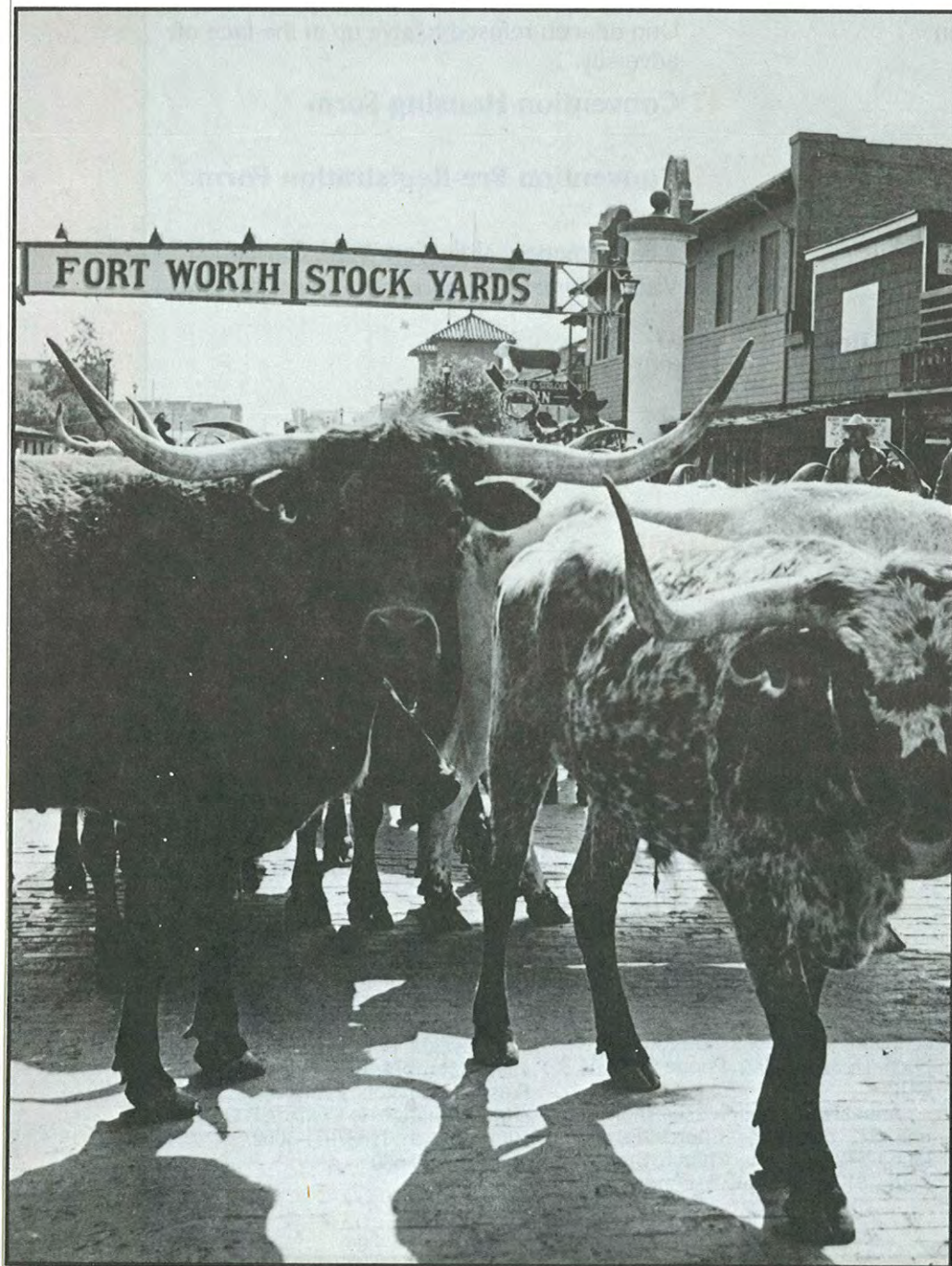


MAY 1996

# CONTACT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS



.....  
**Where The  
West Begins**

.....  
**Convention  
Information**

.....  
**Four to a Bug**

.....  
**Growing Christian  
Workers**

# INSIDE



MAY 1996


VOLUME 43, NO. 5


## ARTICLES


### 4 Where The West Begins



Preview of the 1996 Convention


Speakers ...  

... Activities 

Hotels ... 

... Facts about Fort Worth 

Things to Do ...  

... And More ... 

### 14 Churches That Produce Full-Time Christian Workers

What's the secret that allows some churches to grow a bumper crop of leaders?

### 16 Wanted: More Risk Takers

One deacon refused to give up in the face of adversity.

### 17 Convention Housing Form

### 19 Convention Pre-Registration Form

Cover Photo courtesy of the Fort Worth Convention and Visitors Bureau. Photographer Michael Murphy.

## COLUMNS

### 3 The Secretary Speaks

The Lord's Answer to Loneliness

### 26 The Department Pages

### 29 Top Shelf

### 30 Youth Update

### 31 Briefcase

Four to a Bug

## NEWS

### 21 Free Will Baptist Newsfront

New Church in Phoenix  
South Carolina State Association  
Clarence Hearron Celebrates 50 Years  
Kelly Braisher Scholarship  
Missouri Church reports 235 Converts  
Oral Maggard Dies  
Discount Air Fares  
Convention Travel Guide  
Group Sets Preaching Conference  
Local Association to Build Church in India

### 25 Currently

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## The Lord's Answer To Loneliness



Melvin Worthington

**C**oncern for marriage and family values remains paramount among Americans. In 1976, more than one million couples divorced while unknown millions remained committed to an empty shell of marriage, even though they have been emotionally divorced for years.

Is it possible in this perverted and pleasure-seeking society to have holy and healthy homes? I believe it is.

### Leaving

Marriage requires a man to leave his father and mother. This responsibility holds the key to a healthy marriage. The husband as divinely-appointed head of the home sets the example in this matter. In leaving his parents, the husband does not cease to honor and respect them but establishes a new relationship.

Prior to marriage, the husband has ties with his parents and other relatives. At marriage, the man takes upon himself another tie that makes all others secondary. The husband leaves in order to cleave to his wife. He frees himself from ties to his parents in such a way and to such a degree that he may fulfill the divine requirement to cleave to his wife.

T. S. Rendall said, "When this aspect of marriage is clearly understood and accepted by all those immediately concerned—husband, wife, his parents and her parents—a sound and solid basis is laid for all post-wedding contacts. The husband will not be expecting that his home will be run exactly as the home of his mother, nor will the wife be constantly running to her mother to avoid the strains and stresses of her new relationship. Parents will not attempt to rule their son's new home, and in-laws will not be rushing in where angels fear to tread."

### Loving

A second key to holy and healthy home is loving. The man must not only leave his father and mother but he must cleave to his wife. He must love her, cherish, honor and keep her. In marriage the husband and wife are yoked to each other in an exclusive attachment.

Paul admonishes wives to be submissive, supportive and in subjection to their husbands. He further admonished husbands to lead, love and listen to their wives.

The standard for husbands and wives in their relationship to one another is the relationship between Christ and the Church. This exclusive relationship between husband and wife can be devastated by adultery, absence, apathy, arrogance and avarice.

### Living

The final key to holy and healthy homes is living. The intimate relationship established by marriage is described by the phrase, "And they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). This implies spiritual, social and sexual oneness.

The relationship between husband and wife is a living one. It progressively develops and deepens through the years. The physical union between husband and wife in the marriage relationship requires unselfishness and understanding. The sexual aspect may be understood as the physical sign and seal of the union implicit in the marriage relationship.

Oneness of husband and wife involves not only sexual but spiritual and social oneness as well. God made woman to be equal to and suitable for man. Woman is the completion of man. It is as a man is united to a woman in marriage that there is created "one flesh."

Rendall declares, "This is why it is so important that a man should leave father and mother in order to cleave to his wife. It is in her, and not in parents, that he finds the divinely provided complement to himself."

God perceived Adam's loneliness, perused Adam's list, prepared Adam's lady and prescribed Adam's life. All that Adam needed was provided in Eve. Following God's divine plan of *leaving, loving and living* provides the firm foundation for happy, holy and healthy homes.

F. W. Robertson concludes, "Marriage is not a union merely between two creatures—it is a union between two spirits; and the intention of that bond is to perfect the nature of both, by supplementing their deficiencies with the force of contrast, giving to each sex those excellencies in which it is naturally deficient: to the one, strength of character and firmness of moral will; to the other sympathy, meekness, tenderness. There are two rocks in this world of ours on which the soul must either anchor or be wrecked—the one is God, and the other is the opposite sex." ■

### The Secretary's Schedule

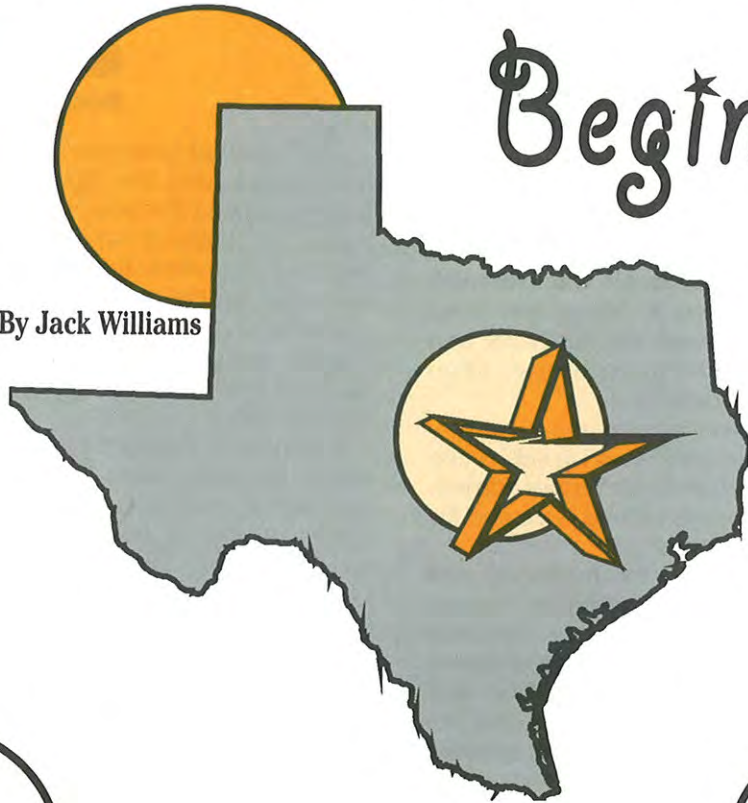
- May 3** Cross-Cultural Study Committee  
Antioch, Tennessee
- May 8-11** Florida State Association
- May 9-11** California State Association
- May 17-18** Michigan State Association
- May 17-18** Idaho State Association
- May 19-20** Convention Liaison Council Mtg.  
Fort Worth, Texas
- May 21-24** Convention Planning Trip  
Fort Worth, Texas
- May 26** First FWB Church  
Gastonia, North Carolina
- May 28-29** RCMA Board Meeting  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

1996

## National Convention Preview

# Where the West Begins

By Jack Williams



**T**he 60th annual Free Will Baptist national convention trails into Fort Worth, Texas, July 21-25 to camp out around Tarrant County Convention Center for a rip-roarin' week of singing, preaching and business.

We've been there before for conventions, but with the eyes of Texas upon you in the Lone Star State something magical can happen. Texas is more than just a place; it's a state of mind. That's especially true for Fort Worth meetings.

The atmosphere, the wide-open spaces, the sense of history all combine to tempt even a city slicker to fork a bronc and stampede toward Cowtown, USA.

### Old West Cowtown

Back in the 1880s, cowhands would hoot and holler along Fort Worth's dusty streets. Gunslingers, gamblers and painted ladies strolled side by side with shop owners and ranchers. Shoot-outs were not that uncommon.

More than any other Texas city, Fort Worth symbolizes the state's rich western heritage. Real cowboys still walk the covered wooden sidewalks in the Stockyard. Shops with leather tooling experts, saddle makers and hatters—some dating back to the early days—still operate.

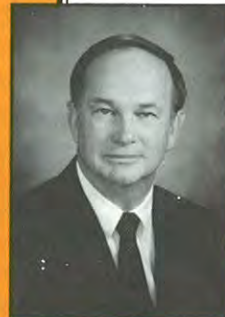
Whether you're hankering for handmade western footwear or some great sightseeing, Fort Worth is the place to be this July.

**Sunday Morning**  
**July 21**



**Sunday School**  
10:00 a.m.  
Teacher: Ron Barber

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
11:00 a.m.  
Speaker: Gerald Fowler



**Sunday School / Morning Worship**  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. / 11:00 a.m.  
Tarrant County Convention Center  
Adults: Arena  
Teens: Theater  
Children: Room E-102  
Tweeners: Room E-103

### Special Note!

Pre-Registration Packet Pick-up  
3:00 p.m. Saturday  
1:00 p.m. Sunday  
Tarrant County Convention Center  
Houston Street Lobby

In 1849 Fort Worth was a U. S. Army fort protecting pioneers from marauding Comanches. As a frontier town along the legendary Chisholm Trail, it was a welcome sight for saddle-weary cowpokes.

Around the turn of the century, it became the playground for Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

Fort Worth is centrally located in both Texas and the USA just 17 miles from the world's second busiest airport, the Dallas/Fort Worth Regional Airport, with more than 2,200 daily flights.

Down the trail from Fort Worth sprawls the city of Arlington where the Texas Rangers play baseball. And in nearby Irving's Texas Stadium, modern cowboys, the Dallas Cowboys, rope and brand NFL opponents.

The Tarrant County Convention Center where the national convention will meet comes equipped with 171,000 square feet of exhibit space, 21 meeting rooms, a 3,000-seat theater and a 14,000-seat arena. The center was built over the ruins of Hell's Half Acre, a hangout for Butch and Sundance, and later, Bonnie and Clyde.

But it's not all cowboys and six guns in Fort Worth. The city is as rich in culture as it is in cowboy lore. The Amon Carter Museum features works by 19th century American artists. The world-class collection of art by the old masters at Kimbell Art Museum has been called "the world's best small museum."

The Sid Richardson Collection of Western Art features paintings and sculptures by Charles M. Russell and Frederic Remington. The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History houses the Noble Planetarium.

### Gettin' Ready

Getting ready to host a national convention takes all year long. Just ask the seven-person Texas Steering Committee. The easy part is attending three planning sessions and studying a large red notebook full of information, deadlines and handy facts.

The hard part is finding enough volunteers to handle registration, volunteers to staff hospitality tables, volun-

teers to usher and distribute materials, volunteers to drive courtesy vehicles, volunteers to volunteer for the thousand and one details that somebody must do.

Each Steering Committee member takes responsibility for specific areas:

- Thurmon Murphy:** Steering Committee Chairman
- David Sutton:** Ex-Officio Member/State Moderator
- Will Harmon:** Hospitality Committee
- Jerry McArthur:** Registration Committee
- Robert Posner, Jr.:** Prayer Committee
- Jack Bankhead:** Ushering Committee
- Everyl Getz:** State Woman's Auxiliary President

### If You Drive to Fort Worth

City	Miles	Drive Time
Atlanta	822	15 hours
Birmingham	672	12 hours
Charleston (SC)	1085	20 hours
Charleston (WV)	1049	19 hours
Charlotte (NC)	1058	19 hours
Columbus (OH)	1049	19 hours
Detroit	1156	21 hours
Kansas City	562	10 hours
Little Rock	316	5 hours
Louisville	828	15 hours
Los Angeles	1399	33 hours
Memphis	498	9 hours
Miami	1343	32 hours
Oklahoma City	208	4 hours
St. Louis	665	12 hours

**Registration Begins  
Sunday 3:00 p.m.  
Tarrant County Convention Center  
Houston Street Lobby**

**Sunday  
Evening  
July 21**

**Sunday Evening Worship  
7:00 p.m.  
Speaker: David Williford**



Five speakers will address the convention theme, *I Will Build My Church*. An evangelist will jump-start the Tuesday Free Will Baptist Leadership Forum before attendees launch into a three-hour open discussion.

Moderator Ralph Hampton will gavel his ninth convention business session. Others getting ready for July include seminar leaders and speakers for banquets, NYC and WNAC services.

### *In Fort Worth*

For the fourth time in 60 years, the 2,000-strong Texas Free Will Baptist delegation will host the national convention. More than 6,000 people

those who do speak, it's frequently a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Here are the men we'll hear in Texas. . . .

#### *Ron Barber*

An Oklahoma lawyer and ordained deacon will teach the adult Sunday School class to kick off the convention. Ron Barber (41) usually teaches the college and career Sunday School class at Bethany FWB Church in Broken Arrow, but he'll bring his lesson to Fort Worth on July 21.

Mr. Barber, an attorney and certified public accountant, has been director of the Xeta Corporation for 11 years. He currently chairs the denomination's Board of Retirement and Insur-

ance. He served 12 years on the Hillsdale FWB College Board of Trustees.

He also serves as Oklahoma state coordinator for the Rutherford Institute, an international civil liberties and legal defense organization specializing in the protection of religious freedom.

#### *Gerald Fowler*

The first preacher to take the pulpit Sunday is North Carolina pastor Gerald Fowler. A 1974 FWBBC graduate, Reverend Fowler began pastoring 22 years ago in Tennessee. Three years later, he moved to Florida where he led Piney Grove FWB Church in Chipley eight years. Since 1985 he has pastored Trinity FWB Church in

## Monday Morning July 22

NYC Competitive Activities Begin  
8:30 a.m.

General Board Meets  
9:00 a.m.  
Radisson Plaza Hotel

## Monday Afternoon July 22

WNAC Seminars  
1:30 p.m.  
Radisson Plaza Hotel

from 40 states are expected to gather at Tarrant County Convention Center for the five-day meeting.

The National Association previously met in Texas in 1939 at Bryan, in 1972 and 1982 at Fort Worth. Delegates will consider denominational budgets exceeding \$14 million and elect 32 board and commission members. Each national agency will submit an annual report to delegates during the two-day business session.

### *Meet The Speakers*

There are more than 4,300 ordained Free Will Baptist ministers, but only four of them (plus two laymen) will get to address the plenary worship sessions in Fort Worth. For

### *5 Facts You Need to Know about Fort Worth*

1. Year Founded	—	1849
2. Population	—	475,000
3. Radio Stations	—	58
4. Television Stations	—	13
5. Local Newspapers	—	3

La Grange.

Pastor Fowler (43), clerk of the North Carolina State Association since 1990, served four years as assistant state moderator in Florida. Converted at age 11 and ordained to preach at age 19, the Alabama native was one of the key spokesmen during the denomination-wide Leadership Conference in 1995.

Brother Fowler will be the only speaker on the program whose father was a stone polisher.

#### *David Williford*

Sunday evening another Alabama native steps to the podium—Reverend David Williford (41) who pastors First FWB Church in Chipley, Florida.

Williford has pastored five churches in 23 years in four states.

He began pastoring in Slocomb, Alabama (1973), then on to Marianna, Florida (1974), to Ashland City, Tennessee (1978), to Pocahontas, Arkansas (1985) and back to Florida in 1990.

Williford graduated from FWBCC in 1979 (B.A.) and the FWBCC Graduate School in 1984 (M.A.). He is currently pursuing a graduate degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Brother Williford is a member of Florida's Executive Committee and state Home Mission Board. He previously served on Arkansas' state Home Mission Board and Tennessee's state Youth Board.

### Tim Hall

Monday evening the son of an old-time preacher man goes under the lights. Thirty-nine-year-old Tim Hall, whose father was a legendary Free Will Baptist pastor and church-planting pioneer in western Kentucky, will stand behind the convention microphone.

Reverend Hall pastors First FWB Church in Owensboro, Kentucky. This marks his second time at the church. He led the congregation 1978-1982 before pastoring First FWB Church in Glasgow for seven years. He returned to Owensboro in 1989.

Brother Hall is moderator of the Kentucky State Association. He pre-

### What's the Weather Like in Fort Worth?

#### July Statistics

Daily Maximum Temperature: 97.8°  
 Daily Minimum Temperature: 74.7°  
 Average Number of Sunny Days: 31

Exhibits Open  
3:00 p.m.

Camp Meeting  
3:00 p.m.  
Speaker: David Crowe

Fellowship of Encouragement  
Dinner/Meeting  
3:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

Children's  
Banquet  
5:00 p.m.

Monday Evening Worship  
7:00 p.m.  
Speaker: Tim Hall

## Monday Evening July 22

### 5 Things You Suspected Were True about Fort Worth

1. In 1887, Luke Short gunned down Fort Worth Marshall T. I. "Long Hair Jim" Courtright on Main Street in front of the White Elephant Saloon.
2. Fort Worth was the last big stop for cowboys on cattle drives before heading out on the Chisholm Trail. Cowboys also lost their wages here on the way back home.
3. The world's first indoor rodeo was held in Fort Worth at Cowtown Coliseum.
4. Will Rogers came here to brush up on rope tricks.
5. The Fort Worth Stockyards contain the world's largest honky-tonk, Billy Bob's Texas. *(No, you don't need to check it out for yourself. Just take my word for it.)*

viously served four years on the state Executive Board and four years as moderator of Kentucky's Green River Association.

### Trymon Messer

Tuesday is layman's night at the national convention. Not only will the Master's Men Department celebrate their 40th anniversary that evening, but a 63-year-old deacon will deliver the message to delegates and visitors.

### 5 Things You Didn't Know about Fort Worth

1. Boasts the nation's third-largest cultural district.
2. Hosts the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition every four years.
3. Operates one of America's top five zoos.
4. Named "best southern city in which to start a business" by Entrepreneur magazine.
5. Will open what is considered the last great performance hall constructed in the 20th century in 1998, the \$60 million Bass Performance Hall.

# Tuesday Morning July 23

WNAC Missionary Service  
11:10 a.m.  
Speaker: Carlisle Hanna



# Tuesday Afternoon July 23

Leadership Forum  
8:30 a.m.  
Speaker: Bob Shockey  
Moderator: Melvin Worthington

Hillsdale College Reception  
12:00 Noon  
Radisson Plaza Hotel

## If You Fly to Fort Worth...

1. Cab to downtown — \$30
2. SuperShuttle to downtown — \$12
3. Airporter to downtown — \$8

Mr. Trymon Messer, director of the Home Missions Department, is one of the most widely-known and loved speakers among us. He served 18 years as the agency's associate director before taking the helm in 1995.

For 13 years Brother Messer led First FWB Church in Salina, Kansas. The church grew under his leadership from two families to a record 964 in attendance.

Prior to his years as associate director, Messer won two lay awards. Oklahoma Bible College (now Hillsdale FWB College) named him layman of the year in 1964. The Master's Men Department named him layman of the year in 1969.

Messer has chaired the Kansas Home Missions Board and served on both the national Home Missions Board and the Hillsdale FWB College Board of Trustees. He is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

## Will Harmon

One week after his 35th birthday, Will Harmon preaches the biggest sermon of his life to the largest crowd he's ever addressed. The Texas native pastors Collin Creek FWB Church in Plano, a few miles from Tarrant County Convention Center.

Reverend Will Harmon graduated from Hillsdale FWB College (B.A.) in 1983 and from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div.) in 1988. He then pastored seven years at Oak Park FWB Church in Pine Bluff, Arkansas (1988-1995). His first pastorate was Western Hills FWB Church in Fort Worth (1984-1988).

Ordained to preach at age 19, Brother Harmon is Texas' assistant moderator. He previously served as Arkansas' assistant moderator. Will was elected to the Hillsdale FWB College Board of Trustees in 1991 and to the national Sunday School and Church Training Board in 1992.

## Leadership Forum

Something new will spice the convention this year, the Free Will Baptist Leadership Forum. Tuesday morning at 8:30 more than 800 ministers and layman are expected to gather at Radisson Plaza Hotel for a three-hour open discussion of denominational issues.

Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington will moderate the forum. While the floor will be open for any subject, a major time block will probably focus on the four-page "Leadership Conference Committee Report" prepared and distributed after the 1995 Leadership Conference in Nashville.

## Convention Speakers at a Glance

When	What	Who	Position	Where	Age
Sunday Morning	Sunday School	Ron Barber	Deacon	Oklahoma	41
Sunday Morning	Worship	Gerald Fowler	Pastor	North Carolina	43
Sunday Evening	Worship	David Williford	Pastor	Florida	41
Monday Evening	Worship	Tim Hall	Pastor	Kentucky	39
Tuesday Morning	Leadership Forum	Bob Shockey	Evangelist	Tennessee	68
Tuesday Morning	WNAC Missionary Service	Carlisle Hanna	Missionary	India	66
Tuesday Afternoon	WNAC Fellowship Dinner	Marcia Ellison	Missionary	Uruguay	56
Tuesday Evening	Worship	Trymon Messer	Director, Home Missions Dept.	Tennessee	63
Wednesday Evening	Worship	Will Harmon	Pastor	Texas	34



### Seminars

- Theological Trends Seminar
- Music Commission Seminar
- Master's Men Congress



**WNAC  
Fellowship Dinner**  
5:00 p.m.  
Speaker: Marcia Ellison



**Tuesday Evening Worship**  
7:30 p.m.  
Speaker: Trymon Messer

## Tuesday Evening

**July 23**

**Youth Banquet**  
5:30 - 11:00 p.m.  
Texas Lil's Ranch

### WNAC at a Glance

<b>Monday: Seminars</b>	Everyl Getz Annette Aycokk
<b>Tuesday: Devotional</b>	Marie Hanna
<b>Business</b>	
<b>Missionary Service</b>	Carlisle Hanna
<b>Special Feature</b>	Marjorie Workman Susan Turnbough
<b>Fellowship Dinner</b>	Marcia Ellison

### Bob Shockey

However, the best may come first! The first 45 minutes of the Leadership Forum will be handed over to Evangelist Bob Shockey for a rousing sermon.

Reverend Robert L. Shockey has done it all among Free Will Baptists since graduating from FWBBC in 1958. He pastored 20 years in three states. He also served five years as general director of the Home Missions Department, three years as promotional director and seven years on the Home Missions Board.

Shockey joined the FWBBC staff in 1984 where he served as public relations director, campus pastor and Christian service director. A prolific writer and speaker, Shockey's evangelistic ministry has taken him across the USA and several foreign countries.

### Where To Hang Your Hat

Four of the five convention hotels are within two blocks of the convention center. That's easy walking. The fifth hotel is eight blocks away, but a free trolley runs to the convention center every 15 minutes. If you miss the trolley, the blocks are short and the street is flat. No hills!

Choose the room rate you want to pay and how far you want to walk. Just do it quickly because everybody else wants to stay there also. Hotel rates range from \$65 to \$105 per night. (See the housing form on page 17.)

Radisson Plaza, the headquarters hotel, is holding 350 rooms for us. Ramada Downtown, the youth headquarters hotel, set aside 330 rooms. Others include 350 rooms at the Worthington Hotel, 150 rooms at the Remington Hotel and 100 rooms at the Park Central Hotel.

Sorry, no phone calls. All hotel reservations must be made on the official housing form printed in the April, May or June issues of *Contact*, or in one of the Free Will Baptist state papers.

### Registration

Pre-registration is working. Nearly 3,500 people pre-registered last year. Forms are in this and following issues. Advance registration saves time in registration lines. Pre-registration forms must be postmarked on or before June 21.

Here's another reason to pre-register. Pre-registrants may pick up their packets 3:00 - 9:00 p.m. Saturday. Beat the crowd. Pre-register, then pick up your packet early.

Those who do not pre-register must be prepared to register in Fort Worth. One badge is issued per person, even if you register for all three conventions.

Registration begins 3:00 p.m. Sunday in the Houston Street Lobby at the convention center and closes Wednesday noon.

If you do pre-register, arrangements have been made with the Texas Highway Department to send you a 272-page Texas Travel Guide and a large Texas map. That offer ends June 21.

### Exhibits

Sixty exhibit spaces will display denominational literature and programs, church-related groups and educational data for conferees. The exhibits will be housed in West

## Hotel Stats

(Rate listed for each hotel is for Single, Double, Triple and Quad accommodations.)

Hotel	Rates	Parking	Rooms Blocked
Radisson Plaza Hotel (Headquarters Hotel)	\$95	\$6/8 day	350
Worthington Hotel	\$105	\$6/7day	350
Ramada Downtown (NYC Headquarters)	\$65	Free	350
Remington Hotel	\$65	Free	150
Park Central Hotel	\$65	Free	100

Hall-Bay 5 of Tarrant County Convention Center.

Exhibits open 3:00 p.m. Monday. Booths are open 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. daily except during evening worship services (7:00 - 8:30 p.m.). Thursday, they open 9:00 a.m. and close 12:30 p.m. or 30 minutes after business concludes.

## Soup's On!

Twenty-three catered events ranging from a seven-member WNAC Executive Committee luncheon to the 1,000-seat Youth Banquet fill the menu this year.

Use the ticket request section of the Pre-Registration Form in this issue to order advance tickets for events of your choice. Tickets are placed in pre-registration packets. Tickets will *not* be mailed to you in advance.

Be sure your order is mailed in time to be received by June 21. Just a reminder: some events sell out quickly. First come, first served! Chow down!

## Business

Monday kicks off the first wave of business when the General Board gathers

for breakfast at 7:30 a.m., then begins its meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Radisson Plaza Hotel. Moderator Ralph Hampton will gavel the convention business session to order at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday morning in the Arena at Tarrant County Convention Center.

## Camp Meeting and Seminars

The annual Free Will Baptist Camp Meeting sponsored by the Home Missions Department meets 3:00 p.m. Monday in the convention center. This perennial favorite features Southern gospel music and enthusiastic preaching.

This year's speaker will be Dr. David Crowe, director of missionary assistance with the Home Missions Department. The event usually attracts more than 1,000 participants.

This year, three seminars dot Tuesday's agenda, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The Theological Trends Seminar, meeting in the Radisson Plaza, will be led by Dr. Robert Picirilli on the subject, *The King James Version: The Manuscript Side*.

The Music Commission Seminar is scheduled to meet at 1:30 p.m. in the convention center.

Master's Men Congress convenes 2:00 p.m. in the Radisson Plaza Hotel.

## WNAC Highlights

The annual WNAC convention will bring more than 1,200 Free Will Baptist women together for two days of meeting, fellowship and business. The 1996 theme is *Hold The Light High*.

Activities include two Monday seminars at 1:30 p.m. Both seminars meet in the Radisson Plaza Hotel. Annette Aycock will preside during the hour-long seminar, *How Can I Help My Pastor's Wife?* One door down the hallway, Evelyn Getz will lead a seminar for ministers' wives, *Privileges and Responsibilities of Holding the Light in the Parsonage*.

The women move back into Tarrant County Convention Center on Tuesday as the business side of WNAC gets under way in the Arena. Marie Hanna starts the day with a 15-minute devotional. Brenda Doffing will then

# Wednesday Morning

July 24

Music Fellowship Breakfast  
7:00 a.m.

State Leaders Breakfast  
7:30 a.m.

Convention  
Business Session Begins  
9:00 a.m.

# Wednesday Afternoon

July 24

Convention  
Business Session  
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

welcome WNAC to Texas. *Co-Laborer* editor Suzanne Franks will recognize creative arts winners.

Men and women usually attend WNAC's annual missionary service at 11:10 a.m. Carlisle Hanna is this year's speaker.

After a 90-minute break, WNAC reconvenes to conclude business and hear a special feature led by Marjorie Workman and Susan Turnbough.

The WNAC Fellowship Dinner starts at 4:45 p.m. and usually attracts 700 people. This year's dinner guests will hear veteran missionary Marcia Ellison speak in the convention center's West Hall.

### WNAC Personalities

The WNAC staff is led by Dr. Mary Wisheart, a certified meeting professional (CMP), who serves as executive secretary/treasurer.

Suzanne Franks edits *Co-Laborer* magazine. Martha Harris serves as the organization's book-keeper and Yvonne Wolfenbarger as executive assistant.

Monday seminar leader Everyl Getz is president of WNAC. The other seminar leader, Annette Aycock, is a South Carolina pastor's wife.

Tuesday's special feature co-leader Marjorie Workman is dean of women at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Her colleague Su-

## Figures from the Past

Year	City	Convention Value	Room Nights	Catered Meals	Registration
1985	Nashville, Tennessee	\$1 Million	5,132	3,453	8,340
1986	Tulsa, Oklahoma	\$1.08 Million	4,596	3,815	6,545
1987	Birmingham, Alabama	\$1.5 Million	4,261	3,683	6,159
1988	Kansas City, Missouri	\$1.3 Million	4,212	3,157	5,866
1989	Tampa, Florida	\$3 Million	4,444	3,291	5,707
1990	Phoenix, Arizona	\$1.8 Million	4,164	2,812	4,352
1991	Charleston, West Virginia	\$3 Million	6,229	3,664	6,538
1992	Indianapolis, Indiana	\$3 Million	4,409	3,719	6,119
1993	Louisville, Kentucky	\$1.9 Million	5,742	3,389	6,946
1994	Little Rock, Arkansas	\$4.1 Million	5,163	3,743	7,640
1995	Charlotte, North Carolina	\$2.5 Million	4,880	4,273	6,972

Free Will Baptist Bible College  
Luncheon  
12:00 Noon

Master's Men Dinner  
4:45 p.m.



Wednesday Evening Worship  
7:30 p.m.  
Speaker: Will Harmon

Wednesday  
Evening

July 24

NYC  
Awards  
Ceremony  
9:00 p.m.  
Convention  
Center  
Theater

san Turnbough is a missionary to Spain.

Speakers Carlisle and Marie Hanna have been missionaries to India for 44 years.

This year's music coordinator is Debbie Burden, a member of First FWB Church in Ada, Oklahoma.

### NYC Notes

The 29th annual National Youth Conference (NYC) includes four days of non-stop activities which will rally around the theme, *Takin' It To The Streets—The Gospel*.

Separate worship services for teens, tweeners and children will be conducted each evening except Wednesday. That night, youth meet with adults for the missionary service.

Hillsdale FWB College staffer Mike Garner and Randall House editor Keith

Note:  
There Will be  
**No**  
Nursery  
This Year

Thursday  
Morning  
July 25

Concluding  
Business Session  
9:00 a.m.

Exhibits  
Open at 9:00 a.m. Thursday  
and Close After Business.

Let's Go Home!

**LOCAL CHURCH DELEGATE CREDENTIALS**  
—1996—

THIS CERTIFIES THAT \_\_\_\_\_  
is a duly authorized delegate to the National Association of Free Will  
Baptists from \_\_\_\_\_ FWB Church.

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
(District Association) (City) (State)

\_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_  
(Pastor) (Church Clerk)

**IMPORTANT:** This form properly signed and accompanied by a \$25 registration fee entitles a local church delegate to register for voting privileges.

Please Note:  
Delegate  
Fees  
are now  
**\$25**  
per  
Delegate

Fletcher will speak Sunday morning. Kinston, North Carolina, youth pastor Ken Cash will deliver the NYC keynote message Sunday evening. Oklahoma pastor Jim Harris and Arkansas pastor James Forlines will speak Monday and Tuesday evenings.

NYC officials expect more than 900 entries in the Music and Arts Festival. Some 2,200 teens and other youth will worship, sing, fellowship, compete and witness during the conference.

### Head 'em Up! Move 'em West!

Just over a century ago, Texas cow punchers pushed millions of Longhorns hundreds of miles north to Kansas railheads where they were shipped to Eastern meat markets.

This July we'll reverse history, so to speak, and trail the big herd back into Texas. Like the old trail drives, conventions take a world of planning and are inconvenient as all get out. They kick up a lot of dust and seem to last forever.

But that's the way we get the business done. Like the cowboys, we all dread the long hours and the short nights. On the other hand, nobody wants to miss out on all the excitement when it finally gets to rolling.

So, strap on those spurs and boots, dust off your 10-gallon hat, and mosey on down to Fort Worth. We'll keep the coffee on for you. ■

## Checklist of Things You Wish You Had Remembered to Do

- Pre-Register.
- Packed your comfy walking shoes.
- Spent more time visiting with friends.
- Had the car's air conditioner checked *before* you left for Fort Worth.
- Packed your allergy medicine.
- Got that friend's address before going home.
- Caught up on sleep ahead of time.
- Brought just a *little more* cash.
- Talked with more missionaries.
- Visited the exhibit area a little longer.
- Planned a few more days to take in Fort Worth.
- Kept a closer eye on the kids.
- Renewed your *Contact* subscription.
- Where *Did* you put that camera?

This is  
Your Invitation  
to  
Meet us Next Year  
in  
North America's  
Most Livable City

...  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
July 20, 1997

See you there!



# Churches That Produce Full-Time Christian Workers

By Greg McAllister

**S**ome towns are notable simply for the fact that they are on the way to somewhere else. That's pretty much the way I feel about Arizona. It's about a fourth of the trip between our house and my wife's family, and it is basically the really hot place east of the really *really* hot part of California—Needles. Now, my sister lives in Lompoc, California, which isn't really on the way to anywhere. If you're in Lompoc, you meant to do it, and it's your own fault.

Some churches produce full-time Christian workers as a matter of course. Other churches set out to produce workers, so they do. Some churches never produce workers, and that's their fault. What is the secret to producing full-time Christian workers?

## *1. Churches which produce full-time Christian workers understand the nature of spiritual gifts.*

In order to make sure our lives run right at church, at home, at work, God gives particular abilities. Sometimes these are our natural talents and abilities, but they often surprise us. Other people may see things in us and point them out. God speaks through His Church, and we should learn to take both these things seriously.

God cares whether we use what He has given us. And remember:

when God gives a gift, He never gives toys. He always gives tools.

Spiritual gifts are (1) spiritual, because they refer to the operation of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life, and they are (2) gifts, because God Himself chooses how He will equip each of us to serve others (Larry Richards: *Word Bible Handbook*: 623).

Churches are obligated to preach the Word, and that Word includes the principles which qualify and identify the gifts which produce full-time Christian workers.

## *2. Churches which produce full-time Christian workers believe in the priesthood of all believers.*

There are folks who see pastoring as the only legitimate full-time Christian work. That can't be justified by scripture. Martin Luther saw that motivation in the papacy, a hierarchical structure which eventually limited access to salvation to the Roman Catholic Church, and limited Christian service for the non-cleric to tithing.

His reaction was vehement: "Injustice is done by those words 'priest,' 'cleric,' 'spiritual,' 'ecclesiastic,' when they are transferred from all Christians to those few who are now by a mischievous usage called 'ecclesiastics.' Holy scripture makes no distinction between them, although it gives

the name 'ministers,' 'servants,' 'stewards' to those who are now proudly called popes, bishops, and lords and who should according to the ministry of the work serve others and teach them the faith of Christ and the freedom of believers . . ." (*The Freedom of a Christian Man*).

We can easily see from scripture that there are many important things to be done in Christ's Church, and each person has a right to believe that God has called him.

## *3. Churches which produce full-time Christian workers have an expanded list of the type of work which makes up full-time Christian work.*

We live in a time of professionalism. There isn't anything wrong with that. But we also have to understand the value of a calling which doesn't involve ordination. In fact, Christ Himself was a lay worker—He wasn't ordained in the formal sense of the word, and neither were the apostles. (This was the heart of the challenge to Christ's teaching authority.)

In our own day, the following list of lay and ordained ministry positions are common and expanding all the time: youth worker, deacon, lay evangelist, children's worker, music minister, Sunday School superintendent, Bible club worker, home Bible study leader, bus captain, Sunday School teacher, tent-maker missionary, missionary builder, usher, trustee, Christian camp director, writer, altar worker, follow-up discipler, preacher, pastor, full-time evangelist, foreign missionary, home missionary, denominational executive, Christian college teacher, youth minister, Christian education director, Bible translator, Christian school teacher and parachurch staff member.

Pastors shouldn't be the obstacles Christians must overcome in order to follow a calling. The pastors and churches which produce full-time Christian workers are always broadening their horizons, teaching the whole counsel of God, and are not intimidated when their disciples have a grander vision than they themselves may have (Joel 2:28-29).

**4. Churches which produce full-time Christian workers aren't desperate for workers.**

The pastor's wife isn't "assistant everything." The best thing a pastor can do for a lazy congregation is let them do without the things they will not do for themselves; he will refuse to fill in for a congregation's lack of dedication. The people who work shouldn't be overworked.

Exhausted, frustrated pastors and congregations don't produce people who want to dedicate themselves to full-time Christian service. Joyous stewards produce joyous stewards—nothing else can. Good experiences in Christian service are necessary to produce full-time workers.

**5. Churches which produce full-time Christian workers are discipling churches.**

People are regarded as trainees in Christian service. Those who respond are not worn out by those who dump their responsibilities. There is a very clear direction concerning the development of workers. It is not a haphazard affair. And the whole church is in on it, sharing the joy and encouragement of a new worker, because they have all been encouraged themselves.

Mark Twain wrote, "Few things happen at the right time, and the rest never happen at all. The conscientious historian will correct these defects."

The conscientious pastor and church expect great things to happen just because we have a great God. But they expect God to let them be in on it. Fortunately, that's one of His favorite things to do. ■



**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Reverend Greg McAllister serves as academic dean at California Christian College in Fresno, California.

# THE TOGETHER WAY

February 1996

**Receipts:**

State	Design	CO-OP	Total	Feb. '95	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 153.94	\$ .00	\$ 153.94	\$ 18,096.79	\$ 1,306.16
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Arkansas	16,035.51	18,080.96	34,116.47	32,336.50	66,330.59
California	.00	835.53	835.53	794.48	1,921.77
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	.00	.00	.00	1,316.35	3,622.68
Georgia	13,459.56	2,283.97	15,743.53	12,233.30	39,174.63
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Illinois	6,687.84	1,888.33	8,576.17	10,321.68	22,804.11
Indiana	.00	.00	.00	1,707.05	691.35
Iowa	.00	.00	.00	.00	90.00
Kansas	200.00	.00	200.00	55.59	200.00
Kentucky	.00	398.00	398.00	1,387.03	857.52
Louisiana	10.00	.00	10.00	.00	30.00
Maryland	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Michigan	15,311.25	1,774.18	17,085.43	9,025.84	27,680.76
Mississippi	232.50	211.45	443.95	336.19	876.57
Missouri	10,404.91	.00	10,404.91	11,673.69	23,871.43
Montana	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Nebraska	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Jersey	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Mexico	.00	125.68	125.68	337.70	1,724.32
North Carolina	403.15	528.00	931.15	2,258.00	2,736.16
Ohio	7,002.30	3,889.31	10,891.61	7,244.18	22,465.23
Oklahoma	71,215.55	.00	71,215.55	35,647.61	114,805.97
South Carolina	17,910.06	90.87	18,000.93	24,806.60	37,436.70
South Dakota	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Tennessee	5,787.03	717.31	6,504.34	11,405.01	23,319.79
Texas	13,751.08	470.18	14,221.26	15,703.25	14,221.26
Virginia	828.55	25.00	853.55	568.90	3,273.19
Virgin Islands	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
West Virginia	.00	.00	.00	3,614.17	5,522.31
Wisconsin	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northeast Assoc.	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Other	.00	.00	.00	(0.04)	.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$179,393.23</b>	<b>\$31,318.77</b>	<b>\$210,712.00</b>	<b>\$200,869.87</b>	<b>\$414,962.50</b>

**Disbursements:**

Executive Office	\$ 9,888.37	\$17,225.32	\$ 27,113.69	\$ 28,766.21	\$ 56,776.60
Foreign Missions	102,651.60	3,241.48	105,893.08	98,971.93	198,411.04
FWBBC	12,624.90	3,241.48	15,866.38	15,360.56	36,809.71
Home Missions	47,453.23	2,536.83	49,990.06	45,858.72	98,923.15
Retirement & Insurance	749.60	1,973.08	2,722.68	2,618.30	5,737.42
Master's Men	1,510.04	1,973.08	3,483.12	3,364.51	7,078.19
Commission for Theo. Integrity	89.68	70.47	160.15	182.99	324.16
FWB Foundation	819.06	845.62	1,664.68	1,494.87	3,405.38
Historical Commission	89.68	70.47	160.15	182.99	324.16
Music Commission	89.68	70.47	160.15	148.50	310.37
Radio & TV Commission	89.65	70.47	160.12	148.49	310.32
Hillsdale FWB College	1,141.68	.00	1,141.68	1,297.06	2,652.76
Other	2,196.06	.00	2,196.06	2,474.74	3,899.24
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$179,393.23</b>	<b>\$31,318.77</b>	<b>\$210,712.00</b>	<b>\$200,869.87</b>	<b>\$414,962.50</b>

# Wanted: More Risk Takers

By Harvey Crain



Some people are afraid to take risks. They consider it unbiblical or acting with lack of faith. But at one time or other, we all take risks. I'm afraid many precious souls will spend an eternity separated from God because so many fear failure in their ability to witness effectively. They just won't risk it.

The nervous young man takes a calculated risk when he asks that pretty girl for a date. One takes a risk every time he mounts a horse, drives a car or boards an airplane. If you buy a house or invest money, you take a risk.

Some risks can be classified as foolish, however not much progress can be made without a degree of risk. Risk usually means moving out of our comfort zones to get something done.

Consider Matthew 25:14 where a property owner risked traveling to a far country and entrusted his goods to three servants.

When Jesus went back to Heaven, he placed a significant degree of trust in His servants left here.

Psalm 8:4, 6 includes a question ("What is man that thou are mindful of him?") and a statement ("Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet").

Risk takers—Remember Rahab, the men who let Paul down in a basket, David with a sling, Samson with a bone. What about that pastor who leaves a nice home and comfortable pastorate to go to a far country or a distant state at God's bidding?

Risk taking involves other areas as well. Let me explain. An elderly deacon in Limestone FWB Church in

They came, they ate, they gave and gave. The fellowship was sweet. The workers worked hard.

That deacon was able to present \$2,810.60 to an astounded and humbled couple of God's servants. Was it worth the risk? What do you think? ■

Upper East Tennessee visited former missionaries Don and Billie Sexton and saw a financial need. He had an abiding conviction that people, given a challenge, would respond to the personal financial needs of this dear disabled couple.

After seeking counsel from people, friends and former pastors, he decided to take the risk.

He found a suitable facility for a benefit breakfast at East Greene FWB Church in nearby Greeneville and folks willing to host such an event. Letters got sent and announcements were made by pastors. Then the questions began.

How much bacon and sausage? How many eggs? Will workers volunteer? Will people get out on snowy roads in cold temperatures to give of their means to someone they have never met?

Naysayers said no. Others didn't know. The rest didn't think so. But the deacon went ahead anyway.

On March 9, 1996, the answer came. People did meet the challenge.

.....  
**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Mr. Harvey Crain is a member of Limestone Free Will Baptist Church in Limestone, Tennessee. He is also a Master's Men LifeMember who has served on the national building crew to erect churches for home missionaries.

## Capital Stewardship/Victory Campaign February 1996 Update

State	Goal	Gifts	Balance
Alabama	\$76,397.63	\$4,981.15	\$71,416.48
Arizona	1,228.93	2,883.71	(1,654.78)
Arkansas	76,860.94	43,012.13	33,848.81
Atlantic Canada	1,570.51	897.00	673.51
California	17,216.76	1,444.20	15,772.56
Colorado	789.18	1,165.00	(375.82)
Florida	20,703.30	6,347.42	14,355.88
Georgia	38,179.19	28,693.88	9,485.31
Hawaii	184.54	727.26	(542.72)
Idaho	353.37	25.00	328.37
Illinois	16,176.29	4,949.47	11,226.82
Indiana	7,868.27	1,846.75	6,021.52
Iowa	266.99	0.00	266.99
Kansas	1,287.82	280.00	1,007.82
Kentucky	35,454.34	5,674.29	29,780.05
Louisiana	94.23	1,925.00	(1,830.77)
Maryland	6,812.10	1,539.38	5,272.72
Michigan	15,116.19	16,004.22	(888.03)
Mississippi	15,559.86	3,843.23	11,716.63
Missouri	60,484.40	33,789.91	26,694.49
Montana	27.48	100.00	(72.52)
Nebraska	102.08	119.00	(16.92)
New Mexico	596.80	630.55	(33.75)
North Carolina	59,118.06	7,131.40	51,986.66
Northeast Assoc.	883.41	270.00	613.41
Northwest Assoc.	1,087.58	201.00	886.58
Ohio	40,923.66	19,588.10	21,335.56
Oklahoma	92,271.60	10,432.08	81,839.52
South Carolina	18,335.75	3,102.00	15,233.75
South Dakota		175.00	(175.00)
Tennessee	78,557.09	57,805.42	20,751.67
Texas	11,547.20	7,141.52	4,405.68
Virginia	24,323.33	2,027.93	22,295.40
Virgin Islands		200.00	(200.00)
West Virginia	46,204.51	998.00	45,206.51
Wisconsin		61.00	(61.00)
Other		2,978.85	(2,978.85)
Totals	\$766,583.39	\$272,990.85	\$493,592.54



# Hotel Reservation

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**Fort Worth, Texas**

**National Convention**

**July 21-25, 1996**

1. Applications must be received no later than **June 21, 1996**. Reservations will *Not* be accepted by the FWCVB/Free Will Baptists Central Housing after the cut-off date. You may contact the hotel directly after the cut-off date and make your own reservation. The hotel is *Not* required to honor the Free Will Baptist rate after the cut-off date.
2. **No Telephone Calls:** Reservations will **not** be taken over the phone.
3. **If Sharing a Room With Others**, please send in only **one** application per room. Acknowledgements will be mailed from the FWCVB/Free Will Baptists Housing Bureau to the person who sends in the reservation request.
4. Reservations are handled on a **first-come, first-served** basis. The FWCVB/Free Will Baptists Central Housing will attempt to assign participants based on their listed preferences. If your preferences are not available, you will be assigned to other participating hotels.
5. **Deposit:** All housing applications must be accompanied by one night's deposit for **each** room requested or credit card number and expiration date. Make checks payable to "Fort Worth Convention and Visitors Bureau." Send with remittance to: **FWCVB/Free Will Baptists, 415 Throckmorton, Fort Worth, TX 76102**. You may FAX your form only if you are guaranteeing with a credit card to **817/336-3282**. Please note: We do not FAX back acknowledgement to you. These are sent to you through the mail. Also, when FAXing, please do not send a hard copy through the mail because this will cause us to duplicate your reservation.
6. You will receive **acknowledgement** from the FWCVB/Free Will Baptists Central Housing followed by a **confirmation** from the hotel.
7. **Cancellations** must be made 72 hours prior to arrival date; otherwise your deposit is non-refundable. All changes and cancellations prior to the cut-off date must be in writing to the FWCVB/Free Will Baptists Central Housing. After the cut-off date, changes and cancellations may be made directly with the hotel.
8. **Changes** are to be made directly with the Central Housing via mail or FAX up until the cut-off date. At that point you must make any changes or cancellations directly with the hotel assigned.
9. **Check-in time: 3:00 p.m. Check-out time: 12:00 p.m.**

**Send Confirmation to:**

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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




Telephone number at work: ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ at home: ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to guarantee my room on my credit card: \_\_\_\_\_ or . . .  Check enclosed. Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MasterCard       American Express       Visa       Diners Club       Discover Card

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

*Rates do <u>Not</u> include 13% sales tax.		 Single	 Double	 Triple	 Quad	Per Day Parking
<b>HOTELS</b>	<b>Choice</b>					
Radisson Plaza (HeadquartersHotel)		\$95	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$6 self/\$8 valet
Worthington Hotel		\$105	\$105	\$105	\$105	\$6 self/\$7 valet
Ramada Downtown (NYC Headquarters Hotel)		\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65	Free
Remington Hotel		\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65	*Free
Park Central Hotel		\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65	Free

\*Limited parking. Alternative parking available.

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

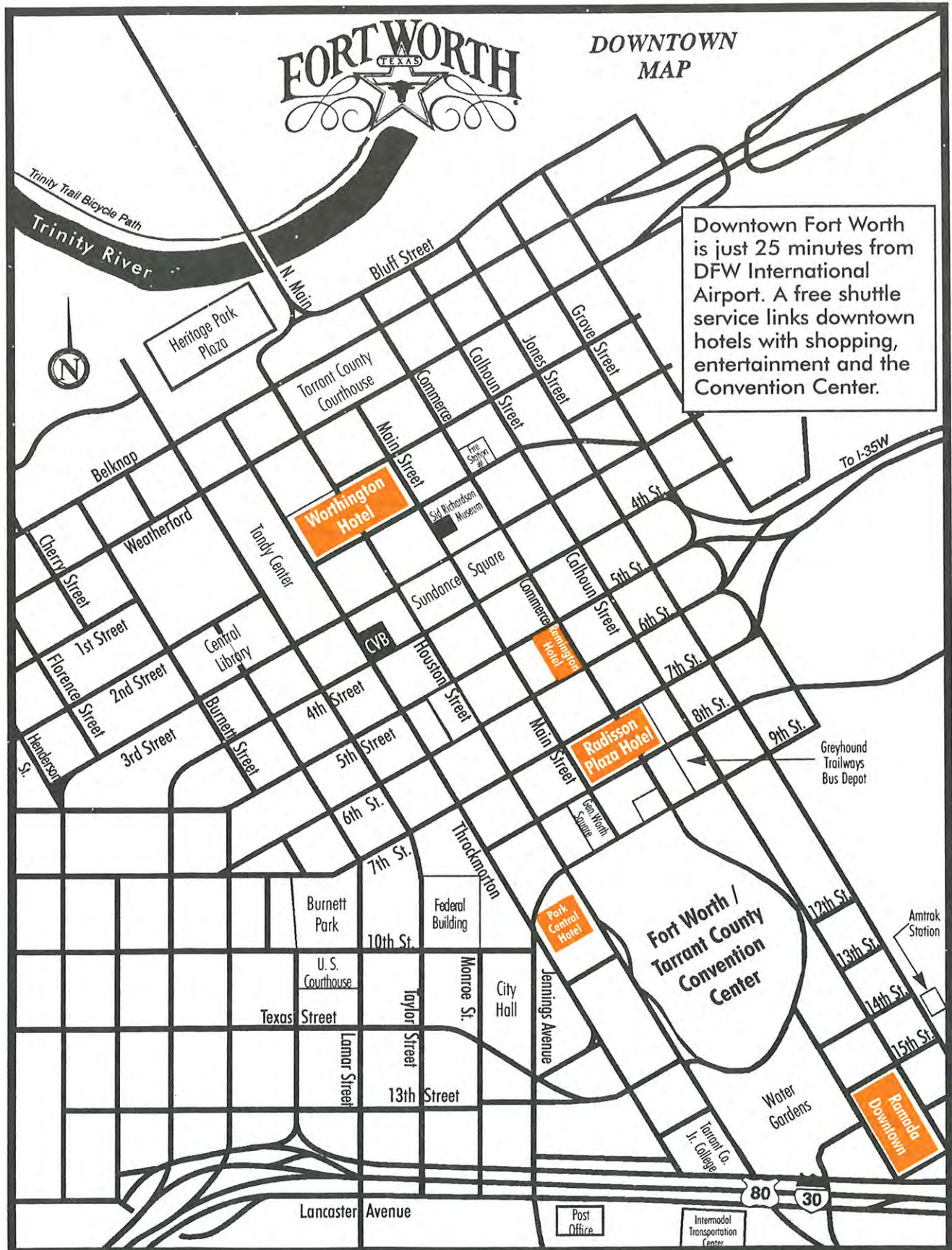
\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Requests (please check):**

- Non-Smoking  
 Disabled  
 Rollaway  
 Crib  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Special requests are not guaranteed—** They are given on a first come, first served basis. There is an additional charge for rollaway beds.

# Welcome National Association of Free Will Baptists



**Only one person per form.**  
 Make additional copies if needed.

# Pre-Registration Form

for  
**National Association of Free Will Baptists  
 Women Nationally Active for Christ  
 National Youth Conference  
 Fort Worth, Texas / July 21 - 25, 1996**

By completing the Pre-Registration Form, you will save **valuable** time at the convention. If you pre-register, proceed to a special registration area where you will receive a packet containing your pre-printed name tag, tickets and materials.

**Please Print**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST or NAME desired on badge LAST

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone #: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code

Male  Female

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

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

Mail completed form(s) and fees to  
**Convention Registration  
 P. O. Box 5002  
 Antioch, TN 37011-5002.**  
 Must be postmarked on or before **June 21, 1996.**

**You may register for all three conventions on this form.**

**I. If you want to register for the *National Association*, complete Section I.**

District Association: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINISTER:**  Ordained  Licensed  Pastor  
 (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 (Country) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home

**DELEGATE:**  Ordained Deacon  
 State  
 National Officer  
 National Board Member  
 Local Church (\$25.00)

**VISITOR:**  [Visitors can not vote]

Meal Tickets:	Quantity	
Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner	_____ x \$20.00 = \$_____	
Youth Workers Reception	_____ x \$7.50 = \$_____	
Music Fellowship Breakfast	_____ x \$9.00 = \$_____	
Hillsdale FWB College Reception	_____ x \$15.00 = \$_____	
FWBBC Alumni Luncheon	_____ x \$15.00 = \$_____	
Master's Men Dinner (before conv.)	_____ x \$18.00 = \$_____	
	(\$20 at convention)	
<b>If Local Church Delegate</b>	_____ → \$25.00 = \$_____	
Signed credentials card enclosed . . . . . <b>Yes!</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$_____

**II. If you want to register for *WNAC*, complete Section II.  
 (Check only one of the following:)**

**Delegate:**  Local (\$5.00)  
 State  
 State President or Field Worker  
 National Officer

**VISITOR:**  [Visitors can not vote]

Meal Tickets:	Quantity	
WNAC Fellowship Dinner	_____ x \$15.00 = \$_____	
<b>If Local WNAC Delegate</b>	_____ → \$5.00 = \$_____	
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$_____

**III. If you want to register for the *National Youth Conference*, complete Section III.  
 (All those in 1st grade through age 24 must register to attend NYC.)**

Are you a youth worker?  Yes  No

Grade completed Spring 1996: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

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

Youth Leader's name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee**

Pre-Registration Fee \$17.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

On-site registration fee is \$20.00.

Adults over 24 do not pay NYC fees. Competitors pay **separate** entry fees.

**You Must register for NYC to purchase meal tickets/attend banquets (unless age 25 and up).**

Meal Tickets:	Quantity	
Children's Banquet (grades 1-6)	_____ x \$7.50 = \$_____	
Youth Banquet (must be in grade 7 to age 24 or an accompanying youth worker)	_____ x \$25.00 = \$_____	
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$_____

**For Office Use Only**

Rec \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Ck/MO # \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ck \_\_\_\_\_

Make ALL checks payable to FWB Convention.  
**No refunds mailed after June 21, 1996.**

**GRAND TOTAL \$\_\_\_\_\_**  
 Check/Money Order **MUST** accompany this form.  
 Enclose **ONE** check to pay all fees and tickets.

## Pre-Register by June 21 and Pick up Your Convention Packet on Saturday!

Early Pick-up available at  
Tarrant County Convention Center  
for those who pre-register:

**Saturday, July 20**  
**3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, July 21**  
**1:00 p.m.**

Pre-Registration ends June 21, 1996

### Meal Information

#### Fellowship of Encouragement

**Meeting / Dinner . . . . . \$20.00**  
Monday, July 22 / 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
Convention Center / East Hall, Bay 3

**Children's Banquet . . . . . \$7.50**  
Monday, July 22 / 5:00 p.m.  
Convention Center / East Hall, Bays 1-2

**Hillsdale FWB College Reception . . . \$15.00**  
Tuesday, July 23 / 12:00 noon  
Radisson Plaza / Texas Ballroom

**Youth Banquet . . . . . \$25.00**  
Tuesday, July 23 / 4:30 - 11:00 p.m.  
Texas Lil's Western Ranch

Ticket purchase includes transportation, western activities, all-you-can-eat buffet, evening worship service, and a real Texas-size Rodeo!

**Music Fellowship Breakfast . . . . . \$9.00**  
Wednesday, July 24 / 7:00 a.m.  
Radisson Plaza / Texas Ballroom A-B

**Youth Workers Reception . . . . . \$7.50**  
Monday, July 22 / 9:00 p.m.  
Ramada Downtown / Trinity-A

**WNAC Fellowship Dinner . . . . . \$15.00**  
Tuesday, July 23 / 5:00 p.m.  
Convention Center / West Hall, Bay 4

**FWBBC Luncheon . . . . . \$15.00**  
Wednesday, July 24 / 12:00 Noon  
Convention Center / East Hall, Bay 3

**Master's Men Dinner . . . . . \$18.00**  
(S20 at convention)  
Wednesday, July 24 / 4:45 p.m.  
Radisson Plaza / Grand Crystal Ballroom D

# FREE WILL BAPTIST NEWSFRONT

## New Church Goes Up In Phoenix

PHOENIX, AZ—After meeting more than five years in rented office space, the congregation at North Valley FWB Church in Phoenix moved into their own facilities on March 3, according to home missionary George Harvey, Jr. The first service in the new church building attracted 101 people.

Pastor Harvey said that the group saved one-third of the total cost by doing most of the work themselves. The 7,250-square-foot brick building took 11



months to construct because of annoying delays.

Harvey said, "Our building sits right in the middle of a fast-growing area. Five single-home subdivisions are being built around the church. There are 18 acres of

vacant land adjacent to our church on which 86 new homes will be built this summer."

The new church sanctuary will seat 250 people and includes a fellowship hall and five class rooms. Their parking lot will accommodate 50 cars.

Even though the building is completed, Pastor Harvey said the congregation still needs a church sign (\$2,500), teaching materials, tables, offering plates and a communion set.

## South Carolina Honors Norwood Gibson



LAKE CITY, SC—Delegates to the 54th annual session of the South Carolina State Association saluted the man who began their promotional office 17 years ago, the Reverend Norwood Gibson. The tribute to Gibson culminated when he received a plaque of appreciation and gifts of \$17,500 from state churches.

Gibson retired earlier this year after serving as promotional di-

rector 17 years. He will continue to oversee the state book store until that ministry is more firmly established.

The newly-elected promotional director is former foreign missionary, Ron Moore, who was appointed to Ivory Coast, West Africa, in 1986. Moore, a 46-year-old California native, is an alumnus of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Bob Jones University and the Columbia Graduate School of Missions.

The February 29-March 1 session met at Gilead FWB Church in Lake City. Clerk David Aycock reported that 172 registered for the association, including 97 ministers.

Delegates gave a rising vote of appreciation to Moderator Earl Hendrix who completed 11 years of leadership in the state. Sand Hill FWB Church pastor Sherwood Lee succeeds Hen-

drix as moderator.

In other action, delegates approved a \$281,000 state budget. For the first time, state ministries presented budgets for 1997 to comply with state association incorporation.

Four resolutions were adopted, including a resolution commending the committee appointed at the 1995 Leadership Conference to write a report about conference findings.

Five ministers preached sermons during the two-day state association. They included four South Carolina pastors—Earl Hendrix (Inman), Paul Reid (Greenwood), I. Bennie Turner (Manning), Phil Ange (Sumter)—and Foreign Missions staffer Fred Warner.

The 1997 state association will meet February 27-28 at Peace FWB Church in Spartanburg.

## Rev. Oral Maggard With The Lord

WHEELERSBURG, OH—Former Ohio moderator, Reverend Oral Maggard died October 26, 1995, after 32 years in the ministry. He was 67 years old.

Brother Maggard pastored two churches in Ohio. His last and longest pastorate was at Garden City FWB Church in Wheelersburg where he labored 23 years before declining health forced him to retire in December 1988.

During his tenure at the Garden City FWB Church, he was elected as moderator of the Ohio State Association (1974). Even though ill health restricted his activities, Maggard continued to preach after he retired.

Oral Maggard became a Christian on January 19, 1961. Two years later, 1963, he answered the call to preach. He was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister on August 22, 1964. He began pastoring in 1964.

Brother Maggard was a member of Sciotodale FWB Church in Portsmouth at the time of his death. Funeral services were conducted by Reverend Daniel Weddig, assisted by Reverends Millard Green and Larry Russell.

## Hearron Celebrates 50-Year Ministry

DENISON, TX—Reverend Clarence J. Hearron observed his 50th anniversary as a Free Will Baptist minister in January. The 73-year-old Oklahoma native answered the call to preach at age 20 and was ordained at age 23.

He pastored 10 churches in Oklahoma and Texas, beginning in 1946. Except for a three-year period, Hearron pastored continuously for 50 years. He led seven churches in Texas and three in Oklahoma. His first pastorate was in Waco, Texas, at age 23.

In addition to his pastoral labors, Hearron served nine years as academic dean at Oklahoma Bible College/Hillsdale FWB College.

He was also elected moderator of the Texas State Association and of several district associations in Texas and Oklahoma. He was appointed to the national Educational Study Committee, and has written extensively for denominational publications.

Pastor Jerry McArthur and members of Cornerstone FWB Church in Denison surprised Brother Hearron January 28 with a special service honoring his 50 years in ministry. Some 165 friends and family gathered in the sanctuary to salute Hearron, remember past experiences and hear him preach the 11:00 o'clock sermon.

Oklahoma executive secretary Jack Richey and Hillsdale FWB College president Jim Shephard headed an Oklahoma delegation which included members from Mt. Zion FWB Church in Durant where Hearron pastored 10 years.

Numerous letters and expressions of well wishes came from friends and colleagues around the country. The host church (Cornerstone) presented Brother Hearron with a plaque and gold watch.



## Drama Reaps 235 Converts in Missouri

FARMINGTON, MO—More than 235 people came to Christ during three presentations of the biblical drama, "Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames," according to David Bates, assistant pastor at First FWB Church in Farmington. The February 4-6 production reached out to 30 surrounding towns and included 62 churches in 20 denominations.

"The local Bible book store had a run on Bibles all week long," Bates said.

The First FWB Church scheduled the drama in the local public school auditorium instead of the church because the school seats 850 people. Two weeks prior to

the performance, the group printed 12,000 tickets and distributed them in the surrounding area.

Bates said, "We had standing room only each of the three nights of the production. Approximately 1,000 people attended each performance. We estimate that over 300 people came to Christ."

Altar workers ran out of altar cards after 235 and lost count, since they could not get to all those who came to pray.

"I'll never forget the last night of the drama, standing on the stage and looking into the faces of 150 people praying the sinner's prayer," Bates said.

More than 70 people stood in the auditorium foyer during the drama unable to see it. Seven in the foyer were converted, including a 55-year-old man leaning against a stairwell.

The drama, which used a local volunteer cast and crew of 65 people, was directed by Richard Brown from Amarillo, Texas. Locals auditioned for parts, speaking and non-speaking.

The Browns provided props, sound and lighting. Production cost was \$3,250 plus printing and incidentals. Reality Outreach Ministries presented the drama. The project is sponsored by the Assemblies of God churches.

## Discount Air Fares to Convention Available

NASHVILLE, TN—The National Association of Free Will Baptists has made special travel arrangements for attendees and their families who will be flying to the National Convention in Fort Worth, Texas, July 21-25, according to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington.

Artists Travel Corp. in Nashville has been selected as the agency of record to provide members attending the convention with discount travel services.

Discounts for air travel to Fort Worth have been secured on two airlines: American and USAir. Each airline offers a 5% discount on excursion rates and 10% discount on full coach fares. These fares 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.

Artists Travel Corp. has contracted for travel dates July 16 through July 27 for the convention.

To book airspace at the offered discounted rates, call Artists Travel Corp. toll free at 1-800/489-2009. Ask for **Janice Jakobik** and identify yourself with the Free Will Baptist National Convention. The agent will need the following:

- ◆ your name
- ◆ number of passengers
- ◆ home phone number
- ◆ correct mailing address
- ◆ city of flight origin
- ◆ business phone number

For easy billing, have a **current credit card** ready at the time of booking. Artists Travel will process and mail the tickets to you.

## Kelly Braisher Missions Scholarship Established

MOORE, OK—A perpetual scholarship fund has been established at Hillsdale FWB College in memory of former teacher and coach, Kelly Braisher. The missions scholarship was established by the Braisher family to help prepare missionaries for service in the kingdom of God.

Dr. Mark Braisher, a Missouri pastor and brother to Miss Braisher, said, "The scholarship will be awarded annually to a junior or senior lady student who has been called by God and is preparing for a missions ministry."

Kelly Braisher was the women's basketball and volleyball coach at Hillsdale from 1990 to 1994, when she was diagnosed with cancer. She died January 7, 1996, at age 35.

While completing her B.A. degree at Wayland Baptist University, Kelly played four years as a member of the Flying Queens basketball team. She received her master's degree in guidance and counseling from U.C.O. in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Those wishing more information about the Kelly Braisher Scholarship should contact Hillsdale FWB College.

## Pre-Registrants To Receive Travel Guide/Map

FORT WORTH, TX—Delegates and visitors who pre-register for the National Convention in Fort Worth will receive a 272-page Texas Travel Guide and a large Texas map, according to Reverend Thurmon Murphy who chairs the 1996 Steering Committee.

Rev. Murphy and the Steering Committee members made arrangements with the Texas Highway Department to mail the travel guide and map. The travel guide and map will be mailed from Texas after names and addresses of pre-registrants have been forwarded to the Texas Highway Department.

Pre-registration closes June 21.

## Foothills Association To Build Church In India



Moderator W. L. Kell (L) of North Carolina's Foothills Association presents \$5,000 check to Fred Warner, director of missionary-church relations with the Foreign Missions Department. The funds will be used to construct a church building in South India.

## Group Sets Preaching Conference

PIGEON FORGE, TN—In an effort to promote revival among Free Will Baptist pastors, a group of ministers announced a preaching conference for June 17-19 at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The conference will rally around the theme, "Help Build The Fire," according to Roy Helms who chairs the 10-man steering committee.

All services are scheduled at the Grand Resort Hotel and Conference Center. Activities include 11 preaching sessions, four workshops, exhibits and an idea center. The conference kicks off Monday at 4:30 p.m.

with an hour-long prayer meeting and concludes Wednesday evening with a testimony time.

"We plan no business. Our only concern is revival. This is not a time of throwing stones," Chairman Helms wrote in letters earlier this spring.

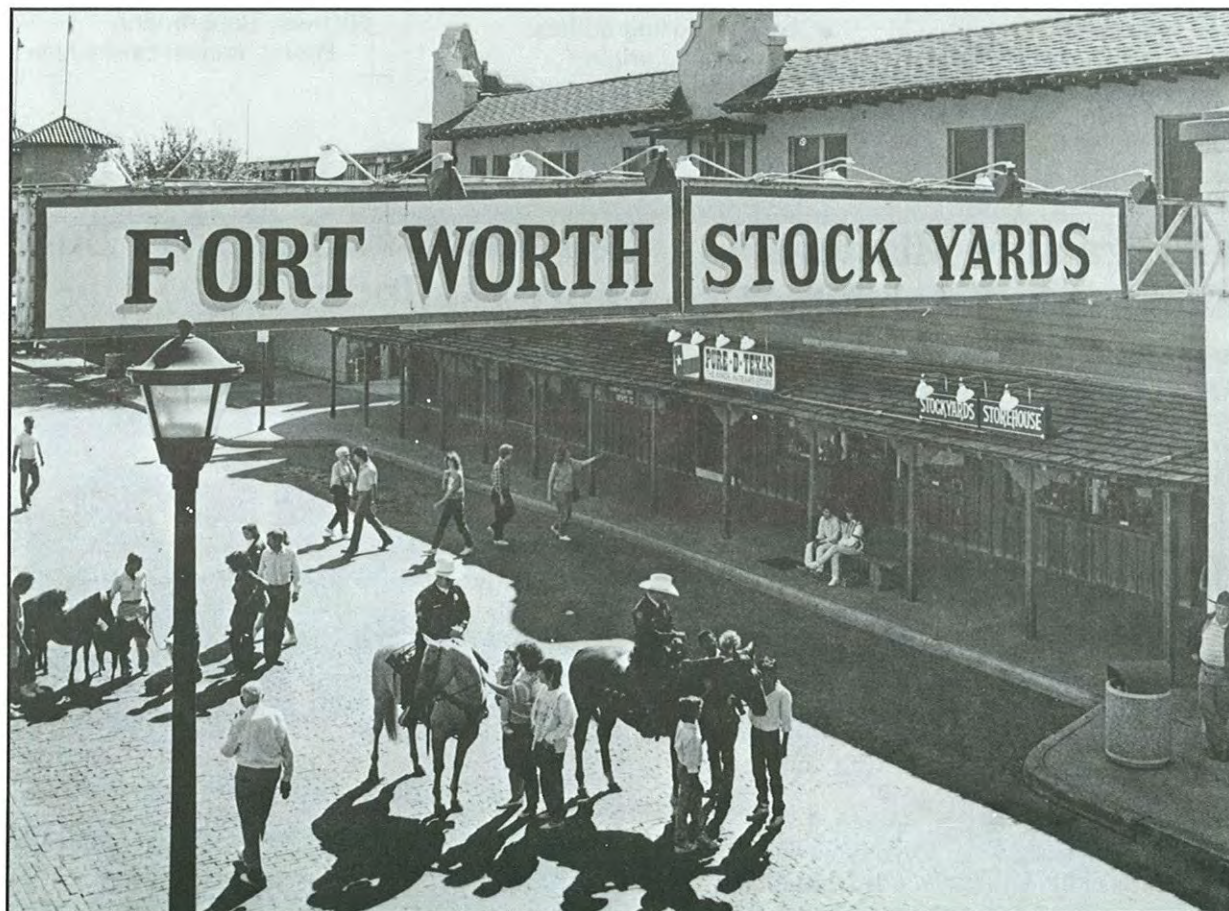
Music for the conference will be coordinated by Danny Baer (NC) and home missionary Cliff Donoho (IL). Dolly Stox (NC) will lead a ladies' forum. Karl Sexton (VA) and Jeff Jones (NC) will coordinate teen activities. Dale Hudson (OK) will present a soul winning and bus ministry seminar.

The following ministers will preach during the conference: Glen Johnson (VA), Jack Lassiter (NC), Ron Helms (MI), John Hollis (IL), Ronnie Adkins (TN), Lonnie Burks (AR), James Carrington (TN) and Rue Dell Smith (AR).

All pastors must pay a \$10 registration fee; no charge for others.

For more information, contact:

Help Build The Fire  
c/o David McGowan  
1750 Baldwin Avenue  
Pontiac, MI 48340  
Church 810/335-6011  
Home 810/338-8781



**"Stock" up on memories while you're in Fort Worth.**



**Harmony FWB Church in Fresno, CA**, reported a growth surge in 1995 with 156 conversions, 63 baptisms, 63 members added and a morning worship average of 300. The church is building a 400-seat auditorium, according to Pastor **James McAllister**.

Some pleasant growing pains at **Turlock FWB Church, Turlock, CA**, sent members in search of a loan to construct a 4,000-square-foot educational building with eight new classrooms. Pastor **Doice McAlister** witnessed conversions nearly every Sunday. Sunday services top 170 with 100 in Wednesday prayer meetings.

Pastor **Joe Govreau** reports 12 conversions at **Concord FWB Church in Concord, CA**. The group averages more than 100 in services.

*Contact* welcomes **Vision**, publication of **Collin Creek FWB Church in Plano, TX**. **Will Harmon** pastors. He writes a column in the paper titled "The Word Alive."

Members of **Greenfield FWB Church in Greenfield, CA**, celebrated their 40th anniversary, according to Pastor **Holt Seawell**. The church began in a Grange hall with 16 charter members. Their first pastor, the late **Rev. Garrett Pusley**, led the church 20 years.

Spring enrollment at **California Christian College in Fresno** jumped from 36 to 60. President **James McAllister** reports 11 ministerial students.

Pastor **Tom Scott** reports 17 new members at **Red Bay FWB Church in Red Bay, AL**.

**Steve Hutchinson**, member of **Donelson FWB Church in Nashville, TN**, received the Air Force Commendation Medal for distinguished service with the 118th Security Police Squadron of the Tennessee Air National Guard. Hutchinson served on security details for 33 Presidential and Vice-Presidential visits. **Robert Morgan** pastors.

Forty members of **New Hope FWB Church in Empire, GA**, dedicated their new 2,010-square-foot fellowship hall. Pastor **Tony Howell** led the seven-

month, \$34,000 construction project. The structure which seats 200 includes a baptistry and kitchen. Georgia executive secretary **Herbert Waid** conducted the dedication.

Members of the **South Georgia Association** Mission Board gathered at **Camden FWB Church in Kingsland, GA**, to dedicate the new church. The church is a mission project sponsored by the association. Pastor **Pete Minor** led the group through the 18-month land purchase and subsequent construction.

"Praise the Lord, it is paid for!" writes Pastor **David Dollar** after the dedication of the new family life center at **White Rock FWB Church in Phenix City, AL**. The church purchased property three years ago, then proceeded with preparation for the \$140,000 project. They now have eight classrooms, pastor's study and a paved parking lot.

Members are busy at **White Oaks FWB Church in Macon, GA**. Pastor **Charles Barnard** reports three new Sunday School classes, a Saturday tract distribution that has already reached 500 homes, a new church sign and new roof.

They beat the \$100,000 challenge at **Townsend FWB Church in Townsend, DE**. Members set that goal to pay off existing debts and have cash to launch a building program. Pastor **Richard Atwood** said that members raised more than \$104,000 in a year-long drive. The group now plans to borrow \$350,000 and build a 12,000-square-foot structure.

Members of **County Line FWB Church in Richton, MS**, honored Pastor **Frank Henderson** for 22 years of service to the community. The church surprised Pastor Henderson with a lunch in his honor, by singing his favorite songs and by giving him a plaque and other gifts.

Pastor **Earl Hendrix** and members of **First FWB Church in Inman, SC**, finally caught their breath after completing a year-long, \$450,000 renovation project. The renovation included construction of an 11,000-square-foot edu-

cational building. Used for Sunday School classes, the facility also houses Inman Christian Academy.

That big fire at **Verdella FWB Church in Liberal, MO**, was good news, according to Pastor **Milan Ruble**. Members burned the mortgage on the parsonage. The 3,000-square-foot, three-bedroom house was erected at a cost of \$63,000. The church paid off the mortgage in 32 months.

When **Jackie Cottingham** died last November, she left instructions that remembered her church. Pastor **Lynn Beck** said that family members presented a \$10,000 check from life insurance funds to **Terrill Road FWB Church in Moberly, MO**. The money will be used in building a new educational facility.

The **Arkansas Master's Men** completed the first Build-A-House Project and sent a \$20,000 check to the national Master's Men Department.

Members of **Calvary FWB Church in Springdale, AR**, presented founding pastor **Noel Easterling** a plaque in appreciation for his work. Current pastor **Clark Snow** reports homecoming attendance at 326, with 12 conversions, eight baptisms and eight new members.

Pastor **Roy Dale Smith** reports 12 new members and a \$2,000 increase in missions giving at **New Home FWB Church in Tulsa, OK**. The church's goal is to add six new families this year and secure someone to lead the visitation program.

Youth from **Blue Point FWB Church in Cisne, IL**, worked two days picking corn in a farmer's field. They then gave the proceeds to a church member who had incurred numerous medical expenses. **Ernie Lewis** pastors. ■

## HOME MISSIONS



## Missionaries Are Making a Difference

By Trymon Messer

I just finished reading some home missionary newsletters. My heart is filled, warmed and moved as I realize that Jesus is still calling and sending forth couples into the asphalt jungle—America's cities of broken hearts, homes and lives. Let me share with you what I have just read.

**"Home Missions is about people,"** says **Gerald Fender, Knoxville, Tennessee.** Son, Darrell, and his best friend, Tyler (from across the street) have played together for a long time. After years of contact, the whole family is now regularly attending church. Gerald says, "Don't ever give up."

**Carlie Lloyd, Madison, Wisconsin,** relates the last words Lucero's Catholic parents told her before she married and left Mexico seven months ago: "If you ever change from the Catholic religion, we will disown you!" But God led Mario and Lucero to Madison and to Brother Lloyd. They have been saved, baptized and are members of the family of God. Some of Mario's family attended the baptismal service. One brother has now been saved, and God is dealing with another brother for salvation. Brother Carlie's calendar has been filled with appointments set aside for home Bible studies.

**Ron MacMillan, Plymouth, Massachusetts,** reports 23 professions of faith, 16 baptisms and 14 new church members. There is great growth in the lives of new Christians. God is putting broken homes back together.

**Jim Mertz, Wentzville, Missouri,** reports that nine adults and young people received Christ as Savior.

**James Childers, Chesnee, South Carolina,** reports a good month of the mission church—averaging 87 attendance in Sunday School, 93 in morning worship, 67 in evening worship, 50 on Wednesday evenings. He also reports two saved, three new church members and several rededications.

**Mark Barber, Aiken, South Carolina,** has a program of *Forty Days and Forty Nights*. Eleven families committed to pray every day and fast one day during the next 40 days. There have already been 13 first-time visitors.

In the Heartland, **Terry VanWinkle, Overland Park, Kansas,** continues to reach new people through outreach efforts, special events and evangelism training.

In the Rockies, **Mark Thomas, Greeley, Colorado,** stated that Eugene and Paula Felipe

were saved. Just a few weeks prior to this, Eugene had slit his wrists, trying to commit suicide. A neighbor called the church and asked for the preacher to visit the family. Our home missionaries are making a difference.

Mark also baptized Steve Betz. Steve and his wife sent invitations to all their lost relatives in town. Several of them came and heard the gospel. Mark says that it is exciting to see people saved and to have salvation prospects all around.

**Jeff Sloan, Fort Wayne, Indiana—**On January 25, Angie McDaniel was saved during a time of visitation. Jeff has been conducting Bible study with Angie and her husband since that time. Since the first of December, this mission church has had 29 first-time visitors. Visitation still works.

**Jerry Rayburn, Sierra Vista, Arizona,** reported the salvation of four souls, along with 11 first-time visitors during January.

**Ken Doggett, Springfield, Illinois,** had two saved and 14 first-time visitors.

**Russell Johnson, Cheyenne, Wyoming,** has three new families attending church and can already see the hand of God working in their lives.

**Danny Keen, Anderson, South Carolina,** reports four new converts.

**Cliff Donoho, Davenport, Iowa,** reports record attendance and two souls saved.

**Russell Wright, Kearneysville, West Virginia,** had four of their church members called home to be with the Lord. "Called home" says a great deal.

**Larry Collins, Omaha, Nebraska,** reported that his son, Jonathan, got into trouble in school during free time. He was singing the song, *God Is So Good*, to himself. The principal told him that it is inappropriate to sing songs about God in school. I say, "Sing on, Jonathan. I'll join you!"

All these victories in the face of real battles. **Darrell Smith, Portland, Oregon,** reports that one of the most promising young men (20 years old/potential preacher/had just been elected as youth minister) was killed in a car accident while on his way to church. Another active member, a young mother, has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Also, the state of Oregon just elected a new United States senator by a 51 percent vote who favors homosexual marriages and abortion.

**Home Missions is about people.** Your prayers and gifts and our home missionaries are making a difference! Pastor, is God calling you? ■

## FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

*Students see missions up close and personal*

By Clint Morgan, Missionary, FWBBC Missions Teacher

"Go & Be" is a summer program designed to offer college students an opportunity to visit a mission field. The purpose is to give each student a better understanding of the global missionary task and to consider his/her role in God's plan, as it relates to this task.

The name was chosen because it expresses in a concise manner the process by which we hope to arrive at our purpose. The students must first "Go" to the field, where they can get more than a book knowledge of the missionary's life and the culture in which he lives. Second, the student will have the opportunity to "Be" involved in the missionary task experientially and will be an up-close observer.

This year we will have 16 FWBBC students going to Cote d'Ivoire for five weeks. They will leave on July 7 and return August 11. The trip will include a 24-hour stop-over in Zurich, where they will do some sightseeing.

The first "Go & Be" Team went out in the summer of 1993. It consisted of nine FWBBC students and their sponsor, Eddie Payne. They all felt that the experience was more meaningful and challenging than they had expected.

"Go & Be" is carefully planned. But there is room for flexibility. The students are basically self-sufficient. They prepare their meals, clean their quarters and wash their clothes. The living conditions are rustic—no running water in their dorms. They will learn survival skills.

The basic plan calls for them to be in class for three hours each morning, Monday through Friday. They will study "The History of Missions in Africa," "Gods of Power: A Study of Animism," and "Christianity and Culture in Conflict."

During the afternoon, they will go on observation excursions. These excursions are guided studies of the differences between American and African cultures. This will include observations about clothes; houses; jobs for men, women, and children; recreation; education; transportation; etc. The outings are preceded by a planning session in which the students will develop the questions they will need to ask in order to obtain the desired information. Each outing is followed by a debriefing designed to pool the information each student has gathered.

During the last two weeks of their stay, after-

noons will be occupied with in-depth research projects covering four important areas of the culture: marriages, funerals, initiation rites, and use of proverbs and fables in presenting the Gospel.

The observation excursions and research projects are done during the afternoon, Tuesday through Friday. Monday afternoon is reserved for labor projects. These include such things as cleaning, painting, making repairs and other such activities. Saturday is reserved for rest and relaxation. Each Sunday we will go out and minister in the churches in the area. Students will have the opportunity to sing, do drama, teach, give their testimonies and participate in a cross-cultural worship service.

We try to maintain a flexibility that allows us to take time off to attend cultural events that would be of value to the students. The first "Go & Be" team attended cultural funerals, the inauguration of a fetish priest, a Christian funeral, a Christian wedding, and a visit with a newly crowned king. These were events we could not have planned, but felt the students needed.

In spite of what it looks like, this program is not all work. They will go on a canoe trip in African canoes and camp on the Black Volta river. A trip is also planned for them to the world's largest basilica, in Cote d'Ivoire. Their stay will end with a trip back to Abidjan, the capital, for some souvenir shopping as well as a visit to some of Africa's finest wood crafters.

It is our hope that these students will have their eyes opened to the real life of the missionary. We want them to better understand life on the mission field and to know what it means to experience the Great Commission up close and outside of the sterile classroom setting.

We are hoping to form a "Go & Be" to go out in the summer of 1997. We will be taking applications in April of this year and begin the process of selection before the end of school in May 1996.

Let me say personally that this program takes a lot of work on behalf of the coordinators, but we feel it has been worth every bit of energy, time, money, and action that we have invested. We are convinced that a program of this nature can set the stage for the future of missions among FWB and we want to play a role in the future of our denominational obedience to the Great Commission. ■





## FREE WILL BAPTIST FOUNDATION

# Foundation Offers College Gift Annuities

By David Brown

The Foundation is happy to announce that we have added a new planned gift opportunity—the college gift annuity. The college gift annuity is a variation of the deferred gift annuity. A college gift annuity is similar to a deferred gift annuity in that the payments are deferred for a specific period of time.

However, they differ in that a deferred gift annuity is paid over a person's lifetime and a college gift annuity is paid over a four-year period. Since the annuity is paid over a four-year period, the normal lifetime payments are compressed producing much larger annual payments.

College gift annuities are a great way for parents and grandparents to help children and grandchildren with college expenses. For example, a parent could purchase a college gift annuity for their three-year-old child today. The annuity would be deferred for 15 years until the child was ready for college. The child would receive compressed payments for a four-year period to help defray the high costs of a college education.

College gift annuities can be funded a variety of ways. An individual could fund the annuity with a series of equal annual payments or with a lump sum at the beginning of the deferred period. It is even possible to fund the annuity with monthly payments to a revocable trust. The balance in the revocable trust accumulates until it meets the minimum (\$1,000) to fund a gift annuity.

College gift annuities provide a number of benefits. The individual who funds the gift annuity receives a handsome tax deduction. The deduction could be as high as 40-50% of the face amount of a gift annuity if it is deferred for at least 15 years. The child receives a benefit that is equal to 113-163% of the face amount of the gift annuity, again assuming a 15-year deferral. Finally, after the child has received his benefit, a Free Will Baptist ministry receives up to the face amount of the original gift annuity.

Perhaps an example with numbers would help to illustrate these benefits further. Let's assume a grandparent wishes to benefit his grandchild. The grandparent places \$15,000 in a college gift annuity for the three-year-old child. The grandparent immediately realizes a tax deduction of \$7,638.

When the child reaches college 15 years later, he will receive a benefit of \$2,966.50 a semester for a total four-year benefit of \$23,732. In addition to all these benefits, a Free Will Baptist ministry chosen by the grandparent will receive the original \$15,000.

In one sense, this single gift of \$15,000 has benefited two people and one ministry a total of \$46,370 as illustrated below.

Tax deduction for the Grandparent . . . . .	\$7,638
College tuition benefit for Grandchild . . . . .	\$23,732
Benefit to chosen Free Will Baptist ministry . .	\$15,000
<b>Total Benefits . . . . .</b>	<b>\$46,370</b>

College gift annuities can be a boost to Free Will Baptist colleges. Through this type gift the parent or grandparent can provide a portion of the funds necessary to send the child to one of our colleges. By also choosing the college to be the beneficiary of the gift annuity, the college can benefit as well.

The Free Will Baptist Foundation specializes in planned gifts that can, in many cases, increase a donor's income and at the same time benefit a chosen Free Will Baptist ministry. Please call or write the Foundation if you are interested in a College Gift Annuity or any other planned gift. ■

## Where Was God at 9:02 A.M.?

By Robin Jones with Sandy Dengler

(Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1995, 276 pp., paperback, \$5.99.)



Thomas Marberry

**I**t was a beautiful spring morning, April 19, 1995. I was in my office on the Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College campus preparing to teach a class when a colleague told me there had been a gigantic explosion a few miles north of us in downtown Oklahoma City. Immediately, I turned on my radio and began listening to the latest news reports.

At first, everyone thought that it was a huge natural gas explosion. Within a few minutes the truth was announced; the real cause was a large truck bomb. The first reports were that it had been set by a group of international terrorists. Only later did we learn that it was the worst case of domestic terrorism in our country's history.

During the remainder of that day and succeeding days, the true extent of the tragedy became apparent. Some 168 people (including two Free Will Baptist laymen) were killed; over 600 were injured.

This book was written by Robin Jones, the manager of a local Christian radio station. She has sought to interpret these momentous events from a Christian perspective and

document the response made by countless pastors, laymen, churches and other religious organizations.

Immediately after the bombing, the entire community responded with a tremendous outpouring of love and support for the families of the dead and the missing, for those who had been injured and their families. Later this outpouring of love and support extended to the teams of rescue workers from all over this country who had the gruesome task of removing the wounded and dead from the ruins of the Murrah building.

Because of the nature of the explosion and the collapse of the front part of the building, many bodies were horribly mangled. It was a most difficult task, and rescue workers benefited from the ministry of volunteer chaplains (including at least one Free Will Baptist).

Churches and individual Christians responded heroically. Churches offered the use of their facilities. Volunteers from area churches helped prepare thousands of meals. Countless acts of kindness were extended to survivors and families of the deceased. Area ministers gave freely of

their time as they sought to meet a multitude of spiritual, emotional and physical needs.

This book is more than a tribute to the Christian community of central Oklahoma; it is a tribute to the power of Almighty God. Without His grace, many would have been overwhelmed.

This work also confronts some basic theological questions which any thinking person will face in times of great tragedy. Where was God? Why did He allow this to happen? These are difficult questions, and there are no easy answers to them. Those who ask such questions should not be regarded as lacking in faith.

The fact is that God was there. He was there when the rescue workers pulled the bodies of 18 small children from the wreckage. He was there with those who suffered in the hospitals. He was there when families were informed of the deaths of their loved ones.

The book closes with these words, "Where was God at 9:02 a.m.? Many Oklahomans answer that question by saying, 'He walked among us.'" ■

### BEYOND BELIEF



# YOUTH UPDATE

## Help Make A "Love Box" for a Needy Child

The *National Youth Conference* in cooperation with *Feed The Children* announces the following project for our summer convention in Ft. Worth, Texas.

*Feed the Children* is asking for help in filling a needy child's life with joy and happiness. Help us make sure deserving children in war-torn Bosnia are not forgotten when it comes to educational materials for improving their lives. *Feed the Children* is also looking for **Love Boxes** to send throughout the year to needy children in America.

Every **Love Box** you donate spreads a message of Christian love and hope to poverty-stricken children. Here's how you can help:

1. Decorate a **Love Box** of your choice (empty shoe box or similar box).
2. Assemble your **Love Box** with new items from the list below.
3. Mark it for either a "Boy" or "Girl," and if you want it sent to Bosnia or the U.S.
4. Leave your **Love Box** unsealed and enclose a note of encouragement and either bring it with you to the National Youth Conference in Ft. Worth, or mail it to:

### "Operation Outreach: Love Box"

National Youth Conference  
114 Bush Road/P.O. Box 17306  
Nashville, TN 37217

5. Optional: If you would like to help further, you may enclose, in a separate envelope, a small donation (suggested \$5 gift per box) to help cover shipping and distribution costs overseas and into needy areas of America.

### *Suggested Gift Items*

- |           |                           |                   |              |
|-----------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| • Pens    | • Small Pencil Sharpeners | • Stickers        | • Bar Soap   |
| • Pencils | • Construction Paper      | • Safety Scissors | • Toothbrush |
| • Crayons | • Ruled Paper             | • Erasers         | • Toothpaste |
| • Rulers  | • Colored Markers         | • Shampoo         | • Comb/Brush |

We have set a goal of **10,000 Love Boxes** to be delivered to the National Youth Conference in Ft. Worth, Texas. We hope you will encourage your Sunday School classes, Children's Church members, youth groups, and others to help us in this exciting project of sharing with those in need. Will you do your part?

## Four To A Bug

**T**wenty-four years ago this July, my wife and I loaded one boy child, one girl child and clothes for 18 days into a 1972 Volkswagen Super Beetle. We drove from California to the national convention in Fort Worth without filing for divorce or dumping the kids at that snake farm in Arizona.

We all had to be on our best behavior, because we sat so close that nobody could get away with anything. But we made it . . . to Fort Worth in 1972, to Macon in 1973, to Wichita in 1974 and to Dayton in 1975. The four of us in a white Bug with no air conditioning. Each day started early, ended late and only slowed down for McDonald burgers and pit stops.

Traveling four to a Bug certainly made life entertaining. We learned all the short cuts. This stuff really works. You might want to try it.

**Plan ahead.** Start today. Make that hotel reservation. Stay in one of the five hotels listed on the housing form and avoid driving miles every day in downtown traffic.

By all means, pre-register. Remember your irritation last year when the 3,500 who did pre-register picked up their convention materials in five minutes while you stood in line for an hour with unhappy campers waiting to register. You vowed to pre-register next year. Guess what? Next year is here.

**Sweat the details.** If you're like me, you have a list of things to do before you can back out the driveway. So, here goes: Buy a road atlas. Notify the post office to hold the mail. Stop the newspaper. Get a haircut. Pay your tithe. Hire a kid to cut the grass. . . .

Pack comfortable walking shoes. Leave the hotel phone number with somebody. Lube the car. Lock the house. Turn off the stove. Remind the kid you hired that he *better* cut the grass. Find someone to teach your

class this Sunday. Toss the kids in the back seat and threaten to sing "Rocky Top" all the way to Fort Worth if they whine before you clear the city limits.

**Remember your manners.** Tip the bellman who carries your luggage and the server who takes your food order. Smile every chance you get. Say "Please" and "Thank you" as well as "Yes, sir" and "No, sir." Wait your turn in line (without complaining).

Speak gently to front desk clerks rushing to get you checked into the hotel. They've probably had a bad day, too. A kind word from you after you've driven 500 miles since breakfast may be just what they need to think there might be something different about those Free Will Baptists.

**Bring the Book.** You'll see other books at the convention. Somebody will hand you one called the *Digest of Reports*. Keep it handy; you'll need it. We'll give you a book called the *Program*. Don't lose it; you might miss something important.

Whatever else you do, be sure to bring the *Book*. That is the Bible. All those other books will be measured by it. Delegates vote in light of what the Bible teaches. Musicians sing the promises in the Bible. Preachers speak from words written in the Bible. So, don't leave home without it!

**Dress your best.** The Lord's work deserves it; so do those who'll rub shoulders with you for the next five days. This is no time to dress down 'n' grubby. Sunday meetin' best is the ticket.

Polish it. Brush it. Iron it. Wash it. Dress like you mean business. If there's one event that's worth your best effort, this is it. You'll be glad you did. Besides, you can always climb into your sweats and 501s on the trip home.

**Act your age.** Here are the sad facts. There are about 150 events scheduled in five days. You can't hear it



Jack Williams

all, see it all, do it all. However, you can do some creative prioritizing. Decide what's nice and what's necessary.

So you're no longer 23. So those 11:00 p.m. tacos and jalapenos feel like 10 miles of bad road at 3:00 a.m. So lighten up and admit that you're no longer Ned Nightowl. Leave midnight caucuses to somebody else. If you've got a 7:00 a.m. meeting, take a rain-check on late night burgers with Iron Belly Whatizname.

**Think safety first** on the road, in the hotel, going to and from convention meetings. Don't give your room number to strangers. Close the door firmly when you leave. Never flash cash. Your badge identifies you as an out-of-towner.

Locate fire exits. Walk with others when you can. Be smart. Stay alert.

**Settle up before** you go home. It happens now and then, someone skips town without paying the hotel. The hotel confronts us; we explain that it's an oversight; the sales manager looks squint-eyed; we assure him that you made an honest mistake.

Be sure that Junior does not wrap his peanut butter and jelly sandwich in a hotel towel and stuff it in the dirty clothes bag. Leave the hotel's towels.

**Now it's your turn.** Whether you're coming with a crowd or traveling solo, the national convention is a memory maker. You may pull your hair today, but you'll laugh till your toes curl when you look back on it all.

Oh, those two kids who spent four Julys in the back seat of a white Bug? The girl child survived and teaches at Free Will Baptist Bible College. And her noisy brother finally got what was coming to him. He's an Alabama youth director who's herding 20 kids to the national convention at Fort Worth.

But probably not in a '72 Volkswagen. ■

CONTACT

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