

MAY 1991

# CONTACT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

.....  
**Home to  
West Virginia**

.....  
**Listen to  
Leadership**

.....  
**Eyes that Hear,  
Hands that Talk**

.....  
**The Kid Who  
Brings the Ball**





# INSIDE

MAY 1991

VOLUME 38, NO. 5

## ARTICLES.....

- 4 Home to West Virginia**  
Editorial Assistant Marilyn Pritchard previews the 1991 National Convention in West Virginia.
- 9 Hotel Reservation Form**
- 11 Pre-Registration Form**
- 13 Come Celebrate Jesus!**  
National Youth Conference preview.
- 14 The Kid Who Brings the Ball**  
David Joslin believes in teamwork.
- 16 Eyes that Hear, Hands that Talk**  
Jennifer Joy Eason goes to church every Sunday but never hears the sermon.

## COLUMNS.....

- 3 The Secretary Speaks**  
Listen to Leadership
- 22 The Department Pages**
- 30 Top Shelf**
- 30 Our Readers Comment**
- 31 Briefcase**  
Seven Surprises of Humanism

## NEWS.....

- 18 Free Will Baptist Newsfront**  
South Carolina to Purchase Property  
Ralph Staten Honored  
College President's Daughter Dies  
FWBBC Christmas Drive  
Calling all Singers, Instrumentalists  
Experiment Boosts Church Attendance  
Graduate Course: Preaching on Prophecy  
Discount Convention Air Fares Available
- 21 Currently**

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Melvin Worthington

## Listen to Leadership

**W**ithout leadership organizations flounder and eventually fall. To be effective, leadership requires "followership." Free Will Baptist leaders are not generally appointed in the various levels of denominational life; they are elected.

It is not unreasonable when those elected to positions of leadership expect those bodies who elected them to follow and support them. As a local church member, I am responsible to support the leadership of my church. That principle holds true at district, state and national levels. One reason we do not accomplish more is the attitude some of our people have toward leadership.

Pastors who expect churches to follow their leadership often do not support broader elected leadership. The local church is the highest authority when transacting its business. It is also true that district, state and national associations are the highest authorities when transacting business regarding their particular associations.

The tendency to do one's own thing with no regard for the rest of the group leads to chaos. It is a sobering fact that when we stand before God each of us will give account for how we responded to leadership.

### Recognize Leadership

Leaders occupy pivotal roles. They give thought, time and talent to the organization they lead. They also give vision to the organization. They dream dreams and give direction for realizing those dreams.

They serve as role models.

Effective leaders in the Lord's work must always be able to say as Paul, "Imitate me as I imitate Christ." In precept, practice and pattern the leader sets the standard.

### Respect Leadership

Nothing hinders God's work more than lack of respect for leadership. How sad to hear pastors criticize district, state and national officials. On the other hand it is just as sad to hear state, district and national leadership criticize pastoral leadership.

We cannot expect others to respect us if we don't exercise respect. Respect for leadership requires understanding and unselfishness. If nothing else, the office or position must be respected.

If we destroy the pastoral office or state promotional office because we dislike or disagree with the pastor or promotional secretary, we guarantee that the next pastor or state official will be ineffective.

### Replace Leadership

Elected leadership can be replaced if the majority votes to make a change. It is certainly not unchristian to elect new leader-

ship. Rather than be unsupportive and uncooperative, it is better to replace leadership and move on for the glory of God.

When leadership change is in order, it is wise to make the change. The worse thing that can happen is to cut support, complain and develop a bad attitude toward the organization. The organization may not be the problem. Leadership may be the problem.

On the other hand, leadership need not be replaced. It can change and develop greater sensitivity to the membership. Those who support leadership gain the ear of the leader. It works both ways. Leaders should listen to the membership and membership should listen to leaders.

This reciprocal process holds the key to any organization's success. Listening to leadership is not weakness on the part of members, nor are leaders who listen to their supporters weak.

### Remember Leadership

Remember those in positions of leadership. Their task is not easy. They view the work from a broader perspective. For example, pastors see the work of the entire church while Sunday School teachers see the classes they teach. District leaders see the district work. State leaders see the state work while national leadership must see the entire work.

Sometimes particular concerns and preferences must be tempered for the good of the whole. Leadership requires a team effort. Be part of the leadership team. The benefits will be worth the effort. ■

### The Secretary's Schedule

May 4	Arizona State Assoc.
May 6-8	Evangelical Press Assoc. Pheasant Run, IL
May 15	Salinas FWB Church Salinas, CA
May 16-18	California State Assoc.
May 21-24	Convention Planning Trip Charleston, WV
May 24-25	RCMA Board Meeting Phoenix, AZ



# Home to West Virginia

By Marilyn Pritchard



**W**e're taking country roads home to West Virginia this summer. Nestled deep in the Appalachians, the Mountain State beckons delegates to Charleston in 1991. For the second time in 55 years, West Virginia's 11,000 members and 185 churches will host the national convention. The convention last met in West Virginia in 1956 in Huntington.

Remember this date: July 21-25. That's when more than 6,000 delegates and visitors from 40 states will gather in Charleston Civic Center for five days of worship, business, seminars, meals and special activities at the 55th National Association.

## Discover Charleston

Hugging the Appalachian mountains where the Kanawha and Elk Rivers converge, the West Virginia capital offers a unique blend of modern technology and folk traditions. You'll find everything from a high rise shopping center to country quilts.

The Town Center near the convention center offers one-stop shopping in a modern three-story complex. Over 165 shops and restaurants make it one of the nation's largest downtown enclosed shopping malls.

Or if you prefer, ride the Trolley to Renaissance Village's quaint boutiques, large department

stores, 29 eateries, entertainment, cultural and service organizations. This area is a treasure chest of architectural detail and history lining brick sidewalks with cast iron lampposts.

For entertainment you may choose the West Virginia Symphony, baseball in Watt Powell Park, a ride on the P. A. Denny Sternwheeler or West Virginia Belle riverboats on the Kanawha River. Museums, golf courses, tennis courts, hiking trails, a skating rink, white water rafting and other sports opportunities await adventurous conferees.

Guided tours are also available. Watch master craftsmen creating blown glass objects; tour the mu-



seum which contains exhibits of stained glass, capitol lighting globes, original Williamsburg stemware and a Country Music Award trophy. Historical walking tours route through three areas of Charleston.

Hungry? You'll find 53 fast-food and 19 full-service restaurants within walking distance of the Civic Center.

### Getting Ready

Cities hosting the National Association of Free Will Baptists expect big business when we come to town. Each convention city since 1984 has gleaned \$1 million-plus from Free Will Baptists. Phoenix alone collected 1.8 million Free Will Baptist dollars in 1990.

We ate more than 3,000 catered meals in each of the last six conventions. Registration statistics explain why:

1990	Phoenix, Ariz.	4,372
1989	Tampa, Fla.	5,707
1988	Kansas City, Mo.	5,866
1987	Birmingham, Ala.	6,159
1986	Tulsa, Okla.	6,545
1985	Nashville, Tenn.	8,340

A national convention demands careful advance preparations. West Virginia's Steering Committee began preparing last September. Each member chairs a different committee responsible for specific areas of preparation:

J. L. Varney—Steering Committee Chairman  
Wayne Sisk, Jr.—Hospitality Committee  
Ottis Hensley—Registration Committee  
Carl Lilly—Prayer Committee  
Roger Tolliver—Ushering Committee

Other members on this year's Committee include:

Susie Elliott—State Woman's Auxiliary President  
Brian Williams—State Youth Representative  
Jarrod Chapman—State NYC Planning Captain  
Arthur Frye—Advisory Member  
Carl Vallance—Advisory Member

Three ministers will address the convention theme, "Found Faithful." Two others will preach at the 11th annual Convention Bible Conference. Moderator Ralph Hampton prepares to gavel his fourth national convention. Others getting ready for July include seminar leaders, banquet speakers, speakers for NYC and WNAC services.

Preparations continue with



James E. Raper



Keith Woody



Billy Hanna



David Reece



Howard Munsey

hotel, catering, convention center and convention bureau personnel. Staff must lease equipment, purchase supplies, print programs and digests, authorize telephone service and attend to many more details.

### Meet the Preachers

Attendees look forward to great preaching at national conventions. This year will not disappoint them. Preaching services start Sunday and continue through Wednesday evening's missionary service.

### Sunday Morning

Early birds find Pastor James Earl Raper in the pulpit. This North Carolina native was saved when he was 15 years old and ordained at 24. He earned his B.A. from Free Will Baptist Bible College and B.D. from Bob Jones University.

In 37 years of ministry, Reverend Raper has pastored seven churches in five states. He pastors Horse Branch FWB Church in Turbeville, S.C. For 13-1/2 years he was superintendent of the FWB Home for Children in Greeneville, Tennessee.

Brother Raper has moderated both the Arkansas and Tennessee State Associations. He served eight years on the Sunday School and Church Training Board and 12 years on the Free Will Baptist Bible College Board of Trustees.

James Earl and Doris Raper have two married daughters, Kathy McCoy and Sheila Gilliland.

### Sunday Evening

NYC hosts the Sunday evening service with Will Harmon as keynote speaker. Born in Texas, this 29-year-old pastor received his B.A. from Hillsdale FWB College and his M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Reverend Harmon was ordained in 1981 and has served in three churches, one as youth minister and two as pastor. He pastors Oak Park FWB Church in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. He served two years on the Central Association Mission





Convention Headquarters Hotel—Charleston Marriott

#### Convention (from page 5)

Board in Texas and presently serves on Arkansas' Central Association Executive Board.

Will and Angie Harmon have a three-year-old daughter Whitney.

#### Monday Evening

Reverend Keith Woody delivers Monday night's keynote message. Born in 1940 to Arthur and Lydea Woody, Keith was saved in 1964 and ordained in 1971. He attended Oklahoma Bible College and Texas Tech University, and received a B.A. in history from the University of Science and Arts.

Brother Woody pastored Lubbock FWB Church in Texas 1975-1981 and has pastored Capitol Hill FWB Church in Oklahoma City since 1981. This U.S. Army veteran served five years as moderator of Midessa District in Texas, five years on the Texas Home Mission

Board and a year as moderator of First Oklahoma District. He has served on the First Oklahoma Mission Board since 1982 and the Oklahoma State Executive Board since 1990.

Keith and Neva Jo Woody have two children, a son, Danny and a daughter, Kim (Mrs. Mike) Monroe.

#### Tuesday Evening

Tuesday evening has been designated as a Jubilee Celebration of Praise for Free Will Baptist Bible College's 50 years of service to the denomination. The 90-minute celebration will include a fast-paced dramatic presentation, music by the college choir, a video production, testimonies and a sermon by FWBBC academic dean, Dr. Robert Picirilli.

#### Wednesday Evening

Traditionally known as the mis-

sionary service, the Wednesday evening sermon will be preached by Pastor Billy D. Hanna, of First FWB Church, Albany, Georgia. This 45-year-old pastor was saved at age 15 and ordained at age 23. He earned his B.A. from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1973. He was listed in *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*.

Hanna has pastored three churches in two states: First FWB Church, Savannah, Ga. (1973-1978), Trinity FWB Church, Bowling Green, Ky. (1978-1985) and First FWB Church in Albany, Ga. (1985-present).

A chaplain's assistant while in the Army, Brother Hanna held numerous state and district offices and now serves on the Sunday School and Church Training Board. He chairs the Youth Committee at Albany's Kiwanis Club.

Billy and Beverly Hanna have a son, Brad, and a daughter, Christie.

#### Bible Conference

Two U.S. Navy veterans highlight this year's Tuesday morning Bible Conference in the Little Theater at Charleston Civic Center. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., the first session will find David Reece in the pulpit. Brother Reece, born in Tennessee, has pastored churches in four states.

Pastor Reece attended East Tennessee State University and received the Bachelor of Biblical Education degree from Graham Bible College in 1980.

The U.S. Navy and U.S. Army Reserves veteran has founded two churches and been involved in three building programs. In 1980 he was appointed home missionary to Fredericksburg, Virginia where he presently pastors.

Reverend Howard Munsey from White Pine, Tennessee will preach the 10:00 a.m. message. He was saved at age 25 and ordained three years later.

This 65-year-old U.S. Navy veteran has pastored eight churches, seven of them in Tennessee. He founded and built two churches, led two more to full-time pastorates and three churches from half-time to preaching every Sun-



day. He presently pastors Peace FWB Church, Morristown, Tennessee.

### Rooms, Rooms, Rooms

Convention officials blocked 1,135 rooms in five downtown Charleston hotels for the 1991 convention. Marriott Hotel reserved 250 rooms for our people. Holiday Inn Charleston House (youth headquarters) reserved 225 rooms. Holiday Inn Civic Center blocked 175 rooms, Elk River Town Center Inn 250 rooms and Holiday Inn Heart of Town 235 rooms. Room rates range from \$45 - \$68 per night this year.

Hotel reservations must be made on the official housing form printed in April, May or June *Contact* or in one of the Free Will Baptist state papers. One word of caution: Hurry! Rooms go quickly.

### Parking

Four of the five hotels have complimentary parking for guests. Marriott Hotel, the headquarters hotel, charges \$2.25/day with in/out privileges. Charleston Civic Center has a 2,000 public parking spaces available at \$2.00/day. Bus parking is available at the Lee Street surface lot.

### No Nursery

There are no nursery facilities at the convention this year.

### Registration

For the second year, we begin with pre-registration. Forms are available in this and following issues to allow conventioners to register in advance. This saves time in registration lines once they arrive in Charleston.

Also for the second year, registration is combined for all three conventions: National Convention, WNAC and NYC. This again saves time for those who pre-register because they will have to stand in line only once to receive their packets.

For the first time, NYC registration will be in the same location as the other two, making for more convenience. Those who choose

not to pre-register must stand in long lines to register. Only one badge will be issued per person, no matter how many conventions you register for.

Registration begins 3:00 p.m. Sunday in the Lower Lobby of the Charleston Civic Center. If you pre-register you won't have to stand in line as long because you may pick up your packet in a designated area. Registration closes Wednesday at noon.

### Exhibits

This year's exhibits can be found in the South Hall at Charleston Civic Center. Nearly 50 exhibitors will display educational and denominational literature and programs.

Monday 3:00 p.m. marks the exhibit opening. Booths are open daily 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. except

during evening worship services (7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.). Exhibits close at 12:30 p.m. Thursday or 30 minutes after the final business session's conclusion.

### Soup's On!

Nineteen catered events ranging from a seven-member WNAC Executive Committee luncheon to the 1,000-seat Youth Banquet dot the agenda.

Use the ticket request portion of the Pre-Registration Form in this issue to order advance tickets for events of your choice. Tickets will be in pre-registration packets to be picked up in Charleston. **Tickets will not be mailed in advance this year.**

Be sure your order is mailed by June 25. This is an earlier date than previous years. Remember, some



NYC Headquarters Hotel—Holiday Inn Charleston House



## Convention (from page 7)

events sell out quickly. First come, first served!

Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Mary Wisheart, will speak at WNAC's Fellowship Banquet Tuesday evening. Dr. Wisheart, born in Oregon County, Missouri, earned her B.A. from Free Will Baptist Bible College, a B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tennessee.

She taught English at Free Will Baptist Bible College for nearly 30 years. Dr. Wisheart is a member of Cofer's Chapel FWB Church.

Trymon Messer, associate director for the Home Missions Department will speak at the 5:00 p.m. Master's Men Dinner Tuesday evening. Mr. Messer, a layman, has served as pastor of a thriving Kansas church. He speaks in churches and conferences across the nation. He has earned the respect of ministers and laymen as a soul winner and church builder.

Some 200 people are expected to hear Dr. R. Kent Hughes at Monday's 5:00 p.m. Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner. Dr. Hughes has written a dozen books, including his widely-read 1988 book, *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome*.

He is senior pastor of the College Church in Wheaton, Illinois. College Church is noted for its missions program. Presently 47 cents of every dollar goes to missions—some \$709,000 annually.

Other special meals include the Children's Banquet Monday afternoon, Music Ministries Breakfast Tuesday morning, Hillsdale College Luncheon on Tuesday, Youth Banquet Tuesday evening (this year it's on a riverboat!) and the Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon on Wednesday.

## Business

Monday 9:00 a.m. marks the beginning of the annual business meeting. The General Board convenes at the Marriott Hotel Ballroom. Moderator Ralph Hampton gavels the convention business

session to order 9:00 Wednesday morning in the Coliseum at Charleston Civic Center.

This year's voting delegation will consider board reports, departmental budgets and board elections. Delegates are expected to approve denominational budgets exceeding \$11 million and elect more than 34 board and commission members. Each national agency and commission will submit an annual report to delegates.

## Seminars

Four seminars highlight Tuesday afternoon's agenda. The Double in a Decade committee will lead a 90-minute session as the denomination gears up to assess numerical goals and how to reach the new generation.

Master's Men Director Jim Vallance will direct the Master's Men Seminar. Vallance said he expects wide-open discussions about the direction of Master's Men in the 1990's. The seminar is open to all laymen and ministers.

Those who want information concerning modern cults and doctrinal errors will find the "Theological Trends Seminar" tailored to their needs. The Commission for Theological Integrity will direct the session.

Church musicians face specialized problems. The "Music Commission Seminar" will focus on current issues that confront music ministers and congregations.

## WNAC Notes

The WNAC program kicks off Monday afternoon at 2:00 with a seminar, "Current Issues for Today's Woman" in Marriott Hotel. Speakers include Debbie Hansen (Newport, N.C.) who will discuss "Crisis Pregnancy Centers," Stacy Rakes (Huntington, W.Va.) speaks on "Substance Abuse and Co-Dependency," and Joy Worrell (Marion, N.C.) addresses "Caring for the Homeless."

The Presidents and Field Workers Meeting begins at 3:30 in the same room and will be an open forum with the seven-member Study Committee. The theme will

be "Look Ahead—the 21st Century."

President Mary Neal (Indiana) moderates the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention business session Tuesday in the Charleston Civic Center Coliseum.

Then at 11:10 a.m. Steve Lytle, missionary to Panama, delivers the WNAC missionary message. Steve, born in Asheville, N.C., June 14, 1950, earned his B.A. from Free Will Baptist Bible College. He married Judy Hovis in 1972. They were appointed May 1975 and departed August 1976 as general missionaries.

Steve and Judy have three children: Michael (16), Phillip (13), and David Anthony (9).

The WNAC Fellowship Dinner gathers in the Charleston Civic Center, North Hall, 5:00 p.m. Tuesday.

## NYC Memos

Primary and Junior classes meet together for Sunday School and morning worship with the Teen class meeting separately. Both youth classes and the adult class meet in Charleston Civic Center for Sunday School and morning worship.

NYC hosts Sunday evening worship with its keynote service in Charleston Civic Center Coliseum. Will Harmon, pastor of Oak Park FWB Church in Pine Bluff, Arkansas will speak.

## And Finally ...

Convention preparations are nearly complete—speakers selected, programs ready to print, hotels waiting, musicians rehearsing. What else needs to be done? You need to pre-register, make reservations and meet us in Charleston this July. Mark your calendar—July 21-25—and make plans to follow the country road to the heart of the mountains in West Virginia. ■

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ABOUT THE WRITER: Marilyn Pritchard is editorial assistant of *Contact*. She is a member of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee.



# Hotel Reservation

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

**Charleston, West Virginia**

**National Convention**

**July 21-25, 1991**

- No telephone reservations until after the cutoff date.
- All reservation requests will be made through the NAFWB Housing Bureau—NOT WITH INDIVIDUAL HOTELS.
- Complete this housing form selecting your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice hotels and mail to the Housing Bureau. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1991. Send one form for each room request—duplicate this form if necessary.
- Changes and cancellations must be made directly with the hotel before 6:00 p.m. the day of your arrival.
- The hotel will require a deposit. Complete the credit card information on this form or send a check directly to the hotel AFTER you have received your confirmation.
- Information and inquiries ONLY: 800/733-5469.

**Cutoff Date:**  
Received by  
June 20, 1991

**MAIL TO:**  
NAFWB Housing Bureau  
Charleston Convention Bureau  
200 Civic Center Drive,  
Suite 002  
Charleston, WV 25301

**YOUR NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**PHONE:** (WK) \_\_\_\_\_ (HM) \_\_\_\_\_

**CREDIT CARD TYPE** \_\_\_\_\_ **CC#** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXP.** \_\_\_\_\_

**ARRIVAL DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DEPARTURE DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL REQUESTED** (Please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices.):

HOTELS	Choice	■† Single	■†† Double	■††† Triple	■†††† Quad
Marriott Hotel (Headquarters)		\$68	\$68	\$68	\$68
Holiday Inn Civic Center		\$56	\$56	\$56	\$56
Elk River Town Center Inn		\$46	\$46	\$46	\$46
Holiday Inn Charleston House (NYC Hdqtrs.)		\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60
Holiday Inn Heart of Town		\$45	\$45	\$45	\$45

**TYPE OF ROOM REQUESTED:**

SINGLE/1 PERSON \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE/2 PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

TRIPLE/3 PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_ QUAD/4 PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF BEDS IN ROOM \_\_\_\_\_

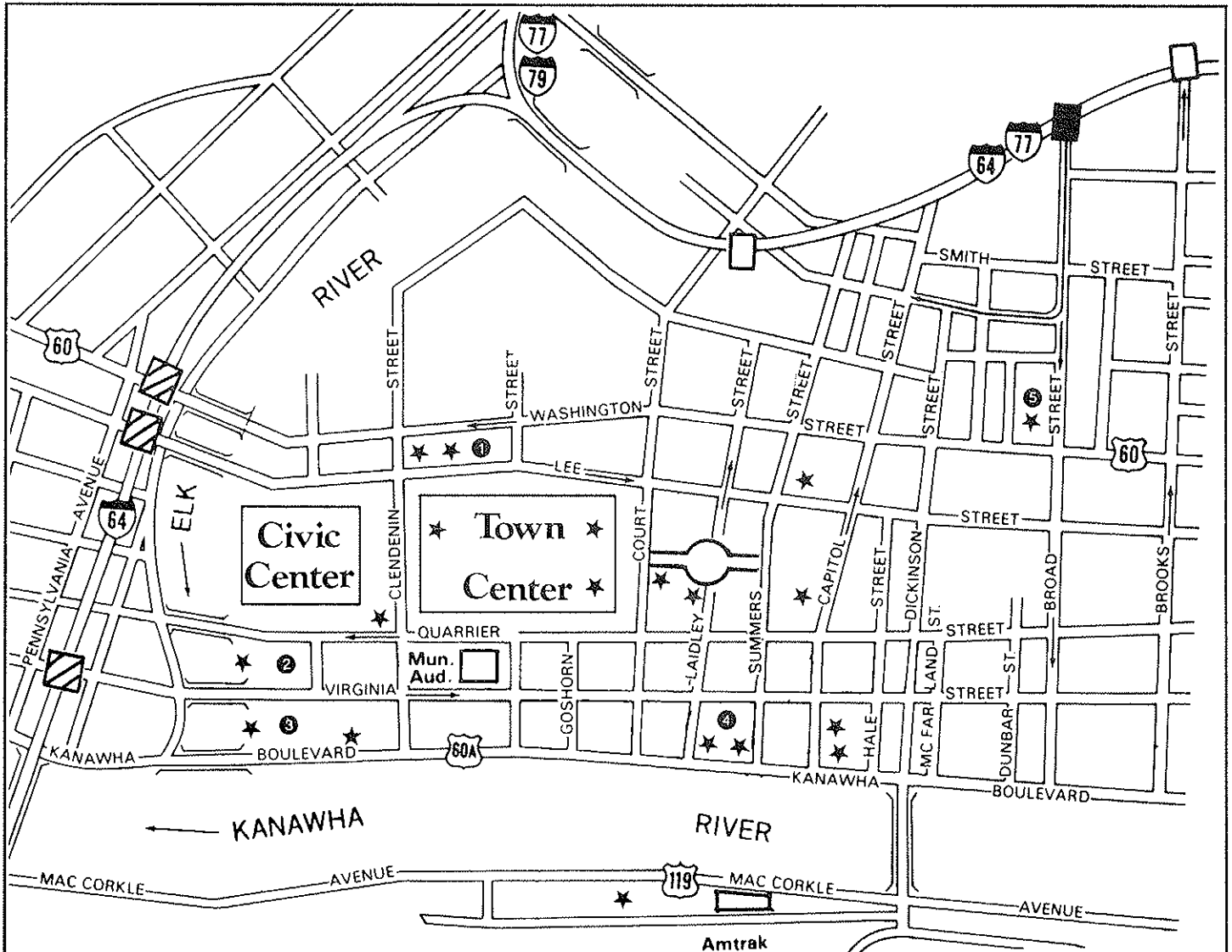
**PLEASE LIST ROOM OCCUPANTS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





- ① Marriott
- ② Holiday Inn Civic Center
- ③ Elk River Town Center Inn
- ④ Holiday Inn Charleston House
- ⑤ Holiday Inn Heart Of Town

### RESTAURANTS IN AREA

There are 19 full service (★) restaurants with over 2,500 seats within 1/2 mile of the Civic Center. In addition, there are 53 fast food or limited service and limited menu restaurants in the same area.



## INSTRUCTIONS for Pre-Registration Form

By completing the Pre-Registration Form you will save **valuable** time at the convention. If you pre-register, proceed to a special registration area. There you receive a packet containing your name tag (pre-printed), meal tickets you have purchased, a *Digest of Reports* and a program.

### *Filling Out the Form*

1. Fill out the top portion of the form. Please complete *all* of the information. You may register for one, two or all three conventions. You need to fill out only **one** form even if you register for more than one convention (Notional Association, WNAC, NYC).
2. Fill out the first block if you are registering for the **National Association**. Fill in your *District Association*. Check only *one* of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**).
3. Fill out the second block if you are registering for the **Woman's National Auxiliary Convention**. Check only *one* of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**).
4. Fill out the last block if you are registering for the **National Youth Conference**. Complete the other information in the block. The fees are as follows:
  - \$9.00 for an individual,
  - \$8.50 each if two from same family are registering,
  - \$8.00 each if three from same family are registering,
  - \$7.50 each if four or more from same family are registering,
  - \$10.00 if you do not register before June 25.

*Adults over 24 do not have to register to attend the NYC.*  
Check only one of the payment plans. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check for registration and tickets payable to **FWB Convention**). **NOTE:** Before July 22, Youth Banquet tickets will be sold only to those in grades seven to age 24 and youthworkers. Others may purchase tickets at the convention after this date.

### **Additional Information**

1. Mail completed forms by **June 25, 1991** to **Convention Registration~P.O. Box 1088~Nashville, TN~37202**.
2. Enclose one check to cover all fees and tickets.
3. Make additional copies of the Pre-Registration Form if they are needed. Only one person per form please.
4. You may purchase banquet tickets from any block even if you do not register in that block. No refunds mailed after June 25, 1991.

#### **Children's Banquet/\$7.00**

Monday, July 22/5:00 PM  
Holiday Inn-Charleston House/Grand Ballroom

#### **Music Ministries Breakfast/\$7.50**

Tuesday, July 23/7:00 AM  
Marriott Hotel/Ballroom Salon D

#### **WNAC Fellowship Dinner/\$14.00**

Tuesday, July 23/5:00 PM  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall

#### **Youth Workers Fellowship Breakfast/\$7.50**

Wednesday, July 24/7:00 AM  
Holiday Inn-Charleston House/Suite II

#### **Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner/\$15.00**

Monday, July 22/5:00 PM  
Holiday Inn-Charleston House/Lobby Ballroom

#### **Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon/\$10.00**

Tuesday, July 23/12:15 PM  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall

#### **Youth Banquet/\$12.50**

Tuesday, July 23/9:00 PM  
West Virginia Belle River Boat

#### **FWBBC Luncheon/\$11.00**

Wednesday, July 24/12:00 Noon  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall

#### **Master's Men Dinner/\$13.50**

Wednesday, July 24/5:00 PM  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall



# Pre-Registration Form

for  
**National Association of Free Will Baptists**  
**Woman's National Auxiliary Convention**  
**National Youth Conference**  
**Charleston, WV / July 21 - 25, 1991**

*Please Print*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST or NAME DESIRED ON BADGE

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form(s)  
 by June 25, 1991 to  
**Convention Registration**  
**P.O. Box 1088**  
**Nashville, TN 37202**

Register me for the following:  National Association  
 (You may register for more than one)  WNAC  
 NYC

If registering for the **National Association**, please complete the following information:

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Check only one of the following:)**

MINISTER:  Ordained(MIO)  Licensed(MIL) (I certify that I am a member in good standing with the above named church and association which belong to the National Association.)

MISSIONARY:  Foreign(MIF) (Country) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home(MIH)

DELEGATE:  Ordained Deacon(ORD) **Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)**  
 State(STD) \_\_\_\_\_ Music Ministries Breakfast **\$7.50**  
 Local Church (\$10.00)(LCD) \_\_\_\_\_ Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon **\$10.00**  
 National Board Member(NBM) \_\_\_\_\_ FWBBC Alumni Luncheon **\$11.00**  
 National Officer(NTO) \_\_\_\_\_ Master's Men Dinner **\$13.50**  
 VISITOR:  (VIS) \_\_\_\_\_ Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner **\$15.00**

If registering for **WNAC**, please complete the following information:

**(Check only one of the following:)**

DELEGATE:  Local (\$3.00)(WLD)  
 District (WDD)  
 State (WSD)  
 WNAC Officer(WNO)

VISITOR:  (AVI)

**Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ WNAC Fellowship Dinner **\$14.00**

If registering for the **National Youth Conference**, please complete the following information:

Grade just completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's (or Guardian's) name: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Leader's name: \_\_\_\_\_ **Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Children's Banquet (grades 1-6) **\$7.00**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Banquet (grade 7 - age 24) **\$12.50**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Workers Breakfast **\$7.50**

**CHECK ONE:**  
 \$9.00 (Individual)  
 \$8.50 Family Plan A  
 \$8.00 Family Plan B  
 \$7.50 Family Plan C  
 \$10.00 (after June 25)

Are you participating in NYC competition this year?  yes  no



# COME CELEBRATE JESUS!

NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE • Charleston, West Virginia • July 21-24, 1991

Youth from around the country will meet in the mountains of Charleston, WV, July 21-24 to celebrate NYC '91. The theme of the 1991 National Youth Conference challenges the Christian to celebrate the abundant life in Christ.

The Holiday Inn-Charleston House serves as headquarters for the NYC. The NYC competition and activities will take place in the Charleston Civic Center.

Some conference highlights include morning devotionals, the Celebration Station Souvenir Shop, Festival of Arts Gallery, youth afterservice activities, and many more exciting events.

## Competition

Competitive activities begin bright and early Monday morning. Young people from across the denomination will participate in the Music and Arts Festival and the Bible Competition. This high-energy competition continues through Wednesday morning and concludes with the Awards Ceremony.



## Special Activities

Special activities begin early Sunday morning with Teen Sunday school lessons from our new curriculum, *Turning Point* and *Horizon*. Worship will include activities conducted by Truth & Peace. Children's Sunday school and worship will offer exciting program designed especially for children.

The NYC Keynote service will be Sunday Evening. Will Harmon, pastor and youth speaker from Arkansas will be the featured speaker. Special music will be provided by Truth & Peace, the National Youth Evangelistic Team, and the Mass Youth Choir. If you would like to sing in the youth choir, write to NYC Office, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217 for a free copy of the music.

## Afterservice Events

Be sure to cool off in the winter fun of our Christmas in July Celebration on Sunday evening.

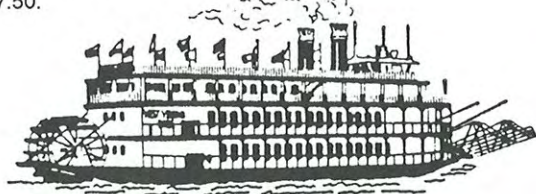
Join us Monday evening for the third annual TEAM Youth Congress. After the business session, an exciting service of celebration will be presented by the National Youth Evangelistic Team. Be sure to join us for *Name Above All Names* in the Little Theater.

## Banquets

Come join the party at the Children's Banquet Monday afternoon in the Ballroom of the Charleston House. The Youth Group from Camp Creek, WV will present an exciting program of fun and games. Tickets are \$7.00.

Make sure you bring your paddle Tuesday evening for the Youth Banquet as we travel up the Kanawah River on the West Virginia Belle, a real-life stern-wheel ship. Our cruise will set sail at 9:00 PM and tickets are \$12.50.

The annual Youth Workers Breakfast will be held Wednesday morning at 7:00 AM. The program will be conducted by the Youth Workers Fellowship. Tickets are \$7.50.



## Registration

All participants from grade one through age 24 must register and receive the NYC '91 registration badge. This badge is required to attend conference activities. This registration is in addition to fees for Bible Competition and Music and Arts Festival entries.

For more information about registration of NYC '91 write to: Convention Registration, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.





# The Kid Who Brings the Ball

By David Joslin

**D**uring my youth in western Arkansas, many families in the community did not have much material wealth. The times immediately following the Great Depression and World War II were hard. Even though adults were conscious of difficult times, the kids took it all in stride, unaware of the extent of their poverty.

My home was akin to the Waltons on television, except that Daddy was a sharecropper and a Free Will Baptist preacher. Kids were everywhere. Most families counted five, six or more. Mine numbered ten.

While parents struggled financially, their children occupied themselves by playing baseball with the neighbors kids. The problem was that only one kid who lived near us had a baseball. In fact, he had both ball and bat.

That particular kid always got to play. He was respected. He set the tone of the game. He had brought the ball. All the other kids enjoyed the game because of his willingness to share.

How unlike that we are today in the denominational work. Some want to play, but they do not furnish the ball. They desire that the game continue but with someone else's ball. They never stop to consider that the game is being played only because someone has furnished the ball.



There have been occasions when a board member who did not use our denominational literature in his church's Sunday School was elected to serve on our denominational Sunday School Board. He played the game but with someone else's ball.

Some men who in the past supported missionary efforts only in a token manner have been elected to serve on mission boards. They quickly hurry onto the field of play, but they play the game with someone else's ball.

Free Will Baptist Bible College has been hindered and hampered in its progress because of similar circumstances.

The Board of Retirement has received direction from board members who were not involved in our own retirement program. While they governed and regulated my retirement program, they deposited their investments and retirement savings somewhere else. Would you trust your banker if he insisted on putting his money in another bank?

On both state and national levels, some board members fail to support denominational ministries and programs enough to pay their mileage expenses. They play the game but with someone else's ball.

My childhood keeps flashing before me. We lived by a simple unwritten rule. It made good sense then and still does. The kid who brings the ball gets to play the game! ■



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend David Joslin is promotional director for the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists. This article is reprinted from the December 1990 issue of *The Vision*.

## BEYOND BELIEF





## Cooperative Channel Contributions February 1991

### RECEIPTS:

State	CO-OP		Total	Feb.'90	Yr. To Date
	Designated	(Undesignated)			
Alabama	\$ 706.89	\$ 68.13	\$ 775.02	\$ 77.74	\$ 947.26
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Arkansas	.00	6,422.98	6,422.98	6,676.26	12,924.48
California	.00	2,286.56	2,286.56	5,593.05	3,698.19
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	.00	2,339.32	2,339.32	1,079.43	3,431.75
Georgia	8,840.45	1,218.00	10,058.45	10,331.25	22,352.20
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	54.87	.00
Illinois	.00	127.68	127.68	59.13	9,859.07
Indiana	454.91	172.74	627.65	1,065.89	1,215.01
Kansas	.00	.00	.00	171.10	75.99
Kentucky	.00	100.00	100.00	614.00	100.00
Maryland	.00	150.00	150.00	.00	1,162.04
Michigan	.00	388.50	388.50	4,974.08	8,555.83
Mississippi	.00	596.09	596.09	668.86	1,380.30
Missouri	.00	.00	.00	7,685.09	9,190.27
New Mexico	16.49	8.25	24.74	27.02	24.74
North Carolina	1,338.50	683.75	2,022.25	2,435.25	6,328.89
Ohio	350.00	2,096.00	2,446.00	2,693.44	5,334.00
Oklahoma	23,972.41	10,827.39	34,799.80	45,160.83	68,195.40
South Carolina	10,358.19	122.25	10,480.44	7,652.55	26,046.15
Tennessee	247.11	1,027.45	1,274.56	2,964.02	4,169.61
Texas	8,023.36	1,236.09	9,259.45	5,670.46	16,430.23
Virginia	317.48	30.00	347.48	251.25	693.14
West Virginia	3,258.47	152.44	3,410.91	2,105.48	5,930.98
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	25.40	25.40	.00	25.40
Other (Computer)	.00	.09	.09	.01	.13
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$57,884.26</b>	<b>\$30,079.11</b>	<b>\$87,963.37</b>	<b>\$108,011.06</b>	<b>\$208,071.06</b>

### DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 608.85	\$21,012.42	\$21,621.27	\$ 20,166.68	\$ 43,242.55
Foreign Missions	42,442.13	2,085.31	44,527.44	50,427.82	109,280.23
FWBBC	2,108.21	2,085.31	4,193.52	7,134.72	12,018.64
Home Missions	10,802.36	1,632.01	12,434.37	20,016.95	29,300.17
Retirement & Insurance	64.56	1,269.33	1,333.89	3,080.98	3,967.67
Master's Men	52.33	1,269.33	1,321.66	3,111.83	3,998.24
Commission for					
Theological Integrity	29.59	45.35	74.94	132.99	219.05
FWB Foundation	210.63	544.00	754.63	1,933.50	2,312.34
Historical Commission	29.59	45.35	74.94	128.85	203.79
Music Commission	.00	45.35	45.35	110.58	155.93
Radio & TV Commission	18.96	45.35	64.31	112.74	196.52
Hillsdale FWB College	423.99	.00	423.99	1,352.34	1,431.47
Other	1,093.06	.00	1,093.06	301.08	1,755.17
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$57,884.26</b>	<b>\$30,079.11</b>	<b>\$87,963.37</b>	<b>\$108,011.06</b>	<b>\$208,071.06</b>

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# Coming in June: "The Perfect Marriage"



# Eyes that Hear,

## Hands that Talk

By Jennifer Joy Eason



Church time became more difficult when I was too old to sleep in church. I tried to read the preacher's lips, but it was hard to keep up. I became frustrated and complained to my mother.

Mother would say, "Try harder; pay more attention; do the best you can." I hated to be told that.

I guess I was being a rebellious teenager. My brother was involved in many church activities; I attended a residential school for the deaf and was only home on weekends. By then we were not in the same Sunday School class, so I felt left out and more frustrated.

I lived at home during high school and was at church for every service. My pastor, Frank Wiley, always talked to me, teased me, recognized my accomplishments and let me know he loved me. Still, it was hard to lipread the sermon.

Sunday School classes and Bible studies involved discussions in which I usually missed the point. By the time someone explained it to me, the rest of the group would be on a different subject when I looked back at the speaker. I was in the same Sunday School class with my brother again. He was always into the discussions, but this was something I couldn't watch and then imitate him.

**A** friend invited me to a fellowship at a church that had a deaf ministry. Wow! I couldn't believe my eyes, all that wonderful fellowship with other Christians, everything in sign language; I understood what was said.

I have good childhood memories of attending Free Will Baptist churches. The families were always kind to me; Sunday School teachers helped me learn how to read and memorize scripture.

Through most of school, I was in the same Sunday School class with my older brother. I watched everything he did and imitated him. If he colored, I colored. When he stood up, I stood up. When he sat down, I sat down. If someone talked to me, I looked to him to answer for me.

You see, I am deaf, the only deaf person in my family and the only deaf girl in my Sunday School and church.

Flannelgraph stories in Sunday School were easiest to understand. During church services, I had no idea what was going on so I just went to sleep.

After I learned to read, I enjoyed the song services. My mother would point to the words and my brother would tap out rhythm to show me how songs were sung. Sometimes children's church leaders would print the songs' words on poster board which really helped.

I accepted Jesus Christ as Savior when I was 12. My brother was to be baptized and I wanted to do whatever he did.



I wanted to attend that church, but my parents said, "No, we go to church together. We are a family, but you can go there anytime that it doesn't conflict with our church."

I was upset that my parents didn't permit me to go there. I enjoyed being able to understand and participate in discussions. I loved my church and going to church with my parents and brother, but it was so wonderful to understand and participate in discussions at the other church.

I wondered why I couldn't have that at my own church. God began using some people in our Free Will Baptist church to help me. Friends started taking notes for me, but there were so many words not in my vocabulary. I was afraid to ask for much explanation because I didn't want them to think I was dumb.

In my junior year of high school, I participated in a special ballet program for the deaf. I was in a demonstration for the governor of our state. My mother was there, and before the demonstration she met a young lady named Brenda. As they talked, Mother learned that she lived near us. Mother invited Brenda to Sunnyslane FWB Church. She said she would come the next Sunday.

Then we discovered that Brenda was not there to see the performance; she was there to interpret the governor's speech!

She did come to church and began interpreting for me. Brenda soon joined our church. She is still my interpreter and one of my dearest friends. She also teaches a sign language class at Sunnyslane FWB Church.

Pastor Wiley teases me and sometimes he teases Brenda too. He starts to talk very fast just to see if she can keep up with him. Sometimes he stops preaching and asks Brenda if she is signing his sermon or just talking to me. (We got even by giving him the name sign "Bald Frank" since he is losing his hair.)

After graduation from high school, I went to Gallaudet

University for the Deaf in Washington, D.C. I got sick and Mother came to help me for a while, then took me home to recuperate. I needed rest so I had plenty of time to think about how God might use me. How could I be a witness or Christian example to other deaf people when I had missed so much myself?

I needed to learn more of God's Word. Health problems had temporarily interrupted my education. A friend encouraged me to consider Hillsdale FWB College until my health improved enough for me to return to Gallaudet. I enrolled at Hillsdale and with the help of the terrific staff and my friends there I have learned so much.

A wonderful thing happened at Hillsdale: I rededicated my life and made sure that I have Jesus in first place in my heart.

I've always liked music even though I couldn't hear. I like to interpret songs through sign language, body movements and facial expressions.

A Christian singing group called "Silent Touch" came to Oklahoma for a concert. They asked me if I would like to be a summer missionary and perform with them. I spent a summer touring with the group.

Then God gave me a burden to reach the lost for Him and continue to witness to the deaf community. I want to see more deaf ministries in Free Will Baptist churches and more Free Will Baptists willing to help the deaf learn about God.

One member asked me, "Why is it so hard to reach the deaf lost soul?" It's for the same reasons I felt so frustrated when I was a teenager. The deaf don't always know what is going on; there is peer pressure; there is the fear that hearing people will think they are not smart.

I feel God leading me to be a role model to the deaf community. I want to bridge the chasm between the deaf and hearing. I believe God can use Free Will Baptists to build a strong Christian bridge. ■

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ABOUT THE WRITER: Jennifer Joy Eason is a member of Sunnyslane Free Will Baptist Church in Del City, Oklahoma. She has been profoundly deaf since birth. She participates in the Ballet Oklahoma program for the deaf and has performed at Kennedy Performing Arts Center. She performed for officials at the Olympics in Korea.

Jennifer was interviewed by CNN while a student at Gallaudet University. The Sunnyslane Church conducts a sign language class every Wednesday night. All services are now "signed" by Brenda, Jennifer's interpreter.

LOCAL CHURCH DELEGATES'S CREDENTIALS			
THIS CERTIFIES THAT _____			
is a duly authorized delegate to the national Association of Free Will			
Baptists _____			
(Name of church)			
_____	of	_____	_____
(District Association)		City	(State)
_____	Pastor	_____	Clerk or Secretary
IMPORTANT: This form properly signed and accompanied by a \$10 registration fee entitles a local church delegate to register for voting privileges.			



# FREE WILL BAPTIST NEWSFRONT

## South Carolina to Purchase Office Property

JOHNSONVILLE, SC—Delegates to South Carolina's 49th annual state association voted to purchase the 35,000-square-foot land parcel which houses the promotional office. The property, located at 1705 South Irby Street in Florence, has been rented since 1984. The owner agreed to sell for \$97,500.

The February 7-8 session met at Mill Branch FWB Church in Johnsonville. Some 147 registered for the event including 91 ministers and 26 lay delegates. Moderator Earl Hendrix was re-elected.

In other action, delegates voted that each local church could represent at the state association with two delegates. They also voted that future sessions meet in churches large enough to host the meetings, and that the meeting place be in or near a town with adequate motel and restaurant facilities.

Six ministers preached messages during the two-day session: Billy Jones, Ansel Smith, Tom Malone, Terry Dennis, Kenneth Cash and Lamar Smith.

One item of business that will have a long-range impact passed when delegates voted to invite the 2004 National Association. The national convention last met in South Carolina in 1954 at Spartanburg.

The 1992 state association will meet February 6-7 at Peace FWB Church in Spartanburg.

## Quarterly Meeting Honors Ralph Staten, Former Moderator

HEISKELL, TN—Reverend Ralph Staten, former moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, was honored by the Western Quarterly Meeting of Tennessee's Union Association

62). He was present at the organizational meeting of the National Association in 1935 in Nashville.

Brother Staten pastored six churches in six states from 1943



Ed Hall (L) presents plaque to Ralph Staten.

in February. The 79-year-old minister celebrated 59 years as a Free Will Baptist preacher.

Ed Hall, promotional director for the Western Quarterly, presided over the service. After Mr. Hall read a resume of Rev. Staten's ministry, the quarterly meeting presented Rev. Staten with a plaque and a money tree, and gave flowers to him, his daughter and son. The quarterly meeting met at Fairview FWB Church in Heiskell.

Reverend Staten has served in numerous state and national positions, including moderator of the National Association (1960-

to 1977 when he retired. Since that time he twice served as interim pastor, and publishes a monthly newspaper, *Congregational Crusader*.

He was instrumental in leading the Arkansas State Association to join the National Association. He moderated the state association 12 years, 1938-1950.

Brother Staten is widely respected as a speaker, debater and writer. He has written four booklets, including one defending the Free Will Baptist position on perseverance, *Perseverance in Preservation*.



## Mischa Bevan, College President's Daughter, Dies

WENDELL, NC—Mischa Bevan, 18-year-old daughter of South-eastern FWB College president Billy Bevan, died January 5 after a 15-month battle with a malignant brain tumor. She was enrolled as a freshman at South-eastern College.

Reverend Bevan said, "Mischa fought valiantly until the end. During the entire ordeal, Mischa was never heard to complain or blame God or others for her condition."

Brother Bevan continued, "There was such an outpouring of concern from all over the country for Mischa. People from California to Florida to Michigan from every corner of Free Will Baptists contacted us, encouraged us and prayed for us."

Mischa became ill in her se-

nior year at Hilltop Christian School. When tests showed that she had a brain tumor, Mischa



underwent a series of nine surgeries. She continued her studies

and graduated with her classmates.

Mischa gave her testimony on graduation night: "I may be losing my memory, but I will never forget that day 12 years ago when as a 5-year-old girl my daddy led me to trust Jesus Christ as my Savior."

Funeral services were conducted at Hilltop FWB Church in Fuquay-Varina. Reverends Dann Patrick, Randy Cox, Jerry Huff and Jeff Jones officiated. More than 700 people attended the services.

A memorial loan fund has been established at Southeastern FWB College in memory of Mischa. Gifts sent to the college for the fund should be marked "Memorial Loan Fund."

## FWBBC Christmas Drive Raises \$197,000

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College's 1990 Paul Kettaman Memorial Christmas Fund Drive resulted in gifts totaling \$197,174.46, according to Bob Shockey, public relations director. The goal was \$140,000.

The college family also ex-

ceeded its goal of \$80,000, raising \$85,911.52, says Mr. Shockey.

Last year's drive raised \$153,375, including \$83,642 raised by students and FWBBC employees.

The 14-year total for the drive is over \$1 million.

## Calling All Singers, Instrumentalists

The National Association of Free Will Baptists meets July 21-25 in Charleston, West Virginia. Free Will Baptist singers and instrumentalists have an opportunity to play a unique role. The Mass Choir directed by Doug Little, the Men's Chorale directed by Vernon Whaley, and the instrumental group conducted by Richard McDonald, offer channels for musicians to become active participants in the worship services at the convention.

Are you interested?

For those interested in Mass Choir/Men's Chorale: attend the rehearsals listed in the convention program. The Mass Choir will sing Monday evening, July 22, and the Men's Chorale will sing Wednesday evening, July 24. (Music distributed at rehearsals.)

Let's pray that the 1991 convention music program will glorify the One Who is worthy of praise.

Blaine Hughes  
Convention Music Coordinator



Bob Shockey receives check from Leigh Anne Radford, sophomore from Kinston, North Carolina.



## "Nine to Noon" Experiment Bolsters Church Attendance

LAKE CITY, SC—A one-time experiment at a South Carolina church turned into a year-long pattern that doubled attendance, promoted a better spirit among the people and lowered utility bills. Pastor Mike Jones said the decision to move Sunday night services to 9:00 Sunday morning met with an enthusiastic response from members of Grace FWB Church in Lake City.

Pastor Jones said the innovative idea originated when he noticed that less than half the Sunday morning worshippers returned Sunday evenings, and that those who did return were "tired, a little grumpy and difficult to preach to."

The congregation agreed to a one-time experiment, so the next Lord's Day they conducted "Sunday Night" worship services at 9:00 a.m. The idea was so well received that they tried it for a month and have continued for more than a year.

The nine to noon format schedules two Sunday morning worship sessions around Sunday

School. The "Sunday Night" service runs 9:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m. After a 15-minute refreshment break, Sunday School classes meet 10:10 a.m. - 10:55 a.m. The second morning worship runs 11:00 to noon.

Pastor Jones said, "This format allows me to tie my 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. messages together with greater impact. It increased Sunday School attendance 15 percent and made a number of peripheral people faithful attenders and workers."

Members have plenty of time for Christmas and Easter cantata practices now that their Sunday afternoons and evenings are free.

Pastor Jones said, "I asked the church if they wanted to change back to our old format. They unanimously said to keep it as it is. Some said they were willing to start as early as 8:30 a.m., if we could maintain the new format.

"Surprisingly enough, for reasons I don't understand, it has also increased our Wednesday night attendance."

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## Graduate Course to Feature Preaching on Prophecy

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College's next course in the graduate program will be "Prophetic Preaching," according to Ralph Hampton, dean of the Graduate School.

The course will be held at the college May 27-31. Teachers will be FWBBC faculty members Garnett Reid and Stanley Outlaw. Rev. Reid will concentrate on Old Testament passages while Dr. Outlaw presents those in the New Testament.

Rev. Hampton says the course will help preachers preach on

subjects like the Second Coming with the full authority of scripture behind them. They will also study prophecy in light of current world events and develop principles for interpreting prophetic passages.

Tuition for the course is \$275 if taken for college credit, or \$130 if taken for non-credit. Room and board is \$80 for the week.

Full information is available from the college.

## Discount Air Fares to National Convention Available

NASHVILLE, TN—The National Association of Free Will Baptists has made special travel arrangements for all attendees and their families who will be flying to the 1991 National Convention in Charleston, West Virginia, July 21 - July 25, according to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington. Veeson International Travel Agency in Nashville has again been selected the agency of record to provide members attending the convention with discount travel services.

Veeson Travel has secured discounts for air travel to Charleston. The fares Veeson offers cannot be purchased through another travel agency or directly with the airlines. These are contracted group airfares. First class tickets may also be booked if desired.

Veeson Travel has contracted for travel dates starting three days prior to the convention and three days after the convention.

To book your airspace at the offered discounted rates, call Veeson Travel at **1-800/456-1360**. This is a toll-free number to Veeson Travel. Please identify yourself with the Free Will Baptist National Convention.

Advise the Veeson agent of your name, number of passengers traveling, city of originating flight, correct mailing address, telephone number (home and business). For easy billing, have a current credit card ready at the time of the airline booking. Veeson Travel will process and mail the tickets to you.

Ask for Janice Jakobik or David Foster for reservations. All services from Veeson Travel Agency are free.



Home missionary **George Harvey, Jr.** reports five conversions and a record attendance of 37 the last Sunday in February at **North Valley FWB Church in Phoenix, AZ.** The group meets in a rented storefront building and is searching for property to purchase.

Sixteen baptisms began the year at **Capitol FWB Church in Sacramento, CA.** **Larry Condit** pastors.

Members of **Norwalk FWB Church, Norwalk, CA,** increased attendance from 30 to over 100 in 1990. Pastor **Robert Riddle** said, "The Sunday School is over 100 due largely to the successful bus ministry."

The **California** State Mission Board approved a joint mission work with **Fairfield FWB Church** in order to begin a new church at **Vallejo.** **Mike Trimble** serves as a joint missions worker.

More than 200 people attended dedication services at **Grace FWB Church in Memphis, TN,** in February. Pastor **Glenn Poston** presented a number of plaques to individuals who helped build the structure. Home Missions Director **Roy Thomas** preached the dedication message.

They call it "Operation Tract Attack." Pastor **Jim Summerson** said 69 members of **Mt. Calvary FWB Church in Hookerton, NC,** committed to distribute 355 tracts per week for six weeks. At the conclusion of that time, visitation teams contact each home for follow-up visits.

**Russell Wright** has been appointed as home missionary to establish a Free Will Baptist church in the eastern panhandle of **West Virginia.** Wright expects to establish a church in **Martinsburg** about 60 sixty miles from Washington, DC. Anyone with family or friends in the area, please send their addresses to the Home Missions Department, attention Russell Wright.

The teenagers at **Calvary FWB Church in Salem, IL,** spent a day cutting wood in order to raise \$280 for a new motor for the church van. **Cliff Donoho** pastors the industrious youth.

Members of **Mascoutah FWB Church in Mascoutah, IL,** set an attendance record of 76, according to church reporter **Eldon Schmidt.**

Pastor **Gordon Sebastian** said that 1990 was a great year at **Peace FWB Church in Wilson, NC.** The church added 56 new members and purchased a travel bus for the congregation. And in honor of Pastor Sebastian's 25 years of leadership, the church voted to give him a month's leave of absence this summer to visit Guam and other Pacific islands.

Here is a congregation that knows you don't have to spend it all on yourself. Pastor **Roy Dale Smith** said that **New Home FWB Church in Tulsa, OK,** gave 21 percent of their budget to outside causes in 1989 and 23 percent in 1990. Perhaps they will make 25 percent in 1991.

Pastor **Tom Scott** reports that **Red Bay FWB Church, Red Bay, AL,** voted to purchase 200 new Free Will Baptist hymnals.

Pastor **I. Bennie Turner** said members of **Fellowship FWB Church in Manning, SC,** hope to break ground for a building this spring. The group averages 23 in Sunday School and has been meeting in the KP Lodge. Pastor Turner and his people are doing the hard work of starting a new church.

Members of **St. Mark FWB Church in Phenix City, AL,** report 20 conversions and 20 baptisms. **Frank Fagan** pastors.

**Victory FWB Church in Pineville, LA,** was organized in January. Pastor **Steve Trail** conducted the first services in 1983. The church is located on a 10-acre site. It operates a day care center which serves as a means of outreach to the local community.

The annual **Arkansas** Ministers Retreat met February 11-13 at Lake DeGray Lodge, according to Arkansas Promotional Director **David Joslin.** Speakers for the retreat included **Tom Malone,** president of Free Will Baptist Bible College and **Glenn McGriff,** who serves as director of the Ministry of Crisis Support for the Arkansas State Baptist Convention.

Pastor **Mark Barber** and members at **First FWB Church in Blakely, GA,** adopted the theme "Sharing the Gospel of Christ With Others." It works. Attendance surged from 35 to 80.

Pastor **Russell Horne** said, "Our Monday night visitation program really

paid off." Horne pastors **Calvary FWB Church in Columbus, GA.** During 1990 two young men from the church answered the call to preach—**David Kirby** and **Tim Horne.**

Pastor **Terry Pierce** reports the largest attendance in three years at **First FWB Church in Thomaston, GA.** During 1990 the congregation increased 30 percent with a record attendance of 111. The group recently witnessed seven conversions and 12 baptisms.

Pastor **Dale Burden** has completed 18 years of daily radio broadcasts in the Tidewater area of **Virginia.** He has conducted more than 5,000 radio broadcasts. Burden pastors **Gateway FWB Church in Virginia Beach.**

*Contact* welcomes the *Scroll,* publication of **First FWB Church in Toledo, OH.** **Fred Taylor** pastors.

**Faith FWB Church in LeMay, MO,** reports six baptisms and eight new members. **Elvus Reed** pastors.

Members of **Bethany FWB Church in Timonsville, SC,** honored Pastor **Rick Cason** with a pastor appreciation day. Cason said, "The church gave us a very generous love offering." The congregation also sponsored a growth effort which resulted in 222 in worship services.

Pastor **Douglas Earls** reports 175 in attendance at the 10th anniversary celebration at **Calvary Chapel FWB Church in Buffalo, MO.** Senator **John Russell** gave the invocation. **Steve Grant,** a news reporter from Springfield delivered the morning message.

Pastor **Earl Dean Morris** reports five conversions at **Christian Home FWB Church in Hindsville, AR.** The church is also putting siding on the building.

Pastor **Jim Spurlock** reports five conversions and two baptisms at **First FWB Church in Huntsville, AR.** ■



## FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

*Postmarks With A Message*

By Bert Tippett, Publications Director

*Little Rock, AR 72209  
McEwen, TN 37101  
McCombs, KY 41545  
Tupelo, MS 38801*

I glanced at the postmarks on the reply envelopes as I continued separating the morning mail.

*Royal Oak, MI 48073  
Johnson City, TN 37604  
Kinston, NC 28501  
Fredericktown, MO 64645*

These were the responses from people who had just received President Tom Malone's letter. In it he described the first truly critical financial need the college has ever faced—\$345,000 due at the bank, with only a few weeks to raise it.

*Rowe, VA 24646  
Marion, IL 62959  
Hatfield, AR 71945*

Brother Malone had told all of these people how the bank had been required by federal regulators to call in the college's line of credit. The deadline was March 20.

The envelopes I was shuffling represented their responses.

*Lake Butler, FL 32054  
Ada, OK 74820  
Dothan, AL 36301  
Manning, SC 29102*

We are two weeks away from the deadline. Already \$75,000 has come in. And I know that tomorrow there will be more reply envelopes, bearing the gifts and buoyed by the prayers of many friends. Already they have been coming in at an unprecedented rate, each a source of encouragement, regardless of the size of the gift enclosed!

*Beckley, WV 25801  
Bryan, TX 77802  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
Leesburg, OH 45135*

At this point, I do not know if we will meet the deadline. The college has never asked so much of Free Will Baptists. Times for many of them are tough. And \$345,000 is still a long, long way off.

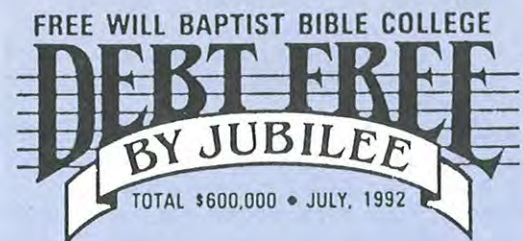
*Raleigh, NC 27604  
Northport, AL 35476  
Jesup, GA 31545  
Huntington, WV 25701*

But I do know that there are many, many friends out there who are wishing the college well and who are doing their best to help her in her hour of greatest need.

I do not know if we will meet the deadline, but I know God is good and Free Will Baptists will do the best they can.

Who could ask for more? ■

*NOTE: The college's total indebtedness is \$600,000. Rev. Ronald Creech, FWBBC's Development Director, is attempting to erase this debt in a campaign called **Debt Free By Jubilee**. The \$375,000 the college has appealed for by March 20 is over half of the \$600,000.*



- \* The drive's goal is to erase the college's total \$600,000 debt by July 1992.
- \* \$345,000 emergency appeal is over half of the total needed.
- \* Savings to the college will be \$127,000 per year.
- \* Earmark special gifts "Debt Free."



## FOREIGN MISSIONS



## Open Home—Open Doors

by Geneva Poole

*Hundreds of times Brazilians have sat around our dining table for a home-cooked meal.*

Foreigners! That was one of the first things my husband and I discovered when we arrived in Brazil. We were uninvited foreigners! These people did not ask us to come to Brazil. And they were not overjoyed at our presence in their country. Even though they were friendly and polite, we felt they would just as soon see us pack our bags and return to the United States.

We faced the big question: "How will we get them to listen to the message we have to share with them?"

We soon learned that Brazilians are fond of social activities. They will have a party at the drop of a hat. Most of these social events are filled with eating and sitting around talking.

### Meal Time Evangelism

As time passed, we recognized our friends enjoyed the American/Brazilian mixture of a meal. We began inviting small



groups to our home for meals. Sitting around after eating, we had the opportunity to share with them the truth about the true and living God.

Literally hundreds of times Brazilians have sat around our dining table for a home-cooked dinner. I remember the night Dr. Wagner, one of my students in conversational English, came with his wife to our home for the evening meal. The conversation turned to religion. This scientist said the subject of religion was never mentioned in his home, so he had never thought about his need for God.

But the conversation which followed that night did produce changes. A short time later Dr. Wagner, along with his fam-

ily, went to the United States for a two-year research program. While in North Carolina, they sought out a Baptist church which they attended for a time.

When the family returned to Brazil they contacted us, their old friends. A Bible study group was started in their home. Week after week Dr. Wagner's faith increased as we studied the Gospel of John. Two other people from that group also began attending church. One is still faithful today. This chain of events all started with English classes which led to a meal together and time to talk.

One day out of curiosity I asked Carla, one of my Sunday school students, how and why she started attending church. She replied, "You don't remember?" After I assured her I did not, she said it stemmed from a meal in our home.

### A Warm Home Atmosphere

Shizue and Rebecca were newcomers to our city. They were students looking for a church home away from home. I had invited them to our home to eat with us. They brought two friends with them. Carla, one of the friends, was so impressed with the warmth of our home she decided she wanted more contact with us. She began attending Sunday school. Praise God! Today she and her husband are very active in the First Church in Ribeirão Preto.

Through the years our home has been used to reach out to all age groups. Our basement has been turned into a game room and is often used by children and young people who bring their friends. We keep soft drinks in the refrigerator, and brownies or homemade cookies are always available. This helps to break the ice, and soon some of these friends find it easier to accept an invitation to church or to talk about the Lord.

I wish we knew just how many people are in church today as a result of an initial visit to our home. Thank God He has given us a place we can use in such a way! ■

*Geneva Poole is the wife of veteran missionary Bobby Poole of Brazil.*





## RANDALL HOUSE PUBLICATIONS

### *Hints that Make VBS a Success*

Summer time can be prime time for ministry. Many churches use Vacation Bible School to anchor their summer ministry. Do you plan to make use of this excellent opportunity for teaching and evangelizing children, youth and adults of your community? Don't answer that question until you read Max Hickerson's list of VBS benefits.

1. VBS helps Christians find and use their gifts.
2. VBS provides a means of knowing the church members, their children and their friends.
3. VBS assists in doing the work of the church.
4. VBS prepares older youth with Christian leadership experience.
5. VBS is a time to teach the ordinances of Christ.
6. VBS is a vital tool for Bible memorization.
7. VBS combats the summer slump in attendance.
8. VBS involves the pupils and teachers in Christian growth.
9. VBS sharpens the teachers' skills.
10. VBS creates a joyous atmosphere!

Howard Castle suggests several alternatives to consider when scheduling your Vacation Bible School.

**Evening VBS**—Make the program a family affair, held at night, and designed to involve the entire family in Bible study.

**Satellite VBS**—A VBS program with special outreach emphasis need such as an inner-city location, housing project, mobile home court, etc.

**Day Camp VBS**—A week or two of all-day activity in a public park, forest, farm or refuge. The VBS curriculum is used, but the program is greatly expanded with sports, crafts, field trips and special features.

**Family VBS**—VBS with a home emphasis. Parents are provided with a student book and teacher's manual for every age level represented in the home. The parents then use the materials with their children whenever possible—in worship, special

family night activities and so forth.

**Traditional VBS**—Ah, yes. Don't forget this option. Calling students (all ages) to the church each morning for a week or two of VBS still works in a majority of situations. Whatever option you choose, remember—VBS is supposed to be filled with fun and exciting learning experiences.

Curriculum is the heart of your VBS. Al Jones offers this six-point checklist to guide you in your curriculum selection.

1. Is it Bible-centered in content? Does it present the scriptures as God's inspired revelation?
2. Is it pupil-centered in approach? Is the material graded so that the lesson is appealing and helpful to the pupils of each age level?
3. Is it complete? Does the course include worship, memory work, recreation, handwork, stories, music and Bible lessons? Does it provide all the information you need?
4. Is it easy to follow? Are each day's activities outlined in detail? Can the inexperienced teacher follow the course step by step?
5. Is it timely? Is the approach up-to-date? Does the lesson material teach the child to live for Christ today?
6. Is it correlated? Are all of the activities—worship, memorization, handwork and recreation—built around the central theme?

Then you are ready to order your VBS curriculum, call Randall House Publications. Our toll free number is 1-800-877-7073. ■





## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST FOUNDATION

### *What is the Foundation?*

What is the Free Will Baptist Foundation? How does it work? Why do we need one?

The Foundation is a department of the National Association formed in 1980 at the national convention in Anaheim, California. It functions under the supervision of a 17-member board. Nine members are selected by the National Association (these are first elected to the Board of Retirement and Insurance then serve simultaneously as Foundation Board members). The other eight positions are the executive secretary of the National Association and the directors and president of the remaining national departments and Woman's National Auxiliary Convention.

Why so many board members? For the sake of broader representation. Nine members represent the national body. The other eight represent each department of our work, giving input and influence from all their programs and needs.

The Charter of Incorporation lists six reasons for the Foundation's existence. The first two give a concise summary of its purpose:

"To encourage and motivate the making of contributions, donations and gifts by deed, will, contract, trust agreement, or otherwise, for the advancement, promotion, extension and maintenance of the various causes, objects and institutions now or at any time hereafter fostered or officially sanctioned by the National Association of Free Will Baptists of the United States of America.

"To serve the Free Will Baptist denomination and any of its agencies, associations and affiliated churches located within the United States of America or any foreign country."

Another question we often hear is, "Can't each national department operate its own fund raising and investment branch?" The answer is yes, each department can. But, that is not the most efficient or effective way to operate a fund-raising and management program.

There are several reasons for having one department that specializes in raising and managing deferred and long-term gifts:

1. The Foundation can manage major investments, freeing other departments and boards to focus on ministry rather

than both ministry and money management.

2. The Foundation offers the advantage of combined investments. Combining investments diminishes the cost of management and increases the return.
3. Some of our donors want to give but prefer to remain anonymous. The Foundation furnishes this privacy and confidentiality.
4. Others want to make deferred gifts to several departments. The Foundation provides this option, thus avoiding the need for the donor to enter agreements with each department. Furthermore, the cost and responsibility of managing the agreement is borne by the Foundation, not the individual department.
5. Managing trust agreements is a highly technical business. When the IRS approves an agreement with tax benefits, it also has strict requirements for the operation and reporting of that agreement. Some religious organizations have lost their tax-exempt status through improper management. For example, paying more than a revocable agreement earned benefits a private individual through charitable gifts. The IRS refers to that as... "personal inurement." Needless to say, that is illegal. The Foundation supplies the expertise that avoids these kinds of problems.
6. There is another plus for the Foundation: Unity. Gift-giving through the Foundation builds trust, cooperation and a team effort in reaching a common goal.
7. Accountability is another direct benefit of the Foundation's operation. With the complexity of department budgets, it is often difficult to account for, and report the exact cost of operating a specific program like management of deferred gifts.

Why do we need the Foundation? Because the programs in our local, state and national need gifts to operate and the Foundation is charged with the ministry of raising, managing and multiplying both small and large deferred gifts. ■





## MASTER'S MEN

### *Master's Builders*

#### *Cuba Work Team Returns*

Fourteen Free Will Baptist men from six states and Panama traveled as ambassadors of construction to Cuba on February 14. For two weeks the men labored on Master's Hands Project #33, the Willey Memorial Chapel at Cedars of Lebanon Seminary property near Pinar del Rio, Cuba.

In cooperation with the Foreign Missions Department, the group of volunteers traveled with Jim Vallance, director of Master's Men Department. Vallance stated, "These men asked to be included on the trip. They volunteered their labor, time and talents to help construct the new chapel. I believe God put this group together to accomplish a great task for His glory."

Suitcases bulged with over 1,500 pounds of clothes and tools valued at more than \$3,500. The men, with the help of Cuban brothers dug footers, built concrete forms, set supports for the concrete balcony, cut and tied rebar, laid concrete blocks, built a ramp to the balcony level, and hand mixed and poured over 40 cubic yards of concrete.

"One of the greatest experiences of my life," several men commented as they tried to express their feelings to Cuban brothers.

"I've been impressed with the love of the people for us," said another. "The outstanding thing for me is to see the faith of these people as they worship."

The 450-seat Willey Memorial Chapel is scheduled to be dedicated in May 1992 during the annual convention of Cuban Free Will Baptists.

#### *Department Receives Travel Fund Gift*

Master's Men Department received a grant of \$10,000 from the Frank Hickingbotham Foundation in February. The donation helped provide airfare for men traveling to Cuba. Application for the grant was made by Wendell Leckbee, chairman of the Master's Men Board.

Director Jim Vallance said, "This is the largest gift ever received by Master's Men Department. It was given to help our men who volunteered to labor on the 33rd Mas-

ter's Hands Project, the Willey Memorial Chapel. I appreciate the sensitivity of Mr. Hickingbotham toward our desire to help build the new chapel in Cuba. His gift is a testimony of his love for God."

Mr. Hickingbotham is chief executive officer of TCBY Yogurt, Inc., with offices in Little Rock, Arkansas.

#### *National Office Project*

Volunteer labor during the first 45 days of construction on the new National Office Building surpassed 2,000 hours. Work at times seemed slow to the men because they labored with steel studs. The workers started on the upper level west side where some fire-rated walls had to extend to the roof, a height of nearly 20 feet.

Nashville churches aided with meals and gifts to purchase food for the volunteer workers. At times, as many as a dozen men were on site.

#### *LifeMembership Reaches Milestone*

The ranks of LifeMembership exceeded the 500-member level on February 28. Eighteen new additions in February pushed the total to 502. LifeMembership began in December 1985. The \$100 deposits become part of an Endowment Trust held by the Free Will Baptist Foundation. ■



## HOME MISSIONS



## Like Father, Like Son

By Roy Thomas

The Home Missions Department has several father-son or father-daughter combinations among its employees. One such team is Jim and Joel Nason. Jim is a home missionary to New Durham, New Hampshire, while Joel, his son, is a home missionary to Chesnee, South Carolina.

It is natural that Joel would want to follow his father into the work of church planting,



Father: Jim Nason

since he was reared on an isolated New England home mission field. His parents, Jim and Pat Nason, both grew up in Linneus, Maine. They were converted in the Linneus FWB Church. This gave them a special burden for home missions, especially in the New England area.

When they got out of college Jim worked for a short while as a missionary in his native state, but soon discovered that he needed more pastoral experience. For the next several years he pastored Free Will Baptist churches in Michigan and North Carolina. He was a successful pastor in these states in spite of his New England accent!

In 1983 the Nasons returned to their native area with their four sons, Joel being the eldest. Since that time Jim has been the missionary pastor of the First FWB Church, New

Durham, New Hampshire. This historic church is the first Free Will Baptist church established by Benjamin Randall. The congregation has grown and built a beautiful new building under Jim's leadership.

History sometimes has a way of repeating itself—Jim's son Joel and his wife Hope have moved to Chesnee, South Carolina, where they are serving as Joint Project workers with the Beaver Creek Association Mission Board and the national Home Missions Board to establish a new Free Will Baptist church.

Joel, like his father, is a hard-working missionary pastor doing an excellent job in Chesnee. He is getting ready to erect a new church building to house the growing congregation.

I suppose all parents are proud when their children do well. But I suspect they are espe-



Son: Joel Nason

cially proud when their children excel in their Christian lives. John said in III John 4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." When it comes to the Nasons, it is truly, "like father, like son!" ■





## WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

### *Woman's Window on the World*

By Mary R. Wisheart

#### *From My Window*

"It takes all kinds of people to make a world," my mother used to say when we complained about some personality. When we said, "They say," she wanted specifics and came back with, "'They' are the biggest liars I know." Some social indiscretion we mentioned, and she'd say, "Honey, poor folks has got poor ways."

Most likely none of these were original with my mother, but I remember those principles. In talks in the berry patch, picking peanuts from the vines, breaking ears of corn from the stalks, she passed on to me a wealth of experience and home-spun philosophy.

She left me with some positive impressions. She loved her children, she loved their father more, she loved God and His work most of all. She worked hard and thought a person could do almost anything with a little determination and will power.

She gave a lot to others. Maybe as her children we didn't realize how much until she was gone. I do remember nights she spent sitting up with a sick neighbor, helping with food or some other need. She had a tendency to give things away. If someone admired a dish, a set of glasses, she might just say, "I'm going to give that to you." But I was amazed at how many came by at her death to let her children know she had done something special for them.

I remember a bouquet of red roses at her funeral. "I know she loved roses," the giver said, "And she helped me so much when I needed it."

The older I get, the more I find myself falling into her ways. Strange, isn't it? Not really, for those early years form indelible impressions. We can't escape them. And those early impressions keep right on influencing us through the years.

What privileges, what opportunities lie in the hands of a mother. What responsibilities. (Of course in a father's also, but that's next month.)

*Eunice Edwards Fund*  
February 28, 1991—\$31,573.85

#### *WNAC's Co-Laborer Fund*

In 1944 Mrs. Agnes Frazier introduced the idea of the Co-Laborer Fund. The goal was 50,000 Free Will Baptist women giving \$1 a month. The women would keep 10 percent of that amount and give the rest to the Unified Fund of the National Association. Later, the fund became the exclusive fund for WNAC's use.

The women used one third of the fund for WNAC's operating expenses. The other two-thirds they divide three ways: 50 percent to foreign missions, 20 percent to home missions and 30 percent to the Bible College.

Too soon women began to designate funds to these boards or to specific projects of the missions and education boards. The one-third of the Co-Laborer Fund became too small to help much with the operating costs of WNAC. The Convention voted in 1969 to designate all the Co-Laborer Fund for WNAC operating costs.

Through the years women have given hundreds of thousands to missions and education and other efforts among Free Will Baptists. In 1990 gifts designated for other causes equaled \$346,143.67.

Still, the need for the Co-Laborer Fund exists greater than ever. WNAC prints and distributes literature for the women, plans their meetings, receives and disburses their funds, maintains the Missionary Provision Closet and does countless other tasks related to the work. The operation requires about \$15,000 a month. Fifty thousand women giving \$1 a month? WNAC could operate with 15,000 women giving \$1 a month.

In 1990 the Co-Laborer Fund amounted to \$29,507.42. Over the past few years giving has increased a little. More women need to support their organization and face the years ahead. ■





## BOARD OF RETIREMENT

# *Shall I Live in the Community of My Last Pastorate?*

By Robert G. Kemper

Both parsonage dwellers and home-owning clergy have this same question to face: can I live in the community where I have been a minister?

The conventional wisdom of the ministry says, no, you cannot continue to live in the community where you were an active minister. There are some good reasons why that has become conventional wisdom in ministry. First, there are easily documented horror tales of retired ministers making life miserable for their successors. There are retirees who cannot quit. There are retirees who interfere in the shaping of the church's program and conduct of its pastoral ministries. To exaggerate—and misquote—a line of scripture, "A church cannot serve two ministers; it will love one and hate the other."

The reason these horror tales shape the conventional wisdom of ministry advising one to leave the town of previous ministry, goes back to my original essay on the uniqueness of ministerial retirement. Clergy find their status and self-esteem in being a significant member of a community. Retirement removes them from that community where they have found their status and self-esteem. They cannot bear to see their successors either succeed or fail. It is very difficult to go from being the most important person in the building to being a pew sitter.

But that conventional wisdom of ministry flies in the face of another strain of conventional wisdom, which is that one should retire among one's friends, sharing in the support communities that have been part of one's life. One needs roots. One needs to be in contact with physicians, lawyers, merchants that one has known. One needs friends in retirement. The rub in that conventional wisdom, for the clergy, is that most of the above have been parishioners centering around life in a local church.

That is really a tough crunch. Fortunately, there are a lot of variables in that collision that makes the outcome unpredictable. Unfortunately, the variables are hidden and often do not become evident until damage has been done. In my own experience I have

had retired pastors in my congregation and have had a splendid relationship with them. But I also know situations where the vitality of a church was siphoned off by a former minister who never really left the pastoral role.

I should like to pose one hard and fast guideline: if you decide to stay in the community, you must also decide to be the subordinate of your successor. You will do nothing you are not asked by the new pastor to do. Your opinion about the state of the church will be expressed only to your spouse and to no one else. If you cannot accept graciously the subordinate role, you must leave, no matter how dear the community is to you.

For what it is worth, my personal stance is that I could not graciously accept the subordinate role. Too much of me is invested in that local church. But that is not to say others may not do well what I could not. ■

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Robert Kemper is senior minister, First Congregational Church (UCC) of Western Springs, Illinois, as well as publisher of *Colleague*, and a consultant to the Pension Boards for Retirement Planning. This essay is from the *Pension Boards Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar Resources* book.

—used by permission—

### In Memory Of...

By...

#### Allen Carpentier

Frank and Myrna Carpentier  
Oklahoma City, OK

#### J. B. Parsons

Olivet Auxiliary  
Clarksville, TN

#### Bonner Tyler

Mary V. McMaster  
Atkins, AR



## Exploring Biblical Theology

Hobart E. Freeman

(Warsaw, Indiana: Faith Ministries and Publications, 1990, 363 pp., hardback, \$19.95.)

**T**his volume presents a readable and comprehensive introduction to the field of biblical theology from a Calvinistic perspective. The author taught Old Testament, Hebrew, Philosophy and Ethics at Grace Theological Seminary. He authored 14 books on a variety of subjects. His death in 1984 was a great loss to evangelical Christianity.

This book was compiled after Dr. Freeman's death based on transcripts of a series of teaching cassettes he prepared on important doctrinal subjects. He had a unique ability to present important theological truths in simple language. This volume can be read and understood by laymen and preachers alike.

In seven chapters the author

summarizes important Christian beliefs about God, revelation and inspiration, Christ, the Holy Spirit, sin, redemption, the church and the future. He is careful to point out the scriptural basis for doctrines.

Free Will Baptists will find much in this volume with which we agree. Our views of God, Christ, the church, etc., parallel his to a considerable degree. I was especially pleased to read his defense of feet washing as a church ordinance. In fact, he gives the best defense of the Free Will Baptist position on this issue that I have ever read.

There are, however, some areas where we take issue with his Calvinistic positions. His doctrine of election and predestination is totally unconditional; he leaves little

room for human choice in these areas.

He strongly defends the doctrine of eternal security. Like most Calvinistic writers, he ignores many passages of scripture which warn that salvation can, indeed, be lost.

I do not share his belief that the Penal Satisfaction Theory of the atonement is the biblical view. This view leaves no room for the mercy of God in salvation.

All in all, this is a worthwhile volume. It presents basic Christian truths in simple, straightforward language. His treatment of the difficult subject of church discipline is excellent. There is much which we can learn from this fine book. ■



Thomas Marberry

## OUR READERS COMMENT

### Let's Build Bridges

I appreciated the emphasis in March on leadership. Quite honestly the statement in Daryl Ellis' article that, "By the turn of the century change will imprint every department and institution," is scary.

There are so many casualties in my peer group. I sometimes wonder if there will be anyone left to fill all the positions of denominational leadership when my generation's turn arrives.

I believe the way to keep this problem from becoming even more accute is to build bridges to both older and younger leaders, which will only happen if everyone is receptive to the idea.

I'm not talking about a mutual admiration society, a gossip clique or a political action committee. I am talking about being a Paul to some young Timothy, a Timothy to some older Paul, and a Barnabas to my peers.

Reverend Randy Corn, Pastor  
First Free Will Baptist Church  
Savannah, Georgia

### Magazine Readable and Professional

You and those working with you are to be commended for the new look that you have given *Contact*!

The magazine has always reflected professionalism and yet comes across to the reader as warm, homey and readable.

I take pride in showing *Contact* to friends as the "Official Publication of the National Association of Free Will Baptists."

May the Lord continue to bless you and those laboring with you.

Reverend Clarence Burton  
Executive Secretary  
Missouri State Association  
of Free Will Baptists ■

## Directory Update

### CALIFORNIA

Archie Mayhew to Modesto Church, Modesto

### GEORGIA

Robert Travis to Crossroad Church, Cochran from Cornerstone Church, Whiteville, NC

### MISSOURI

Herb McMillian to Copper Mines Church, Fredericktown

### WEST VIRGINIA

Russell Wright to Martinsburg as home missionary from First Church, Crossett, AR ■





Jack Williams

## Seven Surprises of Humanism

**L**ast night I did something I may never do again. I attended the monthly meeting of the Humanist Association of Middle Tennessee, at a Unitarian Universalist Church in Nashville.

**My first surprise** was the number of people who attended. I expected to be one of several hundred listening to a lecture on "The Dangers of Fundamentalism." Not so. The group consisted of me and 18 others sitting in a circle of chairs.

**My second surprise** was the "fundamentalism" they discussed. They focused on the religious lunatic fringe. But anyone who took the Bible seriously was considered a fundamentalist who should be kept out of public office and public schools. According to them, typical fundamentalists are marked by hypocrisy and closed minds.

**My third surprise** was laughter. The group laughed a lot. Mostly in derision at church leaders who fell into sin. They joked about a Nashville minister who committed adultery, confessed it to his church, and the church kept him as pastor. They laughed at a charismatic evangelist who ripped off elderly people.

A woman in her 20's, raised in a fundamentalist home said, "I never read the Bible. Right now I have no beliefs. But if my parents knew I was here tonight, I'd be kidnapped and deprogramed." That drew loud laughter. She challenged the idea that fundamentalists are ignorant, offering to bring her parents in and "let them go one-on-one with any of you."

Some people at the meeting were in a great deal of emotional pain. A

man beside me in his 40's spent 10 years in fundamentalist circles drifting from Church of Christ to United Pentecostal to Assembly of God churches. He said he "closed the Bible in 1976" and never opened it again after reading it for the "millionth time." He came looking for answers. He seemed so vulnerable to anti-religion talk. And so eager to hear it.

Though they laughed easily, this was not a happy group. Their laughter masked anger and resentment toward religion. And frustration at people they consider intellectually inferior to themselves who reject their ideas.

**My fourth surprise** was their openness and acceptance. Openness to any idea critical of religion, acceptance of anyone disillusioned or hurt by religion. No one discussed Christians who were examples to the community. Rather, they focused on failures, extremists and the struggling as typical of Christians.

One woman quoted many Bible facts. She spoke often, spoke well and made one observation that startled me. She said, "There are some great ideas in the Bible. This certainly would be a better place to live if Christians practiced them." She was also the most outspoken against Christianity.

**My fifth surprise** was the sarcasm and arrogance mixed with honest questions. The group hooted down creation science, Christian columnists and those who would remove books like *The Wizard of Oz* from libraries. They were long on separation of church and state and short on religious tolerance. They ridiculed the new birth and passed judgment on God.

**My sixth surprise** was how they encouraged one another. One man who shopped at a local supermarket expressed outrage when store managers removed a haunted house display because 150 customers complained that it was Satan-influenced. "Write the managers and protest," they urged.

An older man warned the group not to waste time trying to convince leaders like Jerry Falwell and columnist Cal Thomas. He told how in the African food chain lions ate weak elands, and that likewise humanists should spot Christians who are unsettled in what they believe and "pick them off one at a time."

**My seventh surprise** was me. I felt dirty and out of place. I also felt anger because they were open to every idea except Bible truth. I knew I sat with those to whom nothing was sacred.

But mostly I felt great sadness for them. I've never sat in a room with so many smart people who had no answers to anything.

When I stepped out into the cold night air, the words of a hymn surged through my mind: "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see."

**Last night**, I got a clear glimpse of the enemy. He is not us. The enemy is not Christian brothers who differ with us. And not even the humanists.

The real enemy has blinded humanists to God's truth. I heard Satan roar as I sat with those who have no hope. I sat with them in their darkness. I felt like a 1,000-watt bulb shining in a room of blind men. ■



**CONTACT**

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**Nashville, Tennessee 37202**

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**FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE**  
**DEBT FREE**  
**BY JUBILEE**  
TOTAL \$600,000 • JULY, 1992



Ronald Creech

*Free Will Baptist Bible College has been in debt most of the time since its beginning, going from one building on one lot to 21 buildings on 10 choice acres of land in the beautiful West End section of Nashville.*

*Since the college will be 50 years old soon, we want to have a victory Jubilee celebration at the National Association in July 1992 and be completely debt free.*

*We are presently paying nearly \$127,000 per year on these debts. Success in our campaign will free up that money, which is desperately needed in other areas.*

*Thanks ahead of time for helping us be debt free by Jubilee. Thanks for your personal help and the help of your church.*

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Ronald Creech".

Ronald Creech  
Development Director

**THE DRIVE AT A GLANCE**

- \* Total Free Will Baptist Bible College indebtedness is \$600,000.
- \* Target date to be debt free is July 1992.
- \* Savings to the college will be \$127,000 per year.
- \* Earmark all special gifts "Debt Free." Send them to:



**DEBT FREE BY JUBILEE**  
**Free Will Baptist Bible College**

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