

May 1988

Contact



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

KANSAS CITY
WE'LL TAKE YOU
BY
Surprise!

No Plant For Mother's Day

By Gertrude Bowe



H. Armstrong Roberts

2/CONTACT/May '88

Several years ago on Mother's Day I sat up front in my church. Near the close of worship, the pastor stepped aside and came back to the pulpit a second later with his arms full of red carnations. He said to the congregation, "Will everyone whose mother is present this morning come get a flower and present it to her."

Only "chaos" describes the scene. It seemed everyone had a mother with him, and every woman present was a mother but me. Some women received several flowers because they had a

number of children present. Others were both receiving and giving because they had children and a mother present.

There I sat thoroughly uncomfortable, with my face getting more red by the minute. I was neither giving nor receiving a carnation. I was the only older *single* woman present that morning. To a stranger it could have meant that my mother or child was not present. But the majority knew that this older woman in the second pew from the front on the right hand side was a single woman. She had never married,

never given birth to a child. Today she did not belong.

Thank the Lord for a junior-class boy who, unknown to me, was observing his teacher from a few rows back and across the center aisle. Roger could not stand it. He had already given his mother a flower. But, suddenly, he rose from his seat and marched to the front again.

Though usually a quiet lad, in a voice loud enough for many to hear, he said, "I want my Sunday School teacher to have a flower, too." And he took a red carnation from the pastor and gave it to

me! His mother told me later that it was his idea. She had been as surprised as anyone else.

I never forgot the experience. For the next few years on Mother's Day I taught my class and slipped out between Sunday School and worship and went home. I no longer wanted to be present for the recognition of mothers.

But now I have retired and moved across country. And last year I forgot that I no longer went to church on Mother's Day. And, besides, in my new church mothers are recognized during Sunday School opening. There I sat listening to a pastor and a Sunday School superintendent both say, "Today is Mother's Day and we have a plant for each *mother*." Not just once did I hear it, but twice. And, when the African violets were passed out to the mothers, one was handed to me. I shook my head and said quietly, I hope, "I'm not a mother."

Had the pastor and superintendent said, "This is Mother's Day and we have plants for each of our women this morning," I would have accepted one of my favorite flowers and enjoyed it.

We understand that pastors do not deliberately overlook segments of their congregations. But do we need to be reminded that all women, even married ones, are not mothers? There are some married women, there are widows, and there are those who have never been married who are not mothers.

In all our churches there are women—because of their love for the Lord—who make valuable contributions in numerous ways to their local churches. They are faithful in attendance, they teach Sunday School, they lead children's church, they contribute their money with willing hearts, they sing in the choir, they provide delicious food for fellowship times and much more.

Whether or not they are mothers, they should not be overlooked. All our women need to be recognized for their dedication and loyalty to the Lord and to the church.

I want to attend Sunday School and worship on Mother's Day as I do every other Lord's Day. So, what's the answer? There is no one easy solution, I recognize.

- But for a starter, perhaps other ministers could do what my pastor did the morning I declined the African violet. Not knowing what I was thinking or feeling, he went to the pulpit for the morning message. He brought a forceful, challenging message, using as his text Proverbs 31:10, "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies."

He challenged those present with a number of examples of Bible women. Did he use mothers as examples? He sure did. But he also used others of faith and courage and several other godly qualities to show all women what they can and should be as followers of the Lord Jesus. His message was a challenge to and for all our women—with a word for the men as well as he closed his sermon.

- Churches that like giving away something on Mother's Day might adopt a plan used in my church when I was growing up. For many years red and white flowers were given to *everyone* present. Those whose mothers were living received a red one; those whose mothers had died received a white one.

Later, instead of flowers, red and white ribbons were given out. I used to wear a red ribbon in honor of my mother who was living. I would now wear in loving memory a white one indicating my mother is with the Lord. (A note of caution: I know a pastor's wife who does not like this practice

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Editor-in-chief: Dr. Melvin Worthington

Editor: Jack Williams

Editorial Assistant: Marilyn Pritchard

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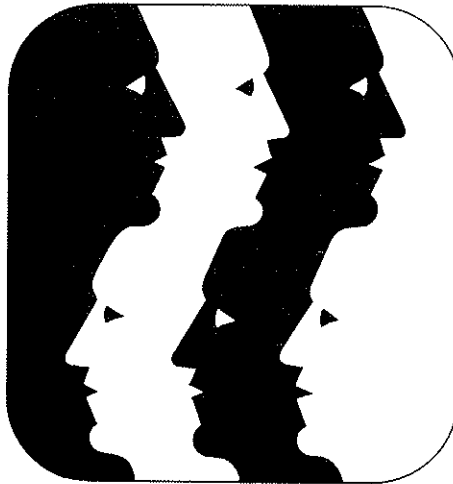
ABOUT THE WRITER: Gertrude V. Bowe is a member of Sandy City Free Will Baptist Church, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, where she leads a woman's Bible study group. She retired in 1985 after serving six years with the National Association of Evangelicals. Prior to that she served 19 years as advertising copywriter and dealer correspondent at Scripture Press.

She has held numerous denominational positions including two terms on the Sunday School Board, two years with the Free Will Baptist Gem, and three years as a secretary at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Miss Bowe graduated from FWBBC in 1946 and from Columbia Bible College in 1949.



The Man Behind The Merger

By Steven R. Hasty



Seventy-five years have passed. Only silence remains from that time when the northern Free Will Baptists disappeared by merging with the calvinistic Northern Baptists.

Who was the leading figure behind the merger?

Born one year before the Civil War, Alfred Williams Anthony soon adjusted to the rigors of conflict. He was well acquainted with wealth and power, since his father owned a prosperous interstate business network, and had gained renown as the assistant moderator of the FWB General Conference and as a deacon in the Roger Williams Church at Providence, Rhode Island.

Converted at age 14 and graduating from Mowry and Goff's School in his hometown, young Anthony's collegiate training came from Northern Baptist, Free Will Baptist and liberal institutions. He graduated from Brown University at age 23, which had been founded by the Northern Baptists in 1764. Two years later, he finished seminary training at Bates Theological School, an FWB institution in Lewiston, Maine.

But Anthony also studied at the University of Berlin in Germany where he was influenced by liberal theologians who advocated a "higher criticism" of scripture. These skeptics doubted or denied such basic beliefs as biblical infallibility and the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch.

He pastored in Bangor, Maine, for 18 months baptizing 43 people in whirlwind fashion. That was only the beginning for this energetic opportunist in a denomination starved for aggressive youthful leadership. In rapid succession, he was appointed to two denominational positions and offered a professorship at Bates College.


The upward spiral seemed to stall after 1887. In 1904 Anthony, who was decidedly ecumenical at heart, was asked to chair a newly-formed committee which would blaze a trail towards

merging Free Will Baptists with Northern Baptists seven years later.

Measures had been implemented over the years which gradually changed the denominational structure of the General Conference from congregational to connectional. This meant that fewer people had greater control than ever before over denominational decisions and property.

Anthony's strength and sagacity can best be understood by his efforts to pacify those who were displeased following the merger vote in 1910. During his first two years as corresponding secretary between Free Will Baptists and Northern Baptists, he traveled to a dozen states to speak at Free Will Baptist gatherings, visited denominational leaders in another five states, gave 319 speeches, wrote 133 articles, sent 8,624 letters, and supervised the distribution of literally thousands of tracts and booklets concerning the merger.

After the merger, he served various boards within the Northern Baptist Convention. The pinnacle of his career was his association with the Interchurch World Movement as executive secretary of the Home Missions Council during 1919-1920. This, however, was on the eve of the birth of the Fundamentalist Movement. Many conservatives would eventually leave the Northern Baptist Convention to form denominations of their own. Alfred Williams Anthony was not among them.

Was he a cut above the ordinary? Absolutely. But was Anthony in reality the Trojan Horse which defeated the northern Free Will Baptists? Think about it. 

SOURCES

(listed in the order in which they were used):

1. Burgess and Ward, *Free Baptist Cyclopedia*, Chicago, 1889, p. 19, articles on Alfred Williams Anthony and Lewis Williams Anthony.
2. Anthony, *Bates College and Its Background*, Judson Press, 1936, biographical sketch of author facing title page.
3. Anthony, "Getting Together, Baptists and Free Baptists for Two Years, Report of the Special Joint Secretary, October 15, 1913," p. 7.
4. Handy, Robert T., *A Christian America, Protestant Hopes and Historical Realities*, Oxford University Press, 1971, pp. 193-194.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Steven Hasty is a member of the Free Will Baptist Historical Commission.


No Plant ... (from page 3)

because she does not know whether her mother is living or dead.)

• I remember another Mother's Day in my church. In the morning worship service the pastor asked all mothers present to stand. Two greying women remained seated. One was the speaker for the morning service. She sat on the front row on the right side of the sanctuary. I sat in the middle of the first row of the choir. Miss Laura Belle Barnard looked at me and I looked at her. Both of us were grinning. That day I did not sit alone.

This, too, might be an idea for Mother's Day in your church. Schedule a lady missionary to tell of her work, or even a local Christian worker. Maybe one from your own church. Schedule a female soloist or a women's trio.

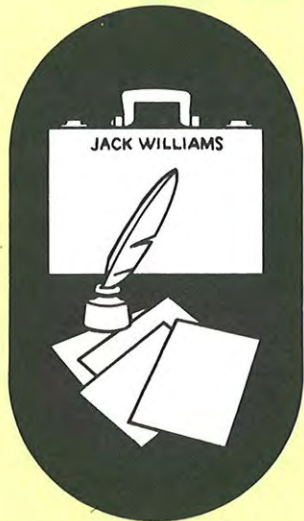
Think about it as you plan your church year. What can you do to give recognition to all the godly women in your church? Mother's Day would be a good time, though it could be scheduled where it most conveniently fits into your church calendar.

And, fellows, maybe you would like to do the same for your men on Father's Day! 

Five Reasons to Attend the

Briefcase

National Convention



During the 1985 Free Will Baptist National Convention in Nashville, Tenn., we produced a live 50-year record album. The entire project was taped, edited, pressed and sold during the five-day convention. Don't you wish you had been part of that historic meeting?

Last year in Birmingham the Witness Quartet and Pastor Bill Gardner sang Tuesday evening. By the time they finished, nearly 5,000 Free Will Baptists were on their feet cheering. Don't you wish you had been there?

Something like that happens every year at the national convention. Perhaps it's a sermon that electrifies worshipers. Or a business decision that sets the course of the denomination for years to come. Or perhaps a youth group that wins the hearts of conferees.

The point is, something worthwhile happens every July at the national convention. Some leave praying, some frustrated, some renewed. But nobody walks away bored.

Here are four more reasons you should attend the July 17-21 convention in Kansas City.

Take care of business.

The annual national convention, first and foremost, is the denomination's big-

gest business meeting. For five days we come together to hear reports, vote on budgets, elect officers and plan denominational strategy.

It isn't every day that you get a chance to vote how \$11 million gets spent! That's what we'll be doing in Kansas City. Every national agency will submit a written report to the delegates, ask for budget approval and seek direction. That's worth your time. We hold our agencies accountable for what they spend and how they spend it.

By the way, delegates usually spend another million dollars in the host city on hotel rooms, meals, souvenirs, shopping, sightseeing. Cities like to see us come to town.

Quality family time. We all find it difficult to set and keep family time. That's because we're wrapped up in our duties, our churches, our offices. The national convention provides five full days of quality family time for you and yours.

Vacation together. Sightsee on the way to or from the convention. Leave home a day or two early and rediscover the kids, your spouse. You determine the cost. Camp out if you prefer. But at least get away somewhere together.

Speaking of kids, they'll love NYC '88 with all the patriotic flair. More than 2,000 teens—our kind of kids, Christian youth—will rub shoulders in special events designed specifically for them—Bible competition and the exciting Music and Arts Festival.

And remember, the convention changes towns every July. This July it's Kansas City. Next year it's Tampa, then Phoenix in 1990. By the time we return to the same city, your 8-year-old will be 18 and your teenager may be a graduate student.

Raise denominational awareness. You've always wanted to know what happened beyond your

community church. The best way to explore the bigger Free Will Baptist world is to attend the national convention and meet others just like you.

Missionaries from 10 countries will fly in for the convention. Meet them. Talk with them. Learn how they feel about the convention and what it means to them.

More than 800 pastors from 40 states as well as 6,000 delegates and visitors will be as near as that shiny badge they wear. Shake hands with a Free Will Baptist from North Carolina. Talk with a pastor from the Ozarks. Look a Michigan teen in the eye.

What a great feeling to walk down a crowded city street and every person you meet is a Free Will Baptist wearing a badge that says so. Makes you glad you're who you are.

Tour the exhibits. You may want to learn more about the Master's Men Department or find out how to start a Home Missions church. You can look across a blue-skirted table in the exhibit area and talk with the people who make it happen.

Visit the literature displays. Meet the president of Free Will Baptist Bible College. Order new church furniture. Find out why there's a Free Will Baptist college in Oklahoma named Hillsdale. It's all yours free—just step down the aisles and learn about your heritage.

And finally. Come on to the convention. Vacation with your family. Speak up. Take care of business. Learn more about your denomination.

Meet me in Kansas City! God may do it again this year. You don't want to miss the most important meeting of the year. Somebody will preach. Somebody will pray. Somebody will sing. We will all worship.

I've made my reservation. There's a room for you.



'Show Me' Folks Show Us a Convention

By Marilyn Pritchard

Show me how to host a convention. Show me what makes a convention work. Show me who attends. Show me when it starts. Show me where it happens. Show me!

The 16,000 members and 161 churches of Missouri, the "Show Me" state, host the national convention this July for the sixth time in 44 years. Registration statistics are unavailable for 1944 when the convention met in Flat River. But 14 years later, 1958, 1,600 registered in St. Louis. In 1964 the number of conferees jumped to 2,500 when the convention met in Kansas City, the site of this year's meeting. Five years later, 1969, St. Louis again hosted the assembly with 4,249 attending. Some 3,560 attended the 1978 session in Kansas City.

Remember this date: July 17-21, 1988. That's when some 6,000 Free Will Baptists will converge on Kansas City to enjoy preaching, singing, business sessions, good food and fellowship with God's people at the 52nd annual convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Seventeen airlines serve Kansas City's International Airport located across the Missouri River from downtown Kansas City. For those who drive, three interstate systems and seven state routes converge in downtown providing access from anywhere. Amtrack and Greyhound provide "leave the driving to us" transportation to the city.

Along with the national convention, 2,000 youth meet for the National Youth Conference with Bible and Music & Arts Competition. WNAC convenes for their 53rd annual convention with speakers, seminars, meals and fellowship.

Meet the City

Show me where we're going.

Kansas City was planned with beauty in mind: it charms visitors with more fountains than any city except Rome and more miles of boulevards than Paris.

Kansas City straddles the Kansas-Missouri border, and was once known as a cowtown. Not any more. This city in America's heartland with a population of 1.3 million offers sophistication in a hometown setting. Museums, restaurants, arts and entertainment opportunities, sports, recreation/amusement facilities, shopping areas and fountains brighten the visitor's stay.

Museums

Art and history lovers will discover a world of museums awaiting them in

Kansas City. The Nelson - Atkins Museum of Art, one of America's most comprehensive art museums, houses items from 3000 B.C. to modern sculpture. For history explore the Kansas City Museum which features exhibits portraying the region's rich heritage. The museum also boasts planetarium shows and a re-creation of a 1910 drugstore that serves ice cream favorites at old-fashioned prices. Frontier and Civil War enthusiasts will enjoy the Wornall House Museum.

Think small when you visit the Miniature Museum of Kansas City. Stretch your imagination with the tiny scissors that really cut, lilliputian clocks that can be wound, spider webs in the miniature Noel Thomas house attic, antique toys and doll houses. Kansas City is home to at least 37 museums and historical sites.



J. C. Nichols Fountain, Kansas City

Restaurants

Hungry? Try a famous Kansas City steak or some equally-renowned barbecue. And if that doesn't suit your fancy, you can find almost any style of cuisine your taste buds crave in Kansas City.

One popular food columnist put it this way: "Not all the best restaurants in the world are in Kansas City, just the top four or five." From American to French, German, Greek, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Mexican, Polynesian and from continental to buffet, delicatessen, Pennsylvania Dutch, sandwiches, seafood and of course steaks, the restaurants in Kansas City try to please your appetite.

Recreation

Symphonies, concerts, dramas, comedies, operas, ballets—all are part of the arts and entertainment scene. Sports fans enjoy baseball with the Royals, football with the Chiefs, as well as college basketball.

Worlds of Fun theme park and Oceans of Fun aquatic park bring spring and summer fun. Worlds of Fun features over 100 rides, shows and attractions for one admission price. Oceans of Fun boasts a million-gallon wave pool, giant water slides, sand beaches and a man-made lake. Missouri River Queen riverboat rides offer a different view of the city with narrated daytime excursion cruises, brunches, dinner cruises, moonlight cruises and a gospel entertainment cruise.

Got a sweet tooth? Be sure to visit the Green Mill Candy Factory just eight blocks south of the Convention Center. The Hallmark Visitors Center presents 12 exciting exhibits enabling visitors to understand the creativity and craftsmanship involved in producing Hallmark products. For your younger ones the Kaleidoscope, sponsored by Hallmark in Crown Center provides a creative art exhibit for children ages 5-12. And don't forget the Kansas City Zoo with a Touch Town for the wee ones.

The home of the first shopping center in the United States offers a wide variety of shopping possibilities. The Country Club Plaza, built in 1922 has developed into one of the city's best-loved attractions. The Plaza, fashioned after Seville, Spain, with tile roofs, pastel colored buildings and ironwork, features nearly 200 retail stores and over two dozen restaurants. Its ornate towers,



Wallace Malone



Larry Hughes



Bob Thompson



Glen Rehkop



Fred Warner

imported artwork and sparkling fountains make it an outdoor museum.

The city has an eye for conventions, too. More than 380,000 convention delegates came to town in 1986. Hotels with a total of 17,000 rooms and meeting space dot the skyline. Crown Center, built by Hallmark Cards, is a city within a city. It includes the Hyatt Regency Hotel, the Westin, an indoor retail center and other attractions.

In 1986, H. Roe Bartle Hall added 41,000 square feet giving the city more than 300,000 square feet of exhibit space in a four-block area. Bartle Hall and Municipal Auditorium can accommodate groups as large as 14,000.

Getting Ready

Show me what it takes to get ready.

When the National Association of Free Will Baptists comes to a town, it's worth getting ready for. The last four conventions brought \$1 million-plus to each convention city. Last year in Birmingham, our people spent at least \$1.5 million. The last three years we consumed over 3,500 catered meals at each convention. The five-year registration statistics say a lot:

1987	Birmingham, Ala.	6,159
1986	Tulsa, Okla.	6,545
1985	Nashville, Tenn.	8,340
1984	Little Rock, Ark.	6,604
1983	Columbus, Ohio	6,107

When a convention that size comes to town, preparations must be made well in advance. Missouri's Steering Committee began preparing for the convention last September. Each member chairs a different committee responsible for specific areas of preparation: Clarence Burton chairs the Steering Committee itself; Mark Braisher, Hospitality Committee; Jim Shepherd, Registration Committee; Nathan Ruble, Prayer Committee; John Bullard, Ushering Committee. Rose Mertz, the state Woman's Auxiliary president, also works with the Steering Committee.

Five ministers are also making preparations to address the theme, "Back to Basics." Two others prepare to preach at the annual Bible Conference. Ralph Hampton is preparing to moderate his first national convention. Others getting ready for July include seminar speakers, banquet speakers, speakers for NYC and WNAC services.

Show Me ... (from page 7)

Behind the scenes, preparations continue with hotel, catering, convention center and convention bureau personnel. Staff must secure typewriters, lease equipment, purchase supplies, print programs and digests, authorize telephone service, and many more details.

Meet the Preachers

Show me who is preaching this year.

Five preachers, four of them pastors from across the denomination will address the convention's plenary worship sessions beginning Sunday morning and ending Wednesday night, speaking on the theme, "Back to Basics."

Sunday Morning

Early birds will be rewarded Sunday morning with a sermon by Wallace Malone, pastor of First FWB Church, Decatur, Illinois. The 71-year-old Illinois native opens the preaching in Municipal Auditorium arena after Sunday School with a message on the topic, "Praise in the Worship of God."

Ordained in 1942, the coal miner's son has pastored since 1940. He has served as moderator of the Illinois State Association and the North Central District Association as well as served on the Illinois Home Missions Board, the National Association Executive Committee and General Board.

Wallace and Eunice Malone have five children: sons Ronald, Tom and David; daughters Ruth Ann Hughes and Janice Kay Penn.

Sunday Evening

Larry D. Hughes continues preaching on this year's theme, with the topic, "Prayer in the Will of God." Born in Itawamba County, Mississippi in 1944, saved and baptized in 1956, Brother Hughes pastors First FWB Church in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas.

Rev. Hughes was ordained to the ministry March 1969 and has pastored five churches in Tennessee, North Carolina and Arkansas. From 1981-82 he served in the public relations department at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1972. He served as moderator of Tennessee's Western Quarterly for two years, one year on the Tennessee Executive Board, the North Carolina

State Mission Board (including positions as treasurer and chairman) from 1974-80, as North Carolina moderator and on the Arkansas Sunday School Board.

Pastor Hughes was nominated "Man of the Year" of the Canton, N.C., Kiwanis Club. He has been chaplain of the Haywood County Rescue Squad in North Carolina and the Canton, N.C., Police Department. Rev. Hughes made missionary trips to Jamaica, West Indies in 1977 and 1979.

Monday Evening

"Preach the Word of God" is Reverend Bob Thompson's sermon topic for Monday evening's service. This preacher's son pastors First FWB Church, Poteau, Oklahoma, the church where he was ordained in 1972.

Born to Bailey and Barbara Thompson in 1952, saved in 1969, Pastor Thompson received his Bachelor of Theology from Hillsdale FWB College in 1974. He has pastored five churches in four states and also served as associate pastor.

Thompson served on the Hillsdale College Board of Trustees, the Texas State Missions Board and presently holds the position of assistant moderator of the Oklahoma State Association.

Bob and Carol Thompson have three children: Christina (12), Cory (8) and Craig (7).

Tuesday Evening

Pastor Glenn Rehkop develops the topic, "Participate in the Work of God," during the Tuesday evening service. Rehkop (59) was saved when he was 20 and ordained to the ministry in January 1953 at Copper Mines FWB Church, Fredericktown, Missouri, home of his first pastorate.

Brother Rehkop pastored the Copper Mines Church from 1954-60. In 1960 he moved to Victory FWB Church, Kansas City, Missouri, where he stayed until 1967. At that time he moved to Arnold, Missouri, to pastor Grace FWB Church where he continues to pastor.

Reverend Rehkop served on the Missouri State General Board 16 years, the St. Louis District Association Board 18 years, and presently serves on the Missouri State Home Missions Board, a position he has held since 1981.

Glenn and Evelyn Rehkop have one daughter, Beverly (Mrs. Mike) Garner.

Wednesday Evening

Reverend Fred Warner develops the subject "Perceive Our Welcome by God" during the Wednesday evening missionary service, a service many consider the convention highlight. The North Carolina native serves as director of church ministries with the Foreign Missions Department.

Brother Warner, born to Paul and Sue Burns Warner in 1937, saved in 1955, was ordained to the ministry in 1959. He attended Free Will Baptist Bible College from 1956-60. He began his pastoral career while still in college at Friendship FWB Church, Ashland City, Tennessee. After graduation he began full-time evangelistic work out of Fort Smith, Arkansas. From 1960-86 he conducted over 250 revival meetings.

In 1965 he accepted the pastorate of First FWB Church, North Little Rock, Arkansas. From 1967-73 he served as promotional director for Arkansas Free Will Baptists. Brother Warner pastored First FWB Church, Russellville, Arkansas, from 1973-81, First FWB Church, Albany, Georgia, 1981-82 and pastored in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, as a state missionary 1982-87.

Reverend Warner served on the Arkansas Executive Board and the Free Will Baptist Board of Foreign Missions.

Fred and Rachel Warner have four children: John (24), Joel (22), Joan (21) and Jennifer (17).

Bible Conference

Show me the Bible Conference speakers.

Two speakers highlight this year's Bible Conference Tuesday morning in Bartle Hall. Florida pastor Roger Duncan opens the conference in the 9:00 a.m. service. The 41-year-old minister was saved when he was 10 and ordained to the ministry when he was 25. He has pastored two churches in Florida: First FWB Church, Kissimmee, 1971-74, and First FWB Church, Tampa, 1975 to present. He launched Seffner Christian Academy in 1983 as a ministry of First FWB Church, Tampa, and dedicated a new 1,000-seat auditorium in October 1986.

He served on the Florida State Home Missions Board and as moderator of the Central Florida Association.

Roger and Diane Duncan have two teenagers: Roger II (18) and Angela (16).

The 10:00 a.m. service finds Tim York in the pulpit. This Ohio native, born in 1961 maintains two positions: full-time evangelist and promotional officer for Kentucky State Association. Saved when he was 10, Reverend York started preaching when he was 12, started a radio ministry and preached his first revival at 13, and was ordained at 18. He attended four colleges, Bethel Bible Institute, Free Will Baptist Bible College, Tri-State Bible College and he holds a Th.B. from Emmanuel Bible College.

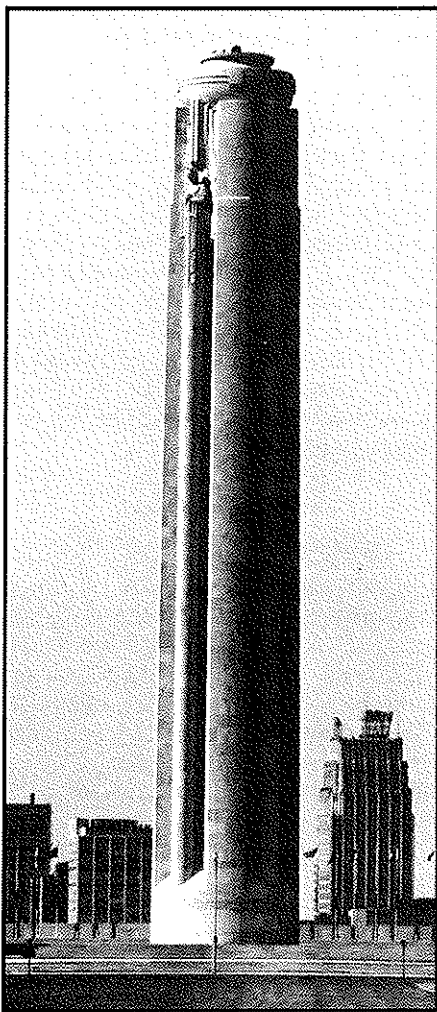
In 1982 Brother York founded Evangelism Today, Inc. He held crusades and revivals in Jamaica and Canada. He conducts a weekly radio program in the West Indies.

Tim and Phyllis York have one son, Timothy (6).

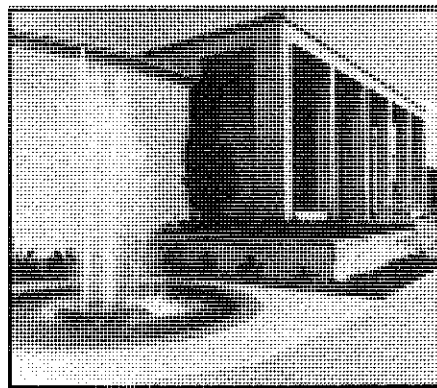
Plenty of Rooms

Show me where to stay.

Convention officials blocked 1,165 rooms in five downtown Kansas City



Liberty Memorial



Truman Library

hotels for the 1988 convention. Allis Plaza, the headquarters hotel, reserves 400 rooms for our folks.

Single room prices range from \$48 to \$69 while quad rates go from \$48 to \$79, depending on the hotel. This year's hotels include the following:

- Allis Plaza—400 rooms
- Americana—350 rooms
- Phillips House—165 rooms
- Embassy on the Park—150 rooms
- Howard Johnson's Central—100 rooms

Reservations for hotel rooms must be made on the official convention housing form printed in April, May or June *Contact* or in one of the Free Will Baptist state papers. Oh, a word of warning: Rooms are going fast. Better hurry!

Parking Galore

Show me where to put the car when I get there.

If you stay in one of the convention hotels, parking is available. The Allis Plaza and Howard Johnson's Central provide complimentary parking at the hotels. The other hotels charge a daily fee. Some of them use the large underground Municipal Auditorium parking garage. Other guests who drive in may also park in the Municipal Auditorium garage.

Mothering Room

Show me where to take the baby.

Since there are no nursery facilities provided at the convention, the Mothering Room was created for mothers needing a temporary place to tend children. The Mothering Room will again be provided in Municipal Auditorium. Check your program for the exact location.

The Mothering Room is *not* a nursery and is *not* staffed.

Registration

Show me where to register.

National Convention and WNAC registrations begin 3:00 p.m. Sunday in the Lobby of Municipal Auditorium. It will continue until Wednesday noon. Concessions will be open at the auditorium so delegates and visitors can snack and fellowship as they register.

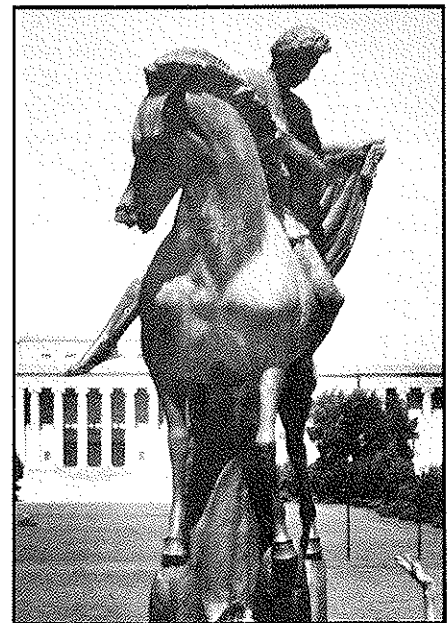
National Youth Conference registration begins 3:00 p.m. Sunday in Bartle Hall, North Level 2 Lobby. This is the building where most of the NYC activities will be held. Registration continues until Wednesday noon.

Exhibits

Show me where to find the exhibits.

Exhibits will find a home in two places in Municipal Auditorium this year: the Arena Concourse and the Little Theater. Nearly 60 exhibitors will present educational and denominational literature and programs.

Monday 5:00 p.m. marks the exhibits' opening. Booths are open daily 8:30



Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

a.m. to 10:30 p.m., except during evening worship services (7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.). Exhibits close at 12:30 p.m. Thursday or 30 minutes after the final business session concludes.

Soup's On!

Show me some of the breakfasts, luncheons and banquets.

Nineteen catered events ranging from a seven-member executive luncheon to

Show Me ... (from page 9)

an 800-seat youth banquet tempt Kansas City conventioners this year.

The ticket request form in this issue allows you to order tickets in advance for the events of your choice. Be sure your order arrives before June 30. Some events sell out quickly. Remember how it works—first come, first served.

Laura Coker Thigpen spotlights the WNAC Fellowship Dinner. Mrs. Thigpen, homemaker and speech professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College is granny to 10 children. She has written and taped stories for children titled, "Aunt Laura's Stories" and "Eighteen Bible and Conduct Stories."

Laura (Lolly) and Charles Thigpen have four children: Jonathan, Laura (Mrs. Steve) Cannon, Anne (Mrs. Gary) Maines and Ruth (Mrs. Brad) Slaten.

Former moderator Bobby Jackson speaks Wednesday morning at the Master's Men Breakfast. Brother Jackson served as assistant moderator of the National Association six years and moderator 11 years. He earned a B.A. from Free Will Baptist Bible College, and an M.A. from Bob Jones University. Jackson (56) was ordained in 1952 and has been preaching non-stop since. He is a full-time evangelist preaching revival meetings year-round across the denomination.

Other special meals include the Learner/Adventurer Banquet Monday afternoon, the Music Ministries Fellowship Breakfast Tuesday morning and the Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon Tuesday afternoon. Jack Richey from Oklahoma will speak at this meal in the Americana Hotel. Don't forget the Youth Banquet Tuesday evening and the Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon Wednesday afternoon.

Business

Show me the business meetings.

Business begins at 9:00 Monday morning when the General Board convenes at the Allis Plaza Hotel. Moderator Ralph Hampton gavel his first session to order Wednesday morning at 9:00 in the 10,500-seat Municipal Auditorium arena.

This year's voting delegation will consider board reports, departmental budgets and board elections. Delegates

are expected to approve denominational budgets exceeding \$11 million and elect more than 30 board and commission members. Each national agency and commission will submit an annual report to delegates. The Target 90 Committee, the International Fellowship Committee and others will also present reports.

Special Workshops

Show me the seminars and workshops.

Monday afternoon the Home Missions Department conducts their annual Camp Meeting in Municipal Auditorium Arena, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday afternoon, three workshops sponsored by the Radio & TV Commission, the Target 90 Committee and the Commission for Theological Integrity are scheduled at Bartle Hall. Randy Corn, pastor of First FWB Church, Savannah, Georgia, and Bill Jones, pastor of Fellowship FWB Church, Bryan, Texas, will present the "Cults" and "The New Age Movement" workshops sponsored by the Commission for Theological Integrity in Room 211 North.

The Media Ministries workshop will meet in Room 210 North and the Target 90 workshop in Room 215 in Bartle Hall. All three workshops run from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

WNAC Notes

Show me what's happening at WNAC this year.

The WNAC program kicks off Monday afternoon with mini-seminars addressing the theme, "Building for Eternity," at the Allis Plaza Hotel.

Three ladies, Helen Sanders, Wanda McClary and Jane Bailey, develop these topics: In Your Personal Life, In Your Home, and In Your Auxiliary.

President Mary Neal of Indiana will moderate the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention business session Tuesday in the Municipal Auditorium Arena.

Then at 11:10 a.m. James Munsey, pastor of Templo FWB Church, Weslaco, Texas, and home missions coordinator for Mexico, delivers the message. The 37-year-old son of Howard and Mildred Munsey, was saved in 1955, ordained to the ministry in 1974, and received his bachelor's degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1981.

Reverend Munsey has pastored four churches in North Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. He served as the Union Association clerk in Tennessee for three years and has served on the Texas State C. E. Board.

James and Mitzi Munsey have two children, Laura (5) and Matthew (3).

The 5:00 p.m. WNAC Fellowship Dinner meets in the Count Basie Ballroom of the Allis Plaza Hotel Tuesday evening.

NYC Memos

Show me what's planned for the children and youth.


The Primary and Junior classes meet together for Sunday School and morning worship service at the Allis Plaza Hotel.

The NYC keynote service moves back to Monday night this year. The youth gather in the Grand Hall of Bartle Hall to hear Greg McAllister, pastor of New Life FWB Church in O'Fallon, Missouri. Born in 1957, saved in 1963, Brother McAllister graduated from Hillsdale FWB College in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts in Theology. He was ordained in 1979. Brother McAllister has pastored two other churches in Missouri, First FWB Church in Farmington and First FWB Church in Mountain Grove.

Reverend McAllister has authored articles for several publications in addition to writing for the *High Teen Teacher's Guide* and *Teen Teacher's Guide* from Randall House Publications. Greg (33) and Debra McAllister have two children, John Mark (8) and Rachel Leigh (4).

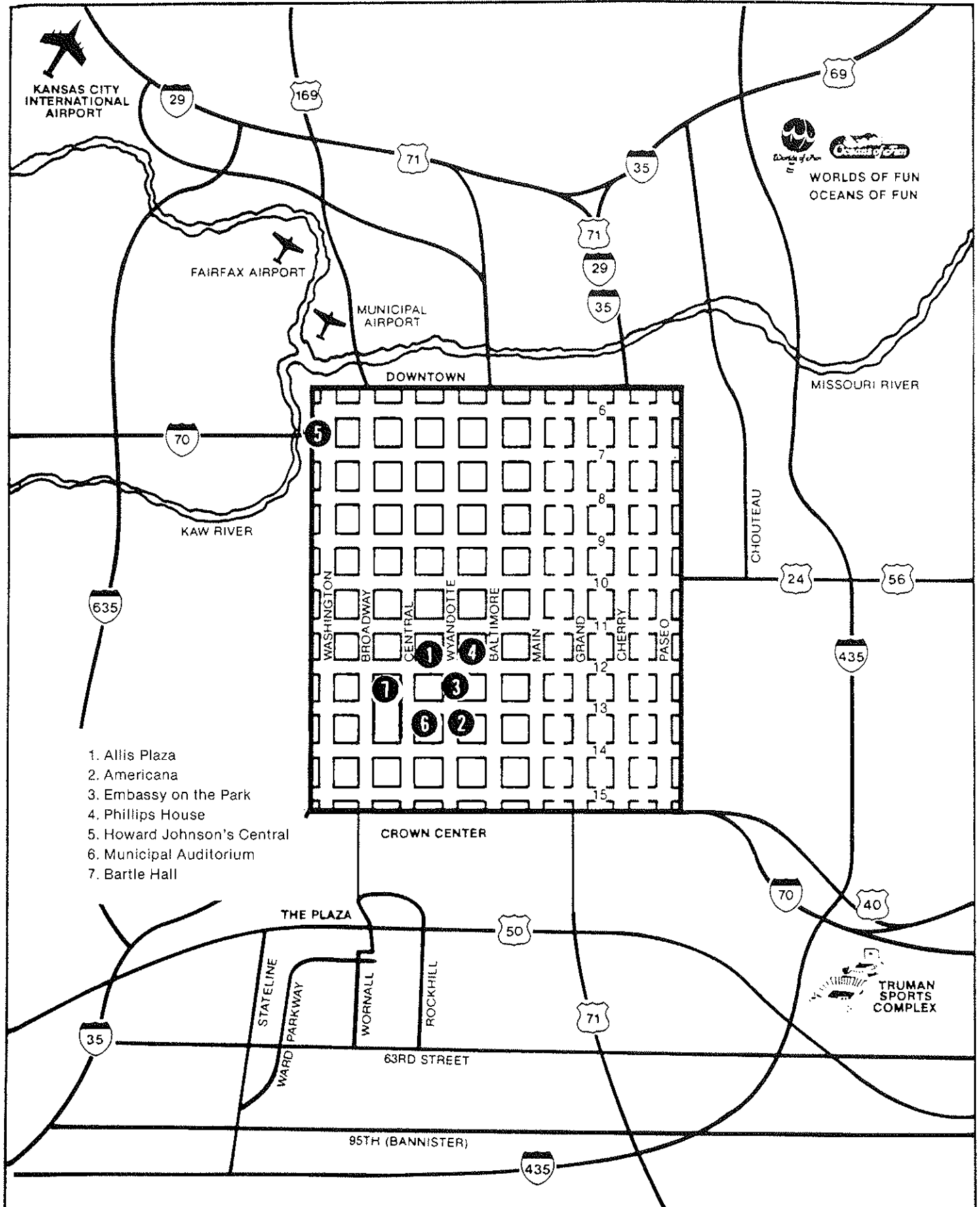
And Finally...

Show me what's left.

Convention preparations are almost complete—speakers selected, programs printed, hotels waiting, musicians preparing. What remains? For you and other Free Will Baptists to assemble in Kansas City this July. Mark your calendar, reserve the dates—July 17-21—and make your plans to meet us in Kansas City. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Contact editorial assistant, Marilyn Pritchard, doubles as convention office manager each July. Conventioneers probably won't see her at Kansas City, but they will see the daily news update, printed resolutions and reports produced by her offset press and copier.

HOTEL LOCATIONS



Directory Update

ALABAMA

Johnny Cook to Wattsville Church,
Wattsville from Faith Church, Opelika

FLORIDA

Tim Owen to Shiloh Church, Bratt
Rickey Patterson to Christian Home
Church, McDavid

GEORGIA

Sidney Jones to Little Bethel Church,
Ideal
Charles Hardeman to Ozias Church,
Pearson
Gary Smith to Hammock Springs
Church, Donalsonville
David Griffin to Oak Hill Church, Alma

MISSOURI

Ernest Harrison, Jr. to Beacon Church,
Raytown from First Church, Wewoka, OK

OTHER PERSONNEL

Kevin Lauthern to Donelson Church,
Nashville, TN, as youth minister from West
Tulsa Church, Tulsa, OK, as youth minister

Memories I Never Had

By Floyd Wolfenbarger

Sunday is Mother's Day. For many it will be a day of glad reunion with mothers. For others it will be a day of somber reflections and priceless memories.

My mother is still living, but distance will make it impossible to see her that day. So I will content myself with a phone call and fond recollections. However, when I view society's current drift and the collapse of moral values, I am most happy for memories I do not have.

I don't remember my mother ever drinking alcohol. So many children reared today will tomorrow remember the slurred speech and glazed look of a mother who was drunk or high on pot. The "mellow" mother is giving her children a memory they will wish they could forget.

I don't remember seeing my mother in immodest clothing. She never frequented the beach or pool. The mini-skirt, micro-skirt and hot pants fads came and went without raising my mother's hemline so much as an inch.

Cooperative Channel Contributions February 1988

RECEIPTS:

State	Design	COOP (Undesignated)	Total	Feb. '87	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 158.95	\$ 20.00	\$ 178.95	\$ 325.02	\$ 1,420.93
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Arkansas	.00	3,289.35	3,289.35	5,595.39	9,240.76
California	.00	1,131.41	1,131.41	1,020.08	2,338.99
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	0.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	597.52
Florida	.00	2,613.04	2,613.04	2,744.95	5,491.96
Georgia	1,249.50	.00	1,249.50	8,882.98	15,508.15
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	130.00
Illinois	10,761.32	1,682.56	12,443.88	9,685.02	16,930.66
Indiana	1,092.78	.00	1,092.78	347.03	1,206.48
Kansas	.00	60.19	60.19	34.07	134.20
Kentucky	.00	156.75	156.75	410.21	156.75
Maryland	.00	170.06	170.06	569.58	1,277.81
Michigan	3,961.99	104.12	4,066.11	6,963.79	14,140.33
Mississippi	139.76	359.16	498.92	307.61	713.84
Missouri	8,925.51	.00	8,925.51	15,652.18	9,033.44
New Mexico	16.30	8.14	24.44	26.48	24.44
North Carolina	898.60	910.00	1,808.60	1,772.50	4,282.52
Ohio	238.50	2,342.00	2,580.50	1,044.23	5,464.50
Oklahoma	32,495.51	8,102.60	40,598.11	38,673.41	78,001.79
South Carolina	75.34	.00	75.34	49.68	9,851.76
Tennessee	922.33	1,201.82	2,124.15	1,210.74	5,232.08
Texas	11,048.72	542.93	11,591.65	11,558.82	20,149.51
Virginia	165.50	10.00	175.50	294.00	410.50
West Virginia	3,155.23	89.99	3,245.22	2,223.60	4,808.07
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Other (Computer)	.00	.00	.00	.00	.09
Totals	\$75,305.84	\$22,794.12	\$98,099.96	\$109,391.37	\$206,547.08

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 2,211.69	\$15,934.06	\$18,145.75	\$ 17,782.07	\$ 36,291.52
Foreign Missions	50,571.89	1,577.80	52,149.69	53,775.49	115,504.45
FWBBC	3,528.90	1,577.80	5,106.70	9,157.29	11,840.39
Home Missions	14,736.34	1,234.80	15,971.14	20,421.58	29,797.67
Retirement & Insurance	185.05	960.42	1,145.47	1,350.68	3,232.15
Master's Men	1,030.92	891.78	1,922.70	1,655.17	3,896.02
Commission for					
Theological Integrity	81.17	68.59	149.76	189.71	300.38
FWB Foundation	423.82	411.59	835.41	1,070.44	1,791.10
Historical Commission	78.80	68.59	147.39	192.30	295.79
Radio & TV Commission	98.80	68.59	167.39	378.73	335.79
Hillsdale FWB College	2,007.74	.00	2,007.74	3,355.98	2,527.53
Other	350.72	.10	350.82	61.93	734.29
Totals	\$75,305.84	\$22,794.12	\$98,099.96	\$109,391.37	\$206,547.08

My mother is still pretty, but she simply wasn't interested in cat calls and wolf whistles. She wore such clothing as if she were looking for the "trumpet sound."

I never remember my mother with a cursing tongue; nor would she use the kind of smutty talk so prevalent today. Many children today will tomorrow remember that Mother spoke fluent

men's-room graffiti. I thank my mother that I have no such memories of her. Her anger never controlled her tongue.

One may think that I think my mother is perfect. I know she isn't. She's not perfect, but she is a Christian who took her faith seriously enough so that her children call her blessed and have no memories they wish they could forget.



Alan Loy McGinnis, *Confidence, How to Succeed at Being Yourself*, (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1987, 182 pages, paperback, \$4.50)

Psychologist Alan Loy McGinnis observes, "Our success at nearly every enterprise we attempt is largely determined by our self-image." That came from *Confidence, How to Succeed at Being Yourself*.

He describes people with a positive self-image as magnets for success and happiness while those lacking in confidence attract failure and unhappiness. Dr. McGinnis affirms that "we can change our self-perception. Someone who has acquired a low self-image is not doomed to a life of unhappiness and unearned guilt. It is possible, by using certain techniques, to rid yourself of many negative attitudes and gain a healthy confidence in yourself." This book discusses those techniques.

Confidence, How to Succeed at Being Yourself contains a wealth of helpful information for those struggling with a poor self-image. Unlike many other self-help books, this one is written from a distinctively Christian perspective. The author aims at helping his readers achieve "self-confidence without self-worship."

The book contains 12 chapters which are divided into five sections: Four Fundamentals for Developing Self-Confidence, Daily Exercises for Building Self-Confidence, Steps to Independence, Dealing with the Enemies of Self-Confidence, and How Love Leads to Self-Confidence. The author illustrates the practical principles set forth in his book with examples drawn from his extensive counseling practice.

McGinnis offers no magic elixir to make a person more confident. However, if one is willing to apply the guidelines presented in this interesting book, he will find that he is gaining confidence and becoming more successful at being himself.

Dr. Alan Loy McGinnis is also the author of the bestseller, *The Friendship Factor*. Both books are available from Randall Bookstore, P. O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217.

**REQUESTS FOR TICKETS TO MEAL FUNCTIONS
1988 National Convention**

Number	Meal	Total
_____	Learner / Adventurer Banquet \$5.50 Monday, July 18 / 5:00 p.m. Allis Plaza Hotel / Count Basie A & B	\$ _____
_____	Music Ministries Fellowship Breakfast \$6 Tuesday, July 19 / 7:00 a.m. Americana Hotel / Fairway Room	\$ _____
_____	Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon \$7.50 Tuesday, July 19 / 12:15 p.m. Americana Hotel / Seville Room	\$ _____
_____	WNAC Fellowship Dinner \$13 Tuesday, July 19 / 5:00 p.m. Allis Plaza Hotel / Count Basie Ballroom	\$ _____
_____	Youth Banquet \$7 Tuesday, July 19 / 9:00 p.m. Allis Plaza Hotel / Count Basie Ballroom	\$ _____
_____	Master's Men Breakfast \$7 Wednesday, July 20 / 7:00 a.m. Allis Plaza Hotel / Count Basie Ballroom B & C	\$ _____
_____	Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon \$11.50 Wednesday, July 20 / 12:00 Noon Allis Plaza Hotel / Count Basie Ballroom C	\$ _____
		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 **JUNE 30, 1988.**

NO TICKET REFUNDS AFTER JUNE 30, 1988.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

SOUTH CAROLINA STUDIES RETIREMENT VILLAGE

TURBEVILLE, SC—Delegates to the 46th annual South Carolina State Association appointed a five-man committee, chaired by Rev. Talmadge Brown, to gather facts relative to building a retirement village for Free Will Baptist ministers and laymen. The committee will report their findings at the 1989 state meeting. State Clerk Harry Cooper said that South Carolina Free Will Baptists own 83 acres in and around Turbeville, more than enough acreage on which to build.

In other action, delegates instructed the state Executive Committee to prepare a feasibility study for 1989 regarding establishing a state General Board to function like the National Association General Board.

Moderator Earl Hendrix gaveled the 165 delegates and visitors through two days of business February 18-19 at Horse Branch FWB Church in Turbeville. Delegates voted to accept the True Life Conference into the state association, along with its four member churches. Delegates also passed a major resolution opposing legalized gambling in any form, this move aimed at those who would lobby for a state lottery.

Southeastern FWB College staffer Randy Sawyer joined South Carolina pastors Billy Baker and Norris Hawkins to preach three sermons during the meeting.

The 1989 state association will meet February 16-17 at First FWB Church in Inman.

FRANK COUSINEAU, FORMER MISSIONARY, FATALLY SHOT

HOUSTON, TX—Mr. Maurice Frank Cousineau, former missionary to Ivory Coast and father of missionary Mike Cousineau, was fatally wounded on February 9, 1988, in Houston, Texas. Details of the shooting incident were unknown at press time.

Cousineau had served one term in Ivory Coast from 1968-1973. He also

served from 1974 to 1977 with home missions in Billings, Montana. For several years he had run a cement contracting firm in Houston, Texas.

Mike and Deleen Cousineau returned from Ivory Coast for the funeral. Frank is survived by his wife, Marie, and three sons besides Mike: Robert, Maurice Jr., and Mark.

REVEREND W. S. ISBELL, 96, WITH THE LORD

RUSSELLVILLE, AR—Rev. W. S. Isbell died December 13, 1987, at a nursing center in Russellville. Funeral services for the 96-year-old minister were conducted by Reverend Ben Scott and Reverend Doug Little.

Brother Isbell was born May 28, 1891, near Casa, Ark., the son of W. D. and Nancy Isbell. His father, grandfather and great-grandfather were all Free Will Baptist ministers.

Saved in 1909, he preached his first sermon near Moreland in 1910 from 1 John 2:15-17. Although he was not ordained until 1939, Rev. Isbell served in numerous local church and association positions.

From 1939 to 1949, he pastored as many as four churches at once. He founded First FWB Church, Russellville, in 1949 where he enjoyed a fruitful ministry in radio as well as among the sick and bereaved.

RANDALL HOUSE ANNOUNCES EIGHTH ANNUAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

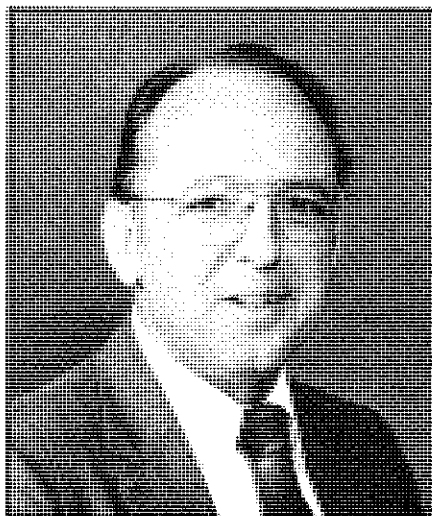
NASHVILLE, TN—The eighth annual Free Will Baptist slow-pitch softball tournament sponsored by Randall House Publications will be played August 12-13 at Cedar Hill Park. The fields are the best in Nashville and are located just off Interstate 65 on Old Hickory Boulevard.

Space in the tournament is limited to 32 teams. The tournament will follow the round-robin pattern introduced two years ago. Applications will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis. The registration fee is \$140 per team.

The tournament will begin on August 12 at 10:00 a.m. Team pairings will be determined by a drawing that will be open to the public.

For further information write or call David Sagraves, tournament manager, P. O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217. Phone 615/361-1221.

SOUTHEASTERN COLLEGE SETS COMMENCEMENT



WENDELL, NC—Southeastern Free Will Baptist College announced commencement exercises for their 1988 graduating class. The services will be held May 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the auditorium of First FWB Church, Raleigh, N.C.

Rev. A. B. Brown, chairman of the Department of Theology and Languages at Southeastern, will be the speaker. Mr. Brown was on the original Board of Directors of Southeastern and has been with the college as professor for the past five years.

Dean Lorenza Stox said, "We invite all the parents, relatives and friends of the graduates as well as pastors and friends from far and near to attend."

Pastor **Danny Baer** of **Heritage FWB Church, Williamsburg, VA**, conducts a 30-minute radio program Sunday afternoons at 1:30. The program airs on station WMBC.

The **Flames** basketball team from Free Will Baptist Bible College closed its first full season of intercollegiate competition with a record of 11 wins and 8 losses, according to Coach **Byron Deel**. While on the road to play away games, team members preached, provided special music, taught Sunday School classes and conducted children's church in several FWB churches.

Pastor **Dann Patrick** announced that members of **Faith FWB Church, Goldsboro, NC**, will build a new home for **Mrs. B. Smith** and her four children. The \$60,000 building project got underway with more than \$30,000 donated in advance. Reverend Patrick said the house would cost the Smith family no more than \$15,000 and perhaps less than that. Mrs. Smith is the widow of the late **Larry Smith**, a member of the Faith Church who died with cancer. Pastor Patrick said, "We are excited about the prospects. This is not only scriptural, but I believe it will also strengthen the fellowship of our church."

Pastor **Loy Counts** reports 76 conversions, 32 baptisms and 36 new members at **Rogers FWB Church, Rogers, AR**. Those figures reflect 12 months of work in the community. Attendance reached 122 in Sunday School and 161 in worship.

The **Oklahoma State Christian Education Board** added another ministry tool to their outreach, according to Chairman **Don Guthrie**. The board began a video lending library and mailed a video catalog to pastors and other church leaders informing them about the lending library. The video library is housed at the Oklahoma State office on the campus of Hillsdale FWB College.

Members of **Hillside FWB Church, Florence, SC**, celebrated their 31st anniversary by paying off a \$13,000 five-year mortgage on their fellowship building in three years. Pastor **Floyd Seay** also reports 15 members added to the church.

Missionaries **Ron and Linda Moore** received a check for \$1,091 and a VHS camera from members of **Blackriver FWB Church, Andrews, SC**. **Ronny Jones** pastors.

Pastor **Bobby Bowers** reports that members of **First FWB Church, Greenville, SC**, presented a \$1,000 check to missionaries **Ron and Linda Moore**. In addition the Moores received several hundred dollars worth of shampoo, vitamins, aspirins, iodine, cough syrup, insect bite ointment and other items from a local phar-

maceutical company.

Members of **Horse Branch FWB Church, Turbeville, SC**, conducted a special service to honor Mr. and Mrs. **Euston Green** for more than 35 years of faithful service. Mr. Green was recognized for his work as church treasurer while Mrs. Green was cited for 25 years as Sunday School teacher. **Talmadge Brown** pastors.

South Avenue FWB Church, Lancaster, SC, celebrated completion of their 3,200-square-foot Gymnastic-Fellowship Building, according to Pastor **Homer Arrowwood**. The \$56,000 building sits on 3.5 acres located two miles southeast of Lancaster. The building includes a brick "memorial wall" constructed with the contributors' names engraved in the bricks.

Pastor **Joseph Wallis** said members of **Five Point FWB Church, Washington, NC**, observed their 25th anniversary. The church, organized in 1962 at the George Boyd Grocery Store, now has 157 members on roll.

Northview FWB Church, Statesville, NC, completed a major building project and moved to a new location, according to Pastor **Leroy England**. After the church's older facilities were damaged by fire, they purchased land on which to move and construct a new education/sanctuary complex. The new building consists of a 200-seat brick veneer sanctuary with five classrooms, two offices, baptistry, fellowship hall and kitchen. It is located on 3.5 acres off Highway 64-70 west of Statesville.

The **Missouri Christian Education Board** sponsored a March 18-19 Family Seminar at **Stonecroft Conference Center**. Oklahoma pastor **Joe Grizzle** delivered six workshops and seminars in addition to question and answer sessions.

Members of **Copper Mines FWB Church, Fredericktown, MO**, renovated the parsonage for Pastor **Charles Lotz**. The parsonage now includes a living room, family room, kitchen with dining area, four bedrooms, laundry room and two baths.

The **Greater Springfield Quarterly Meeting in Missouri** gave \$500 to repair the tabernacle roof at the Missouri Youth Camp.

Pastor **Archie Cooper** said members of **New Harmony FWB Church, Greentop, MO**, raised more than \$1,200 for the **Jerry Pinkerton** family, missionaries to Ivory Coast, West Africa.

Pastor **Wade Jernigan** reported that members of **First FWB Church, Asher, OK**, voted to adopt the Cooperative Plan. Each third Sunday night is designated "church outreach," with offerings going to home and foreign missions, Hillsdale and Free Will Baptist Bible Colleges. The church voted to send \$200 to the Benevolent Fund and to provide \$200 towards sending Jack Richey, special Foreign Missions Study Committee member, to Africa.

Ten members of **Rescue FWB Church, Whittington, IL**, received perfect attendance awards in Sunday School for the past year. **Clifford Hicks** pastors.

Pastor **Walter Sumerlin** reports 10 baptisms and a high of 72 in attendance at **Park Lane FWB Church, Charlottesville, VA**.

Pastor **Gordon Sebastian** reports 90 new members in the past year at **Peace FWB Church, Wilson, NC**. The church voted to build a 20,000-square-foot classroom/activity center.

Contact welcomes the *Promoter*, publication of **First FWB Church, Washington, NC**. **Jack Lassiter** pastors.

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)

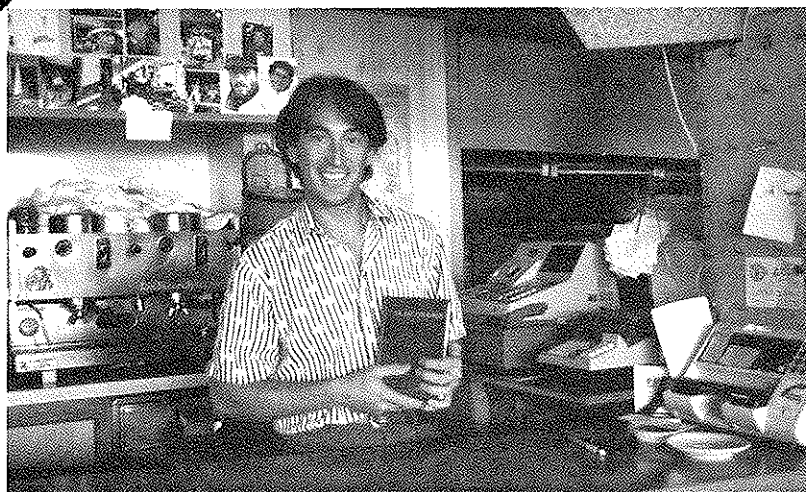
(City)

(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.



Behind the counter in his restaurant Rino Mirante displays one of the 40 Bibles he purchased to give away.

He Shares His Faith

By Tom McCullough

Rino has really taught me a lesson about sharing my faith," remarked one of the Christians in a recent prayer meeting in St. Nazaire, France.

What did this Italian immigrant, only one year old in the Lord, do to inspire others in our church? Let me explain.

Rino Mirante is the proprietor of an Italian restaurant/pizzeria at one of the most prestigious pleasure craft ports on the Atlantic seaboard. This prime location allows him to rub shoulders with some of the world's most famous professional sailors.

To appreciate this situation, one must realize that in France sailboat racing is more popular than golf, bowling, or a dozen other sports. Top-notch skippers of world class boats, like those in the recent America's Cup competition in Australia, enjoy the same popularity as professional tennis players do in the United States.

When Rino learned that a major sailing competition was to be launched from his port, he began praying for the Lord to show him how to share what had been for him a life-changing experience. During this time, a member of the Nantes church related to our congregation the possibility of buying excellent Bibles at half price. The only stipulation was that those who purchased the special edition Bibles were to give them away and then pray for

those who received them. Rino immediately ordered a carton of 40 Bibles at a price of \$120.

The week preceeding the race, as the two-man teams began frequenting his establishment, Rino launched his silent ministry. To every racing tandem he offered a brand new Bible that would accompany them during the course. As if this was not enough, he also offered Bibles to the organizers of the race and to the national television crew covering the event. In one week's time Rino had distributed 30 Bibles.

In one week's time Rino had distributed 30 Bibles.

Ten days later one of the participants was thrown overboard during a treacherous passage off the coast of West Africa. He was never found. His death had a sobering effect on our people: "Life is short! Are we doing all we can to share His Word?" they wondered.

Another crew was lost at sea for three days before being located. Still another capsized and narrowly escaped death. All had received the witness of God's Word before leaving the safe harbor.

Since the end of the race Rino has received two letters from thankful sailors expressing appreciation for what they were reading between the covers of that special book. We don't know if any have come to the Lord but we do know that His Word will not return void.

From the moment of his conversion Rino has desired to tell others of his faith in Christ. For instance, with no prompting from the missionaries he printed up placemat/menus bearing Bible verses strategically sprinkled among descriptions of pizzas and pasta plates. This led to many conversations with clients who expressed amazement at seeing "something religious" in a restaurant.

This is a thousand times more difficult to imagine in France where personal faith is something one puts on like a coat on Sunday morning, if one puts it on at all.

Make no mistake, Rino still wears his coat of faith awkwardly at times. What one-year-old believer doesn't? He still faces severe struggles since his business partner and his wife remain unbelievers. Little by little, however, the Lord is tailoring Rino's coat and it fits better every day. He doesn't just array himself with it on Sunday morning. He wears it all week long!



Tom McCullough and his wife, Patty, serve the Lord in St. Nazaire, France. They are concluding their second term of missionary service.

3606 WEST END AVENUE
P.O. BOX 50117
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205-0117
(615) 383-1340

A Christian Service Testimony:

Sensitive To The Spirit

by Tim Sizemore

I am convinced that the key to being an effective witness is to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. Let me give an illustration.

In my desire to be a witness for the Lord, I had been praying daily for Him to make me more aware of my opportunities to witness. Therefore, when I went to church one Sunday morning recently, it was with a desire to be especially observant, to see if anyone there might need the Lord.


After Sunday school, I entered the auditorium for the worship service. I usually sit near the front, but as I walked down the aisle I noticed a young man sitting alone on the back pew. At first, I thought nothing of it, continued on my way and sat down in my usual place. Then the thought occurred to me that he might be the one for whom I had been praying.

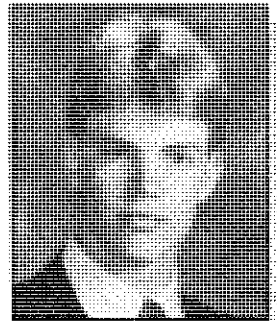
I got up, made my way to the back, where he was sitting, and asked if I might sit with him. He introduced himself—Donnie. He was 16 and had ridden one of our buses to church for the first time.

As the service began, I prayed for him. The message that morning was just what he needed. As the invitation was extended, I saw him gripping the pew and fidgeting. I knew the Holy Spirit was working! So, I leaned over and asked, "Would you like for me to go with you to the

altar?" He nodded, so we went forward and I explained the gospel to him. Within a few minutes, he asked the Lord to come into his heart!

It was such a wonderful answer to prayer. It gave me added proof that God wants to use all of us as instruments to bring others to Christ (1 Cor. 3:6-7).

After several months, Donnie is still attending our church. 



—Tim Sizemore is a sophomore ministerial student from Sulligent, AL.



FOUNDATION

Herman L. Hersey
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Stewardship Education ...

... in the local church should include advanced training in addition to a yearly emphasis program. However, more expertise and planning are required. Long term goals must be set and a master plan formulated with a step by step procedure projected over several years.

A starter plan might consist of three phases:

Phase I: Family Financial Planning

Phase II: Wills

Phase III: Deferred Giving

During Phase I, plan for training opportunities such as a *Family Financial Planning Seminar*. Its purpose—to teach members to practice biblical principles in earning an income; to budget current income; to manage indebtedness; to avoid compulsive spending; and, to give proportionately and consistently to the church.

- Set aside a special time or schedule the seminar during VBS, CTS, missions conference or stewardship month.
- Recruit a knowledgeable leader and enlist a committee.
- Allow several months for the committee to train and to assemble good resource materials.
- Survey the congregation to determine the areas of greatest need and interest.
- Charge an enrollment fee. It defrays costs, lends credence to the seminar and encourages good attendance.
- A two-hour session with a break mid-way is best.
- Invite nonmembers and prospects. This is a good opportunity to reach

day school and Mother's Day Out parents.

- Mail promotional materials four to six weeks before registration.
- Set a date for preregistration and use printed forms. Call on prospects to preregister them.
- Before the seminar add books, tapes and videos to the church library for check-out by both prospects and members.
- Furnish materials and workbooks for each family.
- Make available other books, tapes and helps for individual purchase.
- Arrange private conferences for those who need further help. The counselor must be qualified.
- Plan a follow-up session for participants to evaluate their progress and to briefly review the material.
- Periodically mail out letters of encouragement and reminders of commitments made.
- Continue the emphasis. Promote the use of materials in the church library and keep an adequate supply of worksheets and books on hand.
- Schedule films and testimonies.
- Make the seminar an annual event for new members, for young adults entering employment or marriage, and for those who wish to repeat.

Helps and Resource Materials

FWB Foundation, *Family Financial Planning Seminar*, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202. A two-hour in-depth session complete with materials and workbooks conducted by Executive Secretary-Treasurer Herman L. Hersey. The seminar can include a will clinic.

Sharp Macdonald, *Handbook for Financial Faithfulness*, Shepherd Ministries, Irving, TX, 1974, 75

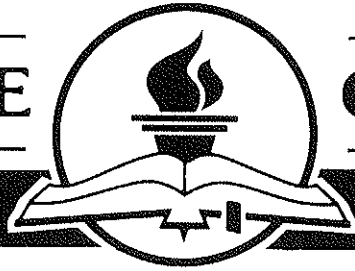
Ron Blue, *Master Your Money*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN, 1986

LaTayne C. Scott, *Time, Talents, Things, A Woman's Workshop on Christian Stewardship*, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI, 1987

R. T. Kendall, *Tithing, A Call to Serious Biblical Giving*, Zondervan Publishers, Grand Rapids, MI, 1982

Bill Stafford, *The Adventure of Giving*, Tyndale House Publishers, Wheaton, IL, 1976

Larry Burkett, *Using Your Money Wisely—Guidelines From Scripture*, Moody Press, Chicago, IL, 1985



WHAT DO YOU SEE?

An elephant hunter recently returned from Africa was asked, "What did you see?" "Elephants," was his reply. "Didn't you see any missionaries?" he was queried. "Not a single one, all I saw were elephants."

A missionary who had served in the same country was asked, "Did you see lots of elephants there?" "No, I never saw an elephant the whole time I was there."

We generally see what we are looking for.

One mark of greatness in a person is that *he can see things others cannot see*. John Ruskin wrote, "For every thousand men who can talk, only one can think; for every thousand who can think, only one can see." Do not let his hyperbole distract you from *seeing* his point.

A sculptor shared with an admirer his intention of sculpting an elephant from a block of granite. The admirer asked, "How will you do it?" to which the sculptor replied, "It's really very simple. All I do is chisel away everything which doesn't resemble an elephant."

I've often wondered what you see when you pick up a Randal House product. If it happens to be Sunday School curriculum, Have you ever seen the person who developed the outlines from which the lessons were written? Have you envisioned that person praying, researching, studying, agonizing to aid the writer? Even more than that, Have you seen the Biblical writer, walked in his shoes, felt his pain, joy, frustration, ecstasy? Have you imagined how he felt being inspired by the Holy Spirit to pen those words for our benefit?

Some few have seen the curriculum writer faced with never-ending deadlines quarter after quarter. Only those who have written know and feel the pressure of praying, writing, researching, looking for a fresh approach, or a precise word.

Most of our writers are pastors, professors, or pastors' wives. Try to see them in multifaceted roles as busy persons taking on the extra, difficult task of making time to produce quality material fit for publication.

Try getting a mental picture of the departmental editor (sometimes probably seen as a calloused, demanding ogre by the writer). Picture the editor, patience frayed; nerves jangled; blood pressure up; feeling the pressure from superiors, typesetters, and printers. Sense his frustration as he anxiously checks the afternoon mail for a manuscript or floppy disk from a writer weeks past his deadline.

Try going home to supper with such a frustrated person, biscuits burned, beans scorched, supper late. It's not much better the next morning either, unless there is that

long sought after manuscript.

This is only part of the picture. Now hear the typesetter's lament. Children are in the day care center. Mother's heart and mind intermittently making trips between there and the manuscript to be set. It's not like looking at the one-eyed monster at home. There's no entertainment looking into this computer "tube," a blank stare on its face, just waiting for you to fill it with words.

See the fingers hit the wrong keys, watch the power go off, and the full screen of words go to computer heaven never to return.

Feel the pulse quicken and the face sometimes flush when an editor feverishly inquires about the finished product.

Still later see the countenance of the typesetter fall when that beautiful typeset manuscript is returned, edited; misspelled words all marked; looking like it's been to a butcher shop.

The artist and the layout person wait patiently for the finished "masterpiece." The type and graphics are measured and merged. Is the fit acceptable? What about the pictures; the cover art; the ads for covers three and four? Can anything be offensive? Does Jesus have enough hair or too much?

Will the premillennialists or the amillennialists take offense at the way the writer and/or editor handled a future event? What about the pastors; the Sunday School superintendents; the teachers; the students; the theologues?

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! The printer is here for the camera ready copy. He's chomping at the bit.

Another quarter's material is already in the hopper. Editors are reading verbatim carefully: "Let's see, where does this word divide?" "Check the dictionary." "Is the spelling correct?" "What about this doctrinal statement?" "Is this verse taken out of context?"

Uh oh! The phone's ringing. It's a bookstore manager, one of our curriculum distributors. He wants to know when he is going to get next quarter's shipment of literature. His customers are already calling him.

And so it goes, quarter after quarter, year after year. It's a pressure cooker we live in. Never a let up.

Can you see a little better now?

Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote, "Earth's crammed with heaven and every common bush afire with God; and only he who sees takes off his shoes. The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries."

MINI GRAMS

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

Are Doors Closing in America?

By Roy Thomas

The United States is considered a Christian nation where freedom of worship and freedom to preach the gospel are supposed to be guaranteed by the Constitution. However, consider some of the problems our home missionaries have encountered trying to establish churches in cities where they labor.

The "get acquainted" meetings that we encourage our missionaries to have can't be held in some cities, because there are city ordinances against having prayer meetings, Bible studies or any kind of church services in single family dwellings. (It is interesting to note that these cities have no ordinances against beer parties, dances, etc., in single family dwellings!)

Most cities have ordinances against granting liquor licenses within a certain distance of a church. However, many bars and liquor stores attempt to break this ordinance, and cities do very little to enforce the laws. The only way those laws are enforced is for the church to hire a lawyer and go to court to get the license revoked. This is very expensive for a new church.

In many states, church-operated day care centers require city licenses. In order to operate such a day care, the church must be an equal opportunity employer and hire unsaved employees. It must teach state approved curriculum which is humanistic in philosophy. For these reasons churches in many states are disqualified from having day care centers.

Some of our missionaries have been unable to rent buildings in which to


meet for worship services because those buildings do not meet city codes. One such code is the distance the building is required to sit from the street.

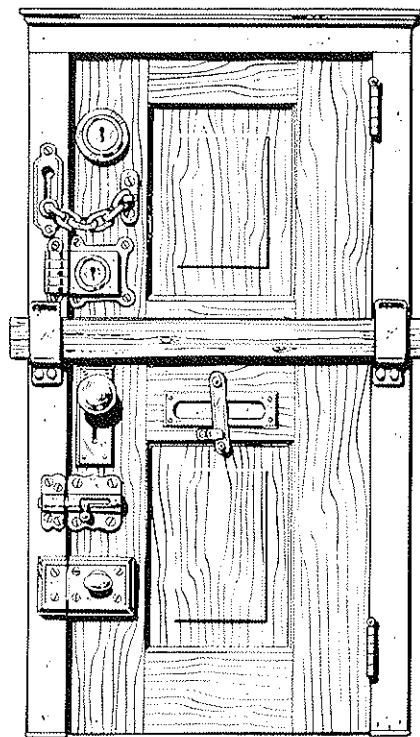
One missionary submitted six different pieces of property to the city for permission to build a church before the council finally approved the buying of the property. This caused months of delay for the mission church, because city officials wanted something other than a church on those locations.

Many cities require a minimum of five acres for a church to build. Then, once the church building is up, the city declares from two to four acres of that land as taxable because it is not being used by the church. A number of our mission churches pay taxes on their property because of this ordinance.

Some of our missionaries have been questioned by police for doing visitation because of city ordinances that require an invitation from the residents before homes can be visited. This puts the missionary in violation of the laws to knock on the door of any home that has not issued him an invitation to do so.

Missionaries need to work within the law and cooperate with their cities by building safe buildings and do all they can to cooperate with existing ordinances. But if the law prohibits the preaching, teaching and spreading of the gospel, then we "must obey God rather than man."

Let us pray for missionaries to establish soul winning Free Will Baptist churches in the needy cities of America before the doors close completely. 



M MASTER'S ANDATE



Attack

The Department Pages

The Way I See It

It may not be until we get to Heaven, but someday our denomination will realize the vast potential of its laity. In many areas this resource is mostly unused. I've had several experiences with pastors who seem to echo this feeling.

Last week a pastor called asking for information. During the conversation he said, "My men need something to challenge them. They are good men but they could be doing so much more for God. Please send me materials to help me motivate them."

Of course, his information packet was quickly on its way. I only wish the printed material could convey the excitement I feel as I communicate with involved laymen across the country. Most of the information will seem devoid of enthusiasm because it contains the "nuts and bolts" of beginning active chapters.

If only that pastor had brought his men to our annual conference in April! Laymen find togetherness and a singular sense of purpose during the meet-

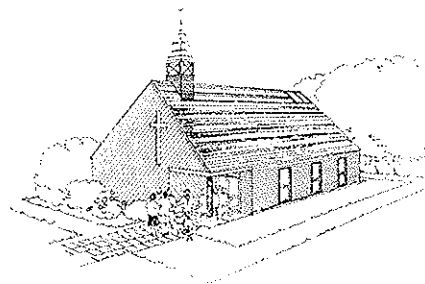
One Master's Men chapter went home in 1986 and within three months was busy building a new Home Missions church in Reynosa, Mexico. Last year another chapter purchased a computer for Don and Billie Sexton. Then that group helped their church raise \$5,000 to pay for another church building in Mexico.

Early this year those same men voted to become Master's Men LifeMembers! They stand with their pastor to say, "We are men of the Master. Count on us until He takes us home or comes for us. We are Free Will Baptists and will work for our Lord as long as possible." Their life-long commitment is as strong as that of any preacher. And their service to God and Free Will Baptists is vital.

The way I see it, God calls everyone to repentance. Then, through yielded lives, He separates and calls men to be ministers and missionaries. Certainly, it is no lesser call if God wants them to be holy, dedicated business men.

Master's Men organization is not a cure-all panacea for the inadequacies in

laymen. They will accept God's call to preach, teach and work. They will travel around the world to start and finish the Master's work. How do I know? I'm flying over the Grand Canyon right now with a layman who paid nearly \$1,000 to go to Japan—not to sightsee. Jim Orr will spend three weeks working to build a church in Aino-Sato Sapporo.



On March 12, men left Nashville to erect the first protestant church building in St. Nazaire, on the coast of France. They also give their time and money to participate in this great effort.

Men will do great things for God. They will do it when challenged and given the opportunity. Even men in your church will surprise you with their interest and commitment. At least, that's *the way I see it*.

Your Servants,

Master's Men Board Members
Raymond Lee, N.C., chairman
Wendell Leckbee, Ark., vice chairman
Dwight Fletcher, Ga., secretary
Charles Denman, Texas
Howard Gwartney, Okla.
Tim Jordan, Ga.
Paul Kennedy, Calif.
Paul Moore, Ill.
Jim Orr, Ky.

For Master's Men Information:
Master's Men Department
P. O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202
Phone: 615/361-MMEN



ing. They share testimonies and triumphs, pray together for special needs, enjoy the beauty of creation in Tennessee.

Laymen speak to laymen about building projects in our churches. They listen as fellow servants tell of their spiritual discoveries. Men meet on common ground and leave with new resolve and commitment.

every church. But, it is a good organized plan to present opportunities for growth and service. Laymen are not strange, liberated beings of total unpredictability. They are men. Men need a place to be involved for the Master. They need challenge, encouragement and an opportunity.

Then, stand back in support of them, and watch what the Lord can do among



Herman L. Hersey
Director



Board of Retirement

AT YOUR SERVICE

A Forward Look

“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2 NIV).

This year the retirement ministry marks its nineteenth anniversary. We have made some significant advances, but we have just begun. Let’s look at the pressing needs to be met over the next 20 years.

1. Retirement Housing

Our missionaries, ministers, church employees and lay people will need more and more help with affordable housing.

2. Nursing Home Facilities

Present statistics point to the increasing need and opportunities for witnessing and caregiving.

3. Educational Grants

Children of deceased ministers and church employees may need additional funds to continue their education.

4. Relocation Checks

Those who serve for a lifetime need

help to establish a permanent residence in retirement.

5. Benevolent Services

Catastrophic illnesses and emergency needs will be in the future of many. We should be prepared to help.

6. Disability Protection

We must share with the local congregation the responsibility of caring for a disabled pastor.

7. Lay Workers

More young people must be challenged to answer the call to lifetime service. We cannot sustain the continuing drain on pastoral leadership to fill positions which non-ordained leaders can and must fill.

In addition to the employees our retirement services now require, future needed personnel will include: ministers

to the elderly, nursing home chaplains, investment officers, financial managers, attorneys, computer programmers and operators, counselors, directors of retirement ministries, communications specialists, etc.

If we broaden our range of services to fulfill our responsibilities, we must strengthen our present financial base. There are several ways you can help.

Contribute regularly to our *Memorial Endowment Fund*. The initial contribution to this fund was made by an Oklahoma laywoman through a bequest in her will. The principal will remain unspent and only the earnings used toward the retirement needs of pension members.

Make *Memorial Gifts*. Instead of flowers send a gift to our ministry at the death of a friend or loved one. We send an appropriate card to the family.

Remember our ministries *Through Your Will* with a gift of cash or property. One future contribution has already been provided through a life estate agreement. At the death of the donor, our ministries will receive the property.

List our ministry as beneficiary or co-beneficiary of one of your *Life Insurance Policies*.

Plan now for your annual *Father’s Day Offering* on June 19. Give a special gift to provide for the needs of today’s and tomorrow’s ministers, missionaries and church employees while honoring our founding fathers.

Take a Forward Look and Help Us Build Toward the Future.

----- clip and mail this form with your check -----

FATHER’S DAY OFFERING 1988
honoring our founding fathers

Enclosed is my gift. () Place it in the Memorial Endowment Fund or
() Use it where it is needed the most

() In memory of _____

Notify _____

() In honor of _____

Notify _____

_____ () \$50 () \$25 () \$20 () \$15 () \$10 _____



Woman's Window

on the World

By Mary R. Wisheart



From My Window

"Noooo. That way," he insisted. And the two-year-old planted his feet firmly in the airport corridor and watched his mother walk away.

"All right, then," she said. "Goodbye, if you're not coming with me."

He stood perfectly still, looking after her as though thinking, "How far will she go without me?"

"Aren't you coming?"

The little toes half turned and pointed in the opposite direction.

"Come on," his mother kept encouraging.

Then suddenly he turned and flung himself in her direction. "I want to hold your hand," he cried. But he wanted to hold her hand going his way, not hers. The corridor was filled with, "No, I want to go that way."

Stubborn child!

Surely none of God's adult children ever act like that.

We want His provision, His blessing. We want to hold His hand. But how often we insist on holding it going our way, if you please.

We want to make our own plans and then have Him bless them; map out our own route and invite Him along in case we have trouble. And trouble is inevitable.

God wants to save us from the destructiveness of our own way. He will choose what's best for us as only He can do from His perspective of past, present and future.

Insisting on our own way leads always to ruin. Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

WNAC's Fifth National Retreat

Ridgecrest, North Carolina

September 8-10, 1988

For more information write

WNAC Retreat

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, TN 37202

Eunice Edwards Fund

February 26, 1988—\$10,438.10

Introducing Women to WNAC

When a woman joins your church, does she get an immediate invitation and introduction to Woman's Auxiliary?

How do you acquaint her with your woman's group?

The WNAC office recently designed a get-acquainted packet especially for new church members.

Write for WNAC Introductory Packet, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202. Request as many as you can use. These packets will also be available in July at the booth during the convention in Kansas City.

Personalize the packets by adding a sheet about your Auxiliary, officer's names, and special invitation to the next meeting.

Opportunities

WNAC workers need two secretarial chairs, available for about \$200 each.

The copier, a used one when purchased about five years ago, needs to be replaced. A copier which enlarges and reduces will help the office workers and the editor also. The cost will be about \$1,000.



ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

A Skunk Goes to Florida

"Oh, that's terrible," said Mrs. Lane to Grandma Lane over the phone. "I'm so sorry, but don't you worry about a thing. I'll be there. Bye for now." Mrs. Lane hung up the phone and sank down into a chair with a sigh.

"What's wrong?" asked Megan.

"Grandma Lane is sick. She has to go to the hospital for an operation. I need to go to Iowa and help take care of her," answered Mrs. Lane.

"Yippee!" cried Marty. "We get to go to Grandma and Grandpa Lane's."

"No, Son. I didn't say, 'we.' I said, 'I need to go. I'm not going on vacation. I'm going to help. Grandma and Grandpa don't feel like company right now.'" said Mrs. Lane.

"Me go too," Jeff insisted.

"Sorry," said Marty. "We don't get to go. We're stuck right here."

"Maybe not," answered their mother. "Maybe you kids can go visit Aunt Judy in Florida while I'm gone. I'll talk it over with Daddy when he gets home from work."

"Hooray!" shrieked Megan.

"Oh, no," groaned Marty. "Not Aunt Judy's. Don't make us go there."

When Mr. Lane came home from work that evening he and Mrs. Lane decided that it would be best for the children to go to Aunt Judy's for the week. That way they would be taken care of while he was working, and Mrs. Lane could go to Iowa and help Grandma concentrate on getting well. They called Aunt Judy, and she said that she would be delighted to have the little Lanes as her guests. And since she was a school teacher and out for the summer, she would have plenty of time to take care of them.

Early the next morning Mr. Lane drove everyone to the airport. First of all, Mrs. Lane boarded a plane for Iowa. Then Mr. Lane, Marty, Megan and Jeff walked down the long airport to Gate 17.

"Don't worry about a thing," said Mr. Lane. "The stewardess is going to take care of you on the plane. And as soon as you get off Aunt Judy will be waiting for you."

"I don't know," said Marty. He didn't like the idea of traveling so far from home with only his 8-year-old sister and 3-year-old brother for companions. "What if Jeff gets sick or what if there's a hijacker on board or what if. . . ."

"Calm down, Son," said Mr. Lane. "Everything's going to be fine. Here's the stewardess now."

Mr. Lane gave each child a hug and a kiss, and they followed the stewardess. "Bye, I love you," called their daddy.

"Wow, look at the cockpit, Marty," said Megan as they stepped on board the big airliner.

Jeff's eyes grew wide at the sight of the uniformed pilot and many controls and dials.

"Umph," said Marty.

The stewardess helped the children buckle their seat belts. Then she hurried off to help other passengers find their seats.

"Isn't this exciting!" squealed Megan. "I can't believe Mama and Daddy are letting us fly on an airplane all by ourselves. I love it."

"I don't," grumbled Marty. "Look at that man over there with the black moustache. I bet he has a gun in that briefcase. I bet he's going to blow up. . . ."

"Marty, don't be silly," interrupted Megan.

The engines started and soon the jet was moving down the runway. Megan and Jeff stretched their necks to see out the window. The plane picked up speed and nosed upward. Megan and Jeff watched in wonder as the buildings and cars grew smaller and finally disappeared. Then they were surrounded with blue skies and wisps of white clouds. Megan and Jeff thought

flying was super. Marty just read the emergency instructions posted on the seat in front of him.

Megan noticed that the blue sky was turning grey. Outside a storm was brewing, and the ride was getting rough.

The stewardess went to the microphone. "I'm sorry for any discomfort, but we are experiencing some turbulence due to the storm."

"Yippee," cried Jeff, "this is fun." The plane was bouncing and dipping.

"This is like a roller coaster," cried Megan. "Isn't it great?"

All too soon for Jeff and Megan, and not nearly soon enough for Marty, the plane landed with such a thud that their stomachs bounced. The stewardess escorted them out, and sure enough, there was Aunt Judy.

All the way home Aunt Judy, Megan and Jeff chatted cheerfully about the flight and all the fun things the week held in store. But not Marty.

"Marty, what's wrong?" asked Aunt Judy. "You've hardly said a word. Did that plane ride give you an upset stomach?"

"Don't pay any attention to him," answered Megan. "He's just a grouch because he didn't get to go with Mama to Grandma and Grandpa Lane's."

"I am sorry, Marty," said Aunt Judy. "But I promise we're going to have a good time. You'll see."

"Yes, ma'am," said Marty. But he didn't believe it.

The days in Florida were filled with sunshine and fun. And they zipped by for Megan and Jeff. Before they knew it, the Lane children were back on an airplane headed for home and Mama and Daddy.

The plane landed and the kids spotted their parents. Everyone was hugging and kissing and talking at once.

"How's Grandma?" asked Marty.

(continued on page 30) ...



Green Tree Bible Study



Robert E. Picirilli

Psalm 19

The Two Books of God's Revelation

God has revealed Himself: that is at the heart of our faith. And He has done so in more ways than one: in three, in fact—the third being in the person of His only Son, the living Word.

In Psalm 19 David, the prince of Israel's singers, contemplates the first two: the Book of Nature and the Book of Scripture. Most commentators will agree that this psalm naturally divides into three parts.

First, in vv. 1-6, *creation shows God's glory*. Spurgeon wrote: "The book of nature has three leaves, heaven, earth, and sea, of which heaven is the first and most glorious." No doubt David had contemplated the finger of God in the heavens since his earliest days keeping his family's flock under the sky and the stars.

The two clauses of v. 1 are parallel (one of the common characteristics of Hebrew poetry). Then "the firmament" is the same as "the heavens"—the expanse of space that stretches out above us day and night. There a message is written large; those heavens tell of God's glory by revealing the work of His hands.

Verses 2-4a develop the thought of that message. The Hebrew word translated "uttereth" actually means to gush forth. Each passing day and night are replete with testimony and tidings that yield knowledge of God.

It may be that the supplied words in v. 3 (italicized in the KJV) are unnecessary. In that case, the verse would read: "No speech, no words; their voice is not heard"—meaning that the message preached by the heavens is not by ordinary spoken words. Regardless, the spirit of the usual reading is correct: the

words of the skies are understood in any language.

The "line" in v. 4a is, technically, a measuring line. The whole earth has been measured off as the dominion where the testimony written in the expanse above us is given. Nowhere is this witness silent; it reaches to the ends of the earth.

In vv. 4b-6 David singles out one of the phenomena of the heavens for special mention. There the sun makes its dwelling place. Each morning, like a bridegroom coming forth from the bridal chamber after the wedding night, the sun rises with joyous energy and light. Each day, like a champion athlete, it runs its course from east to west. Nothing can escape its light and heat. Day after day it gives strong testimony to the glory of its Creator.

Second, in vv. 7-11, *the written Word shows God's grace*. This is the second of God's Books of revelation. And we should not overlook that, in vv. 1-6, it is *God* (Hebrew *El*) that is revealed, whereas in vv. 7-11 it is *the Lord* (Hebrew *Yehovah*)—"Jehovah" (Yahweh), the Lord known by His personal name. Only the second Book of God gives enough content for a person to know Him personally and savingly.

In the Mosaic economy, "the law" was the Mosaic system. But in any economy, "the law of God" is the written revelation of His will, intended as it is to have dominion over those who are subject to Him. David uses several words or phrases as a variety of names for God's written revelation: the testimony of the Lord, the statutes of the Lord, the commandment of the Lord,

the fear of the Lord, the judgments of the Lord.

Like the facets of a beautiful diamond, God's Word manifests all these characteristics. It gives wisdom to those easily led astray (v. 7); an inner and joyous consciousness that one is in the right way (v. 8a); and enlightenment, which not only refers to understanding but to the brightening of one's whole life (v. 8b).

God's written revelation of Himself should therefore be the object of one's desire, with a passion greater than that for great treasure or pleasure (v. 10). His words successfully warn of dangers and so provide escape; likewise they tell of ways that lead to blessing and so provide reward (v. 11). Only a fool will ignore such unerring guidance.

Third, in vv. 12-14, *the psalmist prays for grace*. David has not only seen God in the two books of His self-revelation, he has thus seen himself. And so he prays for forgiveness, cleansing and help. He knows enough to know that he must not presume to know himself as God knows him (v. 12a). He prays for justification (v. 12b), and he prays for sanctification (v. 13).

Presumptuous sins are wilful, deliberate sins. If one is not soon rid of them, they become dominant sins. And that can lead, finally, to "the great transgression." As Keil and Delitzsch say, this is sin "which breaks through man's relation of favour with God, and consequently casts him out of favour,—in one word, apostasy." No one can see God revealed and fail to be conscious of his own need for God's grace lest he be cast off forever into Hell.



TEEN Scene

Truth and Peace Youth Leadership Conference



The 1988 Truth and Peace Youth Leadership Conference will blast off on the Fourth of July! Fifty high school youth from 16 states will arrive in Nashville, Tenn., to begin the intensive three-week conference. The 25 young ladies and 25 young men were selected from over 200 applicants.

The theme for the seminar program is "Proclaim Liberty! Looking In . . . Reaching Out." Seminars led by various denominational personalities will help the youth to "look in" and deal with their own spiritual needs and "reach out" to others in need.

Week one will be conducted at Happy Hill Camp near Clarksville, Tenn. The second week will be housed on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College. The group will be chartered to the National Youth Conference in Kansas City, Mo., for the final week. During the National Youth Conference the youth will assume many leadership capacities. They will present special music Sunday evening. They will also present the Youth Banquet program Tuesday evening.

The entire three-week conference will sport a patriotic flair beginning with a Fourth of July welcome and concluding with the theme of "Proclaim Liberty!" at the National Youth Conference.

Peace Participants

Diann Ball—Cleveland, OH
 Lori Burgdoerfer—Morehead, KY
 Traci Epps—Locust Grove, OK
 Aimee Floyd—Turbeville, SC
 Shelly Furman—Harrell-Choctaw, OK
 Lisa Griffus—Decatur, AL
 Debbie Hamilton—Morehead, KY
 Leslie Hampton—Nashville, TN
 Ginger Harrison—Flat River, MO
 Marlene Hartman—Kansas City, MO
 Kim Haynes—Sapulpa, OK
 Joann Hollingshead—Edwardsville, IL
 Kim Jenkins—Springdale, AR
 Lea Kingsmill—Antioch, TN
 Leah Kirkpatrick—Arkadelphia, AR
 Melissa Konopinski—Oklahoma City, OK
 Michelle Laughlin—Cisne, IL
 Angel Lawson—Bradley, WV
 Denise McClintock—Wood River, IL
 Lori McGlone—Huntington, WV
 Michelle Miley—Cottonwood, AL
 Paulette Munn—Liberal, MO
 Rhonda Nexsen—Cades, SC
 Paige Powell—Nashville, TN
 Kim Wilson—Bryan, TX

Truth Participants

Eric Anderson—Grand Prairie, TX
 Kyle Baker—Thayer, MO
 J. J. Byrd—Batesville, AR
 Collin Cherry—Desha, AR

Brian Christian—Tupelo, MS
 Rod Daniel—Albany, GA
 Jim Harris—Rowlett, TX
 Mike King—Pryor, OK
 Gary Lober—Julliette, GA
 David Outlaw—Nashville, TN
 Bryan Pate—Nashville, TN
 Craig Roberts—Sesser, IL
 Gene Robertson—Mason, IL
 Brad Savage—Fort Smith, AR
 Kevin Scott—Bridgeton, MO
 Chris Spradlin—Duncanville, TX
 Richard Terry—Moore, OK
 Chris Truett—Smithfield, NC
 Ryan Vallance—Huntington, WV
 David Walls—Florissant, MO
 Darren Walker—Pontiac, MI
 Kirk Welch—Greenville, NC
 Kreston Welch—Greenville, NC
 Anthony Williams—Haines City, FL
 Kevin Young—Bowling Green, KY

Especially
For Young
Preachers

How to Make Your Clothes Last Longer

"The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer" (Proverbs 30:25).

Did you read the proverb? Ants are not strong, neither are preachers rich. But ants prepare for the winter, and preachers must be just as wise in providing adequate clothing in a profession that demands clean, neat, durable apparel on a limited income.

1. Purchase quality clothes at sale prices. Special purchases or some sale items may not be the best deal. Check local stores for the regular price of clothes you want to wear. Then wait for the merchandise to go on sale.
2. Rotate wearing your clothes. Hang them in a closet with plenty of space.
3. Do not hang your clothes on bedposts, doorknobs or chairs.
4. When you come home change clothes immediately, unless you plan to leave again in a few hours. Hang the good clothes in the closet and put on neat, casual clothes.
5. Have your clothes cleaned periodically. Even though it's expensive, you extend the life of the apparel.
6. Wash your ties at least once a year.
7. Polish your shoes weekly. Keep a shine rag in your study and car for quick brush ups.
8. Install plastic taps to avoid wearing out shoe heels.
9. For good stewardship, wear your clothes and shoes as long as possible.
10. Purchase the same style and color of socks. Connect your socks together immediately when you take them off. (You can buy small, round, plastic connectors that work well.)
11. Purchase clothes that match and can be used interchangeably.
12. Remove stains immediately.
13. Don't be ashamed to wear an apron in the kitchen or place a napkin in your lap at the table.
14. A good dresser doesn't have to be rich, just wise and frugal.

Next Month: Attend the National Association

Dennis Wiggs

Little Lanes ... (from page 26)

"How was your trip?" asked Mrs. Lane.

"Did you miss me?" asked Jeff.

After the Lanes found their luggage and began driving home, Mr. Lane said, "Now, tell us all about your trip. Was the weather nice in Florida?"

"Terrible," muttered Marty. "Too hot."

"It was hot," said Megan, "but it wasn't terrible. It was terrific. We got to go to the beach lots of times and Aunt Judy let us cool off with her garden hose."

"Did you like flying?" asked Mama.

"No way," snapped Marty. "There was a bad storm. It was scary."

"It was neat," said Jeff. "Just like jumping on a trampoline."

"Did Aunt Judy do a lot of fun things with you?" asked Mr. Lane.

"Boy, did she," answered Megan. We went to the zoo, to an amusement park, to the library, to a park, to the mall. It was super."

"She 'bout walked my legs off," griped Marty. "Doesn't that woman ever stay home?"

"We had good food too," added Jeff.

"Pizza, hamburgers, corn dogs, ice cream. . . ."

"Yes, sir," said Megan, "we got to eat out all the time. It was fun."

"I'm so tired of eating out," groaned Marty. "Mom, I want some of your home cooking so bad."

Well, it sounds like your trip was great," said Mr. Lane. "At least Megan's and Jeff's trip was. Marty, are you sure you went on the same trip?" chuckled his daddy.

"Marty, I don't think you've said one nice thing about the whole week," added Mrs. Lane.

"I loved it," sighed Megan.

"Me too," added Jeff.

"I hated it," mumbled Marty. "The whole thing stunk."

"Marty, you remind me of a little skunk I once knew," said Mr. Lane.

"Daddy, did you really know a skunk?" questioned Megan. Sometimes she didn't know when her daddy was teasing.

"Of course," said Mr. Lane with a merry twinkle in his eye. "One morning a skunk woke up and said, 'Shooooo-wee! These woods stink. I'm going to walk to the meadow of clover where the air is fresh and clean.' So he walked out onto the meadow of clover and sniffed the air with his little black nose. 'It still stinks,' said he. So on he walked.



NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

AT&T TO STOP BILLING DIAL-A-PORN

TUPELO, MS (EP)—The American Family Association (AFA) says the decision by AT&T to stop billing for "dial-a-porn" companies is a positive step that could deal a serious blow to the billion-dollar-a-year business.

AFA Executive Director Donald E. Wildmon says the AFA had been trying to get AT&T to stop the billing service for several months, with much correspondence and communication between AT&T and AFA, but without any success. Last December Wildmon wrote AT&T Chairman James Olsan asking that AT&T get out of the porn business, and promised that AFA would begin a massive effort to get AT&T customers to switch to other long-distance carriers if AT&T did not do so.

"We became convinced that AT&T would not get out of the dial-a-porn business unless it was going to cost them more money than it brought in," explained Wildmon, a United Methodist minister. "Moral persuasion, combined with economic persuasion, proved effective."

Dial-a-porn companies offer sexually explicit recorded messages for a fee. Before AT&T's January 6 decision, the communications giant acted as a billing service for such companies, charging


"Presently, he came to the blue pond. The furry little creature took a whiff of the air and said disgustedly, 'It still stinks.' Onward trudged the little black and white skunk. He walked down into the cool valley of pines and then up to the top of the green hill. 'Alas,' he said, 'it still stinks. Everywhere I go it stinks.' Growing tired, he gave up his search for clean, fresh air and returned to his home in the woods. And, yes, it still stunk."

"That's because he *was* the stink," said Megan. "He was making the air stink."

"That's right," said Daddy. "He carried the stink with him everywhere he went. And I think Marty carried the stink with him to Florida to Aunt Judy's."

Marty blushed.

"How do you plead?" asked Mr. Lane. "Guilty or not guilty?"

Marty was ashamed of himself. "Guilty," he said. "I'm the skunk." 

People don't find happiness; they carry it with them.

customers for dial-a-porn calls in their monthly phone bills, and paying the porn services directly. AT&T's decision to stop acting as a middle man for dial-a-porn will make it more difficult for such companies to profit from their services.

"We appreciate the decision by AT&T," said Wildmon. "We feel that it is a significant step in the effort to stop dial-a-porn." Wildmon said he hoped regional phone companies would join AT&T in refusing to provide billing services. Wildmon also said AFA would not pursue threatened actions against AT&T.

SURVEY SHOWS 43 PERCENT OF CHURCH KIDS HAVE SEX

DALLAS, TX (EP)—Over 40 percent of teenagers who attend conservative churches have engaged in sexual intercourse by the time they are 18 years old, according to a survey released by Josh McDowell Ministries.

The "Teen Sex Survey in the Evangelical Church" found that although 65 percent of "churched youth" believed intercourse outside of marriage was never acceptable, 43 percent of those responding to a confidential four-page questionnaire said they had had sexual intercourse by their 18th birthday; 35 percent of 17-year-olds reported sexual intercourse; 26 percent of 16-year-olds said they had had sex.

A greater number, 65 percent, said they have had some form of sexual contact beyond hugging and kissing. "That's in the church," exclaims McDowell. "It's almost identical to the world around us."

National polls show that 57 percent of the nation's 17-year-olds have had sex, as have 46 percent of the 16-year-olds, and 29 percent of the 15-year-olds.


The poll also showed that even churched teens are uncertain about the moral implications of premarital sex. Of those polled, 36 percent said premarital sex has no moral implications; more than 20 percent said, "sometimes."

Church youths are no strangers to pornography either, the poll indicated. In the previous six months, 12 percent of the teens polled had seen a pornographic picture or film.

McDowell's questionnaire was given to 1,438 kids aged 12 to 18 in Indiana, Nebraska, Missouri, Tennessee and New Jersey. Eight evangelical denominations participated in the survey, which studied teens who regularly attend church services. The number of youths returning the survey was unclear, as was the method of selecting respondents.

Despite the survey's finding that a high percentage of churched teens who have engaged in sex, McDowell says, "I'm convinced that most teens do not want to be sexually active."

McDowell has started a new campaign, titled, "WHY WAIT?" Its goal is to provide Christian teens with reasons to abstain from sexual activity before marriage. Though teenage sexuality is a crisis in the unchurched world as well, McDowell is currently aiming only at church youth. "The problem within the world is so great," he admits. "We're called to be a light unto the world but it doesn't do much good to put the lamp out there because it's not burning brightly. We need to get our own lamp burning brightly."

McDowell has prepared books and other educational materials as part of the "WHY WAIT?" campaign. For further information, call toll-free 800/222-JOSH. 



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

The Education Challenge



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

Several months ago I had dinner with the president of a leading Christian college. He asked how many accredited liberal arts colleges we had to serve the 2,500 churches in our denomination, and how many seminaries to train our church workers and pastoral candidates.

He asked, "Have you wondered why your churches do not have more lawyers, bankers, doctors, educational and professional people?" He said quietly, "It's because you do not have a place to train them. Loyal laymen are produced in denominational colleges."

He said that we could have one of the largest accredited Christian liberal arts colleges in the country. Perhaps he does not understand Free Will Baptists, but I suspect he does understand educational needs of youth. Since that evening, there has burned in my soul a desire to challenge Free Will Baptist colleges to meet the educational needs of the next 25 years.

Fresh Concept

We must recognize the validity of non-traditional approaches to education. For instance, classes could meet on Friday and Saturday, in the evenings, one day a week, weekly seminars—whatever's best for the student.

Extension courses. Students gather in a specific place and a teacher goes to that location. One Christian college operates 20 extension centers with 8,000 students.

The Master of Ministry program offered at Free Will Baptist Bible College could, in my opinion, be offered at extension centers around the country. Week-long sessions could be offered at all our colleges with graduate professors traveling to the colleges. A vast potential exists for recruitment of students and promotion of the Master of Ministry program.

External courses. A number of colleges, seminaries and graduate schools harness audio visuals and use external courses to great advantage. Free Will Baptists need not be slow to investigate such programs and implement them.

Evening courses. Evening schools help working people get an education. This program proves successful in vocational-technical institutes and continuing education programs for adults.

Flexible Curriculum

Today's college student faces a complex society. Pastoral candidates need a broad, balanced and blended program. Continue Bible, theology, Greek, Hebrew, philosophy; but along with them teach business management, administration, fundraising and others.

Christian workers need a solid four-year accredited liberal arts education and then specialized theological and practical training in a seminary program. We cannot fully train Christian workers in four years.

Our ministers and youth confront the same problems as young people in other groups. How sad when one says, "Free Will Baptist colleges do not offer any courses in the field of service where

God has called me."

We must not neglect the masses of young people and minister to a few. Declining enrollments imply that we are not meeting the educational needs of students. Everyone has not been called to preach, to be a home or foreign missionary, music director, Christian school teacher or youth director.

Christian College

We need an accredited Christian liberal arts college—a place where doctors, lawyers, teachers, public servants, dentists and psychologists can be trained. Such a college is not mere fantasy.

The Bible college curriculum that worked well in the 1950's must be reworked to address the needs of the 1990's and on into the next century. Colleges that refuse to adapt to the needs of a changing educational environment will decline and die.

Concluding Challenge

As I travel among our people, I am keenly aware of a void in our ranks among the college age group. That can change if we get down to business educationally. Many of our people graduated from secular colleges because we did not provide a college which met their educational needs. That can change.

I believe it's time we addressed our educational philosophy, policies and programs. Painful? Yes, but it must be done. Why lose any more youth to other groups simply because we offer them no educational challenge!

Free Will Baptist colleges can gear up to meet the changing educational scene. We can keep pace with educational needs of our people. Let's take a long look at our colleges, then do what's necessary to get the job done.

Secretary's Schedule

- May 1-6** Central FWB Church
Huntington, WV
- May 7** Blue Grass Assoc., KY
- May 13-14** Northwest District Association
Salem, OR
- May 15** First FWB Church
Clovis, CA
- May 16-18** Convention Site Inspection
Fresno, CA
- May 19-21** California State Association
Bakersfield, CA
- May 22** Memorial FWB Church
Fresno, CA
- May 24-28** Convention Planning Trip
Kansas City, MO

CONTACT

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

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Free Will Baptist Bible College's

Summer Camp '88



Music Camp—June 20-26, 1988

Thousands of Free Will Baptists have been blessed by the ministry of the Bible College Choir and other music groups. Here is an opportunity to train under some of those who have trained these outstanding groups. The Music Camp features training and experience in voice, keyboard and brass with members of the FWBBC Music Department faculty and students.



Drama Camp—June 20-26, 1988

The ministry of Christian drama has been rediscovered in recent days. Tours by Bible College drama groups have made an impact on Free Will Baptists across the denomination. Now young people can learn make-up, costuming, lighting and performance under the guidance of FWBBC speech teachers and students.

NEW!



Basketball Camp—August 8-13, 1988

For the first time, the Bible College is offering a basketball camp for young men who want to improve their skills, while they grow spiritually with others from across the denomination. This camp will be supervised by the FWBBC physical education staff, as well as members of *The Flames*, the college's new intercollegiate basketball team.

Summer Camp '88 is open to high school students who are in grades 9-12 this year, and who have a desire to sharpen their skills in music, drama and basketball in order to better serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

The total cost for one week—including room, board, activities, etc.—is just \$145. A \$15-deposit is required with registration.

For more information and a registration form, write or call today:

Summer Camp' 88

Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205