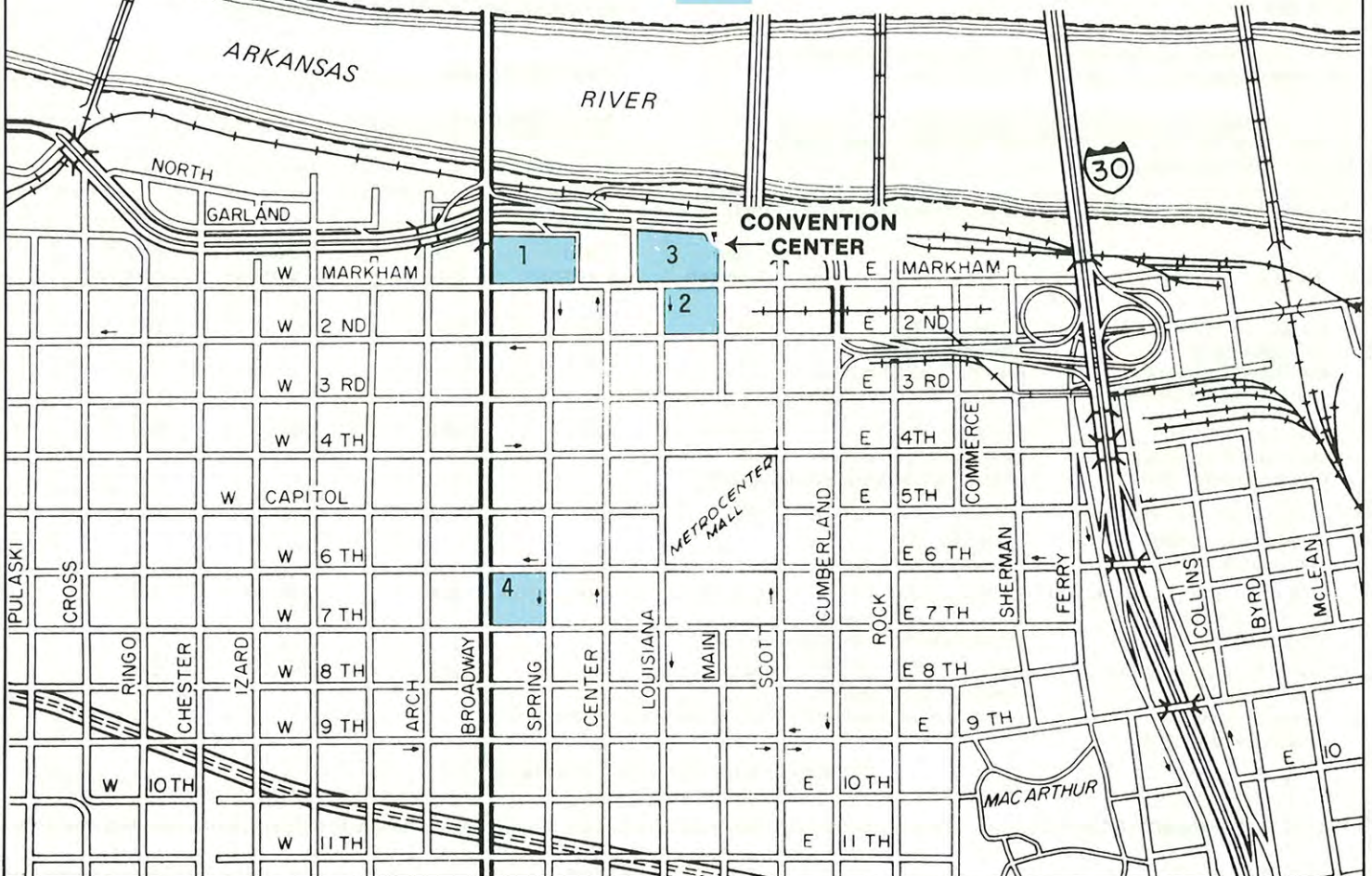
List all persons staying in room (include yourself) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Camelot Hotel
- 2 Capital Hotel
- 3 Excelsior Hotel (headquarters)
- 4 Holiday Inn City Center
- 5 Riverfront Hilton

North Little Rock

5



FROM:

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**  
**c/o Little Rock Convention Bureau**  
**Housing Bureau**  
**P.O. Box 3232**  
**Little Rock, AR 72203**

NO ENVELOPE NECESSARY FOLD THIS FLAP LAST FOLD—TAPE—MAIL



# DIRECTORY UPDATE

## ALABAMA

Ray W. Ritch to Fairview Church,  
Moody from Gum Springs Church, Win-  
field

## ARKANSAS

Roy Dale Smith to First Church,  
Jacksonville from Chapel Hill Church,  
Brownwood, TX

Roger Bomar to New Hart Church,  
Rosebud

Arnold Shrewsbury to Glenwood  
Church, Glenwood from Temple Church,  
North Canton, OH

Curtis Billins to Cave City Church,  
Cave City

Wayne Smothers to Charleston  
Church, Charleston

Raymond Chronister to First Church,  
Greenwood from Mineral Springs  
Church, Muldrow, OK

Harvey Aguirre to Shady Grove  
Church, Hackett

Herbert Rogers to Booneville Church,  
Booneville from Harmony Church, Wal-  
dron

## CALIFORNIA

Butch Caris to Elmwood Church,  
Stockton

Dan Steigman to Exeter Church,  
Exeter

Jerry Webb to Pleasant Hill Church,  
Pleasant Hill from France as missionary

## GEORGIA

Gary W. Smith to Decatur Church,  
Decatur

## SOUTH CAROLINA

John Suttles to Harmony Church,  
Indian Trail, NC

Ronnie Adkins to Lockhart Church,  
Lockhart

## TENNESSEE

Andrew Maynard to Harper Road  
Church, Joelton

Larry Davis to Calvary Church, Nash-  
ville

## REQUESTS FOR TICKETS TO MEAL FUNCTIONS 1984 National Convention

Number	Meal	Total
_____	<b>Learner/Adventurer Banquet</b>	\$ _____
	\$5.00	
	Tuesday, July 17/5:00 p.m.	
	Robinson Center/Rooms 102,103	
_____	<b>Youth Banquet</b>	\$ _____
	\$7.00	
	Tuesday, July 17/9:00 p.m.	
	Camelot Hotel/The Great Hall	
_____	<b>Music Ministries Fellowship Breakfast</b>	\$ _____
	\$5.00	
	Tuesday, July 17/7:00 a.m.	
	Little Rock Excelsior/La Harpe Room	
	Speaker: Ted Wilbanks	
_____	<b>Friends of Hillsdale College Alumni Luncheon</b>	\$ _____
	\$9.00	
	Tuesday, July 17/12:00 NOON	
	Little Rock Excelsior/Grand Ballroom, Salon C	
	Speaker: Thomas Marberry	
_____	<b>WNAC Fellowship Dinner</b>	\$ _____
	\$9.00	
	Tuesday, July 17/5:00 p.m.	
	Little Rock Excelsior/Grand Ballroom	
_____	<b>Master's Men Breakfast</b>	\$ _____
	\$6.00	
	Wednesday, July 18/7:00 a.m.	
	Little Rock Excelsior/Grand Ballroom, Salon A	
	Speaker: Luther Sanders	
_____	<b>FWBBC Alumni Luncheon</b>	\$ _____
	\$7.50	
	Wednesday, July 18/12:00 NOON	
	Camelot Hotel/The Great Hall	
	Speaker: Charles Thigpen	

**PLEASE PRINT:**

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Mail requests to TICKET SALES, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Please  
send check or money order. DO NOT send cash. All requests must be received by  
**June 30, 1984. NO TICKET REFUNDS AFTER JUNE 30, 1984**

**Nursery Services  
will NOT be  
available  
during the  
1984  
Convention**

## LOCAL CHURCH DELEGATE'S CREDENTIALS

THIS CERTIFIES THAT \_\_\_\_\_

is a duly authorized delegate to the National Association of Free Will

Baptists from \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of church)

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

(District Association)

(City)

(State)

\_\_\_\_\_

Pastor

Clerk or Secretary

**IMPORTANT:** This form properly signed and accompanied by a \$10  
registration fee entitles a local church delegate to register for voting  
privileges.



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# Spotlight On Missouri



By Clarence Burton

**H**ave you ever felt that you were in a building or a place where history was made? It is a wonderful but awesome feeling. I had that experience the first time I visited the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church at Gower, Missouri.

Mt. Zion is the oldest active Free Will Baptist Church in Missouri.

The heritage of Missouri Free Will Baptists is rich and interesting. The growth of the Free Will Baptist movement in Missouri reflects courage, determination, and the wonderful and providential care of God.

## *The Heritage*

The minutes of the first annual session of the Missouri State Conference have been lost, but there are minutes of the sixth annual session which convened at the Casteel Church in Clinton County on October 8, 1896. This would date the first session in 1891.

This appears to be the oldest state association west of the Mississippi and near the oldest in the National Association of Free Will Baptists. It was mentioned at a Historical Conference that Missouri Free Will Baptists have always reflected a spirit of unity and cooperation, a desire and willingness to work together in an organized manner.

Before looking at the present structure of the Missouri State Association and the future, let's consider some

facts about our past, particularly as it relates to the National Association.

When the restructuring of the National Association began in 1935 in Nashville, Tennessee, the state of Missouri was represented with five delegates from the Missouri State Association. At this historic meeting on November 5, 1935, a Missouri preacher, Reverend Winford Davis, delivered the first message.

The second moderator of the National Association was a preacher from Missouri, Reverend James Miller. Among the first seven missionaries to serve under our foreign missions work was a couple from Missouri, Reverend and Mrs. Damon Dodd.

When five trustees were elected to initiate the establishment of a school for training men and women for Christian service, a minister from Missouri,



Reverend Selph Jones, served as chairman of that board.

In 1953 when the National Association convened at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, and the cooperative plan of support was adopted by the denomination, Missouri was either the first or second state to adopt it.

The relationship of Missouri does not suggest that it is a "joiner." (In fact the representative from Missouri, Reverend T. C. Ferguson, was the only one who voted against the merger in 1910, when the General Conference decided to merge with the Northern Baptists.) But our relationship does suggest that it wants to be a part of our beloved denomination.

### *The Boards*

The Missouri State Association directs five standing boards, a bookstore, and an executive office. The five-man Christian Education Board chaired by Gene Wilfong is responsible for initiating institutes and sponsoring seminars that contribute to church growth and spiritual maturity.

The Sunday School and Church Training Service Board is chaired by Howard Gwartney. This board is responsible for state competitive activities which lead to the National Youth Conference. They promote spring and fall enlargement campaigns in Sunday School and Church Training. This board also sponsors Sunday School and church growth seminars.

The Home Missions Board has the responsibility of organizing and building new churches. The work of this board can be recognized in almost every one of the 16 district associations. The board is chaired by Cliff Bowman.

The Youth Camp Board is involved with one of the older board ministries in Missouri. This board is responsible for four weeks of camp that involve accommodations for approximately 1,400 children and adults.

The camp has approximately 26 acres. Decisions for Christ that have been made at youth camp sessions number in the thousands. Youth camp facilities are used regularly for seminars and retreats. Dale Skiles chairs this board.

The newest standing board is the Retirement Village Board of Directors. This board is in the process of develop-

ing 60 acres of beautifully wooded area into a retirement village. When completed, the site will accommodate 45 homes and 80 units in quadplex structures.

Plans also call for a multi-purpose building, state offices, a small lake, and a long-range project to include a care center. James McAllister chairs the board.

### *The Bookstore*

The bookstore had its beginning with Reverend Harry Beatty who operated the store and did the work of Promotional Secretary. The store was located in St. Louis, but was moved to Lebanon and now operates under the name of Lebanon Bible and Bookstore.

Receipts for last year topped \$240,000. Projections for 1984 estimate that receipts will near \$250,000. Warren Livingstone is manager of the store. The store has walk-in and mail orders, plus it distributes Sunday School literature for the state.

### *The Executive Office*

The Executive office, formerly Promotional Office, began with Reverend Harry Beatty in 1961. He did a very effective work in promoting the cooperative program and encouraging designated giving. The cooperative budget for the last year he served, 1975, was \$87,375.33.

This has proven to be a successful way to support the state and national ministries. Churches that support cooperative giving also support designated giving. Last year cooperative receipts totaled \$226,000, and the total giving that was channeled through the state office exceeded \$330,000. (Some churches send their designated giving directly to the National Offices.) Missouri is thankful for its 165 churches.

### *The Woman's Auxiliary*

The Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary has a productive organization. It registers a membership of almost 900. Their total receipts for the last year neared \$28,000.

The auxiliary sponsors a retreat each fall that is well attended. The group adopts state and national projects. These projects are usually mis-

sionary-connected endeavors. Barbara Harwell serves as state president.

### *The 10-Year Plan*

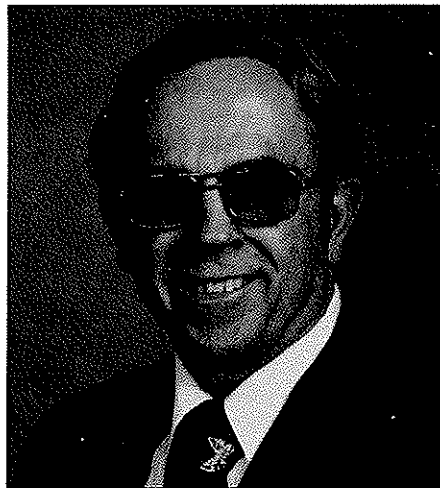
Missouri Free Will Baptists are looking toward the future. In 1983, we adopted a 10-year plan with an emphasis on growth.

Briefly, the plan includes a 1,000 annual increase in Sunday School attendance, two new churches yearly, increase in church membership of 1,000 yearly, cooperative receipts reaching \$500,000 by the end of the 10-year period, and coordinating a state emphasis on revival for one month annually.

We believe that by the grace of God we can do this. When one observes what God has done in past days, it would be less than trust to doubt God's continued personal and providential care.

With our eyes on Jesus and our hearts in tune with the Holy Spirit, we believe that God will use our state officers, with the board and other committed pastors and lay people to meet these goals.

The Apostle Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Surely we can claim this promise. ▲



**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Reverend Clarence Burton has served as Missouri's Executive Secretary since 1975. Brother Burton is a member of the Free Will Baptist Bible College Board of Trustees. He also completed a term on the Sunday School and Church Training Board.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

## newsfront

### 317 ATTEND BIBLE COLLEGE WELCOME DAYS

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College welcomed 317 prospective students and their sponsors to the spring Welcome Days on campus April 5-6, according to Registrar Charles Hampton. "The visitors came from 87 churches in 17 states," he added.

The group included 76 boys, 136 girls and 102 sponsors. The largest single delegation was 11 from Lake Jackson Church in Tallahassee, Florida. The largest group from any state was 45 from North Carolina.

By states:

Alabama .....	19
Arkansas .....	9
Florida .....	21
Georgia .....	5
Illinois .....	39
Indiana .....	24
Kentucky .....	5
Michigan .....	23
Mississippi .....	21
Missouri .....	20
North Carolina .....	45
Oklahoma .....	2
South Carolina .....	14
Tennessee .....	34
Texas .....	5
Virginia .....	28
West Virginia .....	3

Next year's Welcome Days are scheduled November 29-30, 1984 and April 4-5, 1985.



### NEW CHURCH DOUBLES ATTENDANCE IN ONE YEAR

FLINT, MI—Harmony Free Will Baptist Church, Flint, conducted its first worship service in December 1982 with 54 people in attendance. One year later at its first anniversary service, the group had 111 in attendance, according to Pastor David Shepherd.

A retired minister, Reverend James Powell, had guided the original 35 believers to a meeting with officials of Michigan's Wolverine Association, before ill health forced him to step aside.

The group managed to pay \$8,000 as a down payment on some property under Reverend Shepherd's leadership. The church has a 20-member Woman's Auxiliary, a home missions fund, a choir, and 63 members.

Harmony Church has been financially independent since its organization. Members praised the pastor and congregation at First FWB Church, Pontiac, for their encouragement and assistance.

### DEATH CLAIMS HILLSDALE PROFESSOR

MOORE, OK—Mrs. Geri Ann Hull, 31, a speech and drama instructor at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College since 1976, died of cancer February 24.

Hillsdale President Edwin Wade said, "Geri was faithful and dedicated to her task of teaching. She was respected and admired as a leader by the students and her associates on campus."

Mrs. Hull joined the Hillsdale College faculty in August 1976. She taught courses in psychology, speech, sociology, and history. But she is best

remembered for developing the college's speech and drama programs.

Dr. Thomas Marberry, vice-president of academic affairs at Hillsdale, said, "Geri Ann made great contributions to the spiritual, intellectual and social aspects of life at Hillsdale."

Mrs. Hull was a member of Spencer Road FWB Church, Spencer, Oklahoma. She is survived by her husband, Steve, and a daughter, Hilary.

Funeral services were conducted at Hillsdale FWB College on Monday, February 27.



## JOE GRIMMETT ELECTED ARIZONA MODERATOR

TUCSON, AZ—Reverend Joe Grimmer, pastor of the host First Free Will Baptist Church, Tucson, was elected moderator at the annual meeting of the Arizona District Association on March 10.

Grimmett, 40-year-old West Virginia native, pastored five years at Fellowship FWB Church in Nashville, Tennessee, before moving to Arizona in

1982.

The one-day meeting in Tucson featured three sermons by Arizona ministers John Griffin, Charles Marshall, and Paul Thompson. Eighty people attended the sessions.

The group passed resolutions encouraging missions and soul-winning outreaches.

## ILLINOIS DISSOLVES SUNDAY SCHOOL ALLIANCE

EWING, IL—Delegates to Illinois' 22nd annual state association voted to dissolve the Sunday School Alliance and transfer all properties controlled by the Alliance to the state association, according to clerk Byford Campbell.

The Sunday School Alliance function will be carried out through a board elected by the state association. A committee was appointed to work out details for transfer of property and program responsibilities.

Delegates and visitors totaled 175 at the March 23-24 meeting at Camp Hope. Free Will Baptist Bible College staffers Ronald Creech and Stanley Outlaw spoke twice each during the conference.

Moderator Loyd Crain was elected to his third term.

In other action, the Illinois State Association went on record by vote that in their opinion Jesus did not make or drink fermented wine.

## CHURCH GROWTH CONFERENCE SET FOR JANUARY

NASHVILLE, TN—Two Free Will Baptist pastors—Reverend Tom Malone and Reverend Gordon Sebastian—will be featured in a church growth conference entitled *Forward '85* to be held on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College January 2-4, according to Dr. Charles A. Thigpen, president.

"We will examine the key aspects of

church growth," he said. "Sessions will include a study of the philosophy of church growth, the kind of preaching that builds churches, local evangelism, world outreach and much more. Special sessions are also planned for pastors' wives," Dr. Thigpen says.

The college hopes to house all conference guests on campus, since students will be away for the holidays.

## WILSON JOINS HILLSDALE FACULTY

MOORE, OK—Reverend Randy Wilson, an Oklahoma native, joined the Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College faculty in January, according to President Edwin Wade.

Mr. Wilson, who received the Bachelor of Arts in Theology degree from Hillsdale (1979) and the Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (1983), teaches in the areas of Bible and church history.

Randy and his wife, Donelle, live in Moore with their son, Christopher.

## RANDALL HOUSE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT SET FOR AUGUST

NASHVILLE, TN—Randall House Publications will host their fourth annual slow-pitch softball tournament for Free Will Baptist churches, August 16-17. The tournament will be played at Cedar Hills just off Interstate 65 on Old Hickory Boulevard.

Space in the tournament is limited to 32 teams. Applications are being accepted now. The registration fee is \$75 per team.

The 1983 tournament winner, First Free Will Baptist Church of Albany, Georgia, will be returning this year to defend their title.

Tournament manager Clarence Lewis says competition will begin in the early afternoon on Friday, August 16, in an effort to conclude the tournament at an earlier time on Saturday, August 17.

For further information about the tournament, write or call Clarence Lewis at P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217. Phone (615) 361-1221.

## Coming Next Month . . .

- ☐ Reaching The Military For Christ
- ☐ The Purpose and Worship Of Children's Church
- ☐ Fitting Into God's Family
- ☐ Somebody's Brother

Attendance at **Eastside FWB Church, Houston, TX**, surged 53 percent from 1979 to 1984. Spring Sunday School attendance averaged 121.5 per Sunday, according to Pastor **E. R. Mayo**.

Work is underway on a 2,400 square-foot addition to **First FWB Church, DeSoto, MO**. **Charles Miller** pastors.

Pastor **Bobby Whittaker** was honored in March for 20 years in the ministry by members of **Reynolds FWB Church, Reynolds, GA**. The occasion involved a surprise dinner and a plaque for the minister.

Ten members at **Blue Point FWB Church, Cisne, IL** have enrolled in a sign language class taught by **Christina Taylor**. **Ernie Lewis** pastors.

**First FWB Church, Decatur, IL** added six new members in March, according to Pastor **Wallace Malone**.

More than \$6,000 was raised by 21 **Illinois** churches in a special Bible College Day this spring, according to **Illinois** Promotional Secretary **David Shores**.

Pastor **Cory Adams** and his wife, **Diana**, lost their home on March 25 in a fire. Brother Adams pastors **Rock Springs FWB Church, Thebes, IL**.

Pastor **O. D. Winfrey** was honored on March 25 at **Alice Brooks FWB Church, Pocahontas, AR** for seven years as pastor. During that time, many souls have been saved, the church has added a fellowship hall and kitchen, as well as central heat and air. Pastor and Mrs. Winfrey were presented with a gift of money and a plaque.

**James Cox**, director of **Camp Caleb** Christian/Conference Center, says he is looking for a few more workers for the summer activities. Interested parties can contact Mr. Cox at Box 670, **Paintsville, KY** 41240 or telephone him at (606) 789-3817.

Members burned the mortgage early this spring at **Little Bethel FWB Church, Johnsonville, SC**. The building, valued at more than \$60,000, was completed at a cost of slightly less than

\$25,000. **Johnny Evans** pastors.

**First FWB Church, New Castle, DE**, dedicated a 2,500 square-foot addition on March 25, according to Pastor **Richard Atwood**.

**Turlock FWB Church, Turlock, CA**, celebrated its 40th anniversary in May, according to Pastor **Doice McAlister**. The California State Association was organized in the Turlock Church on May 6, 1944.

Pastor **Garrett Pusley** reports that **Spring FWB Church, Salinas, CA**, burned the mortgage on their church. Spring church was organized in 1961. Brother Pusley has pastored the church since 1974.

**Antioch FWB Church, Antioch, CA**, reports a 40 percent surge in Sunday School attendance since reorganizing their educational outreach. The outreach includes an aggressive bus ministry under the guidance of **Bob Lesley**. The teen group has tripled in the past year under the leadership of **Len** and **Pat Fermin**. **Jim Ward** pastors.

Pastor **Billy McCarty** reports six conversions and two baptisms at **First FWB Church, Salinas, CA**.

Pastor **Richard Kennedy** reports 17 salvation and rededication decisions in a revival with Evangelist **Don Pegram**. Kennedy pastors **Northside FWB Church, Stockton, CA**.

Pastor **Dale Cochran**, **First FWB Church, Rolla, MO**, reports an unusual revival with Evangelist **Don Pegram**. Four people were converted, five joined the church, two rededicated their lives and six were baptized. Among the four conversions were the pastor's mother and his sister.

By the way, just after the successful revival at **Northside FWB Church in Stockton, CA**, the church had 21 people saved on March 18. **Richard Kennedy** is one happy pastor.

Pastor **Charles Bigger** says the **Stratford FWB Church, Stratford, OK**, expects to occupy their new sanctuary by July.

They owe none at Non! Pastor **Ralph Hampton** says the **Non FWB Church in Non, OK** is now debt free.

**Hillsboro FWB Church, Hillsboro, OH**, reports 10 conversions, even in the middle of a building program. **Keith Perkins** pastors.

Pastor **Hansford Reed** says the **Divine FWB Church, Cleveland, OH**, logged nine conversions, five baptisms, and six new members.

**Samantha FWB Church, Leesburg, OH**, reports 13 conversions and the purchase of a new van for their bus ministry. **Wiley Perkins** pastors.

They believe in attending church regularly at **Madison FWB Church, Lucasville, OH**. Pastor **John King** says that **Lester Shankwaller** has not missed Sunday School or church in 14 years.

**Hillview FWB Church, Reynoldsburg, OH**, reports 10 baptisms. **Jay Pete Justice** pastors.

Pastor **Steven Sykes** says the **Piqua FWB Church in Piqua, OH**, had 15 conversions in January.

Pastor **John Boyd** of **Stoney Run FWB Church, Portsmouth, OH**, died on December 6, 1983, while he was in the water waiting to baptize a couple. Brother Boyd died of a cerebral hemorrhage.

**Twin Oaks FWB Church, Fredericktown, MO**, took a step of faith to support their pastor in a full-time ministry earlier this spring. **Bob Thebeau** pastors.

CTS has become the hottest thing going at the **Bethlehem FWB Church in Ashland City, TN**. The Wednesday night sessions have increased from an average of 65 last March to 111 this year and still climbing. The secret is a dedicated CTS Director, **Tad Stone**, and a staff of teachers and workers who love young people and see CTS as a means of training them. One recent Wednesday night saw eight young people saved in one class. **Jim Turnbough** pastors. ▲

informed  
prayer  
is effective  
prayer

MISSIONS  
HOTLINE  
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361-5005





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## Green Tree Bible Study

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Robert E. Picirilli

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John 13 (Part Four)

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# Footwashing— To Practice Or Not

an ordinance." If that isn't reasoning in a circle I never heard it!

Jesus was saying, "to be washing one another's feet."

**B**rother Eldon Pauley used to tell of one anti-footwashing Free Will Baptist(!) who said: "Brother Pauley, when you're hungry and I give you a sack of flour, I'm 'washing your feet!'" "Well, brother, I don't know," said Brother Pauley, "but it seems to me if you can wash feet with a sack of flour, I could baptize you in a bucket of lard!"

That's one of the arguments you hear: it's the *meaning* that counts, not the actual symbol. Sure it is, but *that* argument would remove the need for any ordinance.

You also hear some say: "Look, the Lord's supper and baptism both refer to the key facts of the death and resurrection of Christ. So an ordinance must refer to such key gospel facts. Footwashing, however, doesn't refer to one of these. Ergo: footwashing isn't

**T**he point is, we don't have anything better to go by than what Jesus said; three times, in fact: vv. 14, 15, 17. Verse 17 says it thus: If you know (Greek "since you know") these things, happy/blessed (Greek *makarios*, same as in the beatitudes) are you if you do (Greek linear action: "are doing") them.

Verse 15 says it thus: The purpose (a purpose clause in Greek) of the example I have given you is that you do (Greek linear action, again: "be doing") just as I did (Greek simple act).

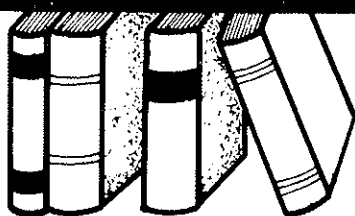
Verse 14 says it thus: If I, your Lord and Master (Greek *didaskalos*, Teacher/Rabbi) washed your feet you also ought to wash (Greek linear action, "be washing") one another's feet. Notice, especially the word "ought." The Greek verb (*opheilo*) means an obligation, of debt or duty: "You owe it,"

**E**ssentially, even those who don't practice it as an ordinance will agree that this is a verb that expresses a "moral obligation": these are Marcus Dods' words even though he goes on to say that the obligation is to practice the *meaning* rather than the act itself. As plain as Jesus' words are, surely we may be forgiven for taking Him more literally.

If, then, it was important to Him to *illustrate* humility and service by the act itself, that act can be equally helpful to us.

When we practice the humble act that proclaims our service to fellow believers, we are—at least we *should* be—made all the more conscious of the obligation we are *always* under: to love and selflessly serve one another in the Spirit of our Lord. ▲

## Top Shelf



Thomas Marberry



**Nathan O. Hatch and Mark A. Noll, eds.,**  
***The Bible in America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1982, hardback, 191 pp. \$19.95).**

**T**his volume is subtitled "Essays in Cultural History," which is a fair description of its character and purpose. The authors do not present how the Bible should be interpreted and applied to life situations, but rather explain how the Bible has influenced the development of American society and culture.

The Bible's influence on the development of the American nation is greater than that of any other single book. Political and social leaders of widely differing viewpoints have appealed to the Bible in support of their positions.

The first Bible used in this country was the Geneva Bible, published in 1558. This early English Bible contained not only the biblical text, but also contained more than 300,000 words of commentary by John Calvin.

Because of this Bible's widespread use, colonial thought was greatly influenced by the views of John Calvin. Many early Puritans in New England considered themselves to be a peculiar people who enjoyed a special relationship with God.

In the years prior to the Civil War, Bible societies became an important part of the American scene. Thousands of copies of the Bible were distributed across the country.

The rising controversy over slavery was largely understood and explained in biblical terms. Those who opposed slavery appealed to the Bible for support. Likewise, those who defended slavery saw in the Bible an abundance of support for their position.

During the Civil War, Jefferson Davis proclaimed nine days of fasting and prayer for the Confederacy while Abraham Lincoln proclaimed four days of thanksgiving for the Union. Many southern preachers saw the Civil War as a battle between the people of God and a wicked pharaoh who would not let them go.

The Bible was also important in the struggle for individual freedom and liberty. As men began to study and interpret the scriptures for themselves, they also sought to speak their own minds and think their own thoughts in political matters. Many in early America learned their first lessons in democracy in their churches.

During the last hundred years there has been much dispute concerning the relationship between the Bible and science. This has done much to affect American culture.

The rise of Fundamentalism in the early years of this century has been an important factor in American life. This volume contains an excellent chapter on the fundamentalist use of the Bible.

This volume is not light and easy reading; it is designed for those who are sincere students of American religious history. The authors have done the best analysis I have seen of the various ways the Bible has influenced the development of our country.

This volume also helps us to see how different groups within our society have understood and applied the scriptures. The study of American Christianity is a fascinating subject, and this book makes a significant contribution to it. ▲

**Lloyd Layman**

I MUST SAY, MRS. SCREETCH, THAT SOLO THIS MORNING WAS WONDERFUL. BUT PLEASE, NEXT TIME YOU SING THAT SONG—WARN ME. THOSE HIGH NOTES REALLY GOT TO ME.



T. SCAR 83





## ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

# The Runt

By Donna Mayo

**T**he Lanes were finishing breakfast when they heard a knock at the kitchen door.

"Who can that be so early on Saturday morning?" asked Mrs. Lane.

"One way to find out," answered Mr. Lane opening the door.

There stood Rob and Mike Johnson, the boys from next door. Looking around Mr. Lane, they spotted the twins and rushed inside.

"Guess what?" shouted Mike excitedly. Marty and Megan didn't have to guess. They knew from the Johnson boys' broad smiles that their dog, Queen, must have had her puppies.

"Queen had 10 puppies last night," said Rob.

"Ten!" exclaimed Marty.

"Ooh, I can't wait to see them," squealed Megan. The four children dashed out the door and across the yard to the Johnson's garage.

Quietly and slowly they knelt down by the box where Queen and her offspring lay. New life is always miraculous, and Marty and Megan gazed at the puppies almost reverently.

"Oh, they are precious," whispered Megan.

"Look," said Marty, "they don't even have their eyes open yet."

Queen was part cocker spaniel and part beagle, and her new arrivals were even more mixed. Queen had shaggy, sandy hair and was good-natured as a lamb. Motherhood had affected her, however, and she let out a low growl when Marty reached his hand into the box to pet one of the puppies.

"There, there," said Marty soothingly as he petted the new mother's head. "I like that littlest one," he continued quickly. "The one with the light brown coat."

"He's the runt," said Mike. "You can have him if you want him. That is, when he's big enough to leave his mother."

"He's lucky to be alive," added Rob. "He was the last one born, and he wasn't breathing at first. Then Queen took hold of him—she put his whole head in her mouth and slung him around a little. When she let go of him, he was breathing just fine."

"Yep," said Mike. "I thought she was going to swallow him, but she saved his life."

"He's lucky all right," said Marty. "Hey, that's a good name for him. I'll call him 'Lucky'."

Mr. Lane finally agreed to let Marty have one of the puppies. "But you'll have to take care of it," he warned.

"Yippee," shouted Marty. "Don't worry, I'll take care of it. I promise."

For the next few days Marty spent as much time in the Johnson's garage as he did at home. He was fascinated

with the puppies' progress. They were all growing quickly, that is all except Lucky. Marty wondered why.

Then one day he happened to be in the garage at dinnertime. He watched while the puppies tumbled and climbed over each other rooting toward their mother. But Lucky got lost in the shuffle. He no sooner got up and headed for a place at his mother's side when one of his brothers or sisters pushed him out of the way.

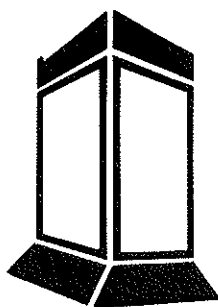
"Well, I'll fix that," said Marty. He ran home and found a baby bottle that belonged to one of Megan's dolls. He filled it with milk and ran back to the Johnson's garage. Marty cradled Lucky in his arms, and the hungry little pup eagerly sucked the bottle dry. Now, quite content, the puppy fell asleep in Marty's arms.

For the next six weeks Marty nursed the puppy in that fashion. He had made a friend for life, and after that whenever Marty came to visit, Lucky greeted him enthusiastically—barking gleefully, wagging his tail, and nipping at Marty's feet.

The day finally came when the puppies were old enough to leave their mama. Several eager children gathered in the Johnson's backyard to choose a pup of their own. The kids drew straws to see who would choose first. Marty won, and without hesitation, he chose Lucky.

"Are you sure?" asked Mr. Johnson.





## The Free Will Baptist Pulpit

Reverend Leroy Cutler, Pastor

Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church  
Jacksonville, Florida

# Sin's Pattern

Scripture: Genesis 3

**INTRODUCTION:** Ever since the original sin, men still stumble into the trap of sin. The pattern is the same now as then. A simple lesson on the ABC's of sin follows:

- I. Sin Begins With The **ATTITUDE** Of The Individual (3:1-6).
  - A. An attitude of doubting God's Word (Hath God said?) (v. 1)
  - B. An attitude of evil intentions (We may eat . . . except.) (v. 2)
  - C. An attitude of trusting fleshly feelings (Good, pleasant, desired) (v. 6)
- II. A Sinful **BEHAVIOR** Results From That Attitude (3:7-13).
  - A. Godless behavior replaces God-like

behavior (They sowed fig-leaves together.) (v. 7).

- B. Hiding becomes a way of life (They hid themselves.) (v. 8).
- C. Innocence is lost with one act of sin (and I did eat) (v. 13).
- III. The Sinner Must Bear The **CONSEQUENCES** Of Sin (3:14-24).
  - A. The sinner must face God's judgment (Thou art cursed) (v. 14).
  - B. The sinner is kept from enjoying God's blessings (in sorrow) (v. 16, 17).
  - C. The sinner is forever lost (sent forth from the garden) (v. 23).

**CONCLUSION:** The good news of the

gospel is that the story does not end here. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners (I John 1:9; John 3:16; Romans 10:9, 10, 13). The following acrostic can aid the memory in preaching this outline.

### ATTITUDE

Doubt

Evil

Fleshly

### BEHAVIOR

Godless

Hiding

Innocence

### CONSEQUENCES

Judgement

Kept

Lost?/Contrast with God's Love ▲

### LITTLE LANES (From Page 25)

"He's the runt. One of these other will probably get bigger and be healthier."

Megan could see the devotion in Marty's eyes, and she knew he wouldn't change his mind.

"No, thanks," said Marty as he proudly took his puppy across the yard to his new home. "Somebody has to love the underdog," he whispered to Lucky.

And love him he did. Lucky wasn't very pretty—one ear stood out, one flopped down. One eye had a big black patch around it. Two of his feet were black, one was light brown, and one was white. And he had a short stub of a tail. But Lucky was a delight to the entire Lane household.

One evening Marty came in from his Cub Scout meeting smiling, "Our troop is having a dog show to raise money for charity. I can hardly wait. I know Lucky will win."

"Marty, are you looney?" asked Megan. "Lucky's just a mutt. He couldn't win a dog show if his own mother was the judge."

"He's not a mutt!" Marty retorted defensively. "You'll see."

For three weeks Marty spent every spare minute training Lucky. There were times when he felt like giving up,

but he kept at it. He knew Lucky could be a winner.

The day of the dog show arrived. Marty tied a red bow around Lucky's neck, and the Lanes piled into their station wagon to head for the dog show at the elementary school. Marty and Lucky took their places with the other scouts and dogs while the rest of the family found seats in the bleachers.

Mr. Barker, the troop leader, served as the announcer, and he soon got the show underway. The boys lined up and introduced themselves and their pets. Then they each had an opportunity to show their dogs' tricks.

When it was Marty's turn, the Lane family sat on the edge of the bleacher and held their breaths.

"Wonder if he can do anything?" asked Mrs. Lane nervously.

"Sure," said Megan. "He can chew up shoes and . . ."

"Hush," said Mr. Lane. "They're starting." And to the surprise of them all, Marty led Lucky through a number of tricks. She sat down, lay down, shook hands, rolled over, played dead, and even retrieved a stick.

When they finished, Lucky sat down, cocked her head to one side, and let out an excited little yelp as if to say, "That's all folks." The audience laughed and clapped wildly.

At last the show was over, and it was time for the judge's decision. "The dogs were evaluated on performance and appearance," began Mr. Barker.

"Appearance," groaned Megan. "Lucky had a chance until they said that."

Mr. Barker announced the third and second place winners.

"Oh, well," sighed Mr. Lane. "I just hope Marty is not too disappointed."

"And first place goes to Marty Lane and Lucky," announced Mr. Barker.

The Lanes jumped to their feet and cheered. Marty beamed as the judge handed him his blue ribbon.

"Marty, I'm proud of you," said Mr. Lane. "You showed us all what patience and hard work can do."

"You took a scrawny old runt and made a champion. How did you do it?" Megan asked.

"Well," said Marty, "Our Sunday School teacher told us that we were all like lumps of coal, but that God was making diamonds out of each of us. I thought that if God cared enough about me to make me into something good, I could do the same thing with Lucky."

"You're certainly right," said Mr. Lane. "Let's don't let Lucky be the only Lane to win a blue ribbon. Let's all be blue-ribbon-winners for God!" ▲





**Free Will Baptist Music Ministries**

# Preserving The Program

By John Neal

**W**hile doing expansion work in our church's educational building, we only intended to knock out a few inner walls.

We called in the building's architect to analyze the distribution of weight in the walls to insure that our new plans didn't jeopardize the safety of the original structure.

Sometimes I get the impression during our effort to develop a church music program that we have knocked out an important weight bearing wall by overlooking congregational singing. This, in turn, threatens the original purpose of our program of ministry to the Body of Christ through music.

Biblically, theologically, and practically, congregational singing must be the foundational and principle music program in the local church. Through this ministry in music, we provide the only systematic opportunity our people have for the corporate worship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All other music programs must grow out of a vital, singing, worshipping congregation, or our churches will be doomed to become swaying edifices of elite groups, continually grooming themselves for more impressive performances.

We do not need to transform Sunday worship into Sunday concerts. This would redirect the attention of our people from the message to the messenger.

This year, Free Will Baptist Music Ministries will give attention to congregational singing in order to develop a knowledgeable, enthusiastic, participating group of worshipers.

This column will examine various aspects of congregational singing and offer insights and suggestions for the local church program.

The first place to begin in any program is the planning stage, and Music Ministries will make available at the National Convention a Music Ministries Planbook which will include sections for recording and planning a more comprehensive and systematic use of the Free Will Baptist Hymn Book.

Begin now to involve your congregation in worship rather than entertaining them. That congregational involvement comes through systematic use of a wide variety of hymns that proclaim the gospel, edify the saints, and honor Jesus Christ.▲

*ABOUT THE WRITER: John E. Neal is minister of music at Central FWB Church, Royal Oak, Michigan. He also serves as vice president of Free Will Baptist Music Ministries.*

**Last call to make your  
National Convention hotel reservations!**

# Discipleship— A Way Of Life



## Tips on closing the church's back door

By James Puckett

**I**t would be very interesting to slip unnoticed into the business meeting of the average church in America.

I can see it now—the pastor expressing gratitude for 10 new members last quarter, church members so glad for the new members that little is said

about the eight dismissed during the same three-month period.

The mandate of the church is to go and make disciples. It has been called the Magna Charta of the church. Christ commissioned us for the task when He said, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

But that task is not complete when we win a soul to Christ, it is just beginning. Discipleship is more than a decision, it is a way of life.

Evangelism and disciple-making are not synonymous. I am thankful that Free Will Baptists have been and still are concerned about evangelism. Winning the lost must always be top priority. Pity the church whose focus is turned inward while souls perish.

Our growth, however, has been retarded because of a lack of follow-up in the disciple-making process. The back door of the church has been

open as wide as the front, and no one seems to know how to close it. Jesus makes it plain in John 15:16 that He is interested in fruit that remains.

There are four basic reasons why people leave a church: death, moving to another area, dissatisfaction, backsliding. We can do very little to change the first two, but much can be done to prevent dissatisfaction which often leads to backsliding.

### Beware Weak Pulpits

Some dissatisfaction arises in the church because of a lack of spiritual feeding. The pastor has a charge from God to "Preach the Word."

Peter encourages the elders to feed the flock of God. That takes a commitment on the part of the pastor to study the Word. The Bible must be first and foremost in our preaching if Jesus Christ is to be lifted up and glorified.

The Lord did not call us to preach opinion, nor does the Christian grow



by our explanation of current events. The need of our people is to hear a word from God.

### Push Personal Involvement

Another cause of discontent is a lack of involvement. People who have no role or task in the church are prime candidates for the back door. They feel no commitment, no responsibilities, and thus no remorse when they slip quietly from our fellowship.

I do not suggest that we give leadership roles to the novice or major responsibility to the spiritually immature, but there are many tasks to be performed around the church.

We need a list of jobs or opportunities where these "fringe members" can become more involved. That list may include singing in the choir, working in the Master's Men or Woman's Auxiliary, hosting or leading a prayer group, serving as a greeter or host family, helping with the church newsletter, serving as class secretary or outreach leader, working as counselor for youth groups, giving aid to the elderly, and the list goes on and on.

After joining a church, new members who do not become involved in a task or smaller group fellowships during their first year, tend to become inactive.

### Cultivate Social Contacts

A third cause of discontent is the lack of social contact. A few years ago a family came to my office to inform me of their decision to leave our church. "We have been members of this church for three years and we have no close friends."

I was crushed! We had failed to minister to the social need of this family.

From this sad experience, a new program began to develop in our church—The Host Family program. In this program, we attempt to assign new members and visitors a host family who has volunteered to show them around our facilities, introduce them to other members and sit with them during services.

After their initial visit, the host is asked to call on the visitors within the first 48 hours to thank them for coming, invite them back, and to set up a friendly visit.

Other visitation teams will be responsible for the spiritual follow-up, but the host family will be a social contact. A job description will allow you to develop the responsibilities of these hosts according to the needs of your own church.

According to reliable statistics, new members who do not have a role/task or fit into a small group fellowship become likely dropouts. The larger the congregation grows, the more important it is that each member have a sense of belonging to a smaller group.

Let's close the back door of the church by getting involved in the lives of our new converts and new members. Become a spiritual pediatrician and help your church incorporate spiritual infants into the fellowship of the family of God.

Maybe at your next business meet-

ing you will be able to rejoice because of the fruit that remains. ▲



**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Reverend James R. Puckett pastors Southern Oaks Free Will Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Arkansas native is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He has also pastored in Florida and Georgia. Puckett (44) serves on the Home Missions Board.

## Let's Have A Growing Church!

By Floyd Wolfenbarger

**S**omeone has said that churches are of only two kinds: growing or dying. If we aren't growing then we are dying. Since I don't care for the prospect of pastoring a dying church, let's have a growing church!

**To grow we must breathe.** I am referring now to genuine, fervent prayer. A young athlete steps out onto the jogging trail, he takes a deep, invigorating breath. He is alive! Our prayers should invigorate, strengthen, and refresh us.

Let's not confuse exasperated, desperate gasps with true prayer. Our prayer rooms and prayer meetings should be full of folks who don't mind asking for revival, because they don't neglect to thank God for other prayers He has answered.

**To grow we must have nourishment.** There is a marked difference between food and nourishment. Don't confuse twinkies with beef stew! If more people read Harlequins than Hosea or more mystery novels than Matthew's gospel, we will be overfed but undernourished.

Folks who read the Bible go to church. The stay-at-home who claims to read his Bible is pulling your leg. The Bible tells us to go to church, live separate lives, witness to every creature, pay tithes, and send the gospel to the ends of the earth.

They don't teach you that on soap operas; you don't read that in gothic paperback romances; you only get that kind of iron-rich, nutritious instruction from God's Word.

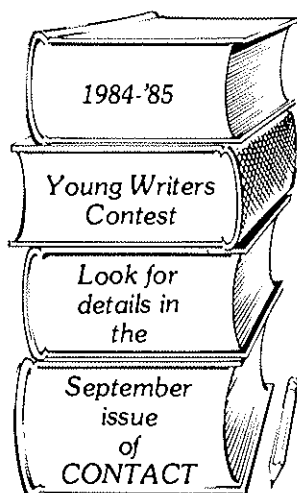
**To grow we must reproduce.** My cells are constantly reproducing themselves. This phenomenon of rapid reproduction helps fight infections, heal wounds, restore injured flesh, mend fractured bones, and give the body constant protection.

Nothing will do more in a church to mend fractured fellowship, fight corruption, and restore a sense of well-being than a good dose of evangelistic fervor. If we would be reproducing young strong Christians, then our church, any church, would grow.

Let's have a growing church! ▲

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Reverend Floyd Wolfenbarger pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Russellville, Arkansas.





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COOP  
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Arizona	.00	181.68	181.68	.00	181.68
Arkansas	.00	3,219.60	3,219.60	3,152.13	11,483.70
California	.00	1,149.44	1,149.44	1,120.29	3,213.30
Florida	.00	1,474.09	1,474.09	1,057.03	4,166.69
Georgia	2,402.88	5.00	2,407.88	2,685.74	8,971.98
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	100.00	.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	97.65	.00
Illinois	5,140.78	2,033.18	7,173.96	16,971.60	22,306.23
Indiana	254.52	369.00	623.52	.00	1,584.40
Kansas	.00	.00	.00	461.93	674.26
Kentucky	.00	373.54	373.54	657.25	1,133.54
Maryland	.00	.00	.00	.00	90.00
Michigan	2,877.79	784.00	3,661.79	3,996.39	11,777.19
Mississippi	.00	559.38	559.38	742.96	1,784.62
Missouri	.00	5,533.90	5,533.90	6,247.70	14,286.74
New Mexico	619.44	9.72	629.16	.00	662.54
North Carolina	1,049.90	204.69	1,254.59	694.60	3,071.16
Ohio	546.55	2,620.00	3,166.55	2,650.91	4,918.23
Oklahoma	21,447.05	7,899.61	29,346.66	30,447.14	98,617.04
South Carolina	.00	.00	.00	.00	10.00
Tennessee	1,714.00	217.58	1,931.58	400.00	6,596.82
Texas	3,674.98	352.59	4,027.57	7,297.45	11,894.77
Virginia	.00	193.33	193.33	122.80	466.17
West Virginia	4,366.45	231.47	4,597.92	1,023.04	19,718.22
Interest	.00	.00	.00	.00	988.07
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$44,745.34</b>	<b>\$27,414.79</b>	<b>\$72,160.13</b>	<b>\$81,440.73</b>	<b>\$232,608.58</b>

### DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive	\$ 369.68	\$12,814.96	\$13,184.64	\$11,891.39	\$ 38,830.17
Foreign Missions	29,756.60	3,357.96	33,114.56	40,269.76	111,790.38
FWBBC	1,938.17	3,357.96	5,296.13	8,487.95	16,223.62
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Master's Men	227.66	1,897.93	2,125.59	2,311.72	6,719.44
Commission on Theological					
Liberalism	6.68	146.01	152.69	226.41	499.80
FWB Foundation	.00	876.01	876.01	1,110.61	3,157.20
Historical Commission	5.01	146.01	151.02	177.22	520.26
Radio/TV Commission	.00	.00	.00	.00	300.00
California Christian College	16.68	.00	16.68	.00	43.38
Hillsdale FWB College	321.54	.00	321.54	.00	353.81
Union Association, TN	.00	.00	.00	.00	115.00
Convention	.00	.00	.00	150.00	.00
Children's Home	.00	.00	.00	41.20	.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$44,745.34</b>	<b>\$27,414.79</b>	<b>\$72,160.13</b>	<b>\$81,440.73</b>	<b>\$232,608.58</b>





# Happy Husbands



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
Free Will Baptists

## THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

**W**illiam Orr's estimate of a good home should be required reading for all men: "A man who comes from a happy home can do anything! He can span oceans, move mountains, fly to the moon! He will find his strength's as the strength of ten. His enthusiasm will overflow. His accomplishments will ring the world. All because his home functions faultlessly."

The husband who lives in a home torn by dissent and bitter with unhappiness will stumble in other areas of his life as well. When a husband's home is not happy, nothing else really matters.

The happy husband accepts his role, assumes his responsibility, and does not fear readjustment.

### His Role

The happy husband accepts his role as a *Partner*. He and his wife don't compete with each other, they complement one another.

The happy husband accepts his role as a *Parent*. He knows that parenting is not just the wife's job. Being a father is equally as important as being a mother, though different. No child is correctly reared without the example and training of both parents.

The happy husband accepts his role as a *Provider*. His primary sphere of work is outside the home. Circum-

stances may require that the wife assist in providing for the needs of the family, although this is not the ideal.

### His Responsibility

The happy husband knows that his home is managed for God. The principles he follows are God's principles—righteousness, honesty, sincerity, wholesomeness, unselfishness.

It takes a lot of time to bring harmony to a home. Strange that men who understand why their business requires planning in order to run smoothly often have the mistaken idea that their home ought to run faultlessly by itself.

The husband who acquires vast amounts of money and fame at the price of a broken home and bewildered children has not succeeded, he has failed. His money will be a curse to him.

The happy husband assumes his responsibilities regarding his companion. He is to treasure his wife, to love her as Christ loved the church. He must not be bitter toward his wife, but dwell with her according to knowledge and give honor to her.

The happy husband never treats his wife harshly. He accepts his position of leadership in the home as a sacred responsibility and exercises that leadership in tenderness and love.

The happy husband trusts his wife. The husband who cannot trust his wife cannot be happy. Trust is the foundation of any marriage.

The happy husband talks to his wife. A common complaint of wives is that their husbands never talk to them. The wise husband makes it his business to keep the lines of communication open.

### His Readjustments

The happy husband is able to make readjustments because he is flexible. He knows that life is largely made up of readjustments.

When two people marry, they adjust to one another. When children are born, the parents readjust their life style and schedule.

When children go through various growth stages, rules and regulations must be readjusted. You can't treat teenagers like infants, or juniors like adults.

The happy husband learns to live with readjustments. He readjusts rules, responsibilities, and requirements as needed to maintain a happy home.

Happy husbands never take their roles lightly. Your home can be harmonious and happy. But remember, there are no harmonious homes without happy husbands. ▲

### The Secretary's Schedule

<b>May 30-June 2</b>	Missouri State Association
<b>June 4-5</b>	North Carolina State Association
<b>June 8-9</b>	West Virginia State Association
<b>June 14-16</b>	California State Association
<b>June 28-July 1</b>	Atlantic Canada Association



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# **“I have been forgotten . . .”**

These words were in a letter written by one of our retired pastors. He faithfully served Free Will Baptist churches for 50 years.

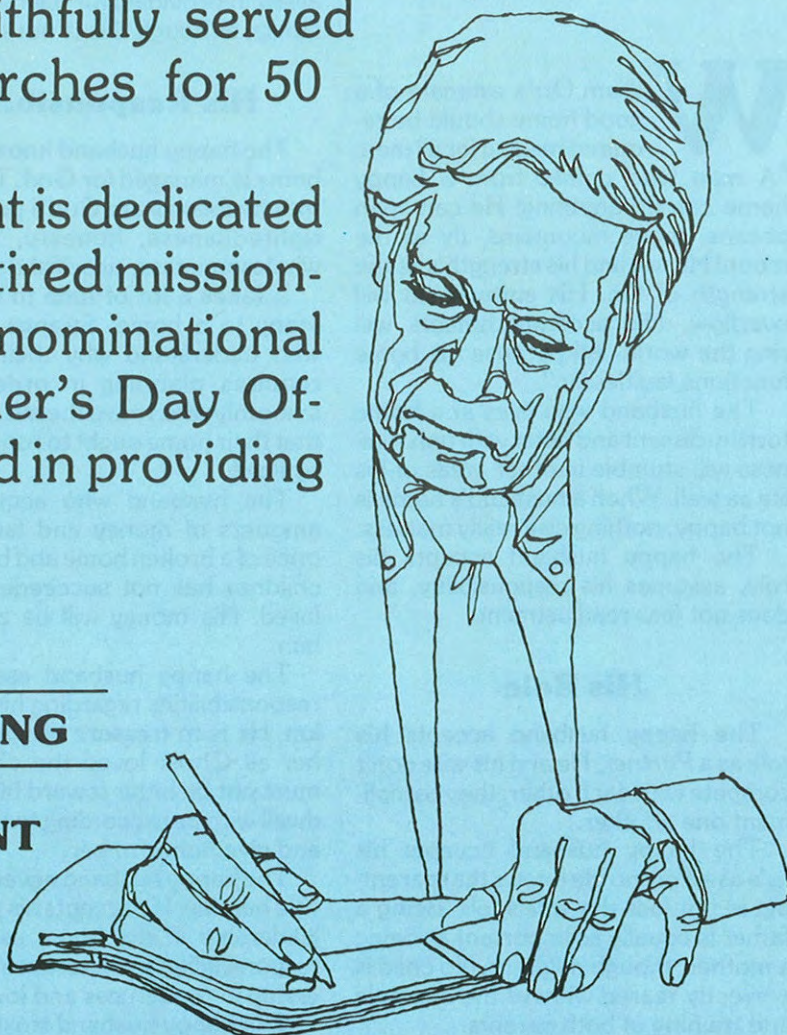
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