

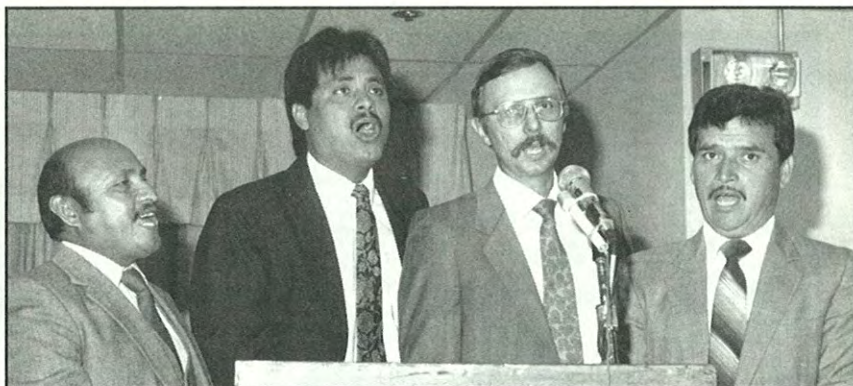
September 1990

Cntact

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



*Illinois General Board member,
Wallace Malone.*



Mexican Quartet sings at Master's Men Dinner.

Phoenix 1990



Junior High curriculum writers Keith and Sarah Fletcher.



Wednesday night speaker, Larry Powell.

Growing for God's Glory!

By Thomas Marberry



Convention registration in the Lobby at Phoenix Civic Plaza.

Every summer Free Will Baptists from all around the nation gather to worship, sing, pray, hear reports and transact the business of the denomination. This is the only time during the year that many of us get the opportunity to work and fellowship together.

The theme for Convention '90 was "Growing for God's Glory." It was fitting that the 54th annual national convention met for the first time in Phoenix, Arizona. This convention marked the end of the National Association's Target 90 Campaign. The five-year growth campaign had a two-fold thrust—100 new churches and 50,000 net membership increase.

The denomination came close to achieving both objectives. We planted more than 100 new

churches during the first four years of the campaign. We demonstrated a net membership increase of 21,488 during the five years of the campaign with 33,512 new converts baptized.

Convention '90 began with a spirit of optimism, fellowship and cooperation. Saturday evening preceding the convention an organizational service was held for Heritage FWB Church in Gilbert, Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix. Heritage is the first of five mission churches in the Phoenix area to be organized.

Ralph Hampton, moderator of the National Association, expressed his hopes for the week, "My greatest desire is that God will ignite a spark of revival in our hearts this week. We need that to live for Him in these times and we need it to fulfill the mission He has given us."

Several factors helped make this an enjoyable time for those who attended. Convention facilities were large and clean. There was sufficient space to house all our Sunday School classes in one building. The exhibit area provided abundant room for booths as well as tables and chairs where convention guests could sit and relax. The facilities were among the finest we have had in recent years.

The most important factor, however, was the warm welcome we received from Arizona Free Will Baptists. They are few in number but fervent in spirit.

A large crowd arrived early Sunday morning. They were eager to meet new friends, renew old friendships and share the things of God. They were not disappointed.

Growing in Worship

Worship is the central focus of every national convention. We can grow as a denomination only as we involve people in the worship of God. Preaching, praying and singing are key elements in worship. We had all three in Phoenix.

One thing was different. This year each preacher was free to select his own text and subject. This change was well received by most people. The different subjects all related in different ways to the subject of growth.

Sunday Morning

Rev. Ken Walker of Ashland, Kentucky, preached the first convention sermon Sunday morning. He chose as his text Matthew 5:43-48. He explained how believers can outdo the world in our loving, in our living, in our priorities and in our longing for God.

Sunday Evening

Sunday evening Rev. J. B. Varney of Taylor, Michigan, focused on the need to care for the entire family of believers. His sermon showed that we must provide adequate salary, retirement and insurance for our ministers if we expect to grow. He also shared with the congregation the note he received from his wife a few hours before he preached: "I love you. Be calm. God is with you. Be not afraid. Notice your words. Don't get too fast or too loud. God is with you."

Monday Evening

Monday evening Rev. David Joslin, promotional director for Arkansas Free Will Baptists, preached from I Kings 19:19-21, Mark 10:29-30 and Acts 1:4-8. He spoke on the call, cost, commitment and compensation of the disciple.

Tuesday Bible Conference

During the Tuesday morning Bible Conference George Crowden of Oxford, Mississippi, preached from Psalm 91. He shared the seven "I

Wills" that God promised His people. North Carolina's Rev. Milton Hollifield preached the second Bible Conference sermon on "When Our Works are Tried by Fire," from I Corinthians 3:10-15. He reminded us that we will be judged for our motives, our methods and our management.

Tuesday Evening

The Tuesday evening preacher was Jim Shepherd, president of Hillsdale FWB College. He spoke on the nature of the Christian life from



Tuesday night speaker, Jim Shepherd.

Colossians 3:1-4. He told that the Christian life is a conformed life, a confident life and a coming life. He challenged us to be citizens of God's kingdom, not just citizens of this present world.

Wednesday Evening

The Wednesday evening missions service is frequently the highlight of national conventions and that was the case this year. Our preacher was veteran pastor and home missionary, Larry Powell who pastors in Nashville, Tennessee. He preached from Matthew 5:13-16 on "The Salty Tang." He challenged us to be the kind of "salt" that God can use in this world to accomplish the task of world evangelism. —>

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Circulation: Geneva Trotter

Volume 37, No. 9

CONTACT (ISSN 0573-7796), published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 1134 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37217. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Post Office Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Phone 615/361-1010. Subscription rates: 1 year, \$10.00; church family plan \$8.50 per year; church bundle plan \$9.00 per year. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Copyright privileges, reserved © 1990 Member of the Evangelical Press Association. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CONTACT, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

USPS 130-660

Growing (from page 3)

Music

Convention '90 featured outstanding preaching; it also enjoyed outstanding vocal and instrumental music. Singing groups from all four of our Free Will Baptist colleges sang. All four singing groups sang together for the first time as part of Tuesday evening's service. It was a pleasure to see this kind of cooperation between our educational institutions.

Several other groups helped create an atmosphere of worship in the services including Truth and Peace, the Mass Adult Choir, the Men's Chorale and the Mexican Quartet.

The convention also featured outstanding solos by Evangelist Bob Thomas, Malcolm Fry and Lisa Wallace. The entire congregation enjoyed Herman Hersey's piano solo Monday evening and a trumpet solo by Brad Williams Sunday evening. Mike Lewis sang at the Bible Conference.

Wednesday evening during the missions service Enrique Jimenez



Brad Williams trumpets the Sunday evening call to worship.

Soler from one of our mission churches in Spain sang, "I'm So Glad You Gave" in English. His song produced a hearty response.

Todd Parrish served as organist, Jerry Carraway as pianist. They provided preludes, postludes and accom-

panied the congregational singing. They contributed much to the atmosphere of worship. Wednesday evening the congregation sang a new chorus, "Lord, Have Your Will in Me," written by Evangelist Wade Jernigan.

Growing in Evangelism

In 1985 the National Association set a goal of five new churches in the Phoenix area by the time the convention met in 1990. Home Missions Director Roy Thomas reported that four missions had been started. Missionary George Harvey has been appointed to begin the fifth church.

Convention '90 gave Free Will Baptists the opportunity to see what God has been doing in the Phoenix area during these five years. We met a number of those who have come to know Christ as a result of home missions work done by Free Will Baptists.

Home Missions

These new churches do not represent the entire home missions activity of our denomination. Roy Thomas reported that during 1989 the Home Missions Department had 64 missionary families and associate missionaries serving in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, Mexico and the Virgin Islands. Eight Free Will Baptist chaplains serve in the armed forces.

During the past year Missionary Builder Howard Gwartney and his crew of volunteers assisted four missionaries in erecting new church buildings. A crew of 20 laymen went to the Virgin Islands to help repair damage done by Hurricane Hugo.

The Church Extension Loan Fund grew to \$1.6 million. Five missionaries led their churches to self-supporting status. Income for the department during the year grew to \$1.8

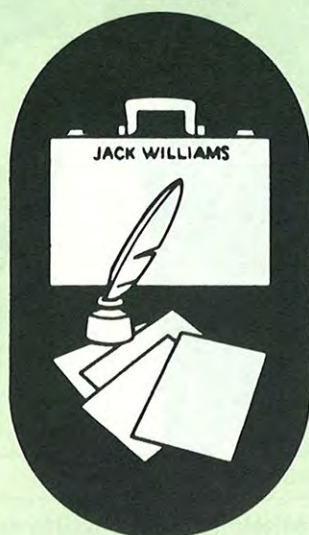


Home Missions booth in exhibit area.

(Continued on page 6)

When the Snake's Real

Briefcase



Missionary to Kenya, Vera Steury was folding clothes in the back room of her house when she heard the jingle of Maasai ankle bracelets crossing the yard. Suddenly the jingles stopped and a woman yelled, "Ai! Ai! Ketii olasurai sapuk oleng." Which loosely translated means, "Boy, howdy, there's a BIG snake!"

Since the yelling came from outside her back door, Vera went to investigate, all the time thinking, "Now how am I going to kill a big snake?"

She opened the door to find three Maasai women staring in horror at her garden hose! After she explained, the women got a cool drink from the snake and went on their way.

Vera said, "It made me realize that...things are certainly not always what they appear to be on the surface....Like the old ladies and the snake, it takes someone who knows to see past the fear."

But what do we do when the snakes in life are real? Sometimes the iron grip of tragedy fills our homes with heartache. The scream at the back door means tears instead of laughter.

Let me suggest four responses when faced with economic disaster, personal grief, spiritual crisis or nagging problems that won't go away.

Do all you can. The normal

Christian life will solve most spiritual, social and economic crises. Just as proper nutrition and exercise boost good health, consistent spiritual habits produce Christian maturity.

For instance, regular church attendance can't ward off a shutdown at the plant, but it will surround you with caring friends to advise and help pull you through tough times. While Bible reading doesn't lower interest rates, Bible business principles will keep you out of unnecessary debt.

That's also true with interpersonal relationships and domestic matters. Common sense Bible verses tell us how to treat the neighbors, the environment, the boss and even the government. Peace of mind rises like a morning mist from the pages of the Bible.

So you get in over your head. Does that mean you've done something wrong if you face surgery or your business fails or tragedy strikes your family? Absolutely not! There's no guarantee that life won't turn like a mad dog and bite you.

Wait for God to work. After dancing out of Egypt with dreams of freedom and the promised land, Israel found themselves between the devil and the deep blue sea (actually the Red Sea). Through no fault of their own, their escape from slavery was threatened by an angry king. No power on earth could save them.

They had no choice but to wait on God. That's exactly what they did, and that's *all* they did. With the sword at Israel's throat, Moses said, "...Fear ye not, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord" (Ex. 14:13).

Sometimes we get in so much trouble that only God can get us out. We fret and struggle to no avail. But when God touches the circumstances, oceans curl obediently at His feet like warm kittens, and enemies vanish beneath the waves of His fury. Know when it's time to quit pushing and wait on God.

Trust in God when you don't understand why things happen the way they do. After Job dug 10 fresh

graves and saw his life's work swept away like chaff in a whirlwind, he did something amazing. He fell to the ground, worshipped God and said, "...the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21).

Gerald Kennedy tells about some girls hearing the story of Abraham and his sacrifice of Isaac. The teacher's dramatic touch made it live. As the story approached its climax, a nervous little girl burst out, "Oh, please don't go on—this story is too terrible."

But a second girl spoke up: "Oh, Mary, don't be silly. This is one of God's stories, and they always come out right." Not even Job said it better.

Pray that God will change the impossible. The New Testament Church was terrorized by Saul of Tarsus. He was part of the group that murdered Stephen (Acts 7:58). He imprisoned believers (8:3) and made "havoc of the church."

By Acts 9, Saul's persecution tactics were legendary. No doubt more than one Son of Thunder wanted to call down fire on the unreasonable young intellectual so driven by fanaticism. Fortunately, somebody prayed.

The answer to that prayer provides one of the most dramatic conversion stories ever told. It also captured the disciplined mind that would write half the New Testament, dislodge idolatry from Asia to Europe, and trigger the great missionary movement. God's solution to Saul was an altar call on the road to Damascus.

A little girl told a friend that her brothers set traps to catch birds. He asked what she did and she replied, "I prayed that the traps might not catch the birds."

"Anything else?" he asked.

"Yes," she said, "I prayed that God would keep the birds out of the traps."

"Anything else?"

"Yes, then I went and kicked the traps all to pieces!"

That young woman understood that when the snakes are real life needs action as well as prayers.

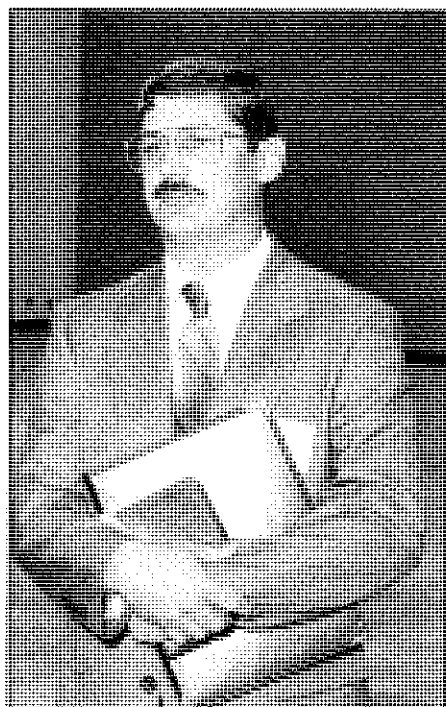


Growing (from page 4)

million. Roll Call Sunday 1989 saw a record attendance of 269,425 with 569 people saved. These facts and figures bear eloquent testimony to the fact that God is at work among us.

Foreign Missions

Free Will Baptists are not only growing at home, we are also growing around the world. Foreign Missions Director Eugene Waddell reported that more than 700 people came to personal faith in Christ as a result of our foreign missionary work



Missionary Kenneth Eagleton, M.D.

in 1989. In spite of turbulent events in Panama, missionaries there reported 236 conversions. Roll Call Sunday found more than 7,000 people worshipping in Free Will Baptist churches overseas.

Six foreign missionaries were appointed last year. Five young people went out this summer as student missionaries.

We now operate nine Bible institutes on six fields with approximately 119 students preparing for service. The hospital in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire, treated 11,016 patients last year.

There is evidence to indicate that more churches and individuals are



Missionaries to Japan, Debbie Griffin, Judy Smith, Ruth McDonald.

taking seriously their responsibility to plant new churches around the world. Some 1,688 churches sent at least one offering for foreign missions last year. Thirty-four churches gave more than \$10,000 each. The department recognized several smaller churches who gave significant gifts on a per capita basis. Statesboro FWB Church, Statesboro, Georgia, gave \$449.89 per capita. That represents generous support.

Director Waddell reported that the Cuban government lifted some restrictions against holding worship services in private homes. This enabled Cuban Free Will Baptists to begin 15 new missions in homes of believers.

However, some problems remain to be solved. There's an urgent need for additional missionary personnel. Thirteen missionaries will have reached their 65th birthdays by the year 2000. New missionaries are needed to replace them and to expand our work into new areas.

Unfortunately, problems in Côte d'Ivoire continue. False charges continue to be leveled against present missionaries by a man formerly employed as a missionary by the Foreign Missions Department. These charges have been investigated both by the Foreign Missions Department and by an independent committee appointed by the National Association. The investigations found no basis for the accusations and the For-

eign Missions Board reaffirmed its support for all missionary personnel serving in that country.

The fact that Free Will Baptists gave \$3.3 million to foreign missions and \$1.8 million to home missions last year indicates that our denomination has a deep commitment to evangelism and growth. Another indication of this commitment is the record missions offering of \$24,189.22 received Wednesday evening.



FWBBC Chancellor Charles Thigpen.

Growing in Education

As Free Will Baptists minister in an increasingly complex world, education and training become more important. If we are to grow, the denomination must train and prepare men and women. This preparation must include adequate training programs for local churches as well as formal training in schools and colleges.

Free Will Baptist Bible College

Free Will Baptist Bible College has been an integral part of our educational program since 1942. Dr. Charles A. Thigpen gave his 11th and final report as president this year. He retired as president June 30. At the request of the Board of Trustees, he will serve as chancellor for one year. Rev. Tom Malone was elected by the board to serve as president.

Dr. Thigpen reported that during the 1989-90 school year FWBBC enrolled a total of 316 students (302 undergraduate and 14 graduate). He shared the results of an enrollment management research project recently completed. The study indicated 16,000 Free Will Baptist youth in high school with about 4,000 graduating each year. There are no more than 500 students in all Free Will Baptist colleges combined.

Thigpen announced that the college will increase its course offerings in business and teaching. This should make it possible for a larger number of students from our churches to obtain an education at FWBBC.

FWBBC income for last year was \$1.89 million. Expenditures totaled \$1.97 million leaving a deficit of \$82,387. Thigpen said this was only the seventh operating deficit for the college in the last 25 years.

The new president, Rev. Tom Malone, shared something of his vision and goals. He pointed out that the college needs four things: friends, freshmen, funds and faculty. He announced that the college is investigating the possibility of obtaining regional accreditation.

Sunday School Department

The other national agency primarily involved in education and training is the Sunday School and Church Training Department. Director Roger Reeds reported that the department employs 43 people with 374 years of experience. Four employees retired last year with a total of 91 years experience: Harrold and Laurretta Harrison, and Bill and Barbara Foster.

Reeds also reported that Free Will Baptist Sunday School literature op-

erates on a six-year cycle for teens and a nine-year cycle for adults. He explained that the department provides Sunday School literature in Spanish which can be used in Spanish-language churches.

Seminars

Several seminars were conducted Tuesday afternoon. The Double in a Decade Seminar dealt with church growth. Pastors Russell Wright, Lloyd Locklear and Curtis Linton provided practical information on how their churches experienced consistent growth over a period of years.

The Master's Men Seminar dealt with the relationship between the pastor and the deacon. Wendell Leckbee, a deacon from North Little Rock, Arkansas, shared how the pastor and deacon can work together to help the local church grow.

Professor Leroy Forlines was the principle speaker at the Theological Trends Seminar sponsored by the Commission for Theological Integrity. He examined the problem of moral decay in our country and how it affects Christian leaders.

The Music Seminar was a swapping of ideas. Several experienced music directors shared what they did to improve the music programs at churches they serve.

Growing in Service

The work of our denomination involves many people performing a variety of tasks.

Executive Office

Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington reported on the work of the Executive Office. He attended 19 state associations and promoted our work wherever possible. The National Ministries Sunday offering for 1989 topped \$28,000.

Worthington reported that the Executive Office and the Foreign Missions Department continue to investigate the possibility of organizing an International Association of Free Will Baptists.

Master's Men

Master's Men Director James Vallance reported 26 new chapters organized in 1989. The organization received 101 new LifeMembers and 12 new LifeFriends.

One of the major purposes of Master's Men is to promote and assist missions in our denomination. The laymen of our denomination have given freely of their time to assist in building new church buildings. By the end of 1989 the Master's Men had assisted in at least 28 building projects saving over \$750,000 in building costs.

One of the highlights of Convention '90 was the Master's Men din-

ner Wednesday evening. Neil Gilliland challenged the overflow crowd to become better disciples. Two laymen were honored for outstanding contributions to the work of their local churches. Roy Copeland of Oklahoma was named Layman of the Year for 1989 and Donald R. Neal of Indiana was named Runner-Up Layman of the Year.

Vallance reported that the department's financial situation had improved. Revenues for 1989 totaled \$80,005.

Board of Retirement

The Board of Retirement and In-

Growing (from page 7)

Insurance continues its work helping to protect the future of those who give their lives in service to our denomination. Director Herman Hersey reported that this department closed its second decade of ministry with almost 1,000 participants in our retirement program and \$8.1 million in assets; more than \$4.8 million of this is invested in loans to Free Will Baptist churches. Over the past five years the pension fund experienced an average increase of 17.5 percent.

After the Tuesday evening service, Hersey and members of the Board of Retirement conducted a forum in which they provided information about retirement and answered questions concerning the operation of our program.

Foundation

Hersey also shared with the convention the current status of the Free Will Baptist Foundation. This department exists to facilitate deferred giving by Free Will Baptists through trusts and endowments. The Foundation now manages 14 endowments in excess of \$139,000 and 11 trusts in excess of \$250,000. Total assets exceed \$450,000.

Commission for Theological Integrity

During Convention '90 we heard reports from the four commissions which serve our denomination. The Commission for Theological Integrity seeks to provide information which

will help maintain doctrinal integrity. They do this by conducting seminars and publishing materials of interest. During 1989 this commission reported income of \$3,267.97 and expenditures of \$3,491.04

Historical Commission

The Historical Commission seeks to preserve important information about our denomination. It also encourages research and writing. Commission member Steve Hasty spearheaded the 1990 project to publish a directory of Free Will Baptist holdings listing institutions and individuals with historical materials. Copies of this directory were distributed in Phoenix.

During the past year the commission also mailed approximately 650 copies of Inventory of Minutes to district clerks in order to secure their help in obtaining copies of minutes for the historical collection. The Historical Commission reported income of \$1,677.81 and expenditures of \$213.92.

Radio-Television Commission

The Radio and Television Commission was established in 1983 to assist Free Will Baptists in making use of the media to share the gospel and promote the work of our denomination. The primary activity of the commission is the production of a 15-minute radio broadcast entitled, "Victorious Faith," with Rev. Bob Shockey as the speaker.

The work of this commission is se-

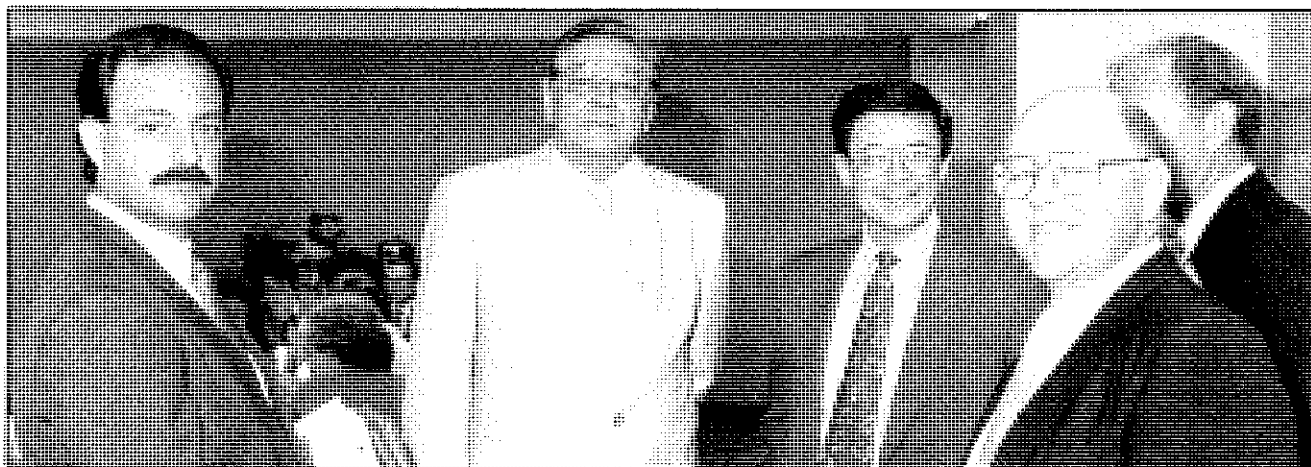
riously hampered by a lack of funds. Income for 1989 totaled \$2,972.09. Since 1983 it has received less than \$40,000 to operate this ministry. If Free Will Baptists are to make any significant use of the airwaves to spread the gospel, more support for this work is essential. Larry Hampton, chairman, asked that pastors consider including the Radio and Television Commission in their church budgets.

Music Commission

The Music Commission presented its first official report this year. This commission was created to promote the worship of God through music within our ranks. The major project of the commission to this point has been the preparation of the new Free Will Baptist hymnbook, *Rejoice*. A total of 66,824 copies of the hymnbook have been sold.

Tuesday morning the Music Ministries Breakfast featured guest speaker John W. Peterson, a distinguished composer of Christian music. He led us as we sang an arrangement of a beautiful song he wrote several years ago. Then he challenged us to be steadfast in our commitment to Christ, to the church and to the ministry of music.

The work of these commissions and agencies is often behind the scenes. As a general rule they receive little recognition for the time and effort they invest. They are, however, playing important roles in the ongoing work of Free Will Baptists in America.



Composer John W. Peterson (center) and Music Commission members Doug Little (L), Vernon Whaley, Bill Gardner, Blaine Hughes meet at Music Ministries Breakfast.

Growing in Business

If our denomination is to grow as we should for the glory of God, we must see that business is handled in a timely and wise manner. Convention '90 tried to do this. Given below is a list of major decisions made by the voting body.

1. Delegates heard reports from each of the national agencies and approved their recommended budgets.
2. Delegates elected general officers for 1991 and filled 35 board and commission vacancies.

6. Delegates voted to dissolve the Benevolence Committee and transfer the benevolent work to the Free Will Baptist Foundation. It was the opinion of those in attendance that this work could be handled more effectively by this existing agency than by a separate committee.
7. Delegates authorized the Executive Committee to either renovate our headquarters building in Nashville or relocate to another building. This is to be done without incurring long-term debt of



Pastor Larry Russell (Baton Rouge, Louisiana).

3. The First Louisiana District Association, composed of two churches in the state of Louisiana, was accepted for membership in the National Association.
4. The operation of Executive Church Bonds, Inc. was concluded. Remaining funds were transferred to the Executive Office where they will be held for two years in the event that they are needed.
5. Delegates voted that Anaheim, California, will be the site of the 2000 national convention.

more than \$400,000. If a new facility is purchased before the present building is sold, the short-term indebtedness is not to exceed \$1.4 million.

8. Delegates requested that the Budget Committee devise a procedure to enlist support for the Executive Office from all the states. They are to report in 1991.
9. Delegates asked the Executive Committee to study procedures used for disciplining ministers and report in 1991. This study will include obtaining legal counsel.



Tennessee pastor, Glenn Poston

10. Delegates voted to send a letter to the governor of Louisiana recommending that he sign pending anti-abortion legislation passed by the legislature.
11. Delegates passed four resolutions. One resolution expressed thanks to the Arizona State Association for hosting the convention.

Another resolution expressed disapproval of the Supreme Court's decision upholding a person's right to burn the American flag.

A third resolution came in response to continuing problems in Côte d'Ivoire. Delegates asked that churches, groups or individuals not send personnel to foreign mission fields who have not been approved by our Foreign Missions Department.

The final resolution expressed Free Will Baptist support for the Institute for Creation Research in California in its efforts to regain state certification as a graduate school.

Summary

Convention '90 was a special time for Free Will Baptists. The attendance was larger than expected considering that we do not have a large concentration of churches in the Western states. A spirit of hope and optimism washed over the entire meeting. The fact that four new home mission churches have been planted in the Phoenix area provided evidence that God is at work within our ranks.

The testimonies of three Mexican pastors and a young man from one of our churches in Spain did much to augment the spirit of worship and thanksgiving which was evident in the Wednesday mission service.


Missions is at the very heart of our denominational work. Both home and foreign missions reported progress in the cause of world evangelization. People are being saved and new churches are being started. We are growing.

Several national agencies reported growth and progress in different areas. A sense of hope permeates our colleges once again. The work of Master's Men and WNAC continues to grow and develop. Giving to various agencies increases every year. This means that these agencies can

accomplish more in their service to the denomination than they could a few years ago.

We still have problems. Many churches in pioneer areas are finding it difficult to locate pastors and other workers. There are still many areas here at home where there are few Free Will Baptist churches. Too many of our churches are not growing as they should. The problems in Côte d'Ivoire still continue, but hopefully they will not last too much longer.

Convention '90 was a special time of worship, fellowship, challenge and rededication. It was good to come together in a spirit of unity and harmony. It was a good convention.

And Jack Richey made it to Sunday School on time! 

1990 National Convention analysis was written by Thomas Marberry, academic vice president at Hillsdale FWB College, Moore, Oklahoma.

All convention photographs are provided courtesy of Bert Tippet, director of publications at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

The Contact staff is grateful to Brother Marberry and Brother Tippet for their assistance in this special convention issue.



Three pastors: Davis Reece (VA), Loyd Locklear (MI), J. B. Varney (MI).

ELECTED IN PHOENIX

The following were elected during the 54th annual session of the National Association and will serve until the dates indicated.

General Officers

Moderator Ralph Hampton (Tenn.)
Assistant Moderator Carl Cheshier (Ark.)
Clerk Waldo Young (Okla.)
Assistant Clerk Keith Burden (Okla.)

General Board

1991 Steve Hendrix (Kan.)
Steve Trail (First La.)
1992 Earl Jenkins (N. Mex.)
Tom Lilly (N.C.)
Jim Nason (Northeast Assoc.)
Mike Criswell (Northwest Assoc.)
Delmar Sparks (Ohio)
Jack Richey (Okla.)
Joe Cagle (S.C.)
Raymond Riggs (Tenn.)
Thurmon Murphy (Texas)
Jeff Crabtree (Va.)
Carl Vallance (W. Va.)

Executive Committee

1992 Tom Lilly (N.C.)
Jack Richey (Okla.)
Carl Vallance (W. Va.)

Bible College Trustees

1996 Sam Truett (N.C.)
Larry Montgomery (Fla.)
J. M. Creech (Miss.)

Foreign Missions Board

1996 Alton Loveless (Ohio)
Archie Mayhew (Calif.)
Galen Dunbar (Ga.)

Sunday School and Church Training Board

1996 David Sutton (Texas)
James McAllister (Calif.)
Larry Hughes (Ark.)

Home Missions Board

1993 Lynn Wood (Okla.)

Board of Retirement

1993 Bobby Floars (N.C.)

Commission for Theological Integrity

1995 Daryl Ellis (Ill.)

Historical Commission

1995 Steve Hasty (Ala.)

Music Commission

1995 Vernon Whaley (Okla.)

Radio-Television Commission

1995 Bob Shockey (Tenn.)

1991 Co-op Allocations

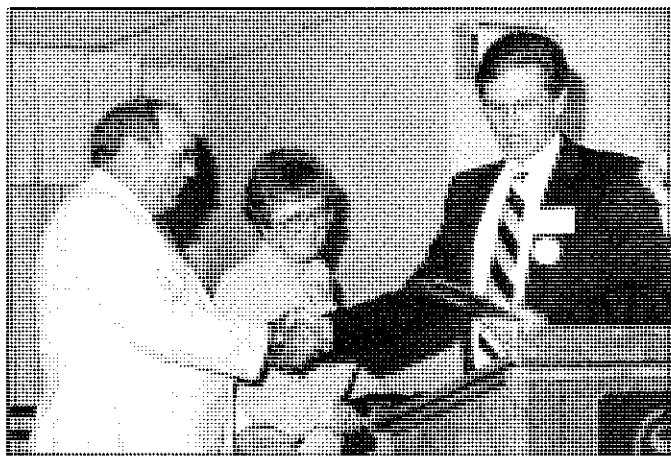
The Budget Committee recommended that gifts received through the Cooperative Plan be allocated to the national ministries* on the following basis:

1. Underwrite the Executive Office Administrative Budget above those gifts received directly.
 2. Disburse the balance of undesignated funds to the following national ministries according to these percentages:
- | | |
|--|-------------|
| Free Will Baptist Bible College..... | 23% |
| Foreign Missions | 23% |
| Home Missions..... | 18% |
| Board of Retirement and Insurance | 14% |
| Master's Men | 14% |
| Free Will Baptist Foundation..... | 6% |
| Commission for Theological Integrity | 0.5% |
| Historical Commission | 0.5% |
| Music Commission | 0.5% |
| Radio and Television Commission..... | 0.5% |
| Total..... | 100% |

*All national ministries receive funds through the Cooperative Plan except for Executive Church Bonds and the Sunday School and Church Training Department which are self-sustaining.

1991 Budgets Adopted

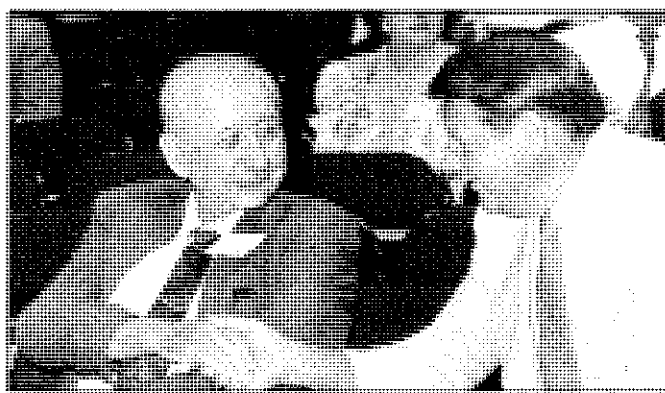
Executive Office	\$ 404,535.80
Executive Church Bonds	00
Free Will Baptist Bible College	1,981,000.00
Foreign Missions	4,129,859.00
Home Missions	2,100,000.00
Master's Men	111,625.00
Retirement and Insurance	298,745.00
Free Will Baptist Foundation	32,700.00
Sunday School and Church Training.....	2,625,270.00
Commission for Theological Integrity	2,700.00
Historical Commission.....	2,300.00
Music Commission	1,500.00
Radio and TV Commission	15,100.00
Total	\$11,705,334.80



Don Neal (L) receives Runner-up Layman of the Year award from Wendell Leckbee.

1990 REGISTRATION

National Convention	2,582
State Delegates	84
Local Church Delegates	94
Lay Board Member	16
Home Missionaries.....	69
Foreign Missionaries	27
Deacons	103
Ministers	524
Non-Delegates	1,657
District Delegates	6
National Officers	2
WNAC	786
NYC.....	1,004
Total	4,372



Retired minister Ralph Staten (L) greets conferee.

Words Worth Remembering

"It's the preacher's job to fill the pulpit. It's the deacon's job to fill the pew." —Wendell Leckbee

"Growing does not come automatically. We must learn to take care of the total family." —J. B. Varney

"God's work is a good work." —Ralph Hampton

"If a church member expects to answer the roll when it's called up there, he better be present when it's called down here." —David Joslin

"We need to stop looking at what others are doing. We need to start looking at what we are not doing." —George Crowden

"Our desire for praise will certainly corrupt us." —Milton Hollifield

"Don't get hooked up to a system of success that guarantees your failure." —Leroy Forlines

"Success may be harder to handle than defeat." —Leroy Forlines

"Love is an act of the will." —Jim Shepherd

"I am not a gifted speaker, but that does not matter. Most of you aren't either." —Neil Gilliland

"Keep it short, Sugar." —Wanda (Mrs. Larry) Powell

WNAC Highlights

By Lorene Miley

Those who had never been to Africa sweltered under its heat at the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention in Phoenix, July 16-17. Though temperatures soared outside, the 786 delegates and visitors basked in cool comfort inside the Phoenix Civic Plaza and Hyatt Regency's Grand Ballroom.

Missions—that one word says it all. In case anyone wondered, now he knows for sure. WNAC promotes missions.

Missions in the Seminar

Following the usual pre-convention executive and nominating committee



Lynette Morgan, missionary to Côte d'Ivoire.

meetings, Janie Aldridge led a seminar titled, "Will You Carry the Invitation?" She paired three missionaries with supporters to illustrate that missionaries go, but the church sends.

Lynette Morgan, Côte d'Ivoire, and Marilyn Pritchard demonstrated a friendship dating from student days



Missionaries Patsy Vanhook (France), Rejane Eagleton (Brazil), Susan Turnbough (Spain), Delene Cousineau (Côte d'Ivoire), and Bessie Richards (Côte d'Ivoire).

at FWBBC. Seven years ago Marilyn quit her job, gave up her apartment, packed her belongings and went to Africa where for 10 months she taught the two older Morgan sons. This freed Lynette to care for her new baby daughter and work with the women.

Judy Smith, Japan, teamed with Wanda Powell to show the importance of being fruitful wherever you are. Wanda works with MK's and internationals at FWBBC.

Joan Riggs, Alabama, was scheduled to appear with Anita Sparks, Spain—another friendship dating from FWBBC—but was unable to attend. Odessa Ledlow read Joan's prepared statements.

Geneva Poole, Brazil, concluded the seminar with prayer.

Missions in Presidents/Field Workers Meeting

This practical session allowed June Rolen, Debbie Mitchell, Kay Hampton and Anne Worthington to explain officers' duties. A question-answer period cleared up any questions.

Missions in the Convention

President Mary Neal presided over the session which featured Dr. Kenneth Eagleton, Côte d'Ivoire. He

brought news from the medical station and challenged us with a message on "The Great Commission," our theme for the year.

Bessie Richards, also from Côte d'Ivoire, brought devotions. Lisa Wallace coordinated the music.

Missions in Creative Arts Winners

Lynette Morgan, Côte d'Ivoire; and Vicki Turner, MO, both won with missions articles. Barbara Jarvis, OK; and Diane Thomas, NC, also placed.

Teresa Helton, VA, wrote the published mission play. Awards were presented to Vicki Hubbard, AR; Susan Burgess, IL; Sue Winchester, MO; and Margaret Ashcraft, KY. The new play booklet, *Drama Delights*, may be ordered from WNAC for \$1.25 plus postage and handling.

Alas, no missions programs won. Perhaps the convention planted seed thoughts in some aspiring writer's spirit which will produce some exciting missions programs in the future. First place went to Sheila Scarborough, TN; with Odessa Ledlow, AL; Margie Patton, TN; and Mary Holland, MO, close behind.

All four winning poems highlighted missions with recognition given to Fannie Ruth Henderson, TN; Vir-

ginia Weber, TN; Barbara McLeary, OK; and Linda Sligh, MS. For the first time ever, WNAC published a book of missionary poems. *So Send I You* contains 29 poems in a convenient size edition (\$3 plus 75 cents postage and handling).

Missions in Afternoon Presentation

"God's Hand Extended Around the World" featured 10 missionaries from seven mission fields: Patsy Vanhook, France; Rejane Eagleton, representing Brazil; Susan Turnbough, Spain; Deleen Cousineau and Bessie



Pat Atchley, Arizona Woman's Auxiliary President.



Banquet Speaker Rudene Kennedy.

Richards, both from Côte d'Ivoire; Patsy Gwartney, AZ, representing the home fields; Amy Robinson, Uruguay; Debbie Griffin, Judy Smith and Ruth McDonald all from Japan.

Paige Powell, Nashville, closed with a dramatic reading.

Missions in Fellowship Dinner

One sensed the anointing of the Spirit as Rudene Kennedy gave birth to a message for which she had long labored. "What do you want to be when you grow up?" she asked, then proceeded to challenge us to adjust our lifestyles to become World Christians.



WNAC Executive Committee: Peggy Outland (L), Marian Reece, Mary Neal, Delois Loveless, Mary Wisheart, Kay Hampton, June Rolen.

Missions in Business Proceedings

Any progress WNAC makes advances the cause of missions. This past year, we mailed 54 packets to new Auxiliaries, increased *Co-Laborer* subscriptions by 137, helped 14 Bible college students with \$17,136.50 in loans, and gave \$473,514.37 to missions.

For the first time in more than 25 years, delegates elected a study committee to re-evaluate Woman's Auxiliary: Diana Bryant, FL; Kay Hampton, TN; Marguerite Kern, OK; Peggy Outland, IL; June Rolen, CA; Diane Thomas, NC; and Mary R. Wisheart, TN. Please send your suggestions to your state representative or to the national office. They plan



WNAC Executive Secretary Mary Wisheart.

their first meeting in September at Ridgecrest national retreat.

"This is my first convention," one lady said, "and it's been a foretaste of heaven."

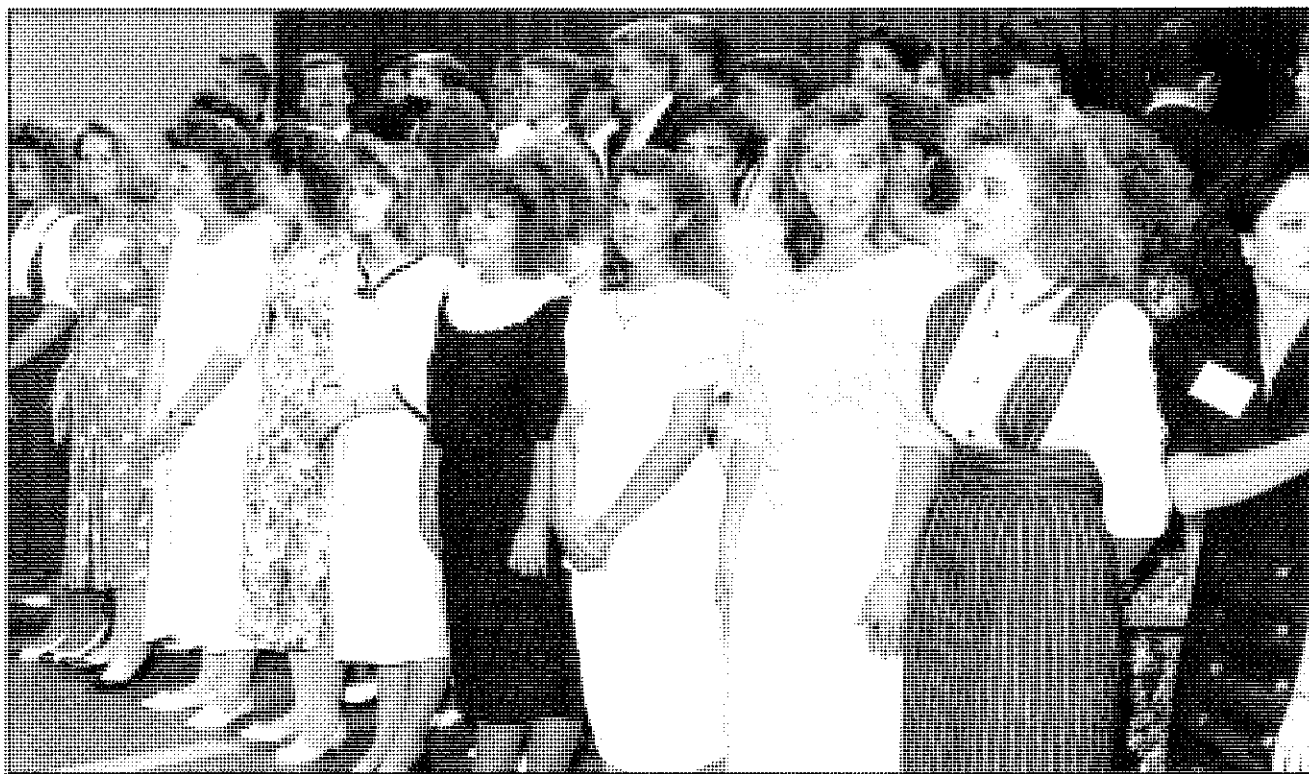
"Count on me in West Virginia," said another.

Me, too. Or "Until He Comes." our theme for 1991.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Lorene Miley is editor of *Co-Laborer* magazine.

National Youth Conference in Review

By Jim Lauthern



Truth and Peace participants rehearse for evening worship service.

The goal behind the 1990 National Youth Conference theme, "Missions: Lighting a Darkened World," was to alert our youth to the need for global evangelism. Compassion for the lost around the world or across the street was the challenge. Here are a few of the responses to that challenge.

Some youth prayed and fasted for the conference. Small early morning prayer groups met daily. There were spiritual decisions recorded throughout the conference. They started at the conclusion of the Sunday morning youth service. The National Youth Evangelistic Team presented their program, "Dare to Care." The Sunday School lesson was effectively presented by Keith and Sarah Fletcher, writers for the new junior high curriculum.

There was a great altar response to Monday evening's message delivered by Evangelist Tim York.

The Phillip's Chapel Youth Evangelistic Team from Springdale, Arkansas, presented their program, "Just Say Yes to Jesus," Wednesday afternoon. This service concluded with a call to commitment and prayer for the Wednesday evening service. Many youth responded to the challenge given by Pastor Larry Powell that evening.

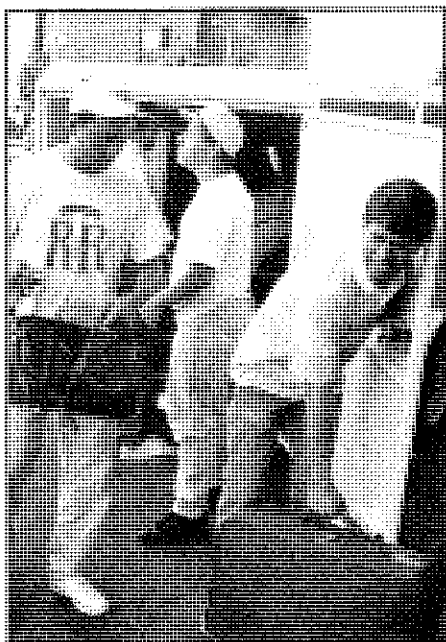
In addition to the spiritual challenges, other activities were featured during the conference. After the Sunday evening service, the youth enjoyed a group game of Missions Impossible.

Monday evening after the keynote youth service the TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Ministry) Congress convened to elect state representatives and national officers. Roger Marshall, a senior from Arizona, was elected president. After the Congress, TEAM sponsored a

concert of contemporary Christian music by Mark Brawley.

Tuesday evening activities started at 5:00 p.m. as charter buses transported youth from NYC headquarters hotel, Sheraton Phoenix, to the Rockin' R Ranch in Mesa. After everyone browsed the sights of the ranch, an evening service was conducted. Jonathan Yandell, pastor of Garden Grove FWB Church in California, delivered a tremendous challenge of commitment to the youth. After the service, dinner was served and the Rockin' R Ranch staff presented an entertaining program of western music, fancy gun handling, audience involvement and a lot of fun.

Some 1,004 youth registered for the conference. Entries into the Bible Competition and the Music and Arts Festival reached 572. Entries included vocal, instrumental, keyboard,



Youth unload for NYC.

multi-media, oral communication, creative writing and creative arts.

The Bible Competition first-place winners were as follows:

Bible Memorization

Grade One: Andrea Paulk, OK

Grade Two: Toni Decker, TN

Grade Three: Heath Housley, MO

Bible Sword Drill

Grade Four: Heather Henderson, FL

Grade Five: Darin Miles, NC

Grade Six: Katrina Duncan, FL

Bible Tic Tac Toe — Missouri

Bible Bowl — Alabama

A complete program of activities for the younger children was planned by Lisa Jones and coordinated by participants of the Truth and Peace Youth Leadership Conference. Howard and Patsy Gwartney, missionaries to Phoenix, conducted the Children's Banquet. Several children were saved at this event. Judy Smith, missionary to Japan, presented the program on Tuesday evening.

A breakfast for youth workers was held on Wednesday morning. They officially organized a Youth Worker's Fellowship and appointed a five-person committee to develop this organization.

The Awards Ceremony for Bible Competition, Creative Writing and Creative Arts was held at the conclusion of the final Bible competition Wednesday morning. The Awards

Ceremony for music and oral communications was after the Wednesday evening service.

Many youth and youth workers commended the facilities and pro-

grams of the 1990 NYC at Phoenix. Plans are now being made for NYC '91 in Charleston, West Virginia. 🌐

ABOUT THE WRITER: Jim Lauthern is director of the National Youth Conference.

1990 Convention Tapes Available NATIONAL ASSOCIATION MESSAGES ON CASSETTE TAPES

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Tape Number	Subject	Quantity
----------------	---------	----------

CONVENTION MESSAGES

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| * 1. Ken Walker—Sunday Morning | _____ |
| * 2. J. B. Varney—Sunday Evening | _____ |
| * 3. David Joslin—Monday Evening | _____ |
| * 4. Jim Shepherd—Tuesday Evening | _____ |
| * 5. Larry Powell—Wednesday Evening | _____ |

CONVENTION BIBLE CONFERENCE

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 6. George Crowden | _____ |
| 7. Milton Hollifield | _____ |

SEMINARS

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 8. Target City Celebration (2 Tapes—\$4.00 per set) | _____ |
| 9. Double in a Decade Seminar | _____ |
| 10. Theological Trends Seminar | _____ |
| 11. Music Commission Seminar | _____ |
| 12. Master's Men Seminar | _____ |

WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 13. WNAC Seminar—"Will You Carry the Invitation?" | _____ |
| 14. WNAC State Officers Meeting | _____ |
| 15. Bessie Richards—WNAC Devotional | _____ |
| 16. Kenneth Eagleton—WNAC Missionary Service | _____ |
| 17. Rudene Kennedy—WNAC Fellowship Dinner | _____ |
| 18. WNAC Missionary Feature | _____ |

MEET 'N' EAT

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 19. Clarence Burton—Hillsdale College Luncheon | _____ |
| 20. Neil Gilliland—Master's Men Dinner | _____ |

MISCELLANEOUS

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 21. Ralph Hampton—Moderator's Message | _____ |
| 22. Malcolm Fry—Adult Sunday School Class | _____ |
| 23. Tim York—NYC Keynote Message | _____ |

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FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

LARRY COLLINS TO MODERATE KANSAS

SALINA, KS—Delegates to the Kansas State Association elected Emporia pastor Larry M. Collins as moderator at their June 14-16 meeting. Rev. Collins pastors First FWB Church in Emporia.

Nearly 60 delegates, ministers and visitors attended the three-day session at First FWB Church in Salina. Four sermons highlighted the meeting. Home Missions staffer Trymon Messer preached twice. Kansas pastors Steve Robinson and James Mize also spoke. All speakers developed the association theme, "The Church."

Delegates agreed to start printing the Kansas state paper again. Wellington, Kansas, pastor Steve Robinson will spearhead the editorial work.

The 1991 state association will convene June 13-15 at Bethel FWB Church in Kansas City.

HAZEN BURLOCK TO MODERATE ATLANTIC-CANADA

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—Delegates to the June 28 - July 1 Atlantic-Canada Association elected Fielding-Glassville pastor Hazen Burlock as moderator. This ends the tenure of former moderator Fred Hanson who wielded the gavel 15 years before resigning.

The four-day session met at Saint John Valley Bible Camp. Forty-two people registered for the business meeting, including 11 ministers, while more than 300 attended preaching sessions.

Foreign Missions Department staffer Fred Warner preached five times developing the theme, "The Church in Today's World."

In other action, delegates agreed to raise \$16,000 for the Bible Camp in October.

VIRGINIA HONORS THREE LEADERS

ROANOKE, VA—Delegates to the 52nd annual Virginia State Association presented plaques to three of its members with a combined 82 years of service in the state work. The honorees included were Wilton Dail with 30 years of service on the state Executive Committee and Home Missions Board, Lottie Cardwell who served 20 years as state clerk and assistant clerk, and James Myers who served 32 years as clerk and assistant clerk.

The June 14-15 session met at First FWB Church in Roanoke and attracted 88 participants. Pastor David Neitch of Liberty Church (Marion) was elected moderator. Five ministers preached sermons developing the association theme, "Standing in a New Decade." The speakers included Pastors John Burgess, Rick Kincur, Dan Merkh, Walter Statzer and Jennings Dotson.

The 1991 session will meet June 13-14 at First FWB Church, Roanoke.

OHIO DECLARES 1991 YEAR OF R.E.A.P.

COLUMBUS, OH—Delegates to Ohio's 52nd annual state association adopted a resolution declaring 1990-91 as the year of involvement with the R.E.A.P. theme, "Reach Every Available Person." The year-long program is designed to involve every Free Will Baptist church in Ohio in some form of outreach ministry.

Some 230 people attended the June 22-23 session at Heritage Temple FWB Church in Columbus. Moderator Edwin Hayes, elected to his third term, guided business proceedings as delegates voted for a \$674,000 state budget.

Three ministers preached sermons developing the theme, "Our Free Will Baptist Distinctives." Forrest Chamberlain, pastor of Porter FWB Church in Sciotoville, preached on the Lord's Supper. Pastor Wayne Keith of Mansfield FWB Church in Mansfield preached on the practice of feet washing. Dr. Robert Picirilli, dean of Free Will Baptist Bible College, preached on perseverance.

The 1991 state association meets June 21-22 at Heritage Temple FWB Church in Columbus.

DR. KEN EAGLETON KEYNOTES INDIANA STATE

WABASH, IN—Medical missionary to Côte d'Ivoire Dr. Ken Eagleton delivered the keynote address at the June 15-16 Indiana State Association. He spoke to the 116 registrants on the subject, "World View of Missions." Pastor Glen Johnson also preached; his subject was "Evangelism."

In the absence of the moderator, assistant moderator Robert Helms gavelled delegates through two days of business at the 30th annual session. Mrs. Pam Hackett addressed the Woman's Auxiliary banquet. Doug Phillips was named state youth director. Pastor Jim Mullen was elected promotional director.

Twenty-five ministers registered for the session at Erie Street FWB Church. Those present witnessed a historic moment in Indiana Free Will Baptist history. This marked the year that pioneer minister W. H. Patterson passed the mantle after 49 years of leadership in the state. Reverend Patterson's health would not permit him to continue service on the state Executive Board.

The 74-year-old minister served in numerous state and national positions including General Board member (National Assoc.) in addition to his pastoral duties.

KENTUCKY RE-ELECTS VANHOOSE AS MODERATOR

LOUISVILLE, KY—Pastor Dick Vanhoose of Salyersville FWB Church was re-elected to his third term as moderator of the Kentucky State Association at the 51st annual session which met June 16, according to Clerk Lewis Dotson. Approximately 215 delegates and visitors registered for the one-day meeting.

Two Kentucky ministers preached sermons—Pastors Ken Walker and Tim Hall. Delegates voted to purchase a copier for the state work.

In other action, delegates considered three constitutional changes, tabling two and adopting one. Delegates voted to combine the office of promotional secretary and General Board member. They tabled proposals for one year calling for honoraria update and deacons as standing delegates.

MISSOURI ADOPTS \$300,000 CO-OP BUDGET

LEBANON, MO—Delegates to Missouri's 77th annual session adopted a \$300,000 Cooperative Plan budget for 1991, according to Clerk Joe Braddy. The funds will be allocated as follows: 69.5 percent to Missouri ministries, 30.5 percent to national ministries, including Hillsdale FWB College and California Christian College.

Moderator Cody Freeman led the voting delegation through the June 4-7 meeting at Nelson Community Center in Lebanon. Although only 372 registered, an estimated 800 attended the session.

In other action, delegates reaffirmed their anti-abortion stand and encouraged opposition to proposed amendments to legalize abortion in Missouri. Delegates also passed a resolution supporting CLeaR-TV and the American Family Association.

The association theme was "Winning the Lost at Any Cost." Four Missouri pastors preached sermons developing the theme: Jay Tillson, Jim Mertz, John Williams and Earnest Harrison.

Pastor Lonnie Skiles conducted a seminar on the New Age Movement. Don and Ruth McDonald, missionaries to Japan, addressed the Tuesday Woman's Auxiliary meeting.

The 1991 state association will meet June 3-6 at Arnold Free Will Baptist Church.

WEST VIRGINIA APPOINTS 1991 STEERING COMMITTEE

LENORE, WV—Delegates to West Virginia's 45th annual session appointed a five-man Steering Committee plus two advisory members to help plan the 1991 national convention, according to state clerk, Norwood Webb. The Steering Committee includes members of the state Executive Committee in addition to the promotional director and General Board member.

The June 8-9 state association met at Parsley Bottom FWB Church in Lenore. Moderator J. L. Varney led the 334 delegates and visitors through the business sessions. Some 112 ministers and 33 deacons registered.

Three men preached sermons as delegates met under the general theme, "We Are the Key." Speakers

Cooperative Channel Contributions June 1990					
RECEIPTS:					
State	Designated	COOP Undesignated	Total	June '89	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 60.89	\$.00	\$ 60.89	\$ 1,129.34	\$ 1,660.36
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Arkansas	.00	4,810.77	4,810.77	6,034.37	33,227.51
California	.00	1,202.12	1,202.12	1,858.94	11,502.80
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	132.56	1,372.33	1,504.89	2,616.39	12,612.09
Georgia	8,725.26	1,024.50	9,749.76	9,019.48	59,105.21
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	.00	219.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	23.89	197.47
Illinois	5,711.61	1,218.21	6,929.82	4,756.37	55,173.20
Indiana	412.16	61.55	473.71	.00	3,210.05
Kansas	.00	.00	.00	54.09	513.87
Kentucky	.00	161.33	161.33	879.90	1,182.61
Maryland	.00	.00	.00	.00	2,165.41
Michigan	3,933.90	800.00	4,733.90	4,206.96	38,083.49
Mississippi	102.05	391.67	493.72	584.96	2,831.27
Missouri	7,770.90	.00	7,770.90	9,095.62	51,032.08
New Mexico	.00	.00	.00	.00	332.58
North Carolina	1,011.00	550.00	1,561.00	857.20	11,844.76
Ohio	435.00	2,799.00	3,234.00	3,828.00	16,554.44
Oklahoma	34,067.21	7,339.37	41,406.58	40,598.47	267,968.51
South Carolina	11,536.11	50.84	11,586.95	14,021.40	67,776.25
Tennessee	772.18	827.48	1,599.66	1,766.36	12,734.53
Texas	10,180.68	1,094.65	11,275.33	9,892.35	44,288.63
Virginia	188.72	30.00	218.72	1,526.78	2,361.93
West Virginia	8,348.78	66.54	8,415.32	8,860.34	21,570.33
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	.00	.00	.00	114.99
Other (Computer)	.00	(.03)	(.03)	.01	.23
Totals	\$93,389.01	\$23,800.33	\$117,189.34	\$121,611.22	\$718,263.60
DISBURSEMENTS:					
Executive Office	\$ 7,104.17	\$13,062.48	\$ 20,166.65	\$ 18,787.38	\$120,999.99
Foreign Missions	63,219.89	2,469.70	65,689.59	65,198.51	384,568.44
FWBBC	3,539.63	2,469.70	6,009.33	8,805.56	46,746.34
Home Missions	17,387.05	1,932.84	19,319.89	21,124.36	113,915.47
Retirement & Insurance	247.81	1,503.30	1,751.11	1,843.62	15,795.46
Master's Men	226.21	1,503.30	1,729.51	2,169.42	15,457.84
Commission for					
Theo. Integrity	40.63	53.68	94.31	175.07	696.03
FWB Foundation	493.63	644.29	1,137.92	976.21	8,941.61
Music Commission	8.47	53.68	62.15	2.43	554.41
Historical Commission	37.02	53.68	90.70	46.39	679.46
Radio & TV Commission	30.91	53.68	84.59	176.15	710.64
Hillsdale FWB College	741.51	.00	741.51	2,014.91	6,950.82
Other	312.08	.00	312.08	291.21	2,247.09
Totals	\$93,389.01	\$23,800.33	\$117,189.34	\$121,611.22	\$718,263.60

included West Virginia ministers Luther Morgan and 13-year-old Scott Pauley. Free Will Baptist Bible College staffer Ronald Creech also spoke.

Special plaques were awarded to churches and pastors who participated in West Virginia's Key 90 Project. Delegates adopted a resolution to make Key 90 a 10-year project.

In other action, delegates gave spe-

cial recognition to ministers who had served 30 or more years in the Free Will Baptist movement. Delegates also instructed their promotional director to "promote the works of West Virginia first."

The 1991 state association will meet June 7-8 at Bradley FWB Church in Bradley.

Currently ...

Pastor **Mike Criswell** reports loan approval for a 240-seat, 2,400-square-foot auditorium at **First FWB Church, Eugene, OR**. At press time the congregation was awaiting a building permit.

Pastor **Bill Gardner** challenged members of **Fellowship FWB Church, Antioch, TN**, to tithe for 90 days. Then he dropped this zinger: "If after tithing 90 days you decide it's a waste of your time and not a blessing, we will refund your money!"

newsfront

(continued)

TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOCUSES ON 'MISSIONS'

DUNCANVILLE, TX—Delegates to Texas' 76th annual state association heard Foreign Missions staffer Fred Warner preach three sermons on the theme, "Missions: The Necessity." Warner preached on the necessity of a strong home base, necessity of fulfilling the Great Commission, necessity of personal involvement.

Moderator Bill Jones was re-elected to his second term. More than 250 people registered at the June 6-8 meeting at First FWB Church in Duncanville.

Delegates received the Permian Basin Association into membership. They also recommended that the new Hispanic churches in South Texas unite with the Rio Grande Valley Association to form an entirely Hispanic association.

In other action, delegates adopted a \$58,000 Cooperative Plan budget to be divided: State Office (40%), National Co-op (25%), State Home Missions (23%) and C. E. Board (12%).

Helen Sanders, Judy Smith and Bettie Ferguson conducted workshops at the Woman's Auxiliary meeting. The Texas Executive Board provided a free lunch for all ministers June 7.

Dr. Charles Thigpen (president of Free Will Baptist Bible College) and Pastor Keith Stewart (Garland, TX) spoke during the Pastor's Conference.

The 1991 session will meet June 5-7 in Austin at a site to be determined. The session will focus attention on the Capitol City Home Missions project. ☼

Contact welcomes *First News*, publication of **First FWB Church, Albany, GA**. **Billy Hanna** pastors.

Benjamin Randall Thomas, son of FWB evangelist **Bob Thomas**, was one of 62 youth selected for the inaugural class at Oklahoma's School of Science and Mathematics. He was chosen for academic and personal achievements as well as his strong interest in science and mathematics. The program for 15- and 16-year-olds will be conducted at the University of Oklahoma.

The *Good News Messenger*, publication of **First FWB Church, Garland, TX**, stopped the presses with the summer 1990 edition. Pastor **Keith Stewart** said the publication would return with a new format in early September.

A 39-year-old man drove on the campus of **Beaufort Christian Academy** in **Beaufort, NC**, handed one of the students a check and told him to "give this to your leader." Pastor **Henry Van Kluyve** of **First FWB Church** said the gift totaled \$35,705.78. After contacting the donor, Van Kluyve learned that "he had devoted most of his life to living in sin and wanted to do something for the Lord Jesus." The check was his insurance settlement for a back injury received while working.

Here's a creative Father's Day idea. The oldest, youngest, etc. fathers all receive surprise gifts. Watermelons! That beats orange neckties any day. Who dreamed up the idea? **Cavanaugh FWB Church, Fort Smith, AR**, and Pastor **Carl Cheshier**. It works in Arkansas.

Contact welcomes *African Breezes*, publication of FWB missionaries in **Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa**. The first eight-page edition was mailed to the combined mailing lists of all FWB missionaries in Africa. Good idea.

The May 1990 issue of the *Shiloh Messenger* dedicated to fathers included an editorial by Pastor **Walter Statzer** of **Shiloh FWB Church, Bristol, WV**, as well as tributes to 20 fathers. **Charles Robinson** is editor.

Pastor **Carl Lilly, Jr.** reports 10 new members and four baptisms at **Sunshine FWB Church, Huntington, WV**.

Members of **New Home FWB Church, Tulsa, OK**, dedicated their family life center in June. They also gave more than \$3,000 in their annual world missions offering. Pastor **Roy Dale Smith** said, "That is almost double what we gave last year."

Members of **North Fayette FWB Mission** in **Riverdale, GA**, dedicated their new church, according to Pastor **Luther Burns**. Two years ago the group

launched a bond program to raise building funds after the state Mission Board bought a five-acre construction site.

Sunday School attendance at **Cool Springs FWB Church, Norman Park, GA**, climbed 35 percent this year, says Pastor **Michael Edwards**. The church also added a 20-foot steeple.

Pastor **Terry Pierce** said that **First FWB Church, Thomaston, GA**, experienced a 61 percent increase in Sunday School attendance. Members called on nearly 400 families in the community to initiate the growth surge.

Pastor **Danny Ryals** reports 14 new members at **Baxley FWB Church, Baxley, GA**, which averages 140 in Sunday School with a bus ministry and children's church. They plan to build a new auditorium this year.

Members of **Shallowford FWB Church, Marietta, GA**, planned to be in their new building this summer, according to Pastor **Ronald Wallace**. Heavy rains delayed the schedule by a month.

Members of **Oak Grove FWB Church, Elm City, NC**, broke ground for a family life center. Pastor **Tommy Bryson** said the 8,750-square-foot building will cost \$160,000 and sit on a 10-acre plot. The metal building includes a kitchen, storage rooms and a balcony to be used as future classrooms.

Members of **High Point FWB Church, Lancaster, SC**, hoped to finish a four-month effort this summer to construct a 6,600-square-foot fellowship building. Pastor **James Wilhide** said the group expected to be in the building for their August homecoming.

Lesslie FWB Church, Rock Hill, SC, completed a 2,800-square-foot fellowship building at a cost of \$45,000. Pastor **Roger Anders** said, "We had \$10,000 when we began the building, and we built as we raised the money."

Pastor **Earl Hanna** wanted 100 people present at **Liberty FWB Church's** third anniversary celebration in **Orangeburg, SC**. He made it with one to spare! **Norwood Gibson**, state promotional director, was guest speaker.

Funeral services were conducted March 13 for Reverend **Ransom McAbee**. The 64-year-old Free Will Baptist minister pastored four churches in North Carolina and South Carolina. Saved at age 12, he began preaching in 1954.

Mrs. **Myra Webb** celebrated 40 years of putting children through school. Her first child started to school 40 years ago. Her last graduated this spring from **Liberty Christian Academy** in **Guin, AL**. She's a member of **First FWB Church** in Guin. **Richard Cordell** pastors. ☼

Free Will Baptist Bible College **REPORT**

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

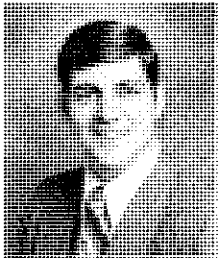
The Department Pages

Evangelize or Die:

College To Hold National Evangelism Conference



Gordon Sebastian



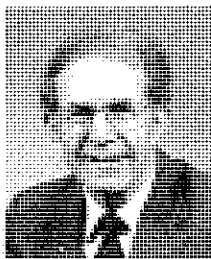
Keith Burden



Randy Ray



Calvin Evans



Roy Fish



Tom Malone

"Evangelism conferences are always times for the Holy Spirit to stir us anew to the task of soulwinning. I have to be stirred regularly to faithfulness in witnessing and pray faithfully for a fervent heart for the unsaved."

Tom Malone
President

Free Will Baptist Bible College

Six speakers—three evangelistic pastors, a full-time evangelist, a teacher of evangelism and FWBBC's new president—will attempt to fan the denomination's fires of soulwinning at Free Will Baptist Bible College's Evangelism Conference to be held in Nashville, October 1-3. The speakers are:

- Rev. Gordon Sebastian, pastor of Peace FWB Church, Wilson, NC.
- Rev. Keith Burden, pastor of First FWB Church, Ada, OK
- Dr. Randy Ray, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church, Madison, TN
- Dr. Calvin Evans, founder/director of Evangelistic Outreach, Inc.
- Dr. Roy Fish, professor of evangelism, Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Ft. Worth, TX
- Rev. Tom Malone, President, Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN

Dr. Robert Woodard, conference director, says, "Our purpose for this conference is to refocus our attention on our God-given responsibility to evangelize our communities for Christ." He stresses that the conference will highlight the practical, rather than the theoretical. "It is imperative that we recommit ourselves to the great task of evangelism," he says. "The church or denomination that fails to evangelize will fossilize and die."

Special topics to be addressed include:

- How to build a soulwinning church

- Discipling new converts
- Friendship evangelism
- Training soulwinners
- Evangelism through the Sunday school and more.

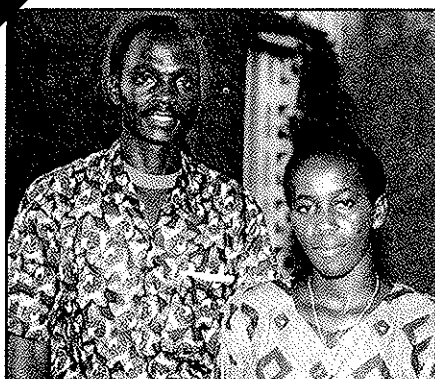
The Conference will begin with the evening service on Monday and will run through Wednesday evening, Dr. Woodard says.

A Conference fee of \$20 (\$35 per couple) will help to underwrite its cost. Visitors will also be able to stay and eat on campus, if they wish. Meals are \$3.75 for lunch or supper and \$2.75 for breakfast. An \$18-meal ticket will cover all six meals for Tuesday and Wednesday. Rooms are \$6 per night, linens included. All rooms are in dormitories, double occupancy with men and women housed separately.

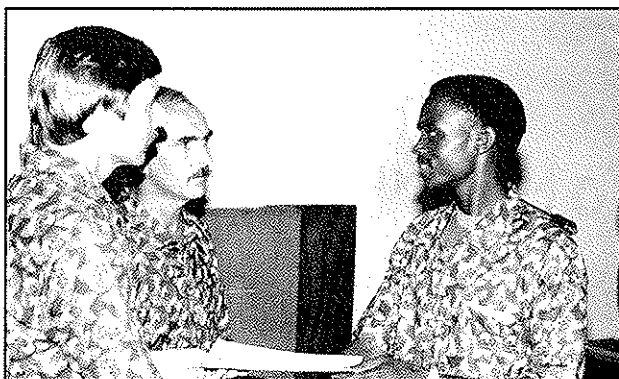
The Budgetel Inn, near the college, is offering conference visitors a special rate of \$37 per night, 1-4 people per room. Be sure to say that you are attending the Evangelism Conference in order to get this special rate. For motel reservations, call 615/353-0700.

For more information on the conference, or to make arrangements to stay on campus, write or call:

Evangelism Conference
Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
615/383-1340



Samuel and his wife, Nina, were married the day before he graduated from the Bible institute.



Samuel receives his graduation diploma from missionaries Mike Cousineau (left) and Clint Morgan.

version, the Lord began dealing with Samuel regarding the ministry. In 1985 he started working part-time in the Free Will Baptist youth center in Bouna and gained valuable Christian experience. He has been involved in the ministry of the Bouna church

for five years.

Samuel waited anxiously for three years for the Ivory Coast Bible Institute to open. In the fall of 1987 he began formal preparation for the ministry. His years of training have been challenging. He has made great progress and has been challenged by the conflict of culture with Christianity.

Samuel— From Pagan to Pastor

By Mike Cousineau

Samuel was born into a pagan family in Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa. He was not one of the fortunate ones as far as education goes. After failing the seventh grade he decided to quit school. His uncle, who had been caring for him since his father's death, was not at all happy with him. He sent the boy to Bouna to help his older brothers with farming.

Samuel was miserable. He desperately wanted to leave Bouna but did not have the financial means to do so.

One night in February 1981 Samuel heard a group of young people singing religious songs in the streets. These young people were at-

tending a youth conference at the Free Will Baptist Church in Bouna. Samuel followed them to the church. After the service a Christian film was shown.

When he read the tract, he realized he was a sinner and needed to receive Christ as his Savior.

Although Samuel didn't understand much of the message, he was given a Christian tract. When he read the tract, he realized he was a sinner and needed to receive Christ as his Savior.

Three years after his con-

In the fall of 1987 he began formal preparation for the ministry.

Eight students finished their course of study at the Bible institute on June 3, 1990, and became the first class to graduate from the training program. Samuel was one of the eight. He and Nina, a girl from the Bete tribe near Abidjan, were married on the day before his graduation. Approximately 250 people were on hand for the wedding ceremony in the Bouna FWB Church.

Samuel and Nina will be ministering in the village of Nassian.



Mike Cousineau serves as director of the Ivory Coast Bible Institute in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire.

HOUSE



CALL

Help Your Sunday School Grow

By Larry D. Hampton

If you have been a Free Will Baptist for very long, you are aware that the Sunday School and Church Training Department sponsors two enlargement campaigns each year. The spring campaign is held in March, the fall contest in October.

Perhaps you have wondered why a church would choose to participate in these contests. Rev. Fred Hall, pastor of East Nashville FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn., suggests three reasons for becoming involved in such campaigns.

1. The Sunday School is the church's greatest source of new members. A large and growing Sunday School will produce a large and growing church.
2. A Sunday School enlargement campaign does more to create a spirit of enthusiasm among the people than any other activity. When people are enthusiastic, they work harder, cooperate better and produce greater results.
3. Sunday Schools which sponsor enlargement campaigns regularly are Sunday Schools that grow. They experience both numerical and spiritual growth.

A growing Sunday School sets and attains goals. In his book, *154 Steps to Revitalize Your Sunday School and Keep Your Church Growing*, Dr. Elmer L. Towns enumerates 121 goals that may be achieved during a Sunday School campaign: (1) an all time attendance record, (2) the highest average attendance for the spring or fall, (3) the highest average attendance for the year, (4) enrollment goals, (5) departmental goals, (6) the highest average attendance for all the buses, (7) the highest attendance for an individual bus route, (8) the greatest number of visitors, (9) the greatest number of visits made by a worker, (10) the greatest number of phone calls made, (11) the greatest number of postcards written.

The Fall Sunday School Enlargement Campaign is an excellent time for your church to set goals and achieve them. The theme of this fall's campaign is "Count On Me, Lord." This campaign will begin Sunday, October 7, and continue through Sunday October 28.

If your church has never taken part in one of these campaigns, why not join with churches from across the denomination in this fall's competition?

The present size of your church does not limit your opportunity to win this contest. The divisions used for this competition are as follows:

Division A	over 500 average
Division B	400-499 average
Division C	300-399 average
Division D	200-299 average
Division E	150-199 average
Division F	100-149 average
Division G	50-49 average
Division H	under 49 average
Division I	newly established

(works established after April 1990)

Sunday Schools in each division experiencing the greatest percentage of increase over the average attendance for Spring quarter (March, April, May) 1990 will be declared winners. First and second place winners will receive appropriate awards.

Campaign materials are available from the Sunday School and Church Training Department, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217. All entry blanks for the Fall Sunday School Enlargement Campaign must be in our hands no later than October 5. The deadline for reporting campaign results is November 9, 1990. 📞



Foundation

Herman L. Hersey,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

A Reason for Giving

By William W. Evans

"Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account" (Philippians 4:17 KJV).

Much is taught today about benefits of giving. Many of these benefits are found in the scriptures. They range from God promising His blessings to the individual who gives to an interpretation of present prosperity and riches.

Yet, many appeals for gifts lead us to believe that we are to give and expect nothing in return.

Philippians 4:17 states one of the most important reasons for developing an attitude toward giving, that of bearing fruit.

For instance—A man sat in church one day and placed a gift in the offering plate as it passed. In that same service, a young person committed his life to Jesus Christ as Savior.

Not long after that a representative of a camping program made a presentation in the same church, and that same man placed another gift in the offering. The young person who had accepted Christ attended the camp and answered a call to full-time Christian service.

A representative of a Christian college came to the same church and the man sitting in the pew put another gift

in the offering. That young person who felt called to full-time Christian service went to the Christian college to receive his training.

Later when a missionary visited the church, the man sitting in the pew made another gift. As a result of the missionary's visit, the young person who had prepared for Christian service found his way to Africa as a missionary. While there proclaiming the message of Jesus Christ to the people of Africa under a brush arbor, a national came forward and gave his life to Christ.

I believe one of the greatest thrills the man who sat in the pew will have when he gets to heaven will be when Jesus introduces him to that African national and says, "This is your fruit, he abounds to your account. Because you gave and made possible the salvation, calling, training and sending of that young man to share the Gospel with this one, he is your fruit."

There are many reasons for giving. Giving in worship helps meet the needs of others. It adds character and quality to the giver. But one of the

most important reasons for giving is to carry out the Great Commission in the church, in camps, in schools and around the world to bear much fruit.

National Ministries Offering September 30

Through one gift of \$34.81 in the National Ministries Offering you can have a part in every national outreach ministry that "...fruit may abound to your account."

Foreign Missions.....	\$ 8.00
FWB Bible College.....	8.00
Home Missions.....	6.27
Master's Men.....	4.87
Retirement and Insurance..	4.87
FWB Foundation	2.08
Radio-TV Commission18
Commission for	
Theological Integrity.....	.18
Music Commission.....	.18
Historical Commission18
	\$34.81

Mail to National Ministries Offering,
P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

ABOVE ALL

Copeland Named Layman of the Year

Wendell Leckbee, chairman of the Master's Men Board, announced the Layman of the Year and Runner-up during the annual dinner at the National Convention in Phoenix. The board votes annually for the recipients from nominations submitted by pastors.

This year the board chose Roy Copeland, 39, from Oklahoma City, Okla., as the 1989 Layman of the Year. He is a member of the First United FWB Church in Oklahoma City. Copeland's wife is named Tamara. Rev. Stanley Konopinski is his pastor.

Runner-up Layman of the Year 1989 is Donald R. Neal, 57, from New Castle, Indiana. Neal is a retired engineer who was employed by Indiana Bell Telephone. He and his wife Mary attend First Bible FWB Church. Neal was nominated by Pastor Jim Mullen.

Master's Men Department will accept nominations for the next award for fiscal 1990 accomplishments after January 1, 1991. Each pastor may nominate one man from his congregation for consideration by the Master's Men Board.

Endowment Builders Commitments Exceed \$350,000

Nine commitments are listed by Master's Men Department to the Master's Men Endowment Trust for future gifts. The nine commitments total over \$350,000, according to Director Jim Vallance. The commitments are in several forms including living trusts, trusts, wills and insurance policies naming the Trust as beneficiaries.

Director Vallance states, "The Master's Men Department will benefit from these commitments when the Lord calls home some very precious people. The department is grateful for their foresight."

The Endowment Trust, established in December 1985, had grown to over \$40,000 in deposits by June 1990. Almost all the deposits are from LifeMember fees. In addition, about a dozen memorial gifts have been received. All deposits become part of the irrevocable Endowment Trust held by the Free Will Baptist Foundation.

According to Director Vallance, "I want to see the Endowment Trust reach at least \$1 million. To achieve that total, we must have some large gifts from Free Will Baptists who love the ministry of Master's Men. The goal can be reached, and I hope to see it met within my tenure as director."

The funds on deposit in the trust will provide interest income for the general fund of the department. The trust will ease the burden of insufficient finances to operate the department. In the past year nearly \$3,000 was generated for the general fund. That's nearly half a month's operating needs.

National Ministries Sunday Provides Funding

The 1989 National Ministries Offering in September provided over \$3,000 for the work of Master's Men. Church members across the nation gave their "fair share"



so all departments could benefit. Gifts to Master's Men came at a crucial time in the budget year.

In 1990, budgeted needs for the department totals \$1,548.20 per week. The NMS Offering for 1990 could provide all the operating needs of every national ministry if every Free Will Baptist participated. The average gift for every member is only \$34.81.

The 1990 date for the National Ministries Sunday is September 30. All the Master's Men Board members and director have made a commitment to give their gift so every ministry can function. They challenge all Master's Men to be part of the total ministry on September 30. ☉

TAKE THE SHIELD!

MINI GRAMS

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

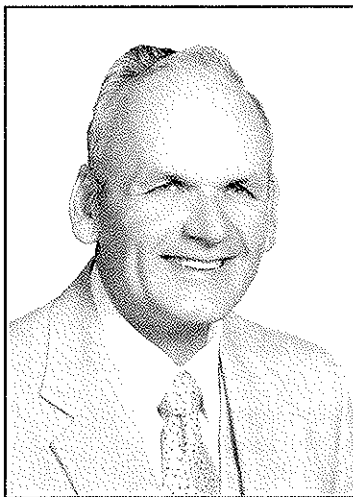
Board Chairman to Walk 76 Miles

By Roy Thomas

The chairman of the Home Missions Board, Reverend Rue Dell Smith, is an energetic worker for the Lord! He pastors Phillips Chapel FWB Church in Springdale, Arkansas, which has grown to about 300 in attendance. He conducts about 25 revivals, soul winning and church growth conferences each year. He makes several trips each year for the Home Missions Board.

In addition to all this, Brother Smith is planning a one-man walk-a-thon, and he is the man! He will leave the church parsonage in Springdale and walk to his former pastorate, Bethlehem FWB Church in Van Buren, Arkansas. The 76-mile trip will take him down U.S. Highway 71 over the Boston Mountains, the highest mountain range in the state.


Reverend Smith, 58, plans to begin the walk at midnight, October 11, walk all night and the next day, arriving in Van Buren for a giant home

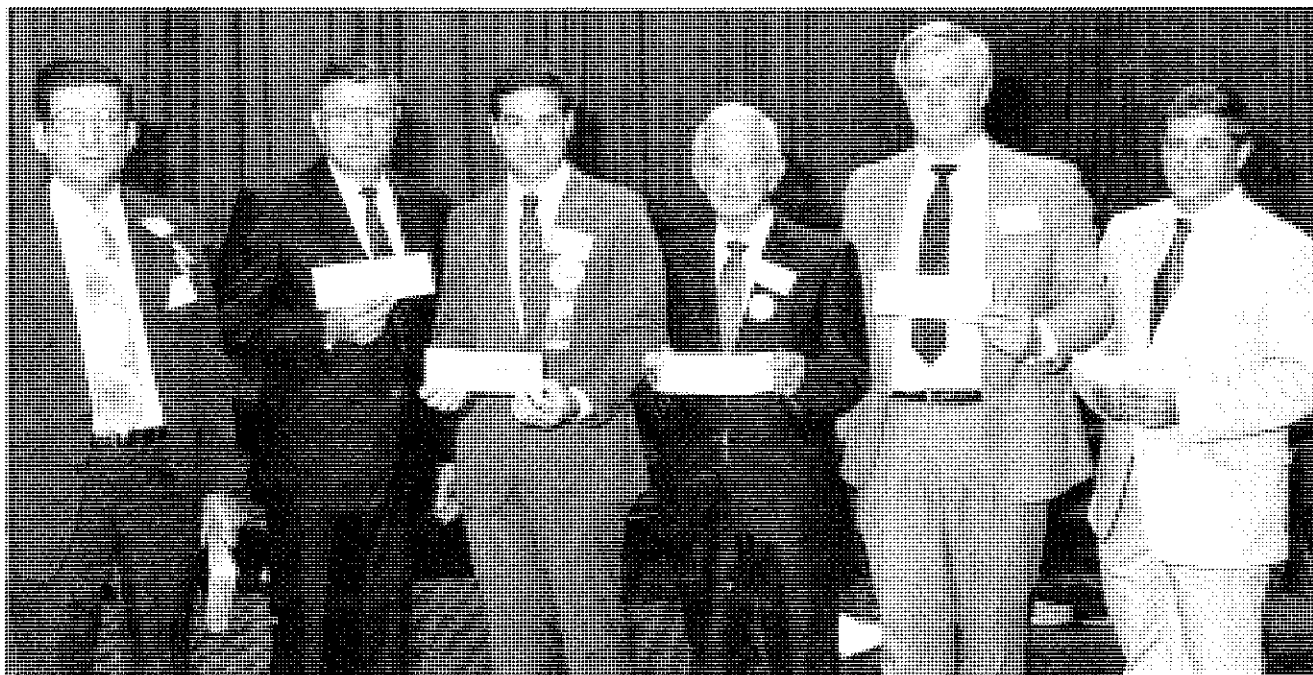


missions rally Friday night, October 12 at Bethlehem FWB Church.

The purpose for making this tremendous effort is to raise money for the Shreveport, Louisiana building fund where Home Missionary Ron Parker serves. Ron is on itinerate, and Reverend Smith hopes to raise the cash which will allow him to go to the field. Sponsors are pledging a certain amount for each mile walked.

Reverend Smith is busy (in his spare time) walking, dieting, and conditioning himself for the 76-mile trek. He walks 13 to 25 miles each day, and in the process has lost about 100 pounds. He wears ankle weights to strengthen his legs and should be in top physical condition to make the long trip.

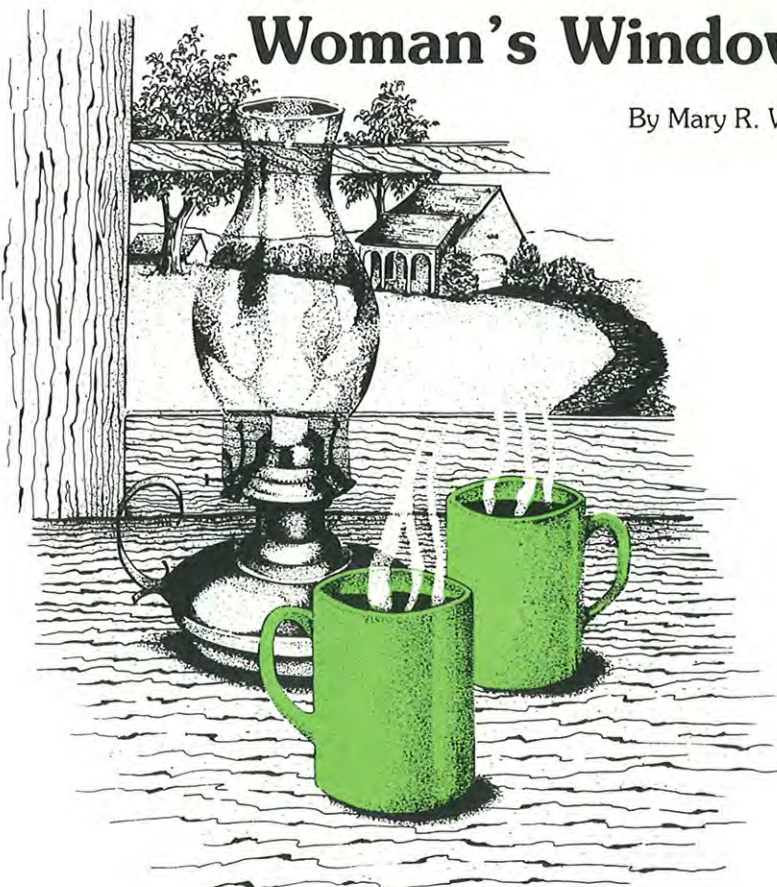
Those wishing to sponsor Brother Smith may contact him at 209 East Robinson, Springdale, AR 72764, telephone: 501/756-8862; or the Home Missions Department. 



Roy Thomas (L) presents Land Fund checks to Phoenix area missionaries: George Harvey, Jr., Howard Gwartney, Paul Thompson, Jim Taylor and Larry Reynolds.

Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wisehart



From My Window

I held the magazine in my hand on the eighth stack in the Joint University Library and almost trembled with delight. *Graham's Magazine*, the magazine Edgar Allan Poe had edited in one of his short-lived editing positions. Maybe, I thought, he even held this magazine in his hands. Most likely he didn't, but it was thrilling to think that perhaps he did.

As a youngster, I had admired the writings of Poe. By the time I was in graduate school, I had outgrown that fascination, but I still felt a shiver of delight to think that a part of him was here in this magazine that I held in my hand.

Thomas Carlyle wrote, "All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been; it is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books."

Today technology has given us other methods of preservation—video, cassette tapes, records and compact disks. Even so, there's something about a book.

Held in the hand, it becomes more personal. It demands more and gives back more if you meet its demands.

A book gives you time to think, to read again and to read between the lines. You can react however you wish to a book, and it just goes on being itself.

It's amazing when you think that someone in the past has recorded ideas, adventures, experiences that you can hold in your hand. Someone in the past, maybe centuries ago, has permitted us to share in his thoughts and feelings.

Isn't it marvelous that we have the gift of reading and writing? Think of all the things preserved for us in manuscripts and books.

Best of all, God has given us His Word in written form so that we can hold it in our hands, read, study and hide it away in our hearts.

Memorial Student Loan Fund

WNAC established the Memorial Student Loan Fund in 1956 for students at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Since 1956 students have received over \$100,000 in loans from the fund.

Now, perhaps more than ever before, students need financial help to complete their educations.

September is the month for Auxiliaries to take special offerings for the loan fund. Your gift will help young people in training for God's service.

The fund, at the end of 1989, had \$39,664.39. Last year Auxiliaries contributed \$3,169.53 to the fund.

Eunice Edwards Loan Fund
June 30, 1990—\$28,010.59

Provision Closet Needs

Tupperware measuring cups and spoons
Hand towels
Queen-size mattress covers
Queen-size sheets sets
Glass tumblers
Kitchen knives

A Month for Students

September is the month for students. Although in some places schools start in August, still we think of September as student month.

Perhaps students have gone from your church to Bible College or some other college. Why not do something special for them this month? Send them a care package. Drop a card or letter in the mail. Just let them know that the Auxiliary still cares and that they are still a part of the church.

Remember the youngsters in elementary school and the teens in secondary school also. They may need special prayer for their witness in the schools. Make this a month to help and encourage them.



Herman L. Hersey
Director

A number of thoughtful people send gifts to the Retirement Ministries on Father's Day and other occasions to honor the memory of a departed friend or loved one, or to honor the ministry of a living person. Families of those whose memories or ministries are so honored are notified of the contribution by an appropriate card, and the names are listed here.

IN HONOR OF...
By...

Homer Arrowood
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Herms
Belmont, NC

Terry Booker
Martin Hill Auxiliary
Booneville, MS

Paul D. Boyd
Five Points Auxiliary
Pinetown, NC

Bobby Clyatt
First Church Auxiliary
Emporia, KS

Larry Collins
First Church Auxiliary
Emporia, KS

Larry Cook
Bear Point Auxiliary
Sesser, IL

Kenneth Faison
Bellview Auxiliary
Colquitt, GA

Bill George
Salem Auxiliary
Cottondale, FL

A. F. Ferguson
Allie D. Beam
Shafter, CA

Clement K. Heath
Cove City Auxiliary
Cove City, NC

Herman L. Hersey
Larry & Sharon Buhrer
Petaluma, CA
Smyrna FWB Church
Smyrna, TN

Edna Jones
Cypress Fork Ladies Prayer
Group
Manning, SC

Carlos Kelsey
Smyrna Auxiliary
Smyrna, TN

Zane Kirkland
Sutton Auxiliary
Conway, AR

Rex Lynn
Pine Level Auxiliary &
Master's Men
Alma, GA

Wallace Malone
First Church Master's Men
Decatur, IL

**Ministry of Free Will
Baptist Department of
Foreign Missions**
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Heath
New York, NY

Clarence Newman
Denise Raburn
Debi Paramore
Nashville, TN

Arthur Norris
Benton First Auxiliary
Thompsonville, IL

Thurman Pate
Jerry & Barbara Gibbs
France

Charles Powell
Bethel Auxiliary
Ashland City, TN

D. P. Rigdon
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm
Peterson
Alma, GA

Adam Scott
Thelma Cannon
Ashland City, TN

James Smith
Esserville Auxiliary
Wise, VA

Tom Spradlin
Bethlehem Auxiliary
Lucasville, OH

L. B. Steele
Booneville Auxiliary
Booneville, AR

Leslie Van Pinson
Marshall Van Pinson
Atlanta, GA

Albert Veneri
Sophia Auxiliary
Sophia, WV

Ken Walker
Second Church Auxiliary
Ashland, KY

Janie Wallace
Cypress Fork Ladies Prayer
Group
Manning, SC

E. E. Whetsel
Bethany Auxiliary
Kingsport, TN

IN MEMORY OF...
By...

E. Jane Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. Harry R.
Chester
Goreville, IL

Oressa Boyd
Five Points Auxiliary
Pinetown, NC

S. R. Brinkley
Agnes B. Frazier
Hermitage, TN

Paul Butler
Faith Auxiliary & Master's
Men
Morganton, NC

**Charles "Allen"
Carpentier**
Mr. & Mrs. Frank H.
Carpentier, Jr.
Oklahoma City, OK

Walter Cheek
Kilsyth Auxiliary
Mt. Hope, WV

Issac Clark
Pleasant Hill Auxiliary
Vienna, GA

Larry Dorsey
Cabool Auxiliary
Cabool, MO

Lacy Milburn Edwards
Rick & Teresa Edwards
Nashville, TN

J. F. Frazier
Agnes B. Frazier
Hermitage, TN

Samuel F. Hersey
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hersey
Japan

Samuel & Ruth Hersey
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Hersey
Nashville, TN

Walter & Violet Hood
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Hersey
Nashville, TN

Mr. & Mrs. Ike B. Jones
Harvey M. Jones
Tulsa, OK

J. C. Lawrence
Belk Auxiliary
Belk, AL

Milo R. Lawrence
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hersey
Japan

Ralph Lowrimore
Davis Auxiliary
Davis, NC

Elsie Miller
The Frank Rudy Family
Nashville, TN

NOTICE

The listing on this page may not include all the memorials and honor gifts received for Father's Day. More names will be published in the next issue.



Board of Retirement AT YOUR SERVICE



OUR READERS COMMENT

ACCOUNTANT QUESTIONS SOCIAL SECURITY, NO RETIREMENT PLANS

Your "Is Social Security a Good Buy?" in the April issue was very interesting. However, it showed the bias of someone who is about to retire.

The correct answer is an emphatic NO! A review of all the facts will support this conclusion. Rather than a "pact between generations" it is a robbing of the young by the elderly.

Since the ratio of working individuals to retired individuals is constantly decreasing, the social security system is in line for serious problems around the year 2020. One study showed that a total social security tax rate of 33 percent would be required by the year 2020, while the current rate is only 15.3 percent.

Actually, most people can purchase the "protection" provided by social security from an insurance company for considerably less than is charged for social security. Although people retiring now will receive on the average much more than what they contributed to social security, in the future it is doubtful that this will be the case.

I also read with great sorrow the letter from the indigent Free Will Baptist preacher (June issue). However, this situation is by no means limited to preachers. One study showed that, on the average, no more than 5 percent of Americans prepare for retirement.

Although some of us are beset by financial disaster, most of us choose to spend all we make. One Free Will Baptist preacher bluntly stated that saving for retirement showed a lack of faith. This man and his wife were earning in excess of \$40,000 annually and have no children.

One of Murphy's laws states that expenses will rise to meet income. This is as true for a person earning \$500,000 annually as for a person earning \$25,000 annually.

Your mission is not to get Free Will Baptists to bail all of these people out (although this is a worthy cause). Your mission is to prevent, by every means available, its recurrence.

P. Stephen Patterson, P.C.
Certified Public Accountant
Lubbock, Texas

Top Shelf



Thomas Marberry



Rev. Keith Barnhart, Guilty Until Proven Innocent (Hannibal, MO: Hannibal Books, 1990, 184 pp., paperback, \$9.95).

This book tells the tragic story of a Baptist pastor in St. Charles, Missouri, who was falsely accused of sexually molesting children. He was investigated for several months, arrested and finally brought to trial.


During this time he was harassed with obscene phone calls. His house was painted with obscenities. It seems that the local police went out of their way to embarrass and humiliate him at every opportunity.

A St. Louis television station ran a series of sensational news reports that were successful in stirring up considerable mass hysteria against him. It was a sad and sordid mess.

The case finally came to trial, and the prosecution was forced to put its evidence on the table. The trial lasted

one week, and it was very apparent that there was no real evidence that this pastor had ever abused any child. He was acquitted.

This is a book all of us ought to read because this type of thing could happen to any of us who work with children. Child abuse is certainly a terrible crime which deserves to be punished severely. Yet, we must recognize that many people in this country are falsely accused of child abuse every year.

This case raises serious questions about the conduct of police, prosecutors, social workers and the news media in such cases. We must never lose sight of the fact that, even in cases of child abuse, a person is innocent until proven guilty. 

PASTOR COMMENDS JULY ISSUE

Philippians 1:10 admonishes us to "approve things that are excellent." The July issue was excellent. Every article was relevant, well thought-out and well written.

While it is true that some issues will always speak to us according to our needs at the time, this issue speaks to the times we live in better than most.

I commend the level of excellence our national publication has reached. It sets a standard that all of us who are members should strive for. We need again to place great emphasis on winning the lost to Christ, and then teach them to love our churches and our denomination.

There is not a better denominational publication than *Contact*. We are proud of it. Thanks for keeping us informed and bringing a family unity to our work.

Pastor Keith Woody
Capitol Hill Free Will Baptist Church
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

LET'S MEET THE EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGE

I agree wholeheartedly with Dr. Worthington's comments in "The Secretary Speaks" (June issue). Free Will Baptist colleges must take up the challenge to meet the educational needs of our young people.

If we are to win our world to Jesus Christ and carry out the Great Commission, it will take more than new preachers or missionaries. We need Free Will Baptist-trained public school teachers, businessmen, secretaries, journalists, nurses, etc. to be light and salt in our world.

We lose many young people because we have not felt the urgency to develop diversified educational opportunities at our colleges. We have come a long way, but we still have a long way to go.

Reverend Jeffrey L. Gaskins, Pastor
Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church
Springfield, Missouri





ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

The Estate

Marty, Megan and Mrs. Douglas sat on Mrs. Douglas' porch swing sipping lemonade.

"I hear Old Joe coming," said Mrs. Douglas.

Sure enough, the mailman rounded the curve in the road and stopped to put mail in Mrs. Douglas' box. He honked his horn in greeting and Mrs. Douglas waved.

"I'll get it," said Marty, jumping off the porch and running across the yard to the mailbox.

He brought the mail back and handed it to Mrs. Douglas. "Let's see here," she said, adjusting her glasses. "Probably nothing but bills." One letter, however, caught her attention.

"I wonder what this could be. It's from a lawyer in Atlanta." Mrs. Douglas quickly opened the letter and read it.

"What did it say?" asked Megan.

"Oh dear," sighed Mrs. Douglas. "Let me read it again and get it straight in my mind." This time Mrs. Douglas read the letter slowly. Then she folded it carefully, put it back in the envelope and put the envelope in her apron pocket.

"Well," said Marty, "was it good news or bad?"

"Bad, I suppose," answered Mrs. Douglas. "It seems my second cousin, Mr. Adolph Q. Oglethorpe, passed away. Since my sister and I are his only living relatives, he left us his estate. The lawyers want us to come next Tuesday for the reading of the will."

"Neato," cried Marty. "Was he rich?"

The idea of Cousin Adolph being rich made Mrs. Douglas laugh. "Lands, no, child," she said. "He probably doesn't have enough money to pay for a proper burial. But I'll have to go and set things in order. Poor Flossie, she's surely not able to travel, so I guess I'll have to go alone. I dread that long trip by myself."

"You don't have to go by yourself," said Megan. "We'll go with you, won't we, Marty?"

"Sure," said Marty. "We've never ridden a bus before."

"And we've never been to Atlanta either," added Megan.

"And we've never been to a will-reading before," said Marty.

Mr. and Mrs. Lane agreed,

and two days later drove the three adventurers to the bus station.

It was a long ride, but the twins didn't mind. Mrs. Douglas told great stories. She had packed some gingersnap cookies and they helped the time pass quickly.

"Tell us what Cousin Adolph was like," said Megan, munching on a gingersnap.

Mrs. Douglas settled back in her seat and got a faraway look in her eyes. She thought for a minute. "Cousin Adolph always was a strange one," she said finally.

"When all my aunts and uncles and cousins got together for Sunday dinner, Adolph never took part in our fun. We young 'uns liked to play snap the whip and Annie over. We loved to wade the creek and run and play and laugh like young 'uns today. But not Adolph. He'd head for the woods with one of his science books, climb a pecan tree and stay until his parents called him to go home."

"Why would he do that?" asked Megan.

"He was a loner," answered Mrs. Douglas. "When it was rainy or cold, Adolph would run to the barn and hide in the hayloft."

"Adolph never married," continued Mrs. Douglas. "He was a tall, thin fellow who never cared how he looked. Last time I saw him, his gray hair was too long and mighty wild and woolly. Adolph lived by himself and rarely came out of his house. He spent his time working on inventions in his basement. Cousin Adolph was so caught up in his tinkering that he barely took time to eat. And he never took time to make friends. Seems like a mighty lonesome life to me."

They arrived in Atlanta in time to eat supper and check into a hotel before dark. The next morning they took a cab to the law offices of Huffmier, Gilly and Reid.

"Wow," said Marty, looking up at the tall building.

The twins found the firm of Huffmier, Gilly and Reid on the directory beside the elevator. Then, with Mrs. Douglas, they took the elevator to the 34th floor. In a few moments they were sitting in the luxurious office of Mr. Huffmier listening to him read the will.

"That sounds fine," said Mrs. Douglas when he had finished. "But just what does it mean?"

Mr. Huffmier kindly explained that Adolph Q. Oglethorpe had left everything he owned to Mrs. Douglas and her sister Flossie. "The entire estate is

yours and your sister's," said Mr. Huffmier.

"Estate?" asked Mrs. Douglas.

"Well," chuckled Mr. Huffmier, "I assure you, it's not much. I've driven by Mr. Oglethorpe's house; it won't bring much on today's market. And after funeral and burial expenses...."

"And legal fees?" added Mrs. Douglas.

"Yes," smiled Mr. Huffmier, "there won't be much left."

"Where do we go from here?" asked Mrs. Douglas.

"Here's the address and the deed," answered Mr. Huffmier, handing a bundle of papers to Mrs. Douglas. "I've given your name and address to Mr. Sexton, the funeral director, and we'll both be sending you our bills."

"But what do I do now?" asked Mrs. Douglas.

"I suggest you clean the place up a bit," said Mr. Huffmier, "and list it with a realtor. When it sells you can pay Mr. Oglethorpe's debts."

Mrs. Douglas, Marty and Megan rose to leave.

"Good luck," said Mr. Huffmier.

Back out on the street, Mrs. Douglas said, "What if it doesn't sell? What if it doesn't bring enough to pay his debts? Oh, Adolph, what have you done to me?"

Megan squeezed her friend's hand. "Don't worry, Mrs. Douglas. Let's trust Jesus." Mrs. Douglas smiled, calmed by Megan's faith.

"Let's pray about it," sug-

gested Marty. There on a busy downtown Atlanta street corner, Mrs. Douglas, Marty and Megan joined hands and Marty said a simple prayer. Then they hailed a cab, climbed in and gave Cousin Adolph's address to the driver.

"Do you know where Blackpatch Street is?" asked Mrs. Douglas.

"Sure," laughed the driver, accelerating so quickly that the three passengers were thrown against the back of the seat.

In about 10 minutes the taxi driver stopped at the estate of Mr. Adolph Q. Oglethorpe and Mrs. Douglas got her first glimpse of her inheritance. 🌍

(to be continued next month)

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TEEN Scene

Two special awards were given during the TEAM Youth Congress Monday evening at the National Youth Conference. Donald Myers, TEAM vice president, presented plaques to an individual and a youth group.

Teen of the Year

Jamie Harris from Rowlett, Texas, was selected for outstanding leadership.

Jamie was elected by the Texas youth in 1989 to be Texas' TEAM



Representative. She immediately began planning to involve Texas youth. She worked with adult youth leaders to plan the first annual Texas TEAM Conference last winter. It was a great success. There were seminars, a concert, fun times, food and great fellowship.

At the conference, Texas youth decided to raise funds for the home mission work in San Antonio.

Jamie earned a spot on the 1990 National Youth Evangelistic Team by being a top scorer in a vocal duet. The YET group toured Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma in June and also presented their program at the National Youth Conference in Phoenix. Jamie made arrangements for the team to present their program at Six Flags Over Texas during the summer tour.

Jamie was also selected to be a participant in the 1990 Truth and Peace Youth Leadership Conference. She has taken the initiative to be a leader and to involve other youth in active ministry.

The Harris family attends the mission church in Plano, Texas, where Don Guthrie pastors. Jamie attends Hillsdale FWB College in Moore, Oklahoma.

Youth Group of the Year

Youth from Phillip's Chapel FWB Church in Springdale, Arkansas, were recognized for their involvement in ministry and outreach.

They formed a Youth Evangelistic Team last fall and began working on

the musical program, Just Say Yes to Jesus. They rehearsed every Thursday evening for months. They started scheduling services in the spring and presented their program at youth rallies, retreats, camps, retirement centers, local churches, state competition and the National Youth Conference. In addition to reaching out to other youth, this ministry also helped strengthen and unify the group.

Area response has been so positive that they opened up this ministry to involve other youth from local churches in the district.

This ministry has not hindered the youth from participating in other areas of local church ministry. They are active in bus ministry. They fielded the winning Bible Bowl team from Arkansas. They had other competition entries in music and oral communication.

Although the church does not have a youth director, several adults work as a team to reach, teach and involve this eager youth group. Rue Dell Smith is their pastor and very supportive of the youth ministry.

Congratulations

Both Jamie Harris and the Phillip's Chapel youth are commended for their involvement in ministry and exemplary devotion to the Lord.

If you want your youth group or an individual to be considered for these awards, please send information to TEAM, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217. These awards are presented during the TEAM Youth Congress in conjunction with the annual National Youth Conference. 🌐

BEYOND BELIEF





THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

Generous Givers



The grace of giving is addressed in II Corinthians 8-9. No other Bible passage presents a clearer overview for believers to abound in giving.

Generous giving needs to be emphasized among Free Will Baptists. Our outreach is often hindered by lack of funds. Multitudes around the world still remain in darkness because we neglect our responsibility in giving ourselves, our substance and our service.

All material possessions come from God and He deserves a voice in directing the way we use them. Consider the following guidelines for giving.

Generous giving is personal. Scriptural giving begins with giving of one's self to the Lord. Though the Macedonians gave generously of their substance, they first gave themselves to the Lord. Until we have given ourselves, our substance is not acceptable.

Generous giving is perceptive. It is impossible to give directly into the hand of God; we need a channel through which to give. Free Will Baptists have that channel—the local church, district and state association, and the national agencies. The Macedonians gave to Paul and thus to the Lord.

Generous giving is progressive. Paul admonishes the Macedonian believers to abound in giving just as they abounded in faith, utterance, knowledge, diligence and love. Growth in giving is the responsibility of every Christian. Have you been growing in this grace?

Generous giving follows a pattern. God proved His love for us when He gave Christ. Christ was rich but became poor in order that we might be rich. Christ gave all for us and set the example of how we should give.

Generous giving is proportionate. Each Christian gives as the Lord has prospered him. We are not required to give what we do not have but as God has provided. We give in proportion to what we have. This is God's way. It is fair for everybody.

Generous giving is practical. No one can support everything that needs money. Free Will Baptists have a responsibility to support Free Will Baptist ministries. Through both designated and undesignated (Cooperative) gifts we can support.

Generous giving is plenteous. The Macedonian believers gave out of their poverty—gave more than could have been expected. Giving ac-


cording to the will of God and according to the way God has blessed results in an abundance of funds to meet the needs. Frankly, with all that God has given Free Will Baptists, there should never be a shortage of funds in our movement.

Generous giving is pleasurable. This principle is found in II Corinthians 8:2 and expanded in chapter 9. God loves a cheerful giver. Giving brings joy and blessing. Joy always follows dedication and obedience. When we unite with others to support God's work, it will always be sufficient.

Generous giving is profitable. We are blessed, the work of God is supported, the gospel is proclaimed and we have fulfilled our obligation as we seize the opportunity to give generously. We have a vital part in extending God's kingdom. Generous giving is profitable to the Christian, the church, the community, the country and extends to the ends of the earth.

Generous giving is purposeful. The love of Christ constrains us to give. The measure of our appreciation for God's gift to us determines the measure and expression of our giving to Him.

September 30 provides a unique opportunity for every Free Will Baptist to give a sacrificial gift for national ministries. The proportionate share for each of us is \$34.81. Join with me in giving this annual gift to national ministries.

This gift should be above what you regularly give. Make it a sacrificial gift. You will be glad you did. 

Secretary's Schedule

September 4-7	Convention Planning Trip Charleston, W. Va.
September 9	Heads FWB Church Cedar Hill, Tenn.
September 9-12	Christian Stewardship Assoc. Kansas City, Mo.
September 14-15	Tri-State Conference Cincinnati, Ohio
September 16-21	Rocky Pass FWB Church Nebo, N.C.
September 30-October 5	First FWB Church Baton Rouge, La.

CONTACT

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