

June 1987

Contact

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

GROWING TOWARD THE GOAL

The NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS



51st Annual Convention/July 19-23, 1987
Boutwell Municipal Auditorium
Birmingham, Alabama



H. Armstrong Roberts

Many of us believe the myth that one day in each of our lives, a little switch will be thrown and suddenly there will be nothing for us to do, no place in the church to serve. At some certain age we step aside and let someone else teach that class, serve on this board or that committee, let the younger, better-trained voices sing in the choir.

The church affirms this misconception, smoothing it over by assuring aging adults that they deserve a rest. "We're really doing what's best for you."

In a sense, the term "benchwarmers" describes older adults in our churches. Benchwarmer is a sportsman's term for players who do not participate in the game but sit on the bench and wait to substitute for the better players. The benchwarmer plays a lonely role, watching the game, excluded from an active part.

The church forces most aging adults into such a role. Consider how church leaders sometime inadvertently exclude older persons from places of active service, accepting as true the mythical assumption that older adults would rather watch than work.

Younger people assume positions of leadership in the church and older adults move to the sidelines. People forget the contributions made by those now retired.

At times most retirees feel cut off from God's people. Churches offer youth programs, VBS for neighborhood children, and a nursery for babies during worship services. But few show concern for the elderly. They are largely ignored by the growth-minded congregations; yet aging adults make up the fastest growing age group in America. By the year 2000, fifty-five million retirees will become the largest segment of the U.S. population.

Is old age a wasteland for the Christian? Is it a time to stagnate while waiting to die? Is it years of idleness? A time for playing games, watching tv, dutifully but unenthusiastically attending church, passing the time in boredom?

God sees old age differently. The Bible presents several beautiful pictures of older persons who lived productive lives of faith. "Like palm trees and cedars of Lebanon planted in the house of the Lord, they are ever full of sap and green, bringing forth fruit in old age" (Psalm 92:12-15).

In the promised land, Caleb asked for a well-fortified mountain occupied by the Anakim giants. At 85, and as strong for battle as he had been 45 years earlier, he helped spy out the promised land (Joshua 14:6-12).

Moses died at 120, but "his eye was not dim nor his natural force abated" (Deut. 34:7).

At about 90, John, banned to the Isle of Patmos, recorded the great book of Revelation.

It's evident from the way God used older saints in the past that He sees them as special, capable people. His Word teaches the principle that older persons deserve honor, respect and recognition. "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you" (Ex. 20:12).

"You shall rise before the grey headed and honor the presence of an old man, and fear your God: I am the Lord" (Lev. 19:32).

"Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old" (Prov. 23:22).

"Despise not a man in his old age" (Ecc. 8:7).

"Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father..." (I Timothy 5:1-2).

Yes, God makes older people special, which brings us to an important consideration. What should churches do with and for aging adults? It presents a complex problem. Don't think your church meets its obligation by taking food baskets to a few old saints at Thanksgiving or by singing Christmas carols at a nursing home.

In talking with several aging adults recently, I discovered one thing they all felt their churches could do to honor them. The church honors older members by putting them to work.

Older adults do not want to be put on a shelf. They want to be useful. A person's abilities do not automatically diminish as he grows older. We need to be reminded that an individual does not become someone else as he or she grows older. That individual is the same gifted, resourceful person as before and can be among the most effective workers in our churches.

The Hastings Law School in San Francisco feels that older persons are so valuable that for years they hired for their faculty only persons who retired

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Elderly . . . (from page 3)

from the practice of law or teaching. They wanted older persons with the wisdom of experience.

The church, too, must not allow the love affair of our nation with youthfulness to rob older members of the respect and place of service they deserve in the church.

Not all older adults share an eagerness for serving. Some grow old unaware of their gifts and abilities. But the scriptures nowhere relieve a believer of his duties as a disciple when he retires. We need to help them discover their unique gifts and abilities. The church, with a little nudging, can motivate them to serve.


The overall church program takes on renewed vigor when the young and the old work together. As the untapped reservoir of talent and gifts is used, the church benefits and older persons feel needed.

However, aging adults seldom serve unless wise leaders invite and encourage them. Christians must not wait for organizations to pressure them into doing the loving thing which their faith should motivate them to do gladly.


Every few years the White House calls for a conference on aging. Maybe we need to call for a conference on aging in our denomination. We must see old age as an experience close to us, not far removed from us. Whatever we do for the aging today we do for ourselves tomorrow and for our grandchildren in the future.

13 Areas Where Churches Can Use Senior Adults

1. Secretarial work—typing, filing, copying, transcribing, etc.
2. Special visitation—visit people with the same or similar skills who long for someone with whom to "talk shop"
3. Administrative work—coordinate and direct church activities
4. Painting and interior decorating
5. Journalism—publishing the church newsletter, bulletin, etc.
6. Photography—perhaps even putting together a church directory
7. Decorations for different seasons and events during the year
8. Telephone reassurance—this can be done by the home-bound
9. Improvement and maintenance of church buildings and grounds
10. Church camp
11. Teaching ministry—with any age group from nursery to adults
12. Specialized tasks—use plumbers, elec-

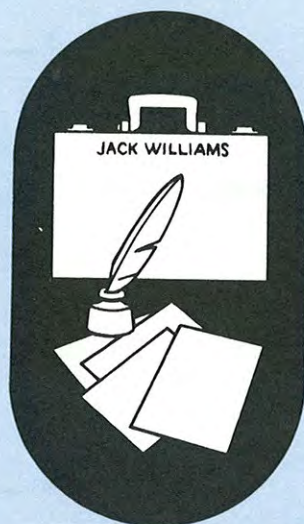
					
<h2>Cooperative Channel Contributions</h2> <h3>March 1987</h3>					
RECEIPTS:					
State	Design.	COOP (Undesignated)	Total	Mar. '86	Yr. to Date
Alabama	\$ 152.95	\$ 40.00	\$ 192.95	\$ 161.33	\$ 729.25
Arkansas	.00	3,722.29	3,722.29	3,476.39	13,616.12
California	.00	784.91	784.91	821.29	2,721.31
Florida	.00	723.30	723.30	1,525.47	6,749.38
Georgia	3,362.41	666.50	4,028.91	2,750.10	26,501.48
Idaho	.00	222.64	222.64	.00	222.64
Illinois	5,321.50	1,000.43	6,321.93	4,683.87	21,350.14
Indiana	413.09	.00	413.09	444.86	1,313.46
Kansas	.00	73.02	73.02	65.30	150.89
Kentucky	41.88	185.87	227.75	330.74	892.04
Maryland	.00	74.00	74.00	.00	643.58
Michigan	199.00	1,808.00	2,007.00	2,783.20	14,780.33
Mississippi	40.54	364.26	404.80	151.85	1,023.12
Missouri	.00	.00	.00	10,027.73	23,988.22
New Mexico	.00	.00	.00	.00	26.48
North Carolina	765.00	987.66	1,752.66	3,109.90	5,481.86
Ohio	1,062.27	1,214.77	2,277.04	2,365.00	6,864.27
Oklahoma	26,292.25	7,293.80	33,586.05	37,153.02	113,778.59
South Carolina	3,863.44	.00	3,863.44	517.40	11,945.12
Tennessee	286.92	906.79	1,193.71	377.40	5,728.48
Texas	7,007.56	541.77	7,549.33	10,383.71	25,726.80
Virginia	.00	.00	.00	50.00	1,382.06
West Virginia	2,113.10	94.44	2,207.54	5,605.95	8,994.59
Totals	\$50,921.91	\$20,704.45	\$71,626.36	\$86,784.51	\$294,610.21
DISBURSEMENTS:					
Executive Office	\$ 943.64	\$16,232.98	\$17,176.62	\$14,786.94	\$ 51,875.36
Foreign Missions	35,182.38	1,028.41	36,210.79	42,173.30	149,209.12
FWBBC	1,648.69	1,028.41	2,677.10	5,369.68	18,657.87
Home Missions	12,450.18	804.85	13,255.03	16,914.17	55,161.52
Retirement & Insurance	46.20	626.03	672.23	2,163.47	4,844.21
Master's Men	55.16	581.41	636.57	1,992.30	4,957.25
Commission for Theo.					
Integrity	20.71	44.68	65.39	194.64	474.50
FWB Foundation	11.12	268.32	279.44	1,110.88	2,751.41
Historical Commission	18.15	44.68	62.83	192.78	477.21
Radio & TV Commission	48.15	44.68	92.83	257.79	723.64
Hillsdale FWB College	432.71	.00	432.71	1,541.44	5,294.99
Other	64.82	.00	64.82	87.12	183.13
Totals	\$50,921.91	\$20,704.45	\$71,626.36	\$86,784.51	\$294,610.21

tricians, surveyors, accountants, florists, librarians, counselors, etc.

13. Prayer ministry—Never underestimate the value of the ministry of prayer among the older saints in your congregation. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Ray Lewis is business manager for the Board of Retirement in Nashville, Tennessee.

Briefcase



She weighed only 90 pounds, but she handed me my head in a New York minute when I suggested that her piano offertory went somewhat longer than necessary. Why didn't somebody tell me that pint-sized pianists strike without warning?

And it seemed like one of my better ideas at the time. 'Twas the Sunday after Christmas. The morning service rather laid back with folks easing into real life again after the holiday binge. Came time for the offering.

The crowd was thin, and I'm sure that me and one other guy could've taken everybody's money in 30 seconds if we'd been serious about it. Anyhow, the ushers did their Sunday duty with unhurried dignity, re-stacked the offering plates on the communion table and casually took their seats.

Meanwhile, this brown-eyed pianist pounded away at what she later confirmed was "a special arrangement of Higher Ground." Well, sir, we pressed on to higher ground till the offering plates passed me by. Then we moved higher as the ushers got it all and went on with their lives.

Unfortunately, the pianist kept climbing higher long after the rest of us had given our all. I remember thinking that since the pianist gave two verses more offertory than we did offering that I'd mention it to her after church, which as it turned out was an awful mistake.

That's My Offering!

Then the preacher preached. I forget about what. And that's worse than it sounds, since I was the preacher and it's my sermon I can't remember. My mind kept hearing that industrial-strength offertory.

Finally, we started home and I got my chance at the pianist. Did I mention that the pianist was my daughter? No? Well, she was, which in retrospect didn't help any either.

We'd just turned left down Blue Hole Road less than a mile from church when I (diplomatically, I might add) began my well-rehearsed presentation of the problem as I saw it.

"Uh-h-h, Becky," says I, "that sure was a pretty song you played for the offertory today."

"Oh!" she chirped from the back seat, "that was my special arrangement of Higher Ground!" (That's when I found out for sure about the special arrangement part. I'd recognized right off that she was playing a souped-up version of what's usually a draggy old hymn.)

"Yeah, sure was nice," I countered easily. "By the way, seemed to me that you had more offertory than we had offering today."

Things got dangerously quiet. I noticed my wife glare in my direction. My son cleared his throat.

"You know," I laughed, "that was a real nice song. But we could've taken up an offering at the National Convention before you got through. Don't you think you ought to cut it back some?"

I'd been told that a preacher should never talk to a musician with his back turned. I shoulda listened, because what zinged from the back seat sizzled my ears.

"Daddy!" she snapped, her cultured alto voice modulating two octaves, "That's my offering to the Lord! I worked hard on that song all week long! Don't deny me the privilege to give God my offering, all my offering!"

Oh, my. And what did I do then? After I realized that I'd committed musical blasphemy, I started looking for a way to undo some of the damage. After all, that overheated pianist was one of my income tax deductions who lived in the west bedroom in our house.

Carefully, I said to the irate, 4' 11" musician straining in the seat belt behind me, "I hate to admit it, but you're right. I am thoroughly rebuked. I have learned my lesson."

Which, of course, freed her to forgive me (which I *think* she did). And to lecture me all the way home (which I *know* she did) on how congregations misunderstand and don't appreciate all the work musicians do. And how specially-arranged offertories aren't really that long; they just seem that way. I probably got off easier than she thought I deserved.

However, there's an interesting principle at work here. It's the that's-my-offering-to-the-Lord principle. The instrumentalist's offering is the well-prepared offertory. That makes the Sunday School teacher's offering a well-planned lesson. And the trustee's offering well-kept church grounds. And the nursery worker's offering a snuffle-proof sanctuary.

While I agree with the basic idea, I do see one problem. Next time I'm in service with that dark-eyed pianist, I hope her offering to the Lord isn't Handel's *Messiah*. We won't get home till half-time.

I believe I've said enough at this point that the church pianists' union will picket my sermons from now till the Sugar Bowl. But I do wonder what'll happen next Sunday if I tell the congregation that my offering to the Lord is a well-prepared, two-hour homily on tithing. And that one of my two-hour sermons isn't really that long; it just seems that way. Hmmm.



The Tyranny of Innocent Things

By Floyd Wolfenbarger

We may thank God that He redeemed us from sin and set us free from bondage to gross sins. The saved man makes no defense to hold on to adultery, stealing, fighting and drunkenness. Indeed, he delights in being liberated from them. Those gross and open sins are shameful, and no one who professes Christ would insist on the liberty to cling to them.

However, we may live under the tyranny of innocent things. Our fervor for Christ is injured by the unrestrained use of lawful things. What's more honorable than earning an honest wage by hard work? And yet what can cause a man to lose touch with his family and God more completely than absorption in business?

Is there anything more innocent than clean recreation or more benevolent than rest? But what's more dangerous and wasteful than sloth and idleness? Can a man be blamed for giving food, clothing and shelter to his family? But what's more destructive to our spiritual welfare than covetousness and selfish greed?

Did not the apostles teach (I Cor. 7:29-31) that we who rejoiced or held possessions should sometimes live as though we had none? Christ did not rebuke Martha because she had done wrong. She was engaging in innocent, even urgent, duty. But she, by holding to the "innocent thing," lost out on the "best thing."

Christ insists on lordship in our lives in order to forbid us from unlawful acts and to restrain us from the indiscreet use of lawful things. He will not take away our legitimate pursuits, but He will enrich them because we have kept Him first in our lives.



**Attention Parents:
Nursery services
will NOT be
available during
the 1987
Convention.**

REQUESTS FOR TICKETS TO MEAL FUNCTIONS 1987 National Convention

Number	Meal	Total
_____	Learner/Adventurer Banquet \$4 Monday, July 20/5:00 p.m. Hyatt Hotel/Pacific-Atlantic-Indian Room	\$ _____
_____	Music Ministries Fellowship Breakfast \$6 Tuesday, July 21/7:00 a.m. Hyatt Hotel/Arctic Room	\$ _____
_____	Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon \$10 Tuesday, July 21/12:15 p.m. Hyatt Hotel/Mediterranean Room	\$ _____
_____	WNAC Fellowship Dinner \$12 Tuesday, July 21/5:00 p.m. Hyatt Hotel/Four Seas Ballroom	\$ _____
_____	Youth Banquet \$9 Tuesday, July 21/9:00 p.m. Civic Center/South Meeting Rooms	\$ _____
_____	Master's Men Breakfast \$7 Wednesday, July 22/7:00 a.m. Hyatt Hotel/Mediterranean-Caribbean-Baltic Room	\$ _____
_____	Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon \$8.50 Wednesday, July 22/12:00 Noon Hyatt Hotel/Mediterranean-Caribbean Room	\$ _____
Total Enclosed		\$ _____

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Make checks payable to TICKET SALES. Mail requests to TICKET SALES, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202. Please send check or money order. Do not send cash. All requests must be received by **JULY 1, 1987.**

NO TICKET REFUNDS AFTER JULY 1, 1987

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Theme: "Grow Toward the Goal"



Larry Condit
Pastor
Capitol FWB Church
Sacramento, Calif.



Delbert Akin
Pastor
Westgate FWB Church
Shawnee, Okla.



Ken Riggs
Professor
FWB Bible College
Nashville, Tenn.



Dale Skiles
Pastor
South Fremont FWB
Church
Springfield, Mo.



Milton Worthington
Pastor
Central FWB Church
Royal Oak, Mich.

51st Annual Session/July 19-23, 1987 Boutwell Municipal Auditorium Birmingham, Alabama

THEME: "Grow Toward the Goal"

MODERATOR: Bobby Jackson

MUSIC COORDINATOR: Blaine Hughes

ORGANIST: Ted Wilbanks

PIANIST: Susan Forlines

REGISTRATION COORDINATOR: George Harvey, Jr.

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: Ramada Civic Center Plaza

CONVENTION OFFICE: Boutwell Municipal Auditorium
Beautification Board Room

SUNDAY MORNING/July 19

10:00-10:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL (Adults) Boutwell Auditorium
Arena

Presiding: Doice McAlister
Song Service: Joseph Cutler
Music: Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
Adult Teacher: Roger C. Reeds

10:00-10:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL (Youth) Ramada Plaza

Primary/Junior Arctic/Indian Room
Teen: YET Team Four Seas Ballroom
Albany, GA

10:45 Intermission

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP (Adults) Boutwell Auditorium
Arena

Presiding: Doice McAlister
Song Service: Joseph Cutler
Music: Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

Offertory: Organ/Piano Duet
Solo: Ruth Thigpen Slaten

MESSAGE: Larry Condit

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP (Youth) Ramada Plaza
Primary/Junior Church Arctic/Indian Room
Teen Church: David Crowe Four Seas Ballroom

SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 19

2:00-5:00 Randall House Publications Ramada Plaza
Hospitality Suite Room 208

3:00 REGISTRATION for National Boutwell Auditorium
Convention and WNAC Lobby

3:00 REGISTRATION for National Ramada Plaza
Youth Conference Aegean Room

5:00 Usher Orientation Boutwell Auditorium
Green Room

SUNDAY EVENING/July 19

7:00-8:30 WORSHIP SERVICE Boutwell Auditorium
Arena

Presiding: Ralph Hampton
Song Service: Joseph Cutler
Special Music: Watchmen Quartet

Offertory: Truth & Peace
Solo: John Gibbs
Speaker: J. Delbert Akin

8:30 Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal Boutwell Auditorium
Arena Stage

8:30-10:00 Randall House Publications Ramada Plaza
Hospitality Suite Room 208

Program . . . (from page 7)

8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Boutwell Auditorium Lobby
8:30-10:00	NYC Registration Continues	Ramada Plaza Aegean Room
9:00-11:00	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Ramada Plaza

MONDAY MORNING/July 20

7:00	NYC Breakfast (staff, judges and officials)	Civic Center Restaurant
7:30-9:00	Master's Men Board	Ramada Plaza Governor's Room
8:00-8:45	WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast	Ramada Plaza Room 1701
8:30	Registration Continues	Boutwell Auditorium Lobby
8:30	NYC Registration Continues	Civic Center South Rooms
8:30	NYC Competitive Activities (See National Youth Program)	Civic Center South Rooms
9:00	GENERAL BOARD Convenes	Ramada Plaza Four Seas Ballroom
9:00-10:30	Foreign Missionary Orientation	Boutwell Auditorium Green Room
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Ramada Plaza Room 206

9:00-11:45	WNAC Executive Committee	Ramada Plaza Room 1701
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MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 20

12:00-12:45	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	Ramada Plaza Governor's Room
12:00-1:15	General Board Luncheon	Ramada Plaza Arctic Room
1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See National Youth Program)	Civic Center South Rooms
1:30	GENERAL BOARD Reconvenes	Ramada Plaza Four Seas Ballroom
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar Theme: "Reaching Out" Speakers: Lorene Miley Wanda Smith Glenda Fulcher	Ramada Plaza Four Oceans Ballroom
2:00-3:00	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Ramada Plaza Mediterranean Room
2:00-5:00	Randall House Publications Hospitality Suite	Ramada Plaza Room 208
3:00-4:00	WNAC Presidents and Field Workers Meeting	Ramada Plaza Arctic Room
3:00-5:00	Home Missions Camp Meeting Speaker: Home Missions Team	Boutwell Auditorium Arena
5:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Boutwell Auditorium Arena Stage
5:00	Learner/Adventurer Banquet	Ramada Plaza Four Oceans Ballroom
5:00	Foreign Missions Advance Dinner	Ramada Plaza Mediterranean Room
5:00	EXHIBIT AREA OPEN	Boutwell Auditorium Exhibition Hall

MONDAY EVENING/July 20

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Boutwell Auditorium Arena
	Presiding: Tom Lilly Song Service: Blaine Hughes Call to Worship: Waymon Fields Family Music: Mass Adult Choir/Doug Little, Director	
	Session Called to Order and Moderator Introduced: Waldo Young, Clerk	
	Report of Committee on Committees: Bobby Jackson, Moderator	
	Welcome to Birmingham: John Edwards Moderator, Alabama State Association	
	Offertory: Free Will Baptist Bible College	
	Solo: Tom Hollingshead	
	MESSAGE: "Grow in Godliness" Ken Riggs	
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Boutwell Auditorium Exhibition Hall

July 12 National Convention Day of Prayer and Fasting



8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Boutwell Auditorium Arena Stage
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Boutwell Auditorium Lobby
8:30-10:00	NYC Registration Continues	Civic Center South Rooms
8:30-10:00	Randall House Publications Hospitality Suite	Ramada Plaza Room 208
9:00-11:00	Youth Activities	Ramada Plaza Four Oceans/Seas
10:30	Exhibit Area Closed	

TUESDAY MORNING/July 21

7:00-8:15	Music Ministries Breakfast Speaker: Melvin Worthington	Ramada Plaza Arctic Room
7:00-8:30	Home Missions Board Breakfast	Ramada Plaza Room 206
8:00	NYC Activities (See National Youth Program)	Civic Center South Rooms
8:30	Registration Continues	Boutwell Auditorium Lobby
8:30	NYC Registration Continues	Civic Center South Rooms
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Boutwell Auditorium Exhibition Hall
9:00	WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION Presiding: June Rolan, President	Boutwell Auditorium Arena
9:00-11:00	BIBLE CONFERENCE Presiding: Millard Sasser Song Service: Waymon Fields 9:00 Music: Southeastern FWB College Waymon Fields Family Speaker: Johnny E. Pike 10:00 Music: Free Will Baptist Bible College Duet: Jon & Susan Forlines Speaker: Fred Hall	Civic Center Theatre
11:10	WNAC Missionary Service Message: Robert T. Bryan	Boutwell Auditorium Arena

TUESDAY, AFTERNOON/July 21

12:15-1:30	Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Luncheon Speaker: Bill Jones	Ramada Plaza Mediterranean Room
12:15-1:30	State Leaders Luncheon	Ramada Plaza Aegean Room
1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See National Youth Program)	Civic Center
1:30	WNAC Reconvenes Missionary Panel	Boutwell Auditorium Arena



Hall



Pike

1:30-3:00	Target 90 Church Growth Seminar Speakers: Gordon Sebastian Jim McAllister Dale Burden Rue Dell Smith	Civic Center Rooms B, J
1:30-3:00	Theological Trends Workshop Speakers: Robert Picirilli Leroy Forlines	Ramada Plaza Pacific/Atlantic
1:30-3:00	Media Ministries Workshop	Ramada Plaza Arctic/Indian
2:00	Learner/Adventurer Activity	Ramada Plaza Baltic Room
2:00-5:00	Randall House Publications Hospitality Suite	Ramada Plaza Room 208
4:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Boutwell Auditorium Arena Stage
5:00-6:45	WNAC Fellowship Dinner Speaker: Verla Pettit	Ramada Plaza Four Seas Ballroom

TUESDAY EVENING/July 21

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE Presiding: Jack Richey Song Service: Randy Sawyer Call to Worship: Hillsdale FWB College Music: Mass Adult Choir/Doug Little, Director Offertory: Watchmen Quartet Solo: Bill Gardner MESSAGE: "Grow in Giving" Dale Skiles	Boutwell Auditorium Arena
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Boutwell Auditorium Exhibition Hall
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Boutwell Auditorium Arena Stage
8:30	Historical Commission	Boutwell Auditorium Beautification Board Room
8:30-10:00	Randall House Publications Hospitality Suite	Ramada Plaza Room 208
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Boutwell Auditorium Lobby
8:30-10:00	NYC Registration Continues	Civic Center South Rooms
9:00-10:00	Learner/Adventurer Activities	Ramada Plaza Pacific Room

Program . . . (from page 9)

9:00-11:00 Youth Banquet Civic Center
South Rooms

10:30 Exhibit Area Closed

WEDNESDAY MORNING/July 22

7:00-8:15 Master's Men Breakfast Ramada Plaza
Speaker: McLeod Wilcox Four Seas Ballroom

8:00-12:00 NYC Competitive Finals Civic Center
South Rooms

8:30 Exhibit Area Open Boutwell Auditorium
Exhibition Hall

8:30 Registration Continues Boutwell Auditorium
Lobby

8:30 NYC Registration Continues Civic Center
South Rooms

9:00-12:00 CONVENTION BUSINESS Boutwell Auditorium
SESSION Arena

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
Foreign Missions: R. Eugene Waddell
Free Will Baptist Bible College: Charles Thigpen
Sunday School & Church Training: Roger Reeds

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON/July 22

12:00 REGISTRATION CLOSES

12:00-1:15 Free Will Baptist Bible College Ramada Plaza
Luncheon Four Seas
Ballroom

1:00-4:30 Youth Activities Civic Center
South Rooms

1:00-4:30 Youth Workers Activities Civic Center
South Rooms

1:30 CONVENTION BUSINESS Boutwell Auditorium
Reconvenes Arena

Scripture Reading and Prayer
Assistant Moderator: Ralph Hampton

1:35 REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS
(continued)

Home Missions: Roy Thomas
Master's Men: James Vallance
Board of Retirement: Herman Hersey
Free Will Baptist Foundation: Herman Hersey
Commission for Theological Integrity: Leroy Forlines
Radio-TV Commission: George Lee

2:00-5:00 Randall House Publications Ramada Plaza
Hospitality Suite Room 208

3:30 General Board Final Report
Partial Report of Nominating Committee
Election of General Board Members

4:00 Business Session Recessed

4:00 Men's Chorale Rehearsal Boutwell Auditorium
(or immediately following Arena Stage
business session)

5:00 Southeastern FWB College Ramada Plaza
Dinner Four Seas Ballroom

5:30 Mass Youth Choir Rehearsal Civic Center
Concert Hall

WEDNESDAY EVENING/July 22

7:00-8:30 WORSHIP SERVICE Boutwell Auditorium
Arena

Presiding: Raymond Riggs
Song Service: Larry Clyatt
Music: Howard Gwartney
Men's Chorale/Vernon Whaley, Director

Recognition of Missionaries: Roy Thomas,
R. Eugene Waddell
Missions Offering: Raymond Riggs
Offertory: Southeastern FWB College

MESSAGE: "Grow in Going"
Milton W. Worthington

7:00-8:30 NYC Missionary Service Civic Center
Speaker: Neil Gilliland Concert Hall

8:30 Exhibit Area Open Boutwell Auditorium
Exhibition Hall

8:30-10:00 Randall House Publications Ramada Plaza
Hospitality Suite Room 208

9:00-11:00 NYC Awards Celebration Civic Center
Concert Hall

10:30 Exhibit Area Closed

THURSDAY MORNING/July 23

7:00 Sunday School Board Breakfast Ramada Plaza
Room 206

8:30 Exhibit Area Open Boutwell Auditorium
Exhibition Hall

9:00 CONCLUDING BUSINESS Boutwell Auditorium
SESSION Arena

Scripture Reading & Prayer
Assistant Clerk: Keith Burden

WNAC Report: Mary R. Wisheart
Historical Commission Report: David Joslin
Report of Committees:
— Registration
— Budget
— Resolutions

Nominating Committee's Final Report

Election of General Officers

11:45 Adjournment

12:15 Exhibits Closed (30 minutes after
convention adjournment)



NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

20th Annual Conference/July 19-22, 1987

Civic Center/Birmingham, Alabama



YOUTH THEME: "LIFEQUEST: Directions For The Journey" —
(Proverbs 3:6)

LEARNER/ADVENTURER THEME: "Bear Witness" —
(1 John 1:2)

DIRECTOR: Jim Lauthern

BIBLE COMPETITION COORDINATOR: Len Davenport

MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL COORDINATOR: Lisa Wallace

REGISTRATION COORDINATOR: June McVay

SUNDAY MORNING/July 19

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL	Ramada Plaza
	Primary/Junior	Arctic/Indian Room
	Teen: YET Team Albany, GA	Four Seas Ballroom
11:00-12:00	MORNING WORSHIP	Ramada Plaza
	Primary/Junior	Arctic/Indian Room
	Teen: David Crowe	Four Seas Ballroom

SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 19

3:00	NYC Registration	Ramada Plaza Aegean Room
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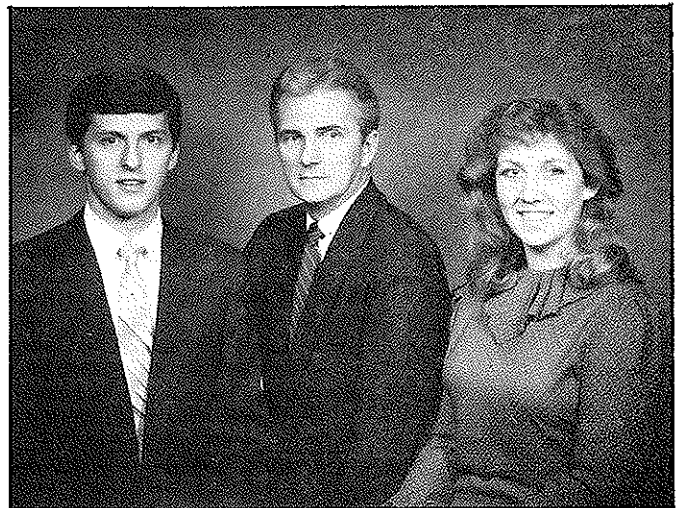
SUNDAY EVENING/July 19

7:00-8:30	Main Convention Service	Boutwell Auditorium
8:30	NYC Registration	Ramada Plaza Aegean Room
9:00	Learner/Adventurer Activity "Bear Witness": Japan	Ramada Plaza Pacific Room
9:00	Youth Activities "Game of Life"	Ramada Plaza Four Seas Ballroom

MONDAY MORNING/July 20

7:00	NYC Breakfast (staff, judges and officials)	Civic Center Restaurant
8:15	"Landmarks for Living" Devotional Time: Mark Hollis	Civic Center South Rooms B,J

8:30	NYC Registration	Civic Center South Rooms Lobby
8:30	Bible Bowl Assembly All Teams and Coaches	Civic Center South Rooms E,F
8:30	Bible Tic Tac Toe Assembly All Teams and Coaches	Civic Center South Rooms C,D
8:30	Bible Sword Drill Assembly All Participants and Coaches	Civic Center South Room A
8:30	Music and Arts Assembly All Participants and Coaches	Civic Center South Rooms B,J
9:00	NYC Competitive Activities	Civic Center
	Music and Arts Section 1 Vocal Ensembles	South Rooms B,J
	Music and Arts Section 2 Keyboard	South Rooms G,H



Davenport

Lauthern

Wallace

Youth Program . . . (from page 11)

Music and Arts Section 3 South Room I
Oral Communications

Bible Sword Drill South Room A
Grade 4

10:00 Bible Memorization South Room A
Grade 1

MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 20

1:00 NYC Competitive Activities Civic Center

Bible Bowl South Rooms E,F

Bible Tic Tac Toe South Rooms C,D

Bible Sword Drill South Room A
Grade 5

Music and Arts Section 4 South Rooms B,J
Vocal Ensembles

Music and Arts Section 5 South Rooms G,H
Vocal Solo

Music and Arts Section 6 South Room I
Oral Communications

2:00 Bible Memorization South Room A
Grade 2

2:00 Learner/Adventurer Activity Ramada Plaza
"Bear Witness": Brazil Mediterranean Room

5:00 Learner/Adventurer Banquet: Ramada Plaza
Red Bay, Alabama Youth Four Oceans Ballroom

MONDAY EVENING/July 20

7:00-8:30 Main Convention Service Boutwell Auditorium

9:00 Youth and Children's Activity Ramada Plaza
"Celebration of Life" Four Seas/Four Oceans

9:00 State Coordinators Reception Ramada Plaza
Governor's Room

TUESDAY MORNING/July 21

8:00 "Landmarks for Living" Civic Center
Devotional Time: Mark Hollis South Rooms B,J

8:15 NYC Competitive Activities Civic Center

Bible Bowl South Rooms E,F

Bible Tic Tac Toe South Rooms C,D

Bible Sword Drill South Room A
Grade 6

Music and Arts Section 7 South Rooms B,J
Vocal Ensembles

Music and Arts Section 8 South Rooms G,H
Instrumental

10:00 Bible Memorization South Room A
Grade 3

TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 21

1:00 Music and Arts Section 9 Civic Center
Chorales/Choirs Theatre

2:00 Learner/Adventurer Activity Ramada Plaza
"Bear Witness": Ivory Coast Baltic Room

TUESDAY EVENING/July 21

7:00-8:30 Main Convention Service Boutwell Auditorium

9:00 Learner/Adventurer Activity Ramada Plaza
"Bear Witness": Mexico Pacific Room

9:00 Youth Banquet Civic Center
"Adventures of Captain Quest" South Rooms A-J

WEDNESDAY MORNING/July 22

8:00 "Landmarks for Living" Civic Center
Devotional Time: Mark Hollis South Rooms A-J

8:15 Bible Competition Finals Civic Center
South Rooms A-J

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON/July 22

1:00 Youth Activity Civic Center
"Games that Teach" South Rooms A,B,J

1:00 Youth Workers Meeting Civic Center
National Youth Ministries South Rooms C,D

2:00 Youth Seminar 1 Civic Center
South Room G

2:00 Youth Seminar 2 Civic Center
South Room H

2:00 Youth Seminar 3 Civic Center
South Room I

2:00 Youth Workers Meeting Civic Center
"LIFEQUEST": South Rooms C,D
Jonathan Thigpen

2:00 Learner/Adventurer Activity Ramada Plaza
"Bear Witness": France Pacific Room

3:00 Youth Meeting Civic Center
"LIFEQUEST": South Rooms A,B,J
Jonathan Thigpen

3:00 Youth Workers Seminar 1 Civic Center
Competitive Activities: Panel South Rooms C,D

3:00 Youth Workers Seminar 2 Civic Center
"Youth Discipleship": South Room E
Tim Trimble

3:00 Youth Workers Seminar 3 Civic Center
"Child Evangelism": South Room F
Marguerite Kern

4:00 Prayer Time Civic Center
Youth and Youth Workers South Rooms A,B,J

5:30 Mass Youth Choir Rehearsal Civic Center
Concert Hall

WEDNESDAY EVENING/July 22

7:00-8:30 NYC Youth Missions Service Civic Center
Speaker: Neil Gilliland Concert Hall

9:00 Awards Celebration Civic Center
Concert Hall



WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION

52nd Annual Session/July 20-21, 1987

**Boutwell Municipal Auditorium
Birmingham, Alabama**



June Rolan



Verla Pettit



Mary R. Wischart



Robert Bryan

THEME: "Them Also I Must Bring"

SCRIPTURE: "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd" (John 10:16).

HYMN: "Bring Them In"

MUSIC COORDINATOR: Rebecca Pugh

ORGANIST: Fleda Snow

PIANIST: Sandra Jackson

REGISTRATION CHAIRMAN: Elwanda Oakes

WNAC HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: Ramada Civic Center Plaza

SUNDAY AFTERNOON/July 19

1:30	Registration Committee Orientation	Boutwell Auditorium Lobby
3:00	REGISTRATION	Boutwell Auditorium Lobby

MONDAY MORNING/July 20

8:00-8:45	WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast	Ramada Plaza Room 1701
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Ramada Plaza Room 206
9:00-11:45	WNAC Executive Committee	Ramada Plaza Room 1701

MONDAY AFTERNOON/July 20

12:00-12:45	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	Ramada Plaza Governor's Room
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar: "Reaching Out"	Ramada Plaza Four Oceans Ballroom
	"To Those in Prison"	Lorene Miley
	"To Troubled Teens"	Wanda Smith
	"To the Stranger Among Us"	Glenda Fulcher
3:00-4:00	WNAC Presidents and Field Workers Meeting	Ramada Plaza Arctic Room

TUESDAY MORNING/July 21

9:00	WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION Presiding: June Rolan Song Service: Rebecca Pugh	Boutwell Auditorium Arena
9:15	Devotion: Olena McLain Special Music	
9:30	Welcome: Pat Pless Creative Arts Contest Awards: Lorene Miley Credentials Committee Report/ Seating of Delegates Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Mary R. Wischart Resolutions Committee Report Nominating Committee Report Election of Officers Appreciation Committee Report	
11:10	WNAC MISSIONARY SERVICE Song Service: Rebecca Pugh Duet: Howard & Patsy Gwartney Message: Robert T. Bryan	Boutwell Auditorium Arena
12:00	Recess	

TUESDAY AFTERNOON/July 21

1:30	Song Service: Rebecca Pugh	Boutwell Auditorium Arena
	Special Music Registration Committee Report Missionary Panel: Geraldine Waid, Moderator	
3:00	Adjournment	
5:00	WNAC Fellowship Dinner Invocation: LaVerne Miley Speaker: Verla Pettit Benediction: Lonnie Rolan	Ramada Plaza Four Seas Ballroom



CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS HOTEL CHANGES NAME

Hotel officials confirmed that the Hyatt Birmingham came under new management and has a new name. The hotel is now known as the **Civic Center Plaza—a Ramada Hotel.**

All previous arrangements with the Free Will Baptist National Convention will be honored. Guests who request housing at the Hyatt Birmingham will receive confirmations from the Ramada Civic Center Plaza.

We regret the inconvenience and confusion caused by the changeover.

Letting Go

By M. J. Pritchard

Father,

It's so painful to let go. It hurts. I want this thing badly. But You in Your wisdom have said, "Let go."

Remind me that when You ask me to give up something, it may be because it is not good for me or will even hurt me. Or it may be that You want to give me something better.

Father, You know I find it hard not to grasp and clutch, to hold it close. Help me remember the lessons You've taught in the past: When I clutch too hard, I choke the life out of the very thing I love; when I get what I want but it isn't Your will, it turns out to be not as good as it first seemed; and when You have to pry my fingers off something it's even more painful than when I let go willingly.

Things have a way of breaking when clutched too close. Relationships cannot survive self-centered smothering. People, like things, break when held too tightly.

Thank You for being with me, Father, when You ask me to give up something. You understand that kind of pain. You gave Your Son that I might live. Oh, Father, as I let go, please hold on to me.

Amen

Directory Update

CALIFORNIA

Steve Shaw to Antioch Church, Antioch from Northeast Church, Shawnee, OK

GEORGIA

G. Gene Gilbert to Oak Hill Church, Mershon from St. Mark Church, Phenix City, AL

INDIANA

Jim Mullen to First Bible Church, New Castle from Faith Church, Jonesboro, AR

KENTUCKY

Kenneth M. Walker to Second Church, Ashland from First Church, Deerfield Beach, FL

OKLAHOMA

Keith Burden to First Church, Ada from West Tulsa Church, Tulsa

Glen Lewis to First Church, Pryor from Airport Church, Tulsa

Lynn Beck to Bethel Church, Allen from First Church, Odessa, TX

Joe Wilson to Trinity Temple Church, Tulsa

Charlie Murphy to Clinton Church, Clinton from Duncan Church, Duncan

Howard Butler to Carmel Church, Tulsa

Leon Sheppard to Crowder Church, Crowder

OTHER PERSONNEL

Jeff Sullivan to Unity Church, Smithfield, NC as minister of music and youth



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.

**informed
prayer
is effective
prayer**

**MISSIONS
HOTLINE**

**(615)
361-5005**

Hotel Reservation

1987 National Convention

July 19-23, 1987

- Please indicate your hotel choices below in order of preference.
- Telephone requests will not be honored.
- Hotels will not accept direct requests without approval of the Housing Bureau.
- Do not mail a deposit with your request. The hotel will confirm your reservation and receive your deposit directly. **THE HOUSING BUREAU DOES NOT HANDLE DEPOSITS.**
- Reservations will be made in order of receipt. If requested room rate is not available, the next available rate will be confirmed.
- All accommodations are subject to local taxes.
- Confirmations will come directly from the hotel.

Cutoff Date:

Received by
June 30, 1987

MAIL TO:

Housing Bureau
c/o Birmingham Convention
and Visitors Bureau
2027 First Ave. N
Birmingham, Al 35203

(205) 252-9825

HOTELS	Choice	Single	Double	Twin	Triple	Quad
Hyatt Birmingham (Headquarters)		\$55	\$55	\$55	\$63	\$63
Birmingham Hilton		\$55	\$55	\$55	\$63	\$63
Holiday Inn-Medical Center		\$54	\$54	\$54	\$54	\$54
Redmont Hotel		\$62	\$62	\$62	\$62	\$62
Tutwiler		\$68	\$68	\$68	—	—
Econo Lodge		\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40
Tourway Inn		\$30	\$30	\$30	\$37	\$37
Belton Inn		\$24	\$24	\$24	\$32	\$32

Guaranteed Arrival yes ☐ no ☐

card name	card number	expiration date

Reservations are held until 6:00 P.M. on the day of arrival unless you **guarantee your first night** payment by credit card.

Rooms will be occupied by:

(Please bracket those who will share same rooms. List additional names on separate sheet.)

NAME	CITY AND STATE	TYPE OF ROOM	ARRIVAL Hour-Date	DEPARTURE Hour-Date
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Applicant _____

Company _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Date Submitted _____

(For Convention Bureau Use Only)

RESERVATION FOLLOW THROUGH

DATE & INITIAL

Received at Housing Bureau _____

Processed to Hotel/Motel: _____

BIRMINGHAM'S CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT





FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

ILLINOIS TOPS "ADVANCE" GOAL

EFFINGHAM, IL—Illinois Free Will Baptists exceeded their "Advance Celebration" goal for foreign missions by \$14,000 with almost half the churches yet to report, confirmed Promotional Director David Shores. One year ago the Illinois State Association voted to accept the \$45,000 Advance challenge from the Foreign Missions Department. Delegates to the March 27-28 state meeting in Effingham learned that more than \$59,000 had been raised.

Reverend Shores did not specify how much money he expected the Illinois churches to raise, but did indicate that officials were confident that substantial funds would be forthcoming.

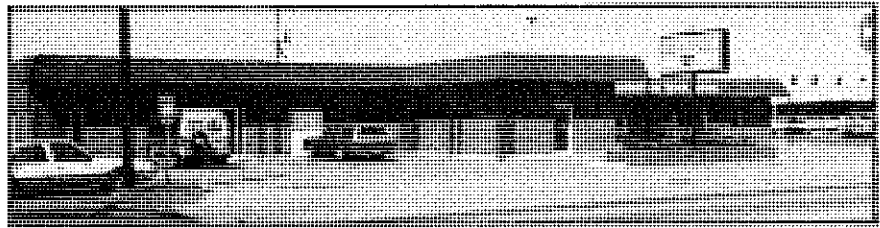
The 27th annual session of the Illinois State Association attracted 160 registered delegates to Crossroads FWB Church. Moderator Loyd Crain led the business sessions.

Two ministers—J. Reford Wilson and Larry Cook—teamed with three laymen to bring five messages on "The Word" during the meeting. Laymen Kelly Douglas, Mike Johnston and Lee Penn drew praise for their preparation and presentation in special devotionals.

Host pastor John Hollis was cited for exemplary work in establishing the church in Effingham. The church will go self-supporting by 1988.

The 1988 state association will meet March 25-26 at Bethel FWB Church in South Roxana.

ARKANSAS EXPANDS STATE OFFICE



CONWAY, AR—Arkansas Free Will Baptists completed a \$92,500 expansion and remodeling effort this spring, according to Promotional Director David Joslin. The renovation project added almost 2,000 square feet to existing facilities, providing more than 6,000 square feet of space for offices and bookstore operations.

Reverend Joslin said the new construction includes two large offices, a sound-proof conference room, visitors reception area and a kitchen/lounge. Joslin commended the Arkansas Executive Board for their foresight and determination 26 years ago when they authorized the promotional office.

During the 1958 session of the Arkansas State Association, delegates adopted a resolution giving the Executive Board authority to employ a full-time man to work on behalf of all phases of the state work. The man, his duties, salary, time of employment were to be determined by the Executive Board.

At the 1959 session, the State Executive Board again recommended to the association that a part or full-time person be employed to promote the denominational work in the state. At the same time they recommended that the person selected to fill the new office be known as Promotional Director. Another motion gave \$100 to the Promotional Director to start the work.

During the 1960 session, the State Executive Board informed delegates

that Rev. Willard C. Day had been employed as the Promotional Director. The first year's receipts (10/1/59 to 9/31/60) were \$727.19. Of this amount, \$249.47 was attributed to the sale of books by the Promotional Director at meetings across the state.

Rev. Day served from 1959-63. Rev. Loyd Thomas, pastor of First FWB Church in Conway, was selected to serve on a part-time basis from 1962-67.

Rev. Fred Warner was employed from 1967-73. During that time, the state office and bookstore were housed in two rooms of the Promotional Director's home, located on the youth camp grounds.

From there, the bookstore moved into a 500-square-foot store in downtown Conway, with the state office renting office space nearby.

The move to the present location was made in February 1973, when Promotional Director Fred Warner, under the direction of the State Executive Board, purchased a service station for \$25,000. With an additional \$22,000, the station was remodeled into a 4,108-square-foot structure to house both the state office and bookstore.

That building served the state needs until August 1986, when Promotional Director David Joslin and the State Executive Board recommended to the Arkansas State Association that the building be remodeled and enlarged.

OKLAHOMA SETS SINGLES RETREAT

DRUMRIGHT, OK—The first state-wide Oklahoma FWB Singles Retreat will meet June 5-6 at the First Mission Campground in Drumright, reports information officer Sue Mullins. The Planning Committee selected "Christian Lifestyle for Singles—Wants vs. Shoulds" as the retreat theme.

Miss Mullins said that the group's 150-name mailing list probably represents no more than half the single adults in Oklahoma Free Will Baptist

churches. Attendance could reach 75, but Mullins said the Planning Committee "would be happy with 50."

Free Will Baptist singles from the Oklahoma City area selected Pastor Joe Grizzle from First FWB Church in Norman as a speaker for the weekend retreat. Tulsa area singles selected another speaker. (The Tulsa area speaker selection was not available at press time.)

newsfront

(continued)

150 ATTEND MISSISSIPPI PASTORS/WORKERS CONFERENCE

CORINTH, MS—More than 150 people participated in the February 27-28 Mississippi Pastors and Workers Conference, reports Reverend Terry Booker, chairman of the sponsoring Board of Conferences and Itinerate Ministries.

The two-day event met at Community FWB Church in Corinth. Reverend Booker praised the cooperation of host pastor Malcolm Garrett whose congregation was in the midst of completing work on a new sanctuary.

Booker also said, "We are excited about the prospects for future conferences here in Mississippi. The cooperation of the pastors and churches is wonderful."

This year's program theme, "Evidences of Being Spirit Filled," featured two speakers—Professor Leroy Forlines, instructor at Free Will Baptist Bible College and chairman of the Commission for Theological Integrity, and Evangelist Hughes Ellis, a former national home missionary and pastor with 26 years experience.

During Friday evening services, Forlines clarified the meaning and differences between the baptism of the Holy Spirit and being filled with the Holy Spirit. Ellis made the congregation aware of the charismatic movement's attempts to infiltrate, infatuate and influence believers into thinking they are not complete in Christ.

The Saturday morning session found a house full of eager listeners. Rev. Forlines continued his study in the meaning of being Spirit-filled. Evangelist Ellis presented the problems, purposes, principles and practices of spiritual gifts. The conference concluded with an informative question and answer session. Local churches provided special music throughout the conference.

The Board of Conferences and Itinerate Ministries plans and promotes this conference which rotates to different areas of the state each year. Plans now include a state-wide missionary conference for the fall.

CHURCH TO BUILD 200-SEAT SANCTUARY

STATESVILLE, NC—Members of Northview FWB Church in Statesville broke ground February 8 to begin construction on a \$195,000 building, according to Pastor Leroy England. The new structure will seat 200 and contain Sunday School rooms, pastor's study, church office and fellowship hall.

Pastor England said that when an August 1984 fire destroyed the old fellowship hall, members determined to rebuild. They purchased 3.2 acres and proceeded with plans to finance construction.

The Northview Church began 25 years ago in 1962.



VIRGINIA CHURCH VOTES CO-OP

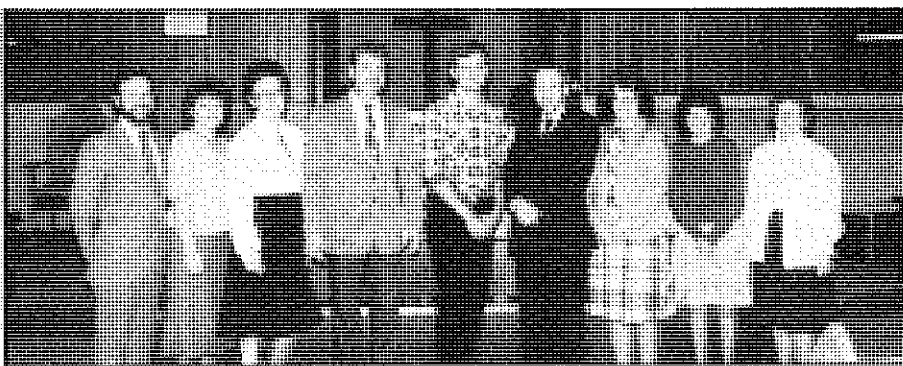
FREDERICKSBURG, VA—The Heritage FWB Church, Fredericksburg, voted to support the ministries of the Maryland State Association (the church is a member of the Maryland State Association) and the National Association through participating in the Cooperative Plan of Support, according to Pastor David Reece. Pastor Reece stated that Heritage chose the Cooperative Plan in order to participate in all denominational ministries.

The church plans to continue its direct support of a foreign missionary that it began to support while still a mission work under a joint project of the Maryland State Association and National Home Missions and Church

Extension. Also, members plan to continue their faith promise support of both foreign and home missionaries, and their pledges of support to Free Will Baptist Bible College.

The Heritage FWB Church began as a mission work in May 1981 by Pastor Reece and his wife Marion. Heritage went self-supporting in December 1985.

Pastor Reece reports that the church adopted a budget of \$53,048 for 1987. Heritage's church and land are valued at approximately \$300,000 with an indebtedness of \$126,000. Membership stands at 72. Sunday School attendance during 1986 averaged 43. The church sponsors active Woman's Auxiliary and Master's Men organizations.



Pastor Mike Stokes and nine members of Woodstock FWB Church, Woodstock, OH, who read the Bible through. (L) Richard Pack, Ronnie Pack, Judy Hall, Keth Pack, Billy Moore, Pastor Stokes, Judy Stokes, Teddy Thornhill, Paulene Pack.

Pastor **R. E. Helsley** celebrated 25 years in the ministry, 19 in his current pastorate at **Wolf Creek FWB Church, Mansfield, MO.** During his ministry Pastor Helsley has preached 4,483 sermons, conducted 200 funerals and witnessed 992 conversions.

Moderator **George Smith** led 46 **West Virginia** State Association leaders in a February 21 Leadership Conference. Officials stated that Executive Board members from the state's conferences participated in the one-day session.

Pastor **Larry Hughes** said that members of **First FWB Church, Walnut Ridge, AR,** burned an \$80,000 mortgage. The church borrowed money in 1976 to construct a building. They conducted their first service in the new building May 29, 1977, with 148 in Sunday School. Pastor Hughes praised the church members for paying off the mortgage in 10 years instead of 20, thereby saving more than \$53,000 in interest.

The **Georgia** State Youth Conference met May 1-2 at Norman Baptist Assembly in Norman Park. Missouri Pastor **Gary Fry** was the featured speaker.

Pastor **Dale Burden** and members of **Gateway FWB Church, Virginia Beach, VA,** said goodbye to youth pastor Nate Ange after 8½ years. In a special service honoring Brother Ange, members presented him with a \$1,000 check and a plaque. After the service members produced a money tree with another \$700.

Pastor **Charles Miller** of **First FWB Church, Desoto, MO,** recognized **Roberta Berry** for 18 years of perfect attendance in Sunday School. Folks, that's 936 Sundays without a miss!

Blue Bell FWB Church, Sapulpa, OK, celebrated their 55th anniversary in March, according to Pastor **Everett Keiffer.**

Members of **Northside FWB Church, Tulsa, OK,** broke ground for the first phase of a new building program, says Pastor **Curtis Linton.**

Pastor **Mike Wade** said **Calvary FWB Church, Norman, OK,** conducted ground breaking ceremonies for construction of a new sanctuary.

Attendance at **First FWB Church, Checotah, OK,** increased from 172 to 202. The church also received 38 new members. **O. J. Hood** pastors.

Pastor **Jerry Dudley** and members at **Stratford FWB Church, Stratford, OK,** increased their cooperative giving from 10 to 12 percent.

The **Oklahoma** State Mission Board secured the services of **Kenny Stevens** of

Hutchinson, KS, to direct the mission at **Vinita, OK.** Stevens assumed the position March 29. The work is a joint project with the state mission board and Oklahoma's Northeast Association.

The **Southeastern Oklahoma Conference on Revival** met April 3-4 at **Hall FWB Church** near **Antlers.** Sponsored by the Oklahoma Home Mission Board, the conference used the theme "Back to the Basics." Five Oklahoma ministers brought messages during the conference: **George Harvey Jr., Bob Ketchum, Ron Carner, Homer Young, Berton Perry.**

Pastor **Conrad Williford** reports a 13 percent increase in Sunday School attendance at **First FWB Church, Hixson, TN,** along with six baptisms and 18 new members. The group plans a number of renovations for the church including carpeting, a lighted church sign, and gravel in the parking area.

An honest-to-goodness king showed up at **Waipahu FWB Church, Waipahu, HI,** Sunday morning, according to Pastor **Luther Sanders.** It seems that His Majesty **Taufa' Ahau Toupou IV,** King of Tonga, along with his royal party and a number of American secret service agents attended morning worship February 8. His Majesty gave a brief word of greeting and personal testimony. See there, you never know who'll show up for a Free Will Baptist worship service.

Contact welcomes *Target 90 Report*, publication of the Target 90 Committee of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. **W. Irvin Hyman** serves as editor. The March/April issue includes articles by Tennessee pastor **Richard Adams** and California pastor **Richard Kennedy.**

Members of **First FWB Church, Beaufort, NC,** raised \$12,500 in faith promise support during their February world missionary conference, according to Pastor **Henry Van Kluyve.** The congregation adopted four new missionaries, bringing the total to 14 that they support. The missionaries receive equal portions of the faith promise support. The church also gave Pastor Van Kluyve \$146 as a birthday gift for the missionary of his choice.

Members at **Donelson FWB Church, Nashville, TN,** raised \$3,000 for the Clint Morgan family who are missionaries to Ivory Coast, West Africa. **Robert Morgan** pastors.

Mount Calvary FWB Church, Perryman, MD, recognized two charter members for 25 years of faithful service, according to Pastor **Bob Breeden.** The church presented **Emma Lou Swearingen** and **Ruth Lowe** with certificates of appreciation

as well as corsages and pictures. The church youth group raised \$800 in a walk-a-thon for Missionary James Sasser.

Pastor **Lester Horton** began his 27th year of broadcasting the radio program "Light of Life" on station WKCV in Warrenton, VA. Brother Horton pastors **Fairwood FWB Church, Fairfax Station, VA.**

Pastor **Houston Mullins** was confined to the Veterans Hospital in Washington, D.C., a few months ago. During that time a couple requested that he perform their wedding ceremony. Other patients then came to Pastor Mullins for counseling. He won three of them to the Lord. Brother Mullins pastors **Manassas FWB Church, Manassas, VA.**

Pastor **Lloyd Plunkett** said members of **New Hope FWB Church, Kent, WA,** chose an architect to draw preliminary building plans for new facilities.

Pastor **Mike Mutchler** said members of **Grand View FWB Church, Oregon City, OR,** purchased 11.6 acres on which to build. The group reported 33 conversions and 25 for Thursday evening visitation outreach.

Members of **Friendship FWB Church, Jacksonville, FL,** voted to employ Pastor **Jeff Lunsford** on a full-time basis for six months. After six months, the group will determine whether growth has been sufficient to continue a full-time ministry.

During homecoming celebration at **First FWB Church, Haines City, FL,** the group conducted dedication services for a new annex which houses their fellowship hall, kitchen, baptistry and five Sunday School rooms. Pastor **Randy Newberry** baptized 14 at the conclusion of the dedication service.

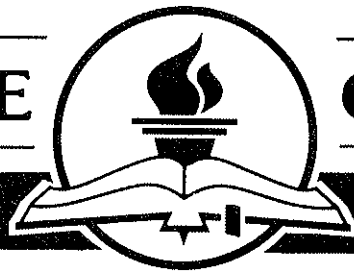
Pastor **Louie Hanna** returned to his pulpit at **Oak Grove FWB Church, Scheller, IL,** after undergoing surgery to remove a blood clot from his brain.

Pastor **Clifford Hicks** said **Rescue FWB Church, Whittington, IL,** broke their old attendance record of 90 with 122 present on January 18.

Another Illinois pastor, Reverend **Byford Campbell** returned to his pulpit after undergoing open-heart surgery. Brother Campbell pastors **Salem FWB Church, Wayne City, IL.**

Pastor **James O'Donnell** reports an attendance increase at **Airport Road FWB Church, Twin Falls, ID,** from 14 to 45 in Sunday School attendance. The group added 14 new members and now averages in the 50's for worship service.

HOUSE



CALL

Introducing the New Free Will Baptist Youth Training Curriculum



LifeQuest, a totally new youth program for Free Will Baptist youth, will be formally introduced at the 1987 National Youth Conference in Birmingham, Alabama, this July. The first quarter of **LifeQuest** materials (dated Fall Quarter, 1987) will be available to all churches beginning at the National Youth Conference. The program has been under development for over a year and was successfully field-tested in 14 Free Will Baptist churches with about 400 teens for three months.

Here's What Teens Say About LifeQuest:

"I think **LifeQuest** makes Bible study interesting and easy to understand."

"I like it. It is easy to understand..."

"It's really great material and very helpful."

"It's a great program for teens and it's interesting, not boring like others."

Here's What Youth Leaders Say About LifeQuest:

"Well-written and easy to follow.... Best thing I've seen that Randall House has published for youth."—R. Dean Stone, Youth Pastor, First FWB Church, Ada, Oklahoma

"I would recommend it without any reservation."—Barry R. Simpson, Youth Pastor, New Hope FWB Church, Pleasant View, Tennessee

"The program is great....We have really benefited from the materials."—Mark D. Hollis, Youth Pastor, Deerfield Beach FWB Church, Deerfield Beach, Florida

What Is LifeQuest?

LifeQuest is a new, exciting, and dynamic local church youth program. It is more than just youth curriculum, although curriculum is included. It is a total youth program that can work equally well in the small, medium-size, or

large congregation. It is made up of several important components. **LifeQuest** is:

1. A new beginning

LifeQuest replaces Teen Encounter and Triumph magazines and leader guides. **LifeQuest** is not merely a revision of existing materials; it is a totally new program that has been designed from the ground up.

2. Based on a clear philosophy

LifeQuest was built on a Bible-based, seven-point, philosophy of youth ministry. Every writer and contributor to the **LifeQuest** program supports this basic philosophy and keeps it in mind as materials are being developed. Based on this philosophy, **12 Goals of Youth Ministry** have been developed. Each **LifeQuest** session seeks to promote one or more of these 12 goals.

3. A Total Youth Program

A. Leadership Training

LifeQuest is made up of several important factors. First, **LifeQuest** provides Leadership Training for all youth leaders who desire it. This will be done on a national and state level, as well as the local level through **LifeQuest Leader's Base Camp**. These **Base Camps**, directed by trained youth leaders from the local area, provide hands-on leadership training for local church youth leaders who desire to implement **LifeQuest** to the fullest extent possible.

B. Curriculum Materials

Second, **LifeQuest** provides curriculum materials, to be used in a non-Sunday School setting. They will be published quarterly with separate materials for leaders and students.

C. Activity Ideas

Third, **LifeQuest** includes a multitude of activity ideas, social suggestions, games, a quarterly calendar, as well as announcements of district, state, and national youth activities, all designed to assist youth leaders in planning every aspect of a youth program.


D. Denominational Emphasis

Fourth, **LifeQuest** includes a healthy denominational emphasis. This emphasis involves doctrinal distinctives, information about denominational programs, and prayer requests for Free Will Baptist missionaries at home and abroad. **LifeQuest** makes no apology for being written by and produced for Free Will Baptists.

4. In Tune With Today—In Touch With Eternity

LifeQuest is up-to-date and aware of the world of teenagers today. Current methodology, illustrations, and activity suggestions are used. All **LifeQuest** materials are brand-new and not reprinted programs of years ago. While seeking to be current with where teenagers are today, **LifeQuest** is fully committed to the unchanging Word of God and the unchanging God of the Word. **LifeQuest** is designed to bring teenagers into a right relationship with God and to facilitate their continued spiritual growth.

LifeQuest—Coming Soon To A Youth Group Near You!

For ordering information, see your Fall Quarter order blank from Randall House. For those attending NYC '87 in Birmingham, Alabama, there will be special presentations for teens and youth leaders explaining and demonstrating the total **LifeQuest** program. If you are interested in more information about **LifeQuest**, write: **LifeQuest**, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217. 



Foundation

Herman L. Hersey
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Department Pages

how can the foundation help you and your family?

Any Free Will Baptist may place funds or other assets with the Foundation during his/her lifetime or after death. The Foundation acts as trustee, managing, investing, and/or distributing the assets as directed.

For example: 1. Joe Free Will Baptist stipulates in his will that at his death \$10,000 is to be placed with the Foundation to be distributed as he instructs. In a trust agreement he lists the ministries and the amount he wishes to give each. The Foundation carries out his instructions.

Advantages for Joe FWB are: *Convenience and Efficiency.* Through one gift he can give to as many ministries as he wishes with a minimum of transactions and expenses both for the administrator of his estate and his recipients.

Joe, his family or administrator is relieved of keeping detailed records of personnel and addresses of the various agencies. The Foundation, already working with all the agencies, can quickly and efficiently distribute the gift.

Confidentiality. A will when probated is a public document available for anyone to read at the courthouse where it is filed. Joe makes one bequest in his will. How the gift is divided and to which ministries remain a private matter.

Peace of mind. A twelve member board represents our constituency and our overall ministries. Joe can be assured that his wishes will be carried out in the best interest of everyone involved.

2. Laura FWB, a retired widow, has a modest retirement income. She has \$25,000 in savings which she feels she must not use for current living expenses.

She places the \$25,000 with the Foundation in a revocable trust with a retained life income. In a trust agreement she stipulates to whom and in what amounts the funds are to be distributed at her death.

The Foundation offers the following advantages to Laura FWB: *Less Responsibility.* A competent staff with the Foundation invests her savings for a good return.

Personal Income. Using the retained life income plan she receives a yearly income from the trust, yet the initial \$25,000 remains. For example, at an earnings rate of 9%, her yearly income increases \$2,250. She receives the earnings on a regular schedule.

Availability of Funds. Laura can withdraw any or all the initial \$25,000 at any time for any reason. Or she can add to the trust at any time.

Personal Satisfaction. At death Laura can rely with confidence on the Foundation to distribute the remaining trust fund as she instructs.

3. Tom and Mary FWB are retired, have a good income, and their children are out of school with responsible employment. Tom and Mary have tithed over the years and given generously to denominational causes. They would like to continue this support after death.

Among other assets they have a paid-up insurance policy on Tom for \$30,000. They have already provided for what they feel is a good inheritance for the children. They name the FWB Foundation as beneficiary of the policy and prepare instructions for an endowment trust to be set up at Tom's death. The earnings income from the trust is to be divided equally among the national ministries from that date

forward.

Besides the convenience and efficiency of a sound plan for deferred giving, Tom and Mary enjoy other benefits: *Satisfaction and Fulfillment.* Should the fund earn 9% for ten years after Tom's decease, Tom and Mary will give \$27,000 to the ministries named, yet the original \$30,000 remains intact to continue to earn and give year after year.

Tom and Mary have the satisfaction of knowing that the recipients of the gift will be able to plan with more liberty for the future knowing such endowments are there with continuing support.

4. John FWB and his wife, Jane, have taken care of his mother, supplementing her income for ten years since the death of John's father. John and Jane have a modest estate. They have no children. After their death they would like to leave their estate to the college from which they graduated. However, they feel a responsibility to leave some provision for John's mother should they predecease her.

In their will they provide for a trust to be set up with the Foundation, the earnings income to be used for the support of John's mother. After her death the Foundation distributes the remaining funds to the college as an outright gift for immediate use.

John and Jane, like the others, enjoy the following advantages: Convenience, Confidentiality, Efficiency, Satisfaction, Fulfillment and Peace of Mind.

Variations of any of the plans used as examples may be implemented through the Foundation to meet the particular needs of an individual or family.



MASTER'S MANDATE

All
Together
To
Advance
Christ's
Kingdom

Attack

Master's Hands Work In Progress

Board Member Howard Gwartney reports work moving well on Heritage Temple FWB Church (Phoenix, Ariz.). Gwartney is involved in remodeling the old structure and building a new sanctuary for Home Missionary Paul Thompson.

The first two weeks Gwartney remodeled the original building. Monday, March 30 saw the walls erected for the new sanctuary. The main trusses to support the roof went up Tuesday and Wednesday.

This marks the first Master's Hands Project for 1987, and the sixth church built with the help of Master's Men. The men working in this project include:

Howard Gwartney, Missionary Builder, Okla.

Danny Rider, Desoto, Mo.

Harvey Jones, Berry Hill, Okla.

Waymon Ray, Berry Hill, Okla.

Howard Ray Gwartney, Home Missionary to Phoenix

Laymen in the Heritage Temple Church also provided work. Pastor Thompson indicated that "the men are working hard and accomplishing a great deal daily."

A second Master's Hands Project scheduled the first week of May called for building the First FWB Church in New Durham, New Hampshire. At least two weeks were scheduled for the effort.

Tentative plans call for two more Master's Hands Projects in Nebraska this year. Dates remain uncertain, but building will probably occur in the fall. If you can travel to help, contact:

Rev. Russell Wright 402/475-9000

Rev. Jerry McClary 402/896-1850

Howard Gwartney 918/825-1360

Jim Vallance 615/361-MMEN

LifeMember Issues Challenge

Tennessee layman I. L. Stanley continues to lead men in commitment to the work of Master's Men. In March he presented a gift to Director Jim Vallance—an \$81 check, one dollar for each year he's lived.

Stanley stated, "I believe every layman could help the Master's Men Department to overcome financial difficulties with a gift like this. As long as the Lord allows me to live, I intend to give a gift each year of a dollar for every year I have lived."

Tennessee Master's Men named Stanley the "Outstanding Layman of the Year" in 1986. In 1974 Stanley was named the Free Will Baptist Layman of the Year by the Master's Men Department. He was the ninth to join as a Master's Men LifeMember. It's exciting to see a man working the harvest in his 80's.

Mississippi Men Provide Scholarship

The Mississippi State Master's Men are providing a scholarship fund for Free Will Baptist college students. The recipient this year is Dennis Ray Walley, a student at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Walley is a member of Fellowship FWB Church in Richton. Rev. Early White pastors.

Mississippi Master's Men President Jerry Nicholson stated, "Our men pledged to give \$300 this calendar year. We are sending \$25 per month to Dennis Walley, our Mississippi student. It's a blessing to be able to help our youth. The men made the pledges at one meeting."

Annual Breakfast Tickets Available

Tickets are now available from the Master's Men Department for the exciting early morning breakfast. Tickets will cost \$7 this year. They may be ordered from Master's Men Department or the Executive Office. Tickets will also be available at the Master's Men convention booth Monday and Tuesday.

The 30th annual Master's Men Breakfast is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22 at 7:00 a.m. The Ramada Civic Center Plaza Hotel (formerly Hyatt Birmingham) is the location for the meal.

Guest speaker is R. McLeod Wilcox, executive director and founder of Vision Foundation Counseling Center in Albany, Georgia. Mr. Wilcox has spoken in Free Will Baptist churches in the south Georgia area. He maintains a weekly newspaper column entitled "Coping With Kids" for the *Albany Herald*. The Master's Mandate newsletter features his material for family fitness.

In his local church Wilcox teaches Sunday School and is an active lay minister. His education includes a degree in psychology from Valdosta State College and a Master of Social Work from Tulane University. Mr. Wilcox actively counsels families in the Albany area with a strong emphasis on spiritual needs.

Introduced at the breakfast will be the Layman of the Year 1986 and the Runner-up Layman of the Year 1986. The selection of the Layman of the Year comes from nominations by pastors across the denomination.



MINI GRAMS

Department of Home Missions and Church Extension
of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

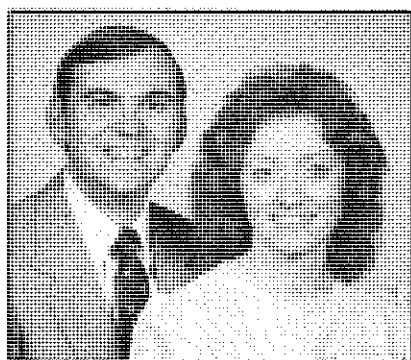
The Department Pages

Impact in the Islands!

By Roy Thomas

Sometimes the words "Home Missions" make us think of reaching people for Christ and building churches within the borders of the United States. However, the fields designated "Home Missions" by the National Association include the islands of the seas that are United States territories. We have missionaries, churches and a school in the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Hawaii.

The U. S. Virgin Islands lie 1200 miles off the Florida coast. They're made up of three small islands— St. Thomas, St. Johns and St. Croix. The native Cruzians of St. Croix are black people who speak English with a British accent.



Grady and Judy Runyon

Dr. Grady Runyon and his wife Judy are home missionaries to this beautiful island which has a strong Free Will Baptist church that averages 125 in attendance. The church sponsors a large Christian school that meets on property owned by the church. This is one of the strongest, most respected schools on the island. The church pays all Brother Runyon's salary, except \$300 monthly provided by the National Home Missions Board. Free Will Baptists can be proud of this fine church and school.



Miguel and Adelaida Vera

Ninety miles from St. Croix where the Runyons labor is the island of Puerto Rico. The native language of the island is Spanish. Miguel and Adelaida Vera are native Puerto Ricans who came to the United States because Miguel enlisted in the Navy. While in the states they were saved and worked faithfully in Free Will Baptist churches, especially in the bus ministry.

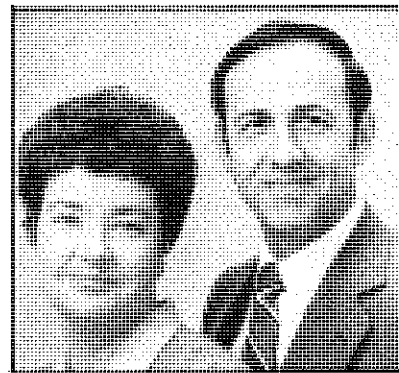
They developed a burden for their native Puerto Rico, and after training at Rio Grande Bible Institute, returned to their homeland as home missionaries. This exciting couple has about 50 people crowded together in rented facilities each Sunday for services. Almost all of them have been saved under Miguel's preaching and witnessing. He is a real door knocker and fervent soul winner.

The Puerto Rican church desperately needs property and a building of its own. This church could become self-supporting in a short time if it had adequate space for the people. A land fund has been established for the purpose of helping this church secure property. Gifts may be sent to Home Missions designated for "Puerto Rico Land Fund."

Twenty-five hundred miles west of California are the Hawaiian Islands. On this chain of seven islands Free Will Baptists have one church which is pastored by former home missionary Luther Sanders. Rev. and Mrs. Louie Nix have been approved as associate missionaries to the island of Kauai to establish a Free Will Baptist church. Louie Nix is presently visiting churches in the states raising missionary support. He's a veteran pastor and an alumnus of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

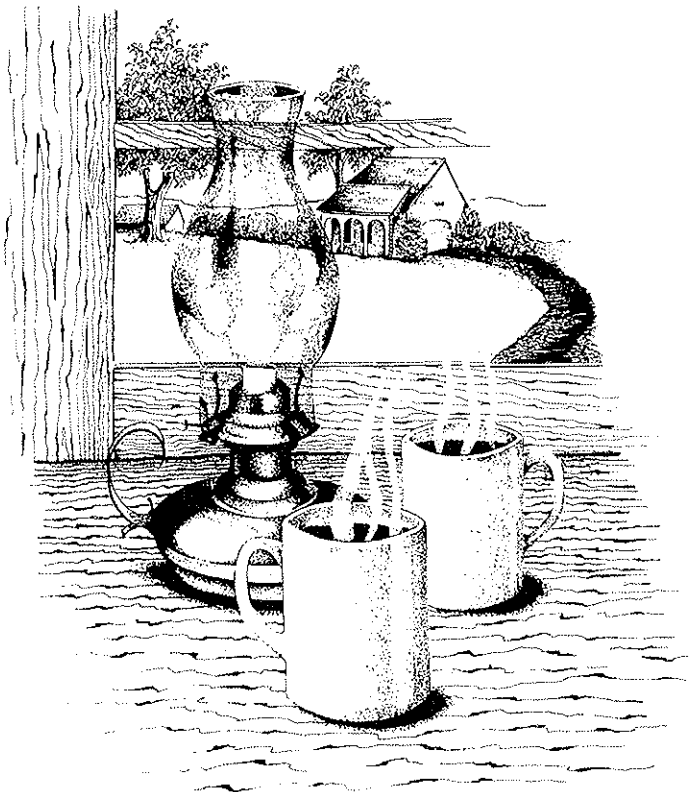
The Hawaiian Islands are a vast mission field of almost two million people. These people are of different ethnic backgrounds, occupations and interests. Less than one percent of the churches are fundamental, Bible-preaching churches. Because of this great need, Brother Nix has a special love and burden for the people of the Hawaiian Islands. He and his wife Donna will move to Hawaii as soon as their support is raised.

Yes, these isolated areas outside the United States are truly Home Missions. Free Will Baptists are making an impact in the islands.



Louie and Donna Nix

Woman's Window on the World



From My Window

"June promise" is the clue, and i, d, o fits exactly in the proper spaces in the crossword puzzle: I do.

I do! How many of us have used those words as a promise of total dedication to one person.

I've never made the vow myself, but I've listened to it lots of times. I've had plenty of time to think about the promises.

"In sickness and in health, for better or for worse. Until death do us part. Forsaking all others." Earth shaking promises, but they say, "I do."

I find myself thinking, "Oh, my, do they know what they're saying?" A friend said, "Getting married is so scary." When I listen to the vows, I quite agree.

It's scary because after all they are only two human beings making those gigantic promises. They can't see one step into the future.

But doesn't commitment to God require some gigantic "I do's" from us?

When we say "I do" to God, however, we—weaklings that we are—are making a vow to the High and Holy One in whom is not even a shadow of turning.

Maybe at first it seems scary to make a total commitment to Him. What will He expect of us? Where will His path lead?

Trusting Him with our lives is something like learning to float on water. If you fight the water, you may sink and drown. When you learn to relax and give yourself to the water, it will hold you up. Presto! You can float.

Learn to relax in His care. He will never let you down.

Have you made that total commitment? Have you said, "I do" to God?

The Provision Closet

The idea for a missionary provision closet came to Mrs. Eunice Edwards in 1962. The plan was to have supplies for foreign missionaries who needed to set

up a home while on furlough or who needed to restock some items not available in countries where they served.

Supplies include linens, Corelle ware, Tupperware, flatware, irons, pressure cookers, slow cookers, electric blankets and other small appliances.

The provisions in the closet have increased so that home missionaries may also choose selected and limited items.

Free Will Baptist women are happy to make these items available, to share what they have. They consider it just one other way to help get the gospel to the ends of the earth. The WNAC staff is glad to sort, inventory and help with selections from the closet.

Current Provision Closet Needs

- Twin size ribcord bedspreads
- Full size sheet sets and mattress covers
- Queen size sheet sets and mattress covers
- 8 place setting flatware service
- Terry cloth dish towels

Eunice Edwards Loan Fund

March 31—\$1,621.55

WNAC Meets in Birmingham

Join us for the convention in Birmingham, July 20-21.

Prepare Early for WNAC Emphasis

Watch for an exciting emphasis program in the July-August issue of the *Co-Laborer* magazine.

Some special helps for the August emphasis will be available at the WNAC booth in Birmingham.

Remember Those Reports

State treasurers and secretaries should have their annual reports in to the national treasurer and secretary well before the July convention.

Also district and local treasurers and secretaries where there are no state organizations should get their reports in to the national officers.

National secretary: Mrs. Peggy Outland, 611 Glenpark Court, Nashville, TN 37217.

National treasurer: Dr. Mary R. Wisehart, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.



Herman L. Hersey
Director



Board of Retirement

AT YOUR SERVICE

"The memory of the just is blessed . . . the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

Proverbs 10:7; Psalm 112:6

MEMORY is one of the greatest gifts God has given us. I remember my grandparents—what they did—what they stood for. They influenced my life.

I treasure the memory of my father. When he died and went to be with the Lord in 1949, I had just graduated from college. I enjoy reliving pleasant memories of our years together. I will never forget his influence in my life and in the lives of others. As a lay speaker he served the Lord faithfully in our home church and at the famous Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago, Illinois, where I grew up.

With thanksgiving I recall others who during my youth influenced me in the Lord. Then there are those I never knew, men and women who lived before my time who laid the foundation for the ministry I'm a part of. I want to always remember them and honor their service and sacrifice.

And, you, my brothers and sisters in Christ with whom I now minister, will always have a special place in my heart. We have served the Lord and one another for some years now. I want future generations to remember—not to forget that we served.

From time to time we search for ways to honor our loved ones or those who have ministered to us, to make sure they are not forgotten. When I remember my father, my thoughts turn

to God, the One for whom he lived and served. The greatest way I find to honor his memory is to give to the cause he loved, the Lord's work.

Through the years we have set aside Father's Day as a special time to remember or honor the founding fathers of our churches and denomination. Our churches, Sunday school classes, Woman's Auxiliaries, Master's Men chapters, Church training groups and individual members pause not only to honor them but to give memorial gifts to our Board of Retirement. The gifts go toward administrative expenses

of our pension plan.

I know those servants of God who have gone before would be pleased to know that their memories live on and that we care for those who serve us as pastors, missionaries and lifetime lay employees.

Let's pause again this Father's Day to honor those who served us. Let's give generously that today's ministers may have adequate care in their old age.

Remembering with you,
Herman L. Hersey



CLIP AND MAIL TODAY

You may designate your gift in memory of a friend or a loved one, or in honor of a living person. An appropriate card is sent to the family of the deceased or a letter is sent to the one you are honoring telling them of your gift.

Each gift is recorded in our Book of Remembrance, which is reverently displayed in our office. It will be listed in an issue of our newsletter, *Happenings*.

This gift is given () in honor of, () in memory of

Send notification to _____

Remember the amount of your gift is confidential. The amount is not stated in the notification, The Book of Remembrance, nor in *Happenings*.

Mail your gift to the Board of Retirement, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.



"I am proud to be a teacher!"

Mary Lou Ennis was called home to be with the Lord on April 6, 1987, following a long, painful bout with cancer.

Mrs. Ennis was a teacher, in every good sense of that word. She once said, "God and I decided long ago that I would be a teacher." She served 42 years as a public school teacher and was elected Metro (Nashville) Teacher of The Year in 1971. She joined the English faculty of Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1978, where she served until her illness prevented her continuing to do that which she so loved.

This article, written by Mrs. Ennis, is published here in tribute to this lovely lady.



Mary Lou Ennis
1916-1987

The most vivid memory of my childhood is that of my desire to be a teacher. The nearer I came to the realization of that goal the more meaningful life became to me.

I never considered any personal sacrifice too great in order that I might obtain the training necessary to become a teacher.

I accepted my first teaching assignment with excitement and enthusiasm. I was motivated to create within the minds of the students with whom I worked a desire to experience the joy of learning through a personal involvement in the learning process. I felt this involvement would help them become more sensitive to the world around them and more aware of their obligations to the democratic way of life.

Today that excitement and enthusiasm is still with me and the desire to create learning situations through which students can share in the development of this sensitive awareness and share in the acceptance of their social responsibility is as keenly felt as ever.

To me, teaching is truly a creative art. I believe the classroom is the place where creative ideas can be properly channeled to bring about positive changes which can meet the demands of a changing society. No greater challenge has been mine than to be a part of this creative teacher-pupil relationship. I believe the most important

role in the educational process belongs to the classroom teacher.

I believe the role of the teacher goes beyond the classroom. Whether I am supervising a student teacher, working on a professional project, or cooperating with parents on a community project, I am committed to exercise faith in the individual, for I believe that in so doing I can help others grow and become actively involved in the educational process as they become more aware of their own potentialities. In doing this, I am fulfilling my role as an educator.

My faith in my ability to be a teacher and educator comes from the Creator. This faith causes me to have a deep sense of commitment to serve others. I have sought to pattern my life after the Master Teacher, (Jesus Christ).

I know the meaning of "the good life," for I have found joy in sharing learning with others. I teach with humility and dignity. I believe the word "teacher" should be a good word to every student.

I am proud to be a teacher.





He Was a Man of Prayer!

By Don Robirds

Pastor Peter Natesan is dead!
No, he is alive!

Peter Natesan is with the Lord as Jesus said, "... he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" (John 17:25).

Yes, Peter Natesan, the South India pastor, is also alive here on planet earth in the memories of many people whom he touched in his ministry.

Peter was called home through a heart attack while in prayer.

Known as a man of prayer and genuine commitment to Christ, Peter was called home through a heart attack on February 16, 1987, while in prayer at his church—quite fitting for a man of such Christian dedication. He was pastor of Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, which he founded, at Mettupalayam, South India.

"I treasure the memory of my fellowship and friendship with this humble servant of the Lord," says former missionary Volena Wilson. "He was a dynamic and joyful man of God. We have corresponded over the past 21 years since I left India and all his letters indicate fervency of prayer and love for the Lord and lost people. How he'll be missed!"

Yes, as the senior pastor among the South India Free Will Baptist churches, Peter Natesan will certainly be missed. His influence spanned many strata of the Indian caste system. According to pioneer missionary Laura Belle Barnard,

Natesan came from a "high caste" in India. And although he took no pride in caste, God used this status to help the pastor gain respect from all levels of society.

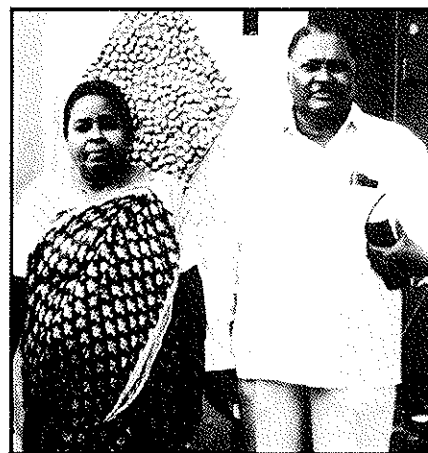
Having been saved directly out of Hinduism in 1945, Pastor Natesan was a first generation Christian. In spite of this, "his knowledge of the Bible and his understanding of Christian doctrine spoke well indeed of one not having Christian family or community background," Laura Belle noted.

Brother Natesan started the church at Mettupalayam in July of 1966. Just 10 months later, on April 9, 1967, the church was organized with 28 charter members. At the time of Natesan's death, the church was averaging approximately 250 people in attendance with a membership of about 500.

Peter demonstrated a great concern for evangelism as he sought to reach out to surrounding villages with the gospel. At one time he reported a team of believers having distributed 15,000 tracts and having sold 500 gospels in a two- or three-day period.

Natesan started the church at Mettupalayam in 1966. Ten months later, it was organized with 28 charter members.

In addition to his work with Calvary church, Natesan established Sharon Free Will Baptist Mission Church in Karamadai, a few miles from Mettupalayam. It has approx-



Reverend and Mrs. Peter Natesan

imately 33 members and is currently supported by the Calvary church.

Pastor David Rajkumar of the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Gopalapuram conducted the funeral for his "beloved brother pastor" and expressed his shock this way: "His unexpected death is so painful to all of us. We have a great loss."

Succumbing at the age of 66, Peter is survived by his wife and seven children—five sons and two daughters. His son, Devaneson, is pastor of Grace Free Will Baptist Church in Coimbatore.

Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions, spent some time with Pastor Natesan in February of 1986. Impressed by the pastor's love for souls, he says, "He expressed great joy in the Lord as he baptized eight people in one service."

Without a doubt, Christians in South India will miss this humble man of God. But the church, the Body of Christ, has been greatly enriched by his life, a life given in service to the Lord Who saved him in a pagan society.



ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

A Lesson in Gravity

Marty was already bored, and it was only the first week of summer. With all his friends on vacation, Marty had nothing to do. He finally decided to ride his bike.

As Marty pedaled down the next street, he saw James Allen and Brad Wilkerson sitting on Brad's front porch. They were in Marty and Megan's class at school, but Marty wasn't good friends with them. James and Brad always seemed to be getting into trouble.

"Hey, Marty, whatcha doing?" called Brad.

"Nothing much," Marty answered.

"Wanna go with us?" asked James. "We're going over to old man Conley's house."

"I reckon," said Marty, "but why are you going over there?"

"He's got a big oak tree in his yard and we're hunting for squirrels," replied Brad.

"Yeah," said James pulling a slingshot from his pocket. "We're going to shoot them."

Mr. Conley, an elderly man, lived at the end of Marty's street. Mrs. Lane had often commented that he deserved a medal for adding so much beauty to the neighborhood. Mr. Conley worked hard on his trees and flowers, and his yard was the prettiest around.

The boys hid behind some rose bushes at the edge of Mr. Conley's back yard and waited for squirrels to appear.

Several minutes passed. Then James said, "This is no good. We'll be waiting here all day."

"We need some bait," said Brad.

"I know," said James, "we'll pick some of old man Conley's strawberries and lure them down."

"Are you sure it's okay?" asked Marty apprehensively.

"Shucks, nobody will know," said James.

"You're not chicken, are you?" asked Brad.

Marty followed the other boys into the strawberry patch, but didn't pick any. He thought it was too much like stealing. Brad and James helped themselves to the red, juicy berries. After they ate their fill, they scattered some around the big oak tree and returned to their hideout behind the rose bushes.

"Hey, it's working," whispered Marty as two brown squirrels scurried down the tree and began nibbling the berries.

"Now's our chance," whispered James. "If we don't get 'em the first time, they won't be back."

James and Brad loaded their slingshots, aimed at the squirrels, and let the rocks fly. Brad missed one of the squirrels by a foot, which sent them both scampering up the tree. But James' stone sailed past the oak and crashed through Mr. Conley's kitchen window.

"Yipes!" shouted James. "Let's get out of here." The boys raced off, running through Mr. Conley's red and white geraniums. They didn't stop or even look back until they reached Brad's front porch.

Marty moped around by himself all afternoon. He felt bad and didn't know why. After all, he hadn't done anything wrong. He hadn't snitched any strawberries, shot any squirrels or smashed any windows.

"I guess this is what Mama and Daddy mean by a guilty conscience," he thought glumly.

Marty couldn't swallow a bite of supper. He asked to be excused and went outside to watch the summer sun set.

"I hope he's not getting sick," worried Mrs. Lane. There was always reason for concern when Marty didn't eat.

"I think I know what the problem is," said Mr. Lane. "I had a phone call from Mr. Conley this afternoon. It seems Marty was into some mischief."

Mr. Lane went outside and found Marty sitting on the back steps with his chin cupped in his hands. Mr. Lane sat down beside him. "Want to tell me what's bothering you?" he asked.

Marty wasn't too eager to tell his daddy what had happened, but he did. And he did feel better once he finished the story. "But I really didn't do anything wrong," he added.

"I agree," said Mr. Lane. "You didn't do anything wrong, but you were with the wrong crowd. When you hang around with bad boys, you start acting like them. People judge you by the company you keep. If you run with bad

(continued on page 30)

Especially
For Young
Preachers

Pray for Missionaries

"...the Lord heareth the prayer of the righteous. The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart: and a good report makes the bones fat" (Proverbs 15:29b-30).

The pastor prays for those who spread the gospel. Through praying for missionaries by name the pastor gets personally involved in worldwide evangelization. Here's how a busy pastor can pray for missionaries and fields daily.

1. Make a list of all the missionaries and fields.
2. Divide that list into five equal parts. Type the list and place it in your Bible.
3. Pray for the first section Monday, the second Tuesday, etc.
4. Pray for missionary leaders and other pastors on Saturday and Sunday.
5. When missionary prayer requests arrive, write them on your prayer sheet.
6. Write the missionaries at least once a year. Tell them you pray for them. A good time to write is on their birthdays.
7. Share missionary information with the congregation and pray for the requests.
8. Invite missionaries to your home or study. Record their prayer requests. Pray with them at that time.
9. Personally support missionaries through the faith-promise plan.
10. Encourage your congregation to pray for missionaries by name.
11. Include missionary prayer requests in the church bulletin.
12. Encourage church members to write missionaries. On Wednesdays ask them to share prayer requests from missionaries.
13. Preach on prayer and the emphasis that the Apostle Paul gave to praying for missionaries.

Next Month: Keeping Your Wife Happy

Dennis Wiggs

TEEN Scene

WEST VIRGINIA

The West Virginia State CTS competition met April 3-4 in the Civic Center at Charleston. Some 154 entries rounded out competitive activities. Approximately 450 people gathered as 93 Music and Arts entries and 61 Bible entries competed.

Larry Cooper, C. E. Board member, stated, "Everything went well. We wished there could have been more to attend but there is not a lot you can do about the weather." They had 12 - 18 inches of snow.

Another board member, Ivan Asbury, said, "The competition was extremely close. Only tenths of a point separated the first and second place winners."

West Virginia has taken giant steps in the last several years developing programs for their youth. The state C. E. Board, under the leadership of chairman John Richmond, lead this growing state outreach.



MISSOURI

"Questions? We Have The Answers!" These words leap off posters and flyers used by the youth group at Fellowship FWB Church in Flat River. Workers blitzed area schools with information in an effort to attract a record number of teens to church March 29. It worked—70 teens attended, breaking the old record of 59. The group attendance averages 42 teens.

But it took more than passing out flyers. Efforts included mass mailings to area youth, letters sent to parents, and a Thursday evening youth visitation. On Saturday before the big day, teens went bowling and then made more than 150 telephone calls to prospective teens.

The teens met in the church gymnasium as Youth and Music Pastor Curt Gwartney spoke during the Sunday School hour. The film, "Love Note," was shown during teen worship service. Teens provided the special music. Some youth provided special music for adult worship service.

The results? In addition to setting a new attendance record, there were five teen rededications and 20 youth who committed themselves as better witnesses.

The church aimed for an attendance of 507; they had 511. Pastor Wayne Phillips and the congregation lunched together and topped off the special day with an afternoon singing.



Little Lanes . . . (from page 28)

guys, people think you're bad. And what about Mr. Conley? Do you think he knows you didn't do anything wrong?"

"I guess not," admitted Marty. "I reckon I ought to apologize." Marty's face brightened. "Hey, maybe tomorrow I can go over to Mr. Conley's and help him fix his window. Maybe we can even do something to those flowers we smashed."

"Now you're talking," said Mr. Lane. "And from now on I think you ought to stay away from Brad and James."

"Aw, Daddy, they're the only guys around," said Marty. "Maybe if I'm good, they'll start being good."

"Let me show you something," said

Mr. Lane. Marty watched him climb up on the picnic table.

"Dad, what are you doing?" asked Marty. He had never seen his dad or any grown-up standing on top of a table.

"Just stand there on the ground and try to pull me down," answered Mr. Lane. Marty took his father's hand, and with just a few tugs, pulled him down onto the grass.

"Now, your turn," said Mr. Lane. "You climb up on the table and try to pull me up there with you."

Puzzled by his father's strange request, Marty got up on the table. He took Mr. Lane's hand, pulled and tugged and strained, but no matter how hard he tried, he could not pull his dad up on the table with him.

"You see," explained Mr. Lane, "it's easy to pull somebody down, but it's hard, almost impossible, to pull somebody up. When you run with the wrong crowd, they can easily pull you down to their level. But it's very hard for you to pull them up to your level. Understand?"

"Yes, sir," answered Marty. "I sure do."

"By the way," added Mr. Lane. "I had a phone call from Mr. Conley this afternoon. He told me the whole story."

Marty's mouth dropped open in surprise. "You mean you knew, and you still let me go through the whole story?"

"It was good for you," said Mr. Lane with a grin. Then he put his arm around Marty's shoulders, and they sat down on the porch steps to watch the sun sink below the distant pines.





Benefits of Belonging



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

My early childhood memories include worship services at Reedy Branch FWB Church in Winterville, N.C., and Ayden FWB Church in Ayden. The revival meetings, homecoming days and the preached Word developed the concepts which still govern my life.

My educational experiences at Asbury College, Columbia Bible College, Luther Rice Seminary, Georgia State University and Vanderbilt University did not have a Free Will Baptist flavor. Though I profited from my educational experiences, the friendships and fellowship in Free Will Baptist ranks provide the lasting benefits.

Service. One of the greatest benefits is a place of service. Called to preach in my late teens, encouraged by a Free Will Baptist pastor, I quickly found places and opportunities to serve among Free Will Baptist people. I've never considered serving in any other group, nor do I want to. Free Will Baptists gave me an opportunity to fulfill my calling.

Security. Another benefit is security. The doctrine, distinctives and diversity all contributed to a sense of security. I've felt comfortable being just what I am. My Free Will Baptist family accepted and made me feel that I belonged. Free Will Baptists believed in me when no one else did.

Satisfaction. Another benefit is a sense of satisfaction. As I reflect on our accomplishments, my heart fills with praise to God. I have served, am serving, and by God's grace, will continue to serve with a deep sense of satisfaction. I'm satisfied to belong to the Free Will Baptist family. Satisfaction comes

from knowing that one has found and follows the will of God.

Sharing. A further benefit is sharing. The privilege of sharing my time, talent, tithe and testimony through giving and going with other Free Will Baptists has been beneficial. We've shared our fears, frustrations, fights, frictions, frailties, faith and finances. We've shared our successes and sorrows. My Free Will Baptist friends make the load lighter, the way brighter.

Sweet/Sour. Another benefit I've enjoyed is the sweet and sour spirit which characterizes us at times. Perhaps this seems a strange combination, but in reality that's life. All groups have their problems. Free Will Baptists generally resolve problems as they arise. Considering the diversity which characterizes us as a movement, the times when our spirits are sour are never as numerous as the times when our spirits are sweet. These sweet/sour times contribute to my spiritual development. The bitter times make the blessed times even more precious.

Stance. Belonging to the Free Will Baptist family enabled me to develop a balanced, biblical and broad view of the Christian life. I developed the ability to function when the only way out seemed

to be to claim Romans 8:28-29, and hold on. Belonging to the Free Will Baptist denomination developed a spirit of sensitivity and sympathy for those who love God but worship, witness and work differently from me.

Scriptures. Another benefit enjoyed has been the encouragement to stand on the scriptures. Our movement firmly believes in the inerrant, infallible, inspired and immutable Word of God. What a wonderful heritage and history! We've never questioned the Bible's authority as our rule of faith and practice.

Structure. Another benefit is our unique organizational structure. It provides an ever-expanding circle of fellowship, friends and functions. From the individual through the local church through the district association through the state association through the National Association throughout the world, we're organized to extend the witness of Christ.

Servants. The final benefit is the privilege of getting acquainted with the servants which God placed among Free Will Baptists. Some of the finest preachers, deacons and people on this earth belong to the Free Will Baptist family. Many of God's choice servants stand in the ranks of Free Will Baptists.

When I graduated from seminary someone asked me why I was a Free Will Baptist. My answer then and now is the same—I believe the doctrine; I like the organizational structure. But most of all, I believe it's God's will for me. Other groups contribute to the Lord's work on earth. But the group where I choose to serve is the Free Will Baptist denomination. I am, by choice, a Free Will Baptist.

The Secretary's Schedule

June 4	Cramerton Christian Academy Cramerton, NC
June 7	Cramerton FWB Church Cramerton, NC
June 8-9	North Carolina State Assoc.
June 8-11	Missouri State Assoc.
June 12-13	West Virginia State Assoc.
June 17-19	Texas State Assoc.
June 19-20	Kentucky State Assoc.
June 25-28	Atlantic Canada Assoc.

CONTACT

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Can you identify these founding fathers? They met in 1935 at Cofer's Chapel in Nashville, TN to revise the Treatise.

Father's Day is set aside as a special time to remember or honor the founding fathers of our churches and our denomination. Honor their memory by giving a gift to the ministry of the Board of Retirement.

FATHER'S DAY OFFERING

Board of Retirement

P.O. Box 1088

Nashville, TN 37202

*M.T. Van Hoose
Pictured above left to right: J.C. Griffin, C.B. Thompson, Ralph Skalen, E.E. Morris, Whitford Davis, W.B. Davenport, M.L. Morse,*