

JUNE 1997

CONTACT

National Association of Free Will Baptists
61st Annual Convention / July 20-24, 1997
Cincinnati Convention Center / Cincinnati, Ohio

CHURCH

Aflame



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

.....
Convention
Programs

.....
Treasure of Older
Ministers

.....
21st-Century Dads

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Phantom
Appointment

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Come To Cincinnati

The national convention remains the most important event of the year for Free Will Baptists. The five-day convention meets each year in July as attendees from around the world gather to participate in the annual caucus.

The Preparation

Plans for the Cincinnati convention began 10 years ago when delegates voted to accept Ohio's invitation to host the event. The Ohio State Association appointed a steering committee to assist national personnel. That committee met three times—September 1996, January 1997 and May 1997—to prepare for the convention.

The Executive Committee met in December 1996 to plan the program and select speakers. Printed materials were prepared by the coordinators.

No national convention just happens. Long hours of planning are required to get ready. The full preparation time for each convention covers a 10-year period from the vote to go to the actual event.

The Purpose

Why do we have this annual gathering of Free Will Baptists? Some believe the national convention is a time for revival. Others consider it a time for workshops which address social, political and ecclesiastical issues. Others point to it as a time for fellowship. While all these are good reasons for meeting, they do not capture the focus of the convention.

The national convention is the annual business meeting of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

One purpose of the convention is to provide *information* regarding the operation of national agencies. This information is printed in the *Digest of Reports*. The report of each agency

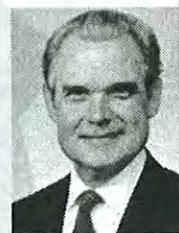
includes the director's report, audit, proposed budget and any recommendations. The reports are reviewed, budgets analyzed and board members elected.

Another purpose of the convention is *inventory*. Each agency is accountable to the National Association. The convention is a time when agencies face denominational accountability and the intense scrutiny of delegates. It is a special time to evaluate how well each agency is doing.

Another purpose of the convention is *inspiration*. Convention business sessions can be a time of inspiration and encouragement. It's sad when national business sessions are viewed as a necessary evil. The fact is that somebody must take care of business.

Increased giving, new churches, baptisms, membership growth, creative programs for evangelism, education and evangelism all provide inspiration to continue denominational work with enthusiasm. Attendance at the national convention gave me the impetus to stay involved in denominational work as a pastor. It was always the highlight of my year.

In spite of the demands of planning the convention now, I still have not lost the wonder of this annual Free Will Baptist gathering. I encourage the



Melvin Worthington

young pastor or layman who wants to enjoy denominational life to give priority to the national convention. It will do for you what nothing else will.

The Participants

The national convention is three conventions meeting simultaneously. The National Youth Conference, Women Nationally Active For Christ and the National Convention provide opportunities for every member of the family.

There's something for everyone. Workshops, banquets, seminars, preaching, singing, sight-seeing in the host city and more make it an ideal time to bring the family and spend the week with fellow Free Will Baptists.

The Profit

One benefit of attending the national convention is the *fellowship*. Those who regularly attend visit with friends they have not seen for a year. They attend the services, sing the songs, eat in restaurants and stay up late enjoying the fellowship.

Another benefit is the *friendships*. Life-long friendships are made and maintained at the annual convention. We develop friendships with those who live in various parts of the world. It broadens our concepts and circle of friends.

Another benefit of the national convention is *feasting*. The services give priority to preaching and singing. Sitting under the preaching of the Word of God is an enriching experience. Singing the great songs of faith stirs the soul.

Plan to attend the 61st annual convention in Cincinnati. You don't want to miss the excitement and the inspiration. Everything has been planned with you in mind. We need your voice, your vote and your vision. ■

The Secretary's Schedule

June 1997

- 1 First FWB Church
New Durham, NH
- 2-3 North Carolina State Association
- 3-4 Missouri State Association
- 4-5 Texas State Meeting
- 5-7 California State Association
- 12-13 Virginia State Association
- 19-20 Maryland State Meeting
- 20-21 Kentucky State Association
- 27-28 Ohio State Association
- 26-29 Atlantic Canada District Association



The Treasure of Older Ministers

By Thurmon Murphy

We Texans know something of older ministers. But then, judging from the number of white-haired men we see at our annual national convention, so do you. No room for Texas brag here.

We have 48 churches in our state association. A recent survey of our ministers indicates that the average age of our pastors is 57 and that 78% of them are over 50. A full one-third of them are 65 or older. Nearly a dozen of our active ministers are in their 70s. According to the survey, only two of our pastors are in their 20s.

Great Example

Our older ministers are like a national treasure to us, a denominational fortune if you will, because of

the contributions they still make to the Lord's work. For one thing, they serve as great examples to us. When they were younger and just entering the ministry, they were more willing than today's counterparts to begin at entry level positions.

Many of today's young prophets, just coming out of Bible college or seminary, expect full-time pastorates with complete salary packages. Yesterday's generation of men of God were more willing to enter the ministry wherever they felt there was a need, usually with little or no regard for salary.

Whether they were bi-vocational or full time, money was not the issue with them. Ministry was. It was that way because they were more inclined to view the ministry as a calling, rather than a vocation or career.

It's nice to have some of them around today, showing us would-be Jeremiahs what it means to be servants of God and of His people.

Source of Wisdom

Wisdom is not always an easy acquisition. Much of the good stuff comes from experience, and that's where the older ministers are a valuable asset. They've climbed some mountains for us. They've been through the battles. They've lived through the good years and survived the lean ones.

They've seen changes. They learned how to preach the unchanging message in an ever-changing world. During these days when it seems that all the moorings have come loose, they can steady us as

we sail through stormy seas—if we'll listen to them.

The world will keep changing and we'll keep changing, too, or we will become relics of the past, just another piece of history. But as we younger pastors sail ahead into the unknown future, it is a comfort to know that older ministers are standing right behind us, with a hand on our shoulder. They are more valuable than a frontier scout leading a wagon train across the deserts of West Texas.

Faithful Workers

There is sometimes a difference in the work ethic of older and younger ministers. Perhaps being born before the Great Depression, and living through it, had something to do with that. Whatever it was, something put iron in their souls.

Even though the years slowed them down, many of our older ministers are still finding an active place of service. Maybe it's because the fire still burns in their bones. Maybe it's because there is a desperate need for warm bodies in our pulpits. Probably it's a lot of both.

Clarence Hearron

We're fortunate in Texas to have a number of older ministers who are still active and making valuable contributions to the work. Here are a few examples. Clarence J. Hearron (74), former dean of Hillsdale FWB College, serves as part-time director of Christian education at the Cornerstone FWB Church in Denison. He often fills the pulpit for Pastor Jerry McArthur.

Roy Norie

Roy Norie (74) lives in Wichita Falls and pastors the 105-year-old New Salem FWB Church in Decatur, 80 miles away. The weekend trips seem longer and longer, but he keeps going.

Luther Sanders

Luther Sanders (75), retired home missionary to Hawaii, now living in College Station, recently went to North Zulch, Texas, reopened the church there, which had closed, and is successfully pastoring it. Without him, the church doors would still be shut.

Herbert Richards

Herbert Richards (77) is supply preaching at a nearby church while they are seeking a pastor. This elderly pastor and educator has a lot to offer.

Allen Moore

One of the younger of our older ministers is 67-year-old Allen Moore. Brother Moore pastored in Texas for years, served the state as moderator and later as executive secretary, and served a term on the denomination's Foreign Missions Board. He was forced to retire after several heart problems. Now feeling better, he came out of retirement to pastor the Buncombe FWB Church in East Texas. The church is experiencing good growth and glad to have a pastor.

Fielding, Gill, Hughes

Elvis Fielding (71), Bob Gill (71) and Burton Hughes (73) are all pastoring churches which might otherwise be closed if it were not for their willingness to remain in the pulpit.

Barger, Ferguson, Hellard

Owen Barger (82) retired only last year from the pastorate but remains active. A. F. Ferguson (87) and Everett Hellard (73) continue to be an inspiration and encouragement to their churches and pastors, making themselves available and useful in positive ways.

Investing the Treasure

The Bible says a great deal about preachers dying, being martyred, even backsliding, but not much about them retiring. That's not to say that retirement for ministers is wrong. But whether retired or not, ministers who are 65 or older can still serve effectively. They are a treasure! trove of possibilities for ministry.

Many of them can sing, write, organize and lead. All of them should be able to preach, teach, encourage and counsel. They can lend their expertise to youth camps, colleges, associations, Sunday Schools, boards and other church and denominational enterprises.

With American's general population aging, most older ministers would be perfect for heading up a seniors ministry in a church.

A few of them, who have good health and a retirement income, could move to remote areas and make an especially valuable contribution to the Free Will Baptist movement by pastoring churches which have vacant pulpits.

Yes, older ministers are a treasure. I hope to be one myself some day. ■



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ABOUT THE WRITER: Pastor Thurmon Murphy (55) wears several hats. He leads First Free Will Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, Texas. He also serves as clerk and executive secretary for the Texas State Association, and as Texas' General Board member to the National Association.



21st-Century Fathers

By David Taylor

Fatherhood is not new. Ever since the first dad (Adam), fathers have been the backbone of home and society: breadwinner, teacher disciplinarian, handyman, trailblazer, civic leader, the one who always knows what to do. There have been some good fathers who made great role models, and some really awful ones no one should follow.

Fathers have collected knowledge, experience, wisdom and advice for generations. Still, fathers today have it no easier than did Adam. No matter how much preparation a man makes, he begins as a novice. He's a rookie.

Oh sure, we plan it all out, but when we bring that little bundle of joy home, fatherhood takes on a whole new meaning. Excitement gives way to a million questions and gnawing uncertainty. Our minds get muddled as we sort through all the stuff we've

heard, we've read, and we've said.

Fatherhood is mostly a matter of on-the-job training where we try to keep our mistakes to a minimum.

How Heaven Helps Dads

But is raising children really any different today than it was yesterday? Will raising kids in the next century require different parental skills than those used by past generations? What kind of man will the 21st-century father need to be?

Scripture does not list, like the Ten Commandments, a neat little package of fatherhood do's and don'ts for us. But advice, instruction and wisdom abound in God's Word.

Paul said to fathers in the Ephesian church, . . . "do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord," (Ephesians 6:4, NKJV).

Solomon tells us that loving disci-

pline develops good character, and a well-disciplined child brings honor, not shame, to a family (Proverbs 13:24; 22:6, 15; 23:13-14; 29:15, 17).

Moses instructed fathers to "diligently" teach God's Word to their children on a daily basis (Deuteronomy 6:6-9).

The basic requirements of a good father remain constant: godliness, love, truth, availability, biblical principles, honesty, common sense, fairness. As we move into the next century, the importance of these qualities will only increase.

Culture Says vs. God Says

Much of what we consider a father's responsibility (and a mother's) in raising children is cultural; our father did it that way, his father did it and so on. While that's not all bad, a danger exists in allowing culture alone to

(continued on Back Cover)

The National Association of Free Will Baptists

61st Annual Session / July 20-24, 1997

**Cincinnati Convention Center
Cincinnati, Ohio**



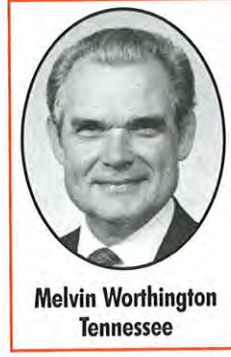
Robert Prichard
Ohio



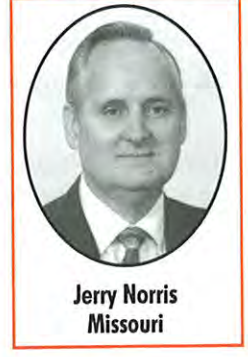
Matthew Upton
California



Earl Hendrix
South Carolina



Melvin Worthington
Tennessee



Jerry Norris
Missouri

Theme: "Church Aflame"

Moderator: Carl Cheshier
Music Coordinator: Randy Sawyer
Organist: Carol Reid
Planist: Jamie Patrick
Keyboardist: Jerry Carraway
Orchestra Conductor: Chris Truett
Registration Coordinator: George Harvey, Jr.
Headquarters Hotel: Hyatt Regency Cincinnati
Convention Office: Hall A - Show Office

SUNDAY MORNING / July 20

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL (Adults)	Convention Center Hall-B
	Presiding: Glen Johnson Song Service: Chris Truett Music: Jim Turnbough Family Adult Teacher: Bill E. Sawyer	
10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL (Youth)	Convention Center
	Pre-School (ages 3-5) Rooms 204/210 Children's Class (Grades 1-3) Rooms 201/213 Tweeners Class (Grades 4-6) Rooms 203/211 Teen Class Regal Hotel/Grand Ballroom	
10:45	Intermission	
11:00-12:00	MORNING WORSHIP (Adults)	Convention Center Hall-B
	Presiding: Glen Johnson Song Service: Chris Truett Music: Bill Gardner Family Offertory: Jim Turnbough Family Music: Bill Gardner Message: Robert L. Prichard	

11:00-12:00	MORNING WORSHIP (Youth)	Convention Center
	Pre-School (ages 3-5) Rooms 204/210 Children's Church (grades 1-3) Rooms 201/213 Tweeners Church (grades 4-6) Rooms 203/211 Teen Church Regal Hotel/Grand Ballroom	

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 20

1:00	Early Registration (Pre-registered only)	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
1:30	Registration Orientation	Convention Center Coat Check - A
2:00-4:30	WNAC Executive Committee Meeting	Omni Hotel Salon - A
3:00	REGISTRATION for National Convention, WNAC and NYC	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
5:00	Usher Orientation	Convention Center Coat Check - B
5:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B

SUNDAY EVENING / July 20

6:55	Special Music: Instrumentalists	Convention Center Hall - B
7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Hall - B
	Presiding: Nathan Ruble Song Service: Kevin Justice	

Music: The Morlans
 Offertory: Curt and Becky Gwartney
 Solo: Tammy Taylor
 MESSAGE: Matthew L. Upton

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
8:30	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
8:45-10:00	Home Missions Reception (Missionaries Only)	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom F-G
9:00-10:00	NYC Judges' Reception	Regal Hotel Colonnade Room
9:00-11:00	NYC Activities (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
9:15	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B

MONDAY MORNING / July 21

7:00	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
7:30	General Board Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Buckeye - B
8:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
8:30	NYC Assemblies (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
9:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
9:00-10:30	Foreign Missionary Orientation (For Exhibit Schedule)	Convention Center Coat Check - B
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Hyatt Regency Bluegrass - B
9:00-12:00	GENERAL BOARD CONVENES	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom A-B-C
10:00-12:00	NYC Seminars (See NYC Program)	Convention Center

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 21

1:00	NYC Seminars / Activities (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
1:30	General Board Reconvenes	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom A-B-C
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar (See WNAC Program)	Hyatt Regency Pavillon Room
3:00	Exhibit Area Opens	Convention Center Hall - A
3:00-4:00	WNAC State Leaders Meeting (See WNAC Program)	Hyatt Regency Pavillon Room
3:00-5:00	Home Missions Church Growth Conference Speaker: Richard Adams	Convention Center Hall - B

3:30-4:30	Fellowship of Encouragement Meeting / Speaker: Knute Larson	Convention Center Rooms 262-263
4:45-6:30	Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner Speaker: Knute Larson	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom D-E-F-G
5:00-6:30	Children's Banquet	Regal Hotel Bronze Ballroom-A
5:00-6:30	Tweeners' Banquet	Regal Hotel Bronze Ballroom-B
5:15-6:30	Benjamin Randall Appreciation Dinner (by invitation only)	Convention Center Rooms 235-236
6:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B

MONDAY EVENING / July 21

6:55	Special Music: Matt Schinske/Master's Peace Quartet	
7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Convention Center Hall - B
	Presiding: Jack Richey Song Service: Scott Bullman Session Called to Order and Moderator Introduced: Waldo Young, Clerk Appointment of Committee on Committees: Carl Cheshier, Moderator Welcome to Cincinnati: Edwin Hayes Executive Secretary, Ohio State Association Mass Adult Choir: Doug Little, Director Offertory: Convention Ensemble Music: Convention Ensemble MESSAGE: Earl Hendrix	

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall - A
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
9:00-10:00	Board of Retirement Information Meeting	Hyatt Regency Bluegrass - B
9:00-10:30	NYC Activities (See NYC Program)	Convention Center
9:00-10:30	Youth Workers Reception	Regal Hotel Colonnade Room
9:15	Combined College Groups Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

TUESDAY MORNING / July 22

7:00	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
7:30-8:30	State Promotional Personnel Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Keystone Room
8:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby

8:15	NYC Seminars/Activities (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
8:30-12:00	Church Growth Forum Presiding: Tim York 8:30 Speaker: Richard Atwood 9:30 Speaker: Ronnie Adkins 10:30 Speaker: Connie D. Cariker	Omni Hotel Pavillon Caprice
9:00	WOMEN NATIONALLY ACTIVE FOR CHRIST (See WNAC Program) Presiding: Everyl Getz	Convention Center Hall - B
9:00	Master's Men Board Meeting	Hyatt Regency Board of Governors Room
10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall - A
11:10	WNAC Missionary Service Speaker: Jeff Crabtree	Convention Center Hall - B

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 22

12:00-1:30	Hillsdale FWB College Lunch	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom F-G
1:00	NYC Seminars / Activities (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
1:30	WNAC Reconvenes (See WNAC Program)	Convention Center Hall - B
1:30-4:00	Theological Trends Seminar Speaker: Leroy Forlines Subject: "Commission Report on Promise Keepers"	Omni Hotel Pavillon Room
1:30-3:00	Sunday School Workshop Speaker: Alton Loveless Subject: "Newer Faces in Sunday School"	Regal Hotel Bronze Ballroom - B
3:00-4:30	Sunday School Workshop Speaker: Alton Loveless Subject: "Trends that Affect the American Church"	Regal Hotel Bronze Ballroom - B
4:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
5:00	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
5:00-6:45	WNAC Fellowship Dinner Speaker: Mary R. Wisheart	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom A-B-C-D
5:30	Combined College Groups Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B

TUESDAY EVENING / July 22

6:55	Special Music: Instrumentalists	Convention Center Hall - B
7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE Presiding: David Joslin Song Service: Vernon Whaley Reading of Scripture Song of Praise: Hillsdale FWB College Song of Praise: Free Will Baptist Bible College Offering: David Joslin Offertery: California Christian College	Convention Center Hall - B

Song of Praise: Southeastern FWB College
Song of Praise: Combined College Groups
MESSAGE: Melvin Worthington

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES (See NYC Program)	Convention Center Regal Hotel
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall - A
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
9:00-11:00	NYC Activities (See NYC Program)	Convention Center
9:00-11:00	Youth Banquet	Convention Center Ballroom A-B
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 23

7:00	Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
7:00-8:30	Music Fellowship Breakfast	Regal Hotel Colonnade Room
7:30	State Leaders Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Bluegrass - B
8:00-11:00	NYC Competitive Finals (Bible Competition)	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
8:00-12:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
9:00-11:45	CONVENTION BUSINESS SESSION Moderator's Message: Carl Cheshier Report of Credentials Committee and Seating of Delegates Partial Report of General Board Partial Report of Nominating Committee	Convention Center Hall - B
	REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS (Board members elected at conclusion of each report.) Executive Office: Melvin Worthington Free Will Baptist Bible College: Tom Malone Foreign Missions: Eugene Waddell Sunday School and Church Training: Alton Loveless Home Missions: Trymon Messer	
10:00	NYC Seminars (See NYC Program)	Convention Center
10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall - A
12:00-1:00	NYC Awards Ceremony (See NYC Program)	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
12:00 Noon	REGISTRATION CLOSES	

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 23

12:00-1:15	Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom A-B-C
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1:00	NYC Seminars / Activities (See NYC Program)	Convention Center
1:30-3:00	Choral Clinic	Hyatt Regency Buckeye A-B
1:30	CONVENTION BUSINESS RECONVENES Scripture Reading and Prayer Assistant Moderator: Tim York	Convention Center Hall - B
1:35	REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS (continued) Master's Men: James Vallance Board of Retirement: William Evans Free Will Baptist Foundation: William Evans Commission for Theological Integrity: Leroy Fortlines Radio-Television Commission: Steve Faison Music Commission: Randy Sawyer Historical Commission: Mary Wisheart	
3:30	General Board Final Report Partial Report of Nominating Committee Election of General Board Members	Convention Center Hall - B
4:00	Business Session Recessed	
4:00	Men's Chorale Rehearsal (Or immediately following business session)	Convention Center Hall - B
4:45	Master's Men Dinner Speaker: LaVerne D. Miley	Regal Hotel Bronze Ballroom-A
5:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B
6:00	Music Rehearsal	Convention Center Hall - B

WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 23

6:55	Special Music: Sweeter Rain Trio	
7:00-9:00	WORSHIP SERVICE Presiding: Gene Norris Song Service: Greg Ketteiman	Convention Center Hall - B

NYC Program (continued from page 13)

11:00-12:00	LightSource <i>Youth</i> Finding God's Will for Your Life <i>Youth Workers</i> Using Computers in Youth Ministry	Convention Center Rooms 235/236 Room 241
12:00-1:00	NYC Awards Ceremony (Creative Arts & Creative Writing)	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 23

1:00-2:00	LightSource <i>Children's Workers</i> Twenty-Five Tips to Keep Your Kids' Attention <i>Children</i> Children's Choir Workshop <i>Youth Workers</i> Making the Most of a Limited Budget	Convention Center Rooms 235/236 Room 233 Room 241
2:00-3:00	LightSource <i>Youth Workers</i> Area Youth Network! Why? How?	Convention Center Room 241

Recognition of Missionaries: Trymon Messer/Eugene Waddell
Men's Chorale: Dick Martin, Director
Missions Offering: Gene Norris
Offertory: Orchestra
Music: Oneida and Jeff Martin
MESSAGE: Jerry L. Norris

8:30-10:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall - A
9:00-11:00	NYC Awards Ceremony	Convention Center Hall - B
10:00	Exhibit Area Closed	

THURSDAY MORNING / July 24

7:00-8:00	Presidents Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Board of Governors Room
7:30-9:00	Sunday School Board Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Keystone Room
9:00	Exhibit Area Open	Convention Center Hall - A
9:00	CONCLUDING BUSINESS SESSION Scripture Reading and Prayer Assistant Clerk: Keith Burden NYC Report: Dean Jones WNAC Report: Mary R. Wisheart	Convention Center Hall - B
	Report of Committees: — Registration Committee — Budget Committee — Obituary Committee — Resolutions Committee Nominating Committee Final Report Election of General Officers	
11:45	Adjournment	
12:15	Exhibits Closed (30 minutes after convention adjournment) ■	

2:00-5:00	SPOTLIGHT CINCINNATI	Convention Center Room 206
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WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 23

7:00-8:30	Combined Evening Worship	Convention Center Hall - B
8:50-9:00	Children's Choir Presentation	Convention Center Hall - B
9:00-11:00	NYC Awards Ceremony (Bible/Music/Oral Communications)	Convention Center Hall - B

This program is subject to change!

National Youth Conference

30th Annual Conference / July 20-24, 1997

Cincinnati Convention Center

Cincinnati, Ohio

Theme: "Walk in the Light of the Lord"
Conference Director: Dean Jones
Conference Coordinator: Eric Thomsen
Children's Coordinator: Lisa Jones
Conference Office Manager: Renee Pointer
Conference Registration Coordinator: Jill Pointer
Youth Service Music Coordinator: Donald Myers
NYC Headquarters Hotel: Regal Cincinnati
NYC Office: Convention Center / Coat Check 2nd Level
Practice Room: Convention Center / Rooms 238-239
NYC Storage: Convention Center / Room 208
NYC Prayer Room: Convention Center / Room 237
 (NYC operates under the auspices of the Sunday School and Church Training Department.)



Dean Jones



Eric Thomsen

SUNDAY MORNING / July 20

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	Preschool Class (Ages 3-5)	Convention Center Rooms 204/210
	Children's Class (Grades 1-3)	Convention Center Rooms 201/213
	Tweener Class (Grades 4-6)	Convention Center Rooms 203/211
	Teen Class Teacher: Jeff Jones	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
10:45	Intermission	
11:00-12:00	MORNING WORSHIP	
	Preschool Worship (Ages 3-5)	Convention Center Rooms 204/210
	Children's Worship (Grades 1-3)	Convention Center Rooms 201/213
	Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6)	Convention Center Rooms 203/211
	Teen Worship Speaker: Brian Williams	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 20

12:15	NYC Personnel Luncheon	Regal Hotel Colonnade Room
3:00	Registration	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
4:00	Turning Point / Horizon Pre-test Session #1	Convention Center Rooms 205/207
4:00	SPOTLIGHT CINCINNATI Orientation	Convention Center Room 206

5:00 YET Showcase

Regal Hotel
Grand Ballroom

SUNDAY EVENING / July 20

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	
	Preschool Worship (Ages 3-5)	Convention Center Rooms 204/210
	Children's Worship (Grades 1-3)	Convention Center Rooms 201/213
	Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6)	Convention Center Rooms 203/211
	Teen Worship Speaker: Jeff Dunn	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
9:00-10:00	NYC Judges Reception	Regal Hotel Colonnade Room
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities	Regal Hotel Bronze - A
9:00-10:00	Tweener Activities	Regal Hotel Bronze - B
9:00-11:00	Strobe Light Station (Open for grades 7-12)	Convention Center Rooms 202/212

MONDAY MORNING / July 21

8:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
8:00-5:00	Art Gallery Open	Regal Hotel Atrium
8:00-6:30	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Regal Hotel 2nd Level Concourse

8:30 NYC Assemblies (Required of ALL Competitors and Coaches)
 Music and Arts Assembly Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
 Bible Bowl Convention Center Rooms 232/242
 Bible Tic-Tac-Toe Convention Center Rooms 231/243
 Sword Drill/Memorization Convention Center Rooms 230/244

9:00 NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES
 Music and Arts Section 1 Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
 Music and Arts Section 2 Convention Center Rooms 203/211
 Music and Arts Section 3 Convention Center Rooms 201/213
 Music and Arts Section 4 Convention Center Rooms 200/214
 Bible Bowl Convention Center Rooms 232/242
 Bible Tic-Tac-Toe Convention Center Rooms 231/243
 Bible Sword Drill Grade 4 Convention Center Rooms 230/244

9:00 SPOTLIGHT Cincinnati Orientation Convention Center Room 206

10:00 Bible Memorization Grade 1 Convention Center Rooms 230/244

10:00-11:00 **LightSource** Convention Center
Youth Ten Ways to Keep Your Youth Minister from Losing His Mind Room 240

Youth/Adults Fifteen Ways to Get Your Young People Involved (Starting Today) Rooms 235/236

Children Tiny Talks Speaker: Rob Morgan Room 233

Youth Workers Teaching Teens to Witness Speaker: John Murray Room 241

Children's Workers Bringing Puppets to Life in Your Church Speaker: Kathy Douglas and Family Room 234

10:00-12:00 SPOTLIGHT CINCINNATI Convention Center Room 206

11:00-12:00 **LightSource** Convention Center
Youth Dealing with Divorce Room 240

Children Where the Wild Things Are Cincinnati Zoo Presentation Room 233

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 21

1:00 NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES
 Music and Arts Section 5 Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
 Music and Arts Section 6 Convention Center Rooms 203/211
 Music and Arts Section 7 Convention Center Rooms 201/213
 Music and Arts Section 8 Convention Center Rooms 200/214
 Bible Bowl Convention Center Rooms 232/242

Bible Tic-Tac-Toe Convention Center Rooms 231/243

Bible Sword Drill Grade 5 Convention Center Rooms 230/244

1:00-2:00 **LightSource** Convention Center
Youth Developing a Successful Small Church Drama Ministry I Speaker: Tina Tolbert Room 240

Children Children's Choir Workshop Room 233

Youth Workers Keeping Church Sports in Perspective Speaker: Kevin Justice Room 241

1:00-3:00 Strobe Light Station Convention Center Rooms 202/212

2:00-3:00 **LightSource** Convention Center
Children's Workers Special Seminar: Recognizing the Signs of Abuse (2:00-4:00) American Red Cross Cincinnati Chapter Room 241

Children Twenty Things I Can Do to Please God Speaker: Sally Harrison Room 233

2:00 Bible Memorization Grade 2 Convention Center Rooms 230/244

2:00-5:00 SPOTLIGHT CINCINNATI Convention Center Room 206

3:30-4:30 Turning Point/Horizon Pre-Test Session #2 Convention Center Rooms 205/207

5:00 YET Showcase National YET Team Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom

5:00-6:30 Children's Banquet Regal Hotel Bronze - A

5:00-6:30 Tweeners' Banquet Regal Hotel Bronze - B

MONDAY EVENING / July 21

7:00-8:30 **NYC WORSHIP SERVICES**

Preschool Worship (Ages 3-5) Convention Center Rooms 204/210

Children's Worship (Grades 1-3) Convention Center Rooms 201/213

Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6) Convention Center Rooms 203/211

Teen Worship Speaker: Mark Stripling Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom

8:30-10:00 Registration Continues Convention Center Elm Street Lobby

8:30-10:00 NYC Exhibit Area Open Regal Hotel 2nd Level Concourse

9:00-10:30 **LightSource** Concert Convention Center Rooms 200/214

9:00-10:30 Youth Workers Reception Regal Hotel Colonnade Room

9:00-10:30 Strobe Light Station (Open for grades 1-6) Convention Center Rooms 202/212

TUESDAY MORNING / July 22

8:00 Registration Continues Convention Center Elm Street Concourse

8:00-5:00	Art Gallery	Regal Hotel Atrium
8:00-6:30	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Regal Hotel 2nd Level Concourse
8:15	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES Music and Arts Section 9	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
	Music and Arts Section 10	Convention Center Rooms 203/211
	Music and Arts Section 11	Convention Center Rooms 201/213
	Music and Arts Section 12	Regal Hotel Bronze - A
	Bible Sword Drill Grade 6	Convention Center Rooms 230/244
	Bible Tic-Tac-Toe	Convention Center Rooms 231/243
9:00-12:00	Turning Point / Horizon Playoff Rounds	Convention Center Rooms 205/207
9:30	Bible Memorization Grade 3	Convention Center Rooms 230/244
10:00-11:00	LightSource	Convention Center
<i>Youth</i>	Cross Cultural Outreach on Your High School Campus Speaker: <i>Eddie Payne</i>	Room 240
<i>Youth/Adults</i>	Missions Mania Speaker: <i>Tina Tolbert</i>	Rooms 235/236
<i>Children</i>	Plenty of Projects to Please My Pastor Speaker: <i>Sally Harrison</i>	Room 233
<i>Youth Workers</i>	Teaching Troubled Teens	Room 241
10:00-12:00	SPOTLIGHT CINCINNATI	Convention Center Room 206
11:00-12:00	LightSource	Convention Center
<i>Youth</i>	Real Fun in a Real World Speaker: <i>Brian Hurst</i>	Room 240
<i>Children</i>	Puppet Fun	Room 233

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 22

1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES Music and Arts Section 13	Regal Hotel Bronze - A
	Music and Arts Section 14	Convention Center Rooms 203/211
1:00-2:00	LightSource	Convention Center
<i>Youth/Adults</i>	Teaching Kids to Memorize and Use Scripture Speaker: <i>Neal D. Thomsen</i>	Room 240
<i>Children</i>	Children's Choir Workshop	Room 233
<i>Youth/Adults</i>	Developing a Successful Small Church Drama Ministry II Speaker: <i>Tina Tolbert</i>	Room 241
<i>Youth Workers</i>	Impacting Kids Through One On One Ministry Speaker: <i>Michael J. Hollifield</i>	Rooms 235-236
1:00-4:00	Strobe Light Station	Convention Center Rooms 202/212
2:00-3:00	LightSource	Convention Center
<i>Youth Workers</i>	Leading Your Teens in Worship Speaker: <i>Donald Myers</i>	Rooms 235/236
2:00-4:00	SPOTLIGHT CINCINNATI	Convention Center Room 206

3:15	Truth & Peace Reunion	Convention Center Room 206
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TUESDAY EVENING / July 22

7:00-8:30	NYC WORSHIP SERVICES	
	Preschool Worship (Ages 3-5)	Convention Center Rooms 204/210
	Children's Worship (Grades 1-3)	Convention Center Rooms 201/213
	Tweener Worship (Grades 4-6)	Convention Center Rooms 203/211
	Teen Worship Speaker: <i>Kenny Simpson</i>	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
8:30-10:00	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Regal Hotel 2nd Level Concourse
9:00-10:00	Children's Activities	Convention Center Rooms 232/242
9:00-10:00	Tweener Activities	Convention Center Rooms 231/243
9:00-11:00	Youth Banquet	Convention Center Ballroom A/B
9:00-11:00	Strobe Light Station	Convention Center Rooms 202/212

WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 23

8:00	Registration Continues	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby
8:00-12:00	Art Gallery	Regal Hotel Atrium
8:00-5:00	NYC Exhibit Area Open	Regal Hotel 2nd Level Concourse
8:15-11:00	Final Bible Competition <i>(In Chronological Order)</i> Bible Tic-Tac-Toe Bible Memorization Bible Sword Drill Bible Bowl	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom
10:00-11:00	LightSource	Convention Center
<i>Youth</i>	Wearing Your Witness Everywhere Speakers: <i>Riley Kern, Emily Wood</i>	Room 240
<i>Youth Workers</i>	How to Get What You Need for Youth Ministry Speaker: <i>Tim Lewis</i>	Rooms 235/236
<i>Children's Workers</i>	Creativity in the Church Classroom Speaker: <i>Suzanne Harris</i>	Room 233
<i>Youth Workers</i>	Teaching Our Teens to Think Speaker: <i>Brad Sneed</i>	Room 244
10:00-12:00	SPOTLIGHT CINCINNATI	Convention Center Room 206
11:00-12:00	Turning Point / Horizon Final Competition	Regal Hotel Grand Ballroom

(continued on page 10)

Women Nationally Active for Christ

62nd Annual Session / July 21-22, 1997

Cincinnati Convention Center

Cincinnati, Ohio

Theme: "Expanding Knowledge"
Scripture: II Timothy 2:15
Hymn: "Open My Eyes That I May See"
Music Coordinator: Clara Widdig
Organist: Brenda Collins
Pianist: Deena Armstrong



Mary Wisheart
Tennessee



Everyl Getz
Texas



Jeff Crabtree
Canada

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 20

1:30	Registration Orientation	Convention Center Coat Check - A
2:00-4:30	WNAC Executive Committee Meeting	Omni Hotel Salon - A
3:00	Registration	Convention Center Elm Street Lobby

MONDAY MORNING / July 21

9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Hyatt Regency Bluegrass - B
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MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 21

1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar Theme: <i>The Importance of Study</i> Presiding: Everyl Getz Speaker: Lorene Miley Subject: Challenge to Study the Bible Speaker: Debe Taylor Subject: How to Study the Bible Book Reviews: Carol Reid Dawn Sweeney Shirley Sharpston	Omni Hotel Pavillon Room
3:00-4:00	WNAC State Leaders Meeting Presiding: Mary R. Wisheart	Omni Hotel Pavillon Room

Tuesday Morning / July 22

9:00	WOMEN NATIONALLY ACTIVE FOR CHRIST Presiding: Everyl Getz Congregational Singing Devotion: Debbie Griffin Special Music: Steve and Becky Riggs Welcome: Sandy Mounts Creative Arts Awards: Suzanne Franks Credentials Committee Report / Seating of Delegates Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Mary R. Wisheart Resolutions Committee Report Appreciation Committee Report Nominating Committee Report	Convention Center Hall - B
11:10	WNAC MISSIONARY SERVICE Congregational Singing Offering Special Music: Sherri Sloan and Jan Clay Message: Jeff Crabtree	Convention Center Hall - B

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 22

1:30	WNAC Reconvenes Congregational Singing Music: Connie Phipps Registration Committee Report WNAC Special Feature: Diana Bryant and Barbara Chaffin <i>Parade of Books by Free Will Baptist Women</i>	Convention Center Hall - B
3:00	Adjournment	
5:00	WNAC Fellowship Dinner Invocation: Lynn Wood Speaker: Mary R. Wisheart Benediction: Tom Chaffin	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom A-B-C-D

Housing Form

National Association of Free Will Baptists / National Convention Cincinnati, Ohio • July 20-24, 1997

Print or type all information requested and mail or fax form to GCCVB/Free Will Baptist Housing Bureau by **June 20, 1997**. If form is faxed, do not call Bureau to check on receipt of fax. Keep your transaction report as proof of transmittal. You will receive acknowledgment by mail of your hotel assignment within two weeks of the time the form is received by the Housing Bureau. **NO TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE BUREAU OR THE HOTEL.**

DEPOSIT REQUIRED: An advance deposit of **\$100.00** is required for each room. Your deposit will be charged to your credit card by providing the information requested below. Deposits being made by check should be for **\$100.00 per room** payable to the GCCVB Housing Bureau and mailed to the address below. Forms received without credit card information or a check for the deposit will be returned and reservations will not be processed. Hotel refund policies vary.

Changes or cancellations should be made in writing to the Housing Bureau by June 20, 1997. You may fax changes to 513/621-2156 or mail to address below. After June 20, you must contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations. Check your hotel confirmation for instructions regarding cancellation policies and check-in times.

Number all hotels in numerical order of preference. Rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If your hotel choices are not available, you will be assigned to the next closest available hotel. Failure to receive your first choice hotel does not constitute an error.

◆ ◆ **CIRCLE ROOM TYPE REQUESTED BELOW** ◆ ◆

(Rooms with two beds are limited. Please utilize room with one bed whenever possible.)

Number Hotel choices in order of preferences ↓	HOTELS	SINGLE	DOUBLE	DBL/DBL	TRIPLE	QUAD
	* Headquarters Hotel ** NYC Headquarters	1 bed / 1 person	1 bed / 2 persons	2 beds / 2 persons	2 beds / 3 persons	2 beds / 4 persons
	* Hyatt Regency Cincinnati	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00
	Omni Netherland Plaza	\$102.00	\$102.00	\$102.00	\$102.00	\$102.00
	** Regal Cincinnati Hotel	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$95.00

Rates do not include **tax** which is currently 10.5% in Ohio. Valet Parking is \$13 per day at hotels listed.

Indicate Special Requests: Wheel chair Accessible Non-Smoking Crib Other _____
 Rollaway (Upon availability at an additional charge.)

ARRIVAL DATE / / **TIME** **DEPARTURE DATE** / /

APPLY DEPOSIT TO: **MASTERCARD** **VISA** **DINERS CLUB** **DISCOVER** **AMEx**

CARD NUMBER _____ **EXP. DATE** _____

NAME ON CARD: _____ **SIGNATURE** _____

CHECK ENCLOSED. CHECK # _____

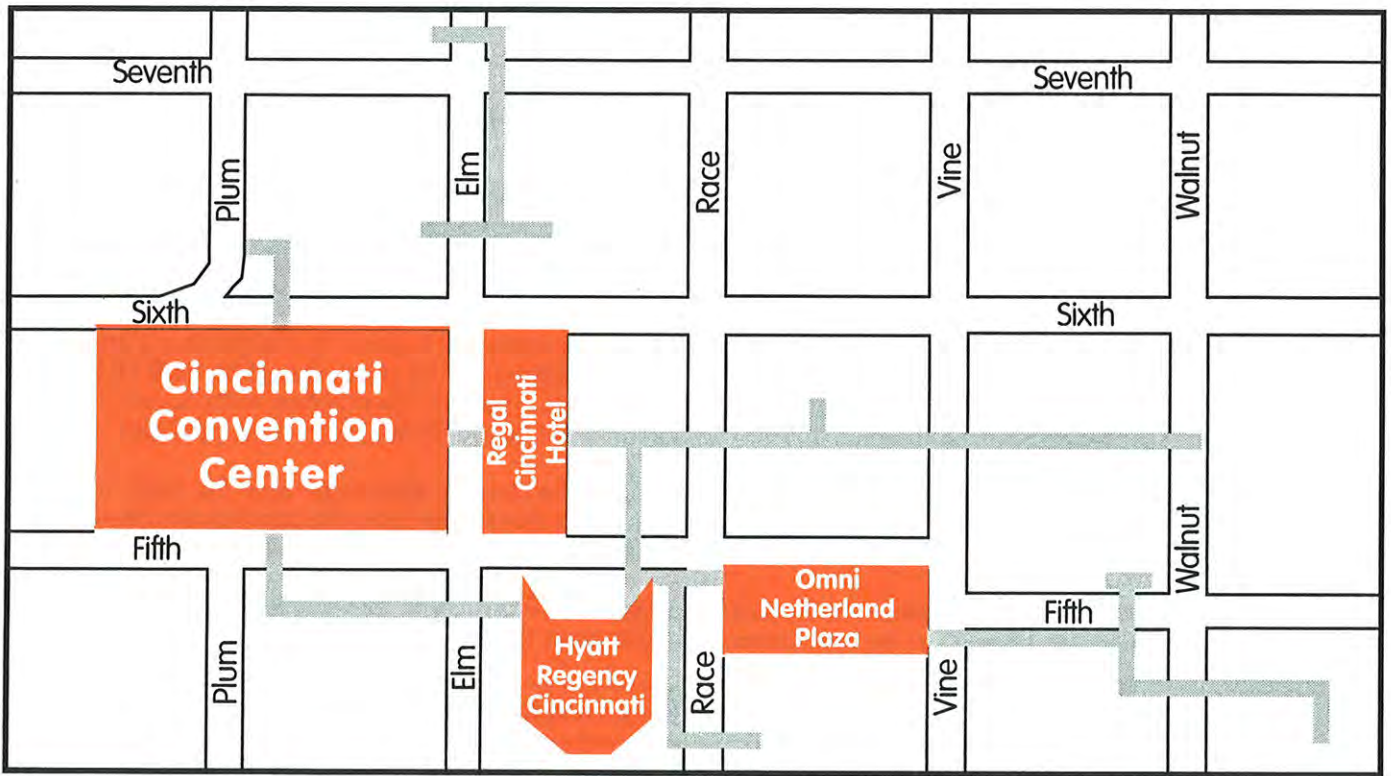
ROOMMATES: (LIST ALL OCCUPANTS OF ROOM)

(1) _____ (3) _____
 (2) _____ (4) _____

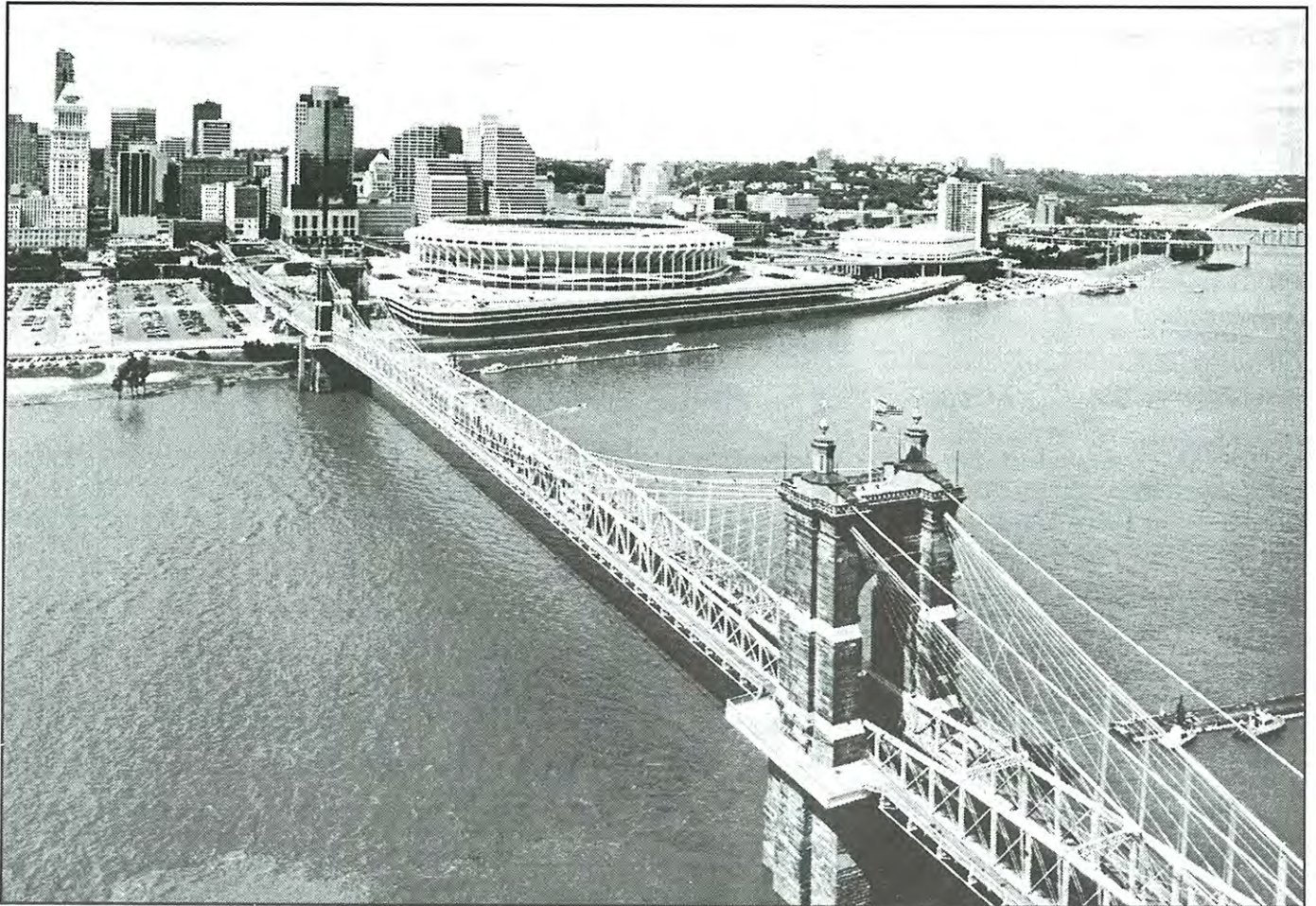
PERSON TO WHOM CONFIRMATION SHOULD BE MAILED.

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
 PHONE (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

MAIL OR FAX
 By June 20, 1997 — To:
GCCVB
Free Will Baptist
Housing Bureau
300 West 6th Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
FAX — 513/621-2156



— = Convention Center Skywalk



Cincinnati sits on the Ohio River

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
Cincinnati, Ohio / July 20 - 24, 1997

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: _____ Phone #: (_____) _____ - _____
First or Name Desired on Badge Last Area Code

City and State desired on badge: _____ Male Female

Home Address: _____
Street Address City State Zip

Church: _____
Church Name Church City Church Zip

Pastor's Name: _____

Hotel (if known): _____

Mail completed form(s) and fees to:

Convention Registration
P. O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-5002.

Must be postmarked on or before **June 20, 1997.**

You may register for all three conventions on this form.

I	<p>If you want to register for the <i>National Association</i>, complete Section I.</p> <p>District Association: _____</p> <p>Minister: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordained <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed <input type="checkbox"/> Pastor <small>(I certify that I am a member in good standing with the above named church and association which belong to the National Association.)</small></p> <p>MISSIONARY: <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign (Country) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Home (State) _____</p> <p>DELEGATE: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordained Deacon <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local Church (\$25.00) <input type="checkbox"/> National Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer</p> <p>VISITOR: <input type="checkbox"/> [Visitors can not vote]</p>	<p>Meal Tickets: Quantity</p> <p>Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>Youth Workers Reception _____ x \$7.50 = \$ _____</p> <p>Music Fellowship Breakfast _____ x \$12.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>Hillsdale FWB College Lunch _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>FWBBC Alumni Luncheon _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>Master's Men Dinner (before conv.) _____ x \$18.00 = \$ _____ <small>(\$20 at convention)</small></p> <p>If Local Church Delegate → \$25.00 = \$ _____ Signed credentials card enclosed Yes! <input type="checkbox"/></p>
II	<p>If you want to register for <i>WNAC</i>, complete Section II. (Check only one of the following:)</p> <p>DELEGATE: <input type="checkbox"/> Local (\$5.00) <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> State President or Field Worker <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer</p> <p>VISITOR: <input type="checkbox"/> [Visitors can not vote]</p>	<p>Meal Tickets: Quantity</p> <p>WNAC Fellowship Dinner _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>If Local WNAC Delegate → \$5.00 = \$ _____ <small>(with signed local delegate form)</small></p>
III	<p>If you want to register for the <i>National Youth Conference</i>, complete <i>all of</i> Section III. <small>(ALL those in 1st grade through age 24 must register to attend NYC.) <small>(Ages 3-5 must register if attending Preschool Worship.)</small></small></p> <p>Are you a youth worker? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, are you over 24? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Grade completed Spring 1997: _____ Age: _____</p> <p>Birthdate: _____ / _____ / _____</p> <p>Parent's (or Guardian's) name: _____</p> <p>Youth Leader's name: _____</p>	<p>Registration Fee</p> <p>Pre-Registration Fee \$18.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>On-site registration fee is \$20. <small>Adults over 24 do not pay NYC fees. Competitors also pay separate entry fees.</small></p> <p>You MUST register for NYC to purchase meal tickets/attend banquets (unless age 25 and up).</p> <p>Meal Tickets: Quantity</p> <p>Children's Banquet (grades 1-3) _____ x \$8.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>Tweeners' Banquet (grades 4-6) _____ x \$8.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>Youth Banquet (must be in grade 7 to age 24 or an accompanying youth worker) _____ x \$18.00 = \$ _____</p>
<p style="text-align:center">For Office Use Only</p> <p>Rec _____ Ck/MO # _____ AMT \$ _____</p> <p>CK _____</p>		<p>Make ALL checks payable to FWB Convention.</p> <p>No refunds mailed after June 20, 1997.</p> <p style="text-align:right">TOTAL \$ _____</p> <p>Check/Money Order MUST accompany this form. Enclose ONE check to pay all fees and tickets.</p>

Pre-Register by June 20 and Pick up Your Convention Packet on Saturday!

Early pick-up available at
Cincinnati Convention Center
for those who pre-register:

Saturday, July 19
3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 20
1:00 p.m.

Pre-Registration ends June 20, 1997

Meal Information

Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner \$20.00 Monday, July 21/ 4:45 - 6:30 p.m. Hyatt Regency / Regency Ballroom D-E-F-G	Music Fellowship Breakfast \$12.00 Wednesday, July 23 / 7:00 a.m. Regal Hotel / Colonnade Room
Children's Banquet \$8.00 Monday, July 21 / 5:00 p.m. Regal Hotel / Bronze Ballroom-A	Youth Workers Reception \$7.50 Monday, July 21 / 9:00 p.m. Regal Hotel / Colonnade Room
Tweeners' Banquet \$8.00 Monday, July 21 / 5:00 p.m. Regal Hotel / Bronze Ballroom-B	WNAC Fellowship Dinner \$15.00 Tuesday, July 22 / 5:00 p.m. Hyatt Regency / Regency Ballroom
Hillsdale FWB College Lunch \$15.00 Tuesday, July 22 / 12:00 noon Hyatt Regency / Regency Ballroom F-G	FWBBC Luncheon \$15.00 Wednesday, July 23 / 12:00 Noon Hyatt Regency / Regency Ballroom A-B-C
Youth Banquet \$18.00 Tuesday, July 22 / 9:00 p.m. Convention Center / Ballroom A-B	Master's Men Dinner \$18.00 Wednesday, July 23 / 4:45 p.m. (\$20 at convention) Regal Hotel / Bronze Ballroom-A

FREE WILL BAPTIST NEWSFRONT

Marcum Named To North Carolina Post

LINCOLNTON, NC—Reverend Jim Marcum, pastor of Boger City FWB Church in Lincolnton, has been named promotional director for North Carolina Free Will Baptists, according to Moderator Tim Stout. Rev. Marcum assumed his new duties on May 15. He succeeds Rev. Tom Lilly who served 16 years in the promotional post.

Marcum, an Ohio native and graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, was a member of North Carolina's Bible Book Store Board and third-term clerk of the Western Piedmont Bible Fellowship at the time of his appointment.

He has pastored four churches in North Carolina including Boger City FWB Church (8½ years), West Duplin FWB Church (3 years), White Oak Hill FWB Church (3½ years) and Trinity FWB Church in LaGrange (2 years).

In an April letter to his North



Carolina constituency, Rev. Marcum wrote that his goal is to promote the idea that "preachers count." He said, "Every administrative task, every board meeting, every piece of literature published, every plan designed would be for the purpose of helping North Carolina pastors and preachers."

Brother Marcum was converted at age 11, called to preach at age 20 and ordained in 1972. His

other experiences include assistant pastor in Sciotoville, Ohio, interim pastor at Bethany FWB Church in Norfolk, Virginia, and one year under the tutelage of the late Rev. Frank Davenport at Faith FWB Church in Goldsboro.

During his eight-plus years at Boger City, Marcum developed a multi-ministry outreach for Hispanics. He also led the congregation to purchase 10 acres on which they are building 14,000-square-foot of new facilities. The church is debt-free and has \$60,000 in their building fund.

He served one term as moderator of the Palmer Association and one term on the state Youth Board. In 1995, he served on the Steering Committee, chairing the Prayer Committee, when the National Association met in Charlotte.

Jim and Vicki Marcum have two daughters, Melissa (16) and Sarah (11).

Rev. Robert Warner, Missouri Clerk, Dies

FREDERICKTOWN, MO—Reverend Robert James Warner, clerk of the Missouri State Association, died February 15 just one month before his 56th birthday. A minister and farmer, Warner died at his home following a short illness.

After 20 years in the military, Brother Warner and his wife returned to Missouri and began farming in 1986. He soon answered the call to preach during a brush arbor meeting at Old Bethel FWB Church. He accepted his first and only pastorate in

January 1989 at New Hope FWB Church in Fredericktown.

Two months before his death, members of the New Hope Church honored Pastor Warner with a special celebration day. The January 12 occasion surprised the pastoral couple.

The church presented plaques of appreciation to Bob and Sylvia Warner, and presented them with a \$2,500 check. Rev. Les Bequette, moderator of the Southeast District Association, gave them a \$500 check from the association.

Memorial services were conducted February 17. State moderator Ken Dodson and Executive Secretary Nathan Ruble praised Brother Warner as a man of faith and character.

He is survived by his wife, Sylvia; two sons, Robert Warner and Wayne Warner of Fredericktown; two daughters, Tamera Durbin of Fredericktown, and Barbara Standley of Mesquite, Texas; and eight grandchildren.

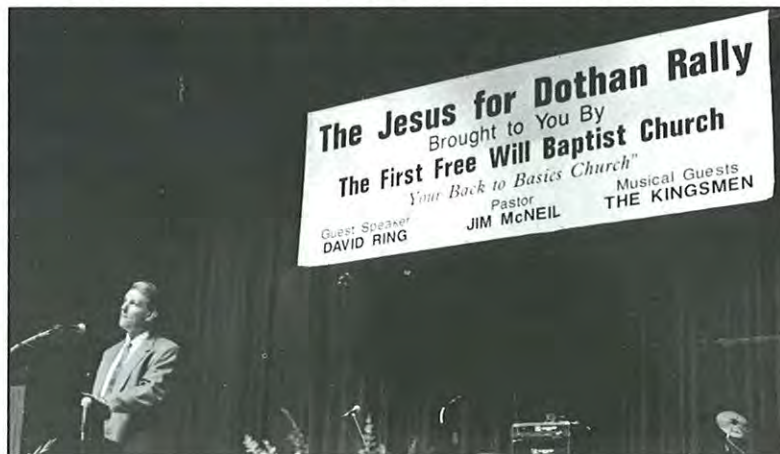
Dothan Rally Reaches 2,000 People

DOTHAN, AL—More than 2,000 people attended a special "Jesus for Dothan Rally" on March 20, according to sponsoring pastor Jim McNeil. Members of First FWB Church in Dothan wanted to reach the entire city with the gospel and decided to try something new.

Pastor Jim McNeil said that more than 100 rededications and 41 salvation decisions resulted from the one-night rally at Dothan's Civic Center. "This rally proved exciting for our church family, especially with the large number in attendance."

Guest speaker for the rally was Evangelist David Ring. The Kingsmen provided special music for attendees.

First FWB Church is a member of Alabama's Florida State Line Association. Rev. Jim McNeil is moderator of the Alabama State Association.



Evangelist David Ring preaches in Dothan, Alabama.

Tornado Hits North Carolina Church

GASTONIA, NC—A late afternoon tornado swept through Gastonia on Friday, February 21, with 100 mph winds and destroyed the family life center at First FWB Church. Pastor Randy Sawyer said that the twister's high winds left the large structure so unstable that it was considered a total loss. No one was injured.

The full-sized gymnasium with its extensive kitchen facilities was the hub of numerous church activities. Church officials hoped to begin the rebuilding process by early summer.

The church is in the midst of a phase by phase development of the property, according to Pastor Sawyer. He said, "One of the phases was the total renovation of the family life center. The Lord began the

renovation slightly ahead of our schedule, but then again, it's His timetable that's important, not ours."

Sawyer expressed appreciation for the quick response and cooperative spirit demonstrated by members. Before being asked to help, dozens of volunteers arrived to clear away debris and do the necessary clean-up for Sunday services.

"The attitude of sacrifice is very much a part of this congregation," Pastor Sawyer said. "I am grateful to serve in this ministry."

When asked what the church will do next, Sawyer responded, "Press ahead with reconstruction and do our best to stay with God's calendar."

200 Attend Illinois State

MT. VERNON, IL—Some 200 delegates, ministers and visitors attended the 37th annual Illinois State Association, according to Promotional Secretary David Shores. The March 21-22 session met at First FWB Church in Mt. Vernon.

Moderator Larry Clyatt, elected to his ninth term, led the voting body discussions as delegates adopted a regionalized plan of support for foreign missions and state home missions. The new program of support, presented by the Illinois Board of Missions, is called Illinois Regionalized Support (IRS).

Delegates tabled, after a two

hour discussion, a proposal to employ a full-time promotional secretary.

The association theme, "It Is Required of Stewards," was developed in four sermons by Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington and William Evans, director of the FWB Foundation.

Professor Terry Wise, dean at Trinity College and Seminary, conducted a four-hour "Conflict Management Seminar" on Thursday preceding the state meeting.

In other action, delegates adopted a \$176,000 state budget to be allocated among eight state outreach ministries and National

Association outreaches.

The host church sponsored a banquet at the Community Building and donated proceeds from the banquet to Home Missionary David Potete's "Chicago Property Fund."

Promotional Secretary David Shores expressed his special thanks to Pastor Ronnie Mitchell and First FWB Church in Mt. Vernon for their willingness to host the 1997 state meeting at the last minute because of unavoidable changes.

The 1998 state association will meet at Bear Point FWB Church in Sesser on March 20-21.

Alabama Church Dedicates Family Life Center

PHENIX CITY, AL—Members of White Rock FWB Church in Phenix City dedicated a new family life center March 23, according to Pastor David Dollar. The 11,000-square-foot structure includes a new kitchen, fellowship hall, gymnasium, fitness room and showers.

Completed at a cost of \$170,000, the family life center is equipped with an upstairs Prophet's Quarters for visiting evangelists as well as a prayer room.

The front of the building includes a life-size depiction of Jesus holding a small child. Pastor Dollar said, "This is our desire, to show that Jesus should still be the source and center of the family.

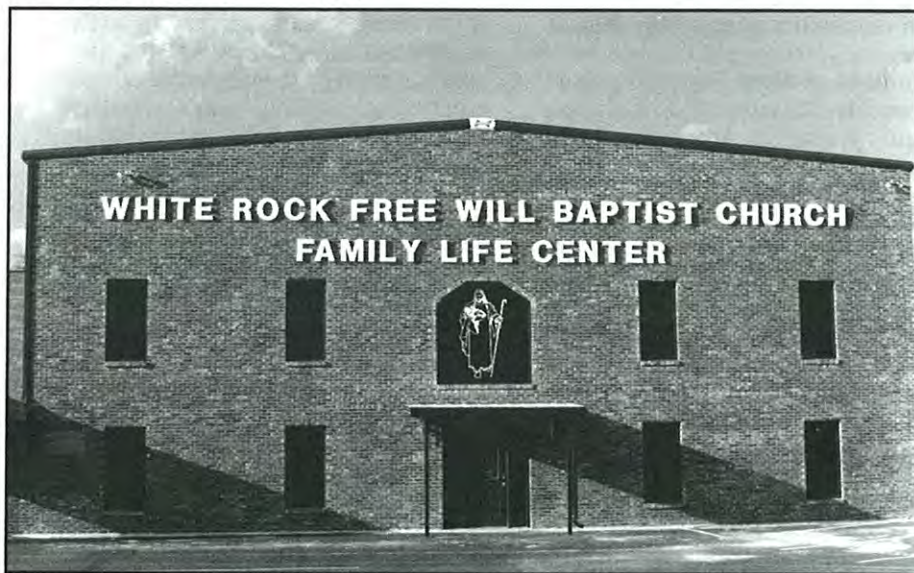
The White Rock congregation began as a mission work in 1962, meeting in an old house on McMurrian Road before purchasing property on which they have built several times.

Pastor David Dollar said, "The church has been steadily growing for a number of years. Our theme for the past few years has been, 'A Church With a Vision', taken from Proverbs 29:18, 'Where there is no vision the people perish.'

"Four and a half years ago it became the vision of the people of White Rock to have a

place where people could come, young and old alike, and enjoy playing games, sports and other recreational activities in a Christian atmosphere."

Pastor Dollar relates, "In the past 10 to 12 years, this area of Phenix City has seen tremendous growth. There are subdivisions and new homes going up all around us. We believe that the church should be a place where the whole family can come and be ministered to. This building gives us the opportunity to minister both to the spiritual as well as the physical person."



White Rock Free Will Baptist Church dedicates new building.

Virginia Volunteer Keeps Coming Back

NASHVILLE, TN—Five years ago, Free Will Baptist Bible College began "Volunteer Days" in June. One of those volunteers, Steve Faherty from Providence FWB Church in Hampton, VA, has participated in every work team.

Faherty said, "We started with a handful of folks and have continued to grow. We came from all walks of life—pastors, ship builders, housewives, NASA employees, telephone workers, coal miners, retired folk, young people. Our ages range from 12 to 80."

The volunteers program has saved the college more than \$100,000 in four summers. They replaced roofs, scraped paint, wired dorms for fire detectors, did yard work and more.

Asked why he volunteers each year, Faherty explained, "When I joined my church, my pastor told me it was my church. I believed him. My church, like yours, needs up-keep and maintenance. It's the responsibility of every member to do his part to help.

"Several years ago, someone at the national convention said that the college belonged to all Free Will Baptists. I believed them. Most of our college buildings are old. Old things have a tendency to break and need repair. The college's maintenance crew does a great job, but they need our help. Remember it's our college."

This year's Volunteer Days are set for June 22-28. The only expense that volunteers have is transportation to and from Nashville. The college provides free food and lodging for all volunteers.

Individuals or churches interested in participating in the Volunteer Days should contact Sandy Goodfellow with arrival dates, number in the group, and any special skills that may be available.

Contact Sandy Goodfellow at the Bible College 1-800-763-9222 or E-mail him, his E-mail address is: ALEX@FWBBC.EDU.

First FWB Church in **Albany, GA**, purchased two 22-foot mini-buses for use in outreach ministry. **Billy Hanna** pastors.

Members at **First FWB Church** in **Duncanville, TX**, raised \$1,315 to assist tornado victims in Arkansas. **David Sutton** pastors.

Pastor **Ron Palmer** says that he's always pleased with any convert, but he was especially delighted when **Sarita Rupp** was won to Christ at **Cross Roads FWB Church** in **Billings, MT**. **Sarita** was a Hindu who relocated from India.

Nine new members and two baptisms at **Tulare FWB Church** in **Tulare, CA**, have the church growing again. **Charles McKinney** pastors.

That **North Carolina** pastor wearing the big smile is Pastor **Henry Van Kluyve**. Members at **First FWB Church** in **Beaufort** raised \$24,634 in faith promises and \$1,350 in cash for the 10 foreign and seven home missionaries they support. Fifteen young people from the church committed themselves to God's service.

Pastor **Fred Bates, Jr.**, reports 10 conversions and 10 baptisms during January and February at **Cava FWB Church** in **Virginia Beach, VA**. **Bates** began the church in 1975 with 12 members and led it to affiliate with the Tidewater Association.

Pastor **John Hollis** reports three conversions, six baptisms and two new members at **Crossroads FWB Church** in **Effingham, IL**. The congregation planned to build 1,200-square-foot worship and storage area this spring.

Activity among the youth has stirred revival at **Lockbourne FWB Church** in **Groveport, OH**. Pastor **Bert Miller** reports six conversions, eight baptisms and eight new members. The congregation relocated in January from Lockbourne to 3533 Rohr Road in Groveport.

Ohio Evangelist **Clovis Vanover** conducted seven revivals the first two months of the year, with 45 conver-

sions witnessed.

The February Ohio Men's Retreat was a record breaker, according to Executive Secretary **Edwin Hayes**. Two hundred men from eight states attended the retreat. This year's speakers were North Carolina pastor **Randy Sawyer** and Kentucky pastor **Tim Hall**.

Pastor **Wiley Perkins** celebrated 25 years at the helm of **Samantha FWB Church** in **Leesburg, OH**. Members thanked him in a big way with a new Ford Taurus. During Perkins' tenure, attendance has risen from 40 to 200, along with several building programs to expand the facilities.

The Sunday School is growing at **Faith FWB Church** in **Cleveland, OH**. Pastor **Robert Nelson** also reports six new church members.

Pastor **John Ward** at **New Vienna FWB Church** in **New Vienna, OH**, got ordained on January 17, just in time to enjoy the harvest. The congregation logged 32 conversions and rededications, and nine baptisms.

Wednesday nights are big events at **Westerville FWB Church** in **Westerville, OH**. Pastor **Mike Mounts** said Wednesday attendance jumped from 80 to 140, creating a new enthusiasm and excitement.

Members at **Hilltop FWB Church** in **Wewoka, OK**, burned the mortgage on their five-year old facilities in January. Pastor **N. R. Smith** delivered his sermon, "This House Was Finished," from Ezra 6:15.

They're on television! Tapes of Sunday services at **Trinity FWB Church**, in **Greenville, NC**, went on Cable Channel 68 at 2:00 p.m. effective February 23. **Jim Turnbough** pastors.

It's a long story about Georgia highways, but for four days this spring Mississippi evangelist **Van Dale Hudson** had a series of mechanical problems with his usually reliable van. However, during the four days of frustration and waiting, Brother Hudson witnessed to 13 adults who were unsaved. Some

doors close, but others remain open.

Antlers FWB Church in **Antlers, OK** celebrated its 51st anniversary by dedicating a new sanctuary. The work crew, composed of retired members ages 65 through 85, completed the project in five months—debt free. **Ancil Simmons** pastors.

More good news from **Oklahoma**. **First FWB Church** in **Guymon** observed their 40th anniversary and burned the mortgage the same day on a new sanctuary. Pastor **Steve Robinson** said plans are underway to construct a multi-purpose building and more classrooms.

Pastor **Rick Scroggins** led mortgage-burning ceremonies at **Calvary FWB Church** in **Claremore, OK**. The congregation celebrated their 25th anniversary the same day and began a building fund to erect a fellowship hall and classrooms.

Lifegate FWB Church in **Tyler, TX**, reports eight baptisms, nine new members and a nine percent increase in Sunday School attendance. Worship attendance rose above the 100 mark. **Robert Posner** pastors.

Pastor **Gordon Sebastian** wrote a special editorial to his members at **Peace FWB Church** in **Wilson, NC**. He commended their faithfulness in outreach during the previous year which resulted in 582 visitors in the services, 325 rededications, 51 conversions and 30 new members.

Members at **Chapel Lane FWB Church** in **Searcy, AR**, pounded and roasted Pastor **David Copeland** to celebrate his 10th anniversary with the church. The end result produced a plaque of recognition, a leather briefcase, a lapel microphone, a hot dog supper and a wagon load of groceries. ■

**Capital Stewardship/Victory Campaign
March 1997
Update**

State	Goal	Gifts	Balance
Alabama	\$76,397.63	\$ 5,021.15	\$71,376.48
Arizona	1,228.93	2,883.71	(1,654.78)
Arkansas	76,860.94	43,422.13	33,438.81
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	29,020.88	9,158.31
Hawaii	184.54	727.76	(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	5,949.29	29,505.05
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	33,804.91	26,679.49
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	63,113.75	15,443.34
Texas	11,547.20	7,466.52	4,080.68
Virginia	24,323.33	2,027.93	22,295.40
Virgin Islands		200.00	(200.00)
West Virginia	46,204.51	1,023.00	45,181.51
Wisconsin		61.00	(61.00)
Other		2,978.85	(2,978.85)
Totals	\$766,583.39	\$279,716.18	\$486,867.21



March 1997

Receipts:

State	Design.	CO-OP	Total	March '96	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 330.44	\$.00	\$ 330.44	\$ 291.38	\$ 983.28
Arizona	912.80	144.50	1,057.30	2,332.24	1,057.30
Arkansas	9,855.92	8,453.76	18,309.68	13,874.38	67,278.23
California	.00	1,150.48	1,150.48	1,016.28	2,949.18
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	97.12	6,000.00	6,097.12	8,562.55	6,097.12
Georgia	13,158.69	1,451.49	14,610.18	10,972.75	57,546.45
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Illinois	6,845.33	4,851.77	11,697.10	11,894.00	34,043.26
Indiana	.00	.00	.00	879.84	3,903.45
Iowa	90.00	498.00	588.00	90.00	1,243.90
Kansas	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Kentucky	1,000.00	375.28	1,375.28	1,237.11	3,096.93
Louisiana	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Maryland	.00	778.70	778.70	1,034.08	1,498.03
Michigan	.00	.00	.00	32,245.05	24,216.00
Mississippi	.00	385.94	385.94	687.77	1,486.06
Missouri	60,176.65	.00	60,176.65	12,994.21	136,522.32
Montana	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Nebraska	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Jersey	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Mexico	1,493.92	76.96	1,570.88	399.98	2,893.30
North Carolina	375.00	1,256.03	1,631.03	1,498.50	6,107.73
Ohio	4,143.17	1,680.29	5,823.46	8,882.00	27,675.10
Oklahoma	53,885.49	.00	53,885.49	53,609.46	180,249.63
South Carolina	32,174.28	157.88	32,332.16	22,850.00	83,799.86
South Dakota	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Tennessee	1,436.96	830.00	2,266.96	11,615.06	28,676.76
Texas	6,009.23	278.60	6,287.83	6,683.81	20,897.02
Virginia	27.22	.00	27.22	1,981.54	1,828.59
Virgin Islands	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
West Virginia	3,651.86	49.73	3,701.59	14,248.51	10,757.04
Wisconsin	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	412.52
Northwest Assoc.	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northeast Assoc.	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Other	.00	.00	.00	.16	.12
Totals	\$195,664.08	\$28,419.41	\$224,083.49	\$219,880.66	\$705,219.18

Disbursements:

Executive Office	\$ 9,026.44	\$14,209.73	\$ 23,236.17	\$ 28,589.43	\$ 72,804.22
Foreign Missions	118,080.33	3,268.23	121,348.56	99,073.53	377,947.32
FWBBC	13,389.83	3,268.23	16,658.06	15,070.51	53,765.33
Home Missions	47,300.53	2,557.74	49,858.27	63,177.55	158,613.94
Retirement & Insurance	1,060.36	1,989.35	3,049.71	3,159.81	9,795.61
Master's Men	1,584.91	1,989.35	3,574.26	3,800.96	11,992.11
Cmmsn. for Theo. Integrity	97.22	71.05	168.27	205.10	544.01
FWB Foundation	789.63	852.58	1,642.21	1,818.56	5,415.49
Historical Commission	70.32	71.05	141.37	162.38	496.04
Music Commission	70.32	71.05	141.37	159.16	456.93
Radio & TV Commission	97.22	71.05	168.27	194.73	487.55
Hillsdale FWB College	1,266.39	.00	1,266.39	1,615.26	3,772.40
Other	2,830.58	.00	2,830.58	2,853.68	9,128.23
Totals	\$195,664.08	\$28,419.41	\$224,083.49	\$219,880.66	\$705,219.18



BOARD OF RETIREMENT

When Settling Your Retirement Account

By David L. Brown

Emphasis for retirement planning is generally on accumulating enough to meet retirement needs, little on how to take a settlement from your account. Obviously accumulation is important but what should you consider in your settlement decision?

How Long Will You Live?

When a retiring couple enjoys good health, the life expectancy factor should be considered. On average a 65-year-old man can expect to live over 15 years in retirement, a 65-year-old woman almost 19 years. This is a long time, so make a settlement decision that assures your money will last at least this long.

When the husband has been the main breadwinner, it is important that the settlement decision consider his wife who will likely survive him several years. Federal law applicable to qualified plans requires the spouse to consent for any settlement that does not benefit both.

Will You Continue Working After Retirement Age?

Many people choose to work long after what many consider "normal" retirement. Church controlled 403(b) plans enjoy the advantage of allowing a participant to delay settlement as long as they are employed. IRAs require that withdrawals begin at age 70½.

Even if you retire at 65 or earlier, you may delay your settlement till age 70½. Many of our participants state that they plan to pastor as long as their health is good. Delaying your settlement even a few months will increase your benefits.

Delaying settlement has two effects on lifetime payment retirement benefits. Since benefit is based on life expectancy, delaying settlement reduces the time you will be retired. Delaying settlement also allows funds to accumulate and earn for a few more months or years. These two factors taken together will provide a larger benefit than if you had retired early.

Are You and/or Your Spouse in Poor Health?

An important factor that should be considered is the health of both the retiree and spouse. Your settlement decision will be af-

ected if you or your spouse are in poor health or suffer from a terminal illness. In such situations a large lump sum up front or perhaps even a single life annuity would be wise choices. Such options should be considered carefully due to needs of the surviving spouse.

Will My Children Receive Any Benefit?

Some consider it a settlement factor how their children will inherit from the retirement plan. They feel that their retirement plan will be the only asset they can pass on to their children. While this may be true, your first concern should be to make sure your retirement funds care for you. If some is left to pass to the children, that would be a plus. Consider various options to possibly achieve both goals.

All tax-sheltered retirement funds have tax liabilities. The government will collect these taxes from your account even after your death. This means that these funds will be taxable for income tax purposes to your estate or final tax return, thus significantly reducing the amount your children will ultimately receive.

The Board of Retirement offers three basic types of settlements. You can choose *Lifetime Income* by choosing one of five annuity options. If you choose a joint life annuity, the income is for both you and your spouse's lifetime. We also offer *Set Monthly Sums* which allow you to select the period of time (up to 10 years) or the amount of payment you wish to receive. We also offer *Lump Sum* settlements either as a direct payment to you or a rollover. ■



FOREIGN MISSIONS

A Well in the Desert

By Eddie Bowerman

A small African village lay isolated deep in the hot African interior, one of the lone islands of people fighting the hot desert sand. The people, called the Elpoep, were kind and generous. Each year they suffered greatly due to lack of water during the dry season. The small streams that trickled through the hot lands during the wet season seemed to dry up almost instantly as the wet season ended. The few shallow wells in the area were sufficient to sustain only a small number of people.

Many surrounding villages which had no wells often came and begged the Elpoep to share what little water they had. And they always shared even though some of their own people could die due to the diminished water supply.

Hopelessly, this cycle was repeated until one year the Elpoeps' chief heard of a man who had a machine which could drill a deep well that would not go dry. Unfortunately, the man's services were costly and would require all the money the village had just to pay for the well. The village was alive with questions and statements about the man and his machine.

"It will never work," said an Elpoep man. "There is no way to make a well that won't go dry."

Talk Was Not the Answer

People gathered to discuss which would be better, the old wells or the new one. None of the talk resolved the people's thirst.

One man set out to search for other sources of water. He found certain roots which would yield a small portion of liquid. He also learned that he could get water from some leaves of small plants that grew far away. However, his long trips required what little water he did manage to find.

Another man suggested the Elpoep people could ration the water and keep it only for themselves. Certainly plenty of people in their own village needed the water. He pointed out that sacrificing so much to help others was asking too much.

The chief, a wise and aged man, sat for long hours listening to the people. He heard

all their ideas and complaints. Finally, he called the people together to make his decision.

"I have thought long and hard about the new well," he said. All the people stared, listening intently for the words that would determine their future. "Our problem is not the way our fathers got water. They did the best they could. Our problem is not going to be solved in discussions about keeping our old wells, or getting a new well. Our real problem is not even the fact that people need the water to survive." He paused, and his dark eyes scanned each of their faces. "Our problem," he continued, "is that we aren't willing to give up the little that we have in order to gain the great thing that we all desperately need."

The ACTS 1:8 Well

Like those Africans, I am a bearer of water from my village. I journey to a far away village which is dying of thirst. However, the people in the story and I are much different. Our village has a deep well. It was drilled by the people of Arkansas. We call it ACTS 1:8. It is supplying water for those who thirst!

ACTS 1:8—Arkansas Committed to Total Support—started out much like the new well among the people in the African village. Many questions were followed by extensive discussions. Some doubted and some were hopeful. Finally, the people of Arkansas chose the ACTS 1:8 program over traditional support methods. Through that decision, they changed the missions program in Arkansas.

The ACTS 1:8 Plan shortened our deputational ministry. Normally it takes between one and one-half to two years for missionaries to raise support to leave for their first term. When we were approved, our budget was totally underwritten by the ACTS 1:8 program without our having to go on deputation. We were able to go right on to language school not long after being approved.

Arkansas Free Will Baptists and the missionaries from that state have formed a true partnership to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord! ■



Eddie Bowerman and his wife, LaRhonda, are currently in language study in Costa Rica en route to Panama.



WOMEN NATIONALLY ACTIVE FOR CHRIST

Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wisheart

From My Window

When you were a child, did you read the story of the argument between the sun and the wind? Each declared himself stronger than the other. To settle the argument, they agreed to a contest. Whichever one could make a man take his coat off would be considered the stronger.

You can guess which one succeeded. In spite of the wind's violence, the man would not let go of his coat. He wrapped it more tightly about him. When the sun, however, beamed gentle, warm rays, the man soon removed his coat.

The gentle warmth of the sun reminds us of the power of love. What fussing, nagging and force cannot do, love can achieve. Judging, condemning and making rules cannot change a person from the inside out. Love can.

Jesus said the law is fulfilled in love. Paul's writing echoes Jesus' words in Galatians 5:14, "For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Never underestimate the power of love.

Women Organize in Côte d'Ivoire

At 3:00 p.m. February 18, 1997, a hot, dry, dusty day in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire, Free Will Baptist women organized into a national convention.

They named the organization UFBLECI—*Union des Femmes Baptiste Libre En Côte d'Ivoire*.

I was privileged to be there for the election and helped install new officers. Officers are as follows:

- President—Mrs. Esther Kambou, Doropo
- Vice president—Mrs. Deborah Amiezi, Bouna
- Secretary—Miss Rosalie Adaye, Doropo
- Assistant secretary—Sylvia Kambou, Agnibilekrou
- Treasurer—Alice Smith, Agnibilekrou
- Assistant treasurer—Rebecca Kra, Goumere

The convention in Côte d'Ivoire brings to six the number of national Free Will Baptist women's groups: USA, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, Brazil, and now Côte d'Ivoire.

Impressions from a Côte d'Ivoire Visit

Our missionaries experience pressures on all sides—physical from climate and environment, emotional and spiritual from the power of darkness. They need prayer for their well being.

The FWB dormitory at ICA in Bouake serves a valuable purpose for our MKs and others al-

so. The Creeches have a good ministry there.

Silas, the student at the Christian and Missionary Alliance Bible Institute, partially supported by a scholarship from WNAC, is doing well. His wife audits classes there free of charge.

The new church building in Agnibilekrou is almost finished. It has the first baptistry inside a Free Will Baptist church in Côte d'Ivoire.

The six students at the Free Will Baptist Bible Institute have a place for study and living quarters. They were hard at work with their books.

The beginning of a church in Abidjan is exciting. Young men and women there have a vision for the future. They have in place an outreach program. Their enthusiasm is contagious.

Women of Côte d'Ivoire are eager to learn and apply Christian principles. They ask difficult questions about their everyday lives and how the Bible applies to them.

Women are much the same all over the world. Ivorian women want a new outfit for retreat. They want their hair to look pleasing. They like to laugh and giggle. They sing with abandon—and from memory. They enjoy being together.

This year four women walked the equivalent of 24 miles to the retreat. Attendance (136) was the largest yet for Côte d'Ivoire.

Next year the women meet in Agnibilekrou.

Register and Attend the WNAC Convention

Pre-registration for the national convention is open until June 20. Register and plan to attend the pre-convention seminars on Monday. The convention starts Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

Officers are invited to the leadership meeting 3:00 p.m. Monday. State officers should make a special effort to attend.

The women's program ends with the Fellowship Dinner, Tuesday, July 22, 5:00 p.m.

Each local women's group affiliated with the proper district or state group may send one delegate to the convention. Check page 22 in April, page 17 in May or June *Contact*, or page 28 of March/April *Co-Laborer* for local delegate's credentials.

Other delegates include state presidents and field workers, who are standing delegates, and 15 delegates selected by each state convention.





Robert E. Picirilli

Nathanael—The Transparent One

Three of the four lists of the twelve (Mt. 10:2-4; Mk. 3:16-19; Lk. 6:14-16) name Bartholomew immediately after Philip; the other (Acts 1:13) places Thomas between those two.

There's probably a good reason for the close association between Philip and Bartholomew, based on the likelihood that he is the same person that John calls Nathanael. John 1:43-51 describes the incident, closely associated with the occasion when two of John the Baptist's followers, Andrew and John, became early disciples of Jesus.

The day after that happened, Jesus sought out Philip and called him to be a follower. The first thing we know about Philip is that he sought out another named Nathanael, probably a friend, and invited him to come see that Jesus was, indeed, the promised Messiah. All this probably indicates that Philip and Nathanael, like Andrew and John, were already caught up in the excitement of Messianic expectation that John the Baptist had aroused.

It seems clear, then, that Bartholomew and Nathanael were one and the same. "Nathanael" never appears in the synoptics, "Bartholomew" never in John. If both were numbered among the twelve apostles (and not just disciples), then that must be the case. And the list of the seven who went fishing in Galilee after the resurrection (Jn. 21:2) certainly appears to be apostles, even though "disciples" is the word used.

As with Philip, then, John is the only Gospel to tell anything about this apostle, and the account of his first introduction to Jesus is the main thing. There we learn some interesting things about Nathanael.

His name is from two Hebrew roots, *nathan*, gift, and *el*, god. Nathanael was apparently the name Jesus most liked to call him; indeed,

some think Jesus gave him that name. Whether or not, his name recognized a truth that ultimately describes everyman. We are all given by God. "Bartholomew" has a less interesting meaning, "son of Tolmai."

Nathanael was also very forthright. When Philip identified his proposed Messiah as being from Nazareth, Nathanael's response was automatic: "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Given Nazareth's reputation as a hill country, backwoods village, Nathanael was reasonably sure that the great Messiah of God would not be born there! Kings just don't come from such lowly origins. It wasn't long before he learned that God's ways are not often in accord with human reasoning.

But give him credit: at least he went to see. His skepticism didn't close the door of opportunity, as it so often does. Nathanael went—and immediately experienced the biggest surprise of his life. Before there is even time for the amenities, he meets Jesus' knowing words: "Behold, truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"

No doubt Jesus is referring to the open doubt he had expressed to Philip, and Nathanael is quick to realize that Jesus really knows what he's like. Again, give him some credit: Nathanael doesn't try to fool people; he's honest and transparent, even when he has doubts to express.

But Nathanael's astonishment is not done. "How do you know me?" he asks, amazed.

"Before Philip called you, when you were underneath the fig tree, I saw you," Jesus replied. And in that one revelation of His omniscience, Jesus made Himself known as God's Messiah, none other than God's Son, Israel's King, anointed Teacher. And Nathanael, quick again to see the implications, acknowledged Him.

The only other time when Nathanael was involved by name was the fishing scene on Galilee after the resurrection. But there he plays no individual role other than being one of the seven.

At least it is clear, however, that he was among those who fished all night without success, who at first did not recognize Jesus, who let out the nets one more time because they thought perhaps the stranger on the shore had seen a school of fish, and who finally enjoyed that memorable breakfast with the Lord on the beach and no longer needed to ask because they knew for sure now that He was the Lord (Jn. 21:12). His original affirmation was now settled forever. Jesus was his Messiah and Lord.

What the Bible does not tell us, ancient tradition often fills in. There is enough to warrant belief that he spent his later years as an evangelist in Armenia and was martyred there. One old account, *The Apostolic History of Abdias*, even provides a description of him as having black, curly hair, large eyes, a straight nose, and a long and grizzled beard. The same source says that he wore the same pair of shoes for 26 years, prayed 100 times each day and each night, and knew all languages.

We can't be confident about that. But we can be confident that Nathanael, the open one, was all the more honest and transparent for his time with Jesus. The Lord has a way of seeing right through us, and of making us open and honest with ourselves and others. ■

Your Best Friend—Your Wife

The one who understands you better than anyone else is probably your wife. She sees you when you are encouraged and when you are down. She married you for better or worse and lives with the real you. She respects you first, not as pastor but as husband. She should be your best friend.

Key To Your Ministry

The queen of the parsonage holds a tremendous grip on the preacher's life. She can make him or break him. That's why it is just as important that she be called to the ministry. I met Betty at Cragmont Assembly in Black Mountain, North Carolina. She trusted Christ as Savior the night I preached my first sermon. In that 10-minute sermon, I preached all I knew twice. Gertrude ("Ma Ballard," we called her) gave the invitation.

As Betty grew in the grace and knowledge of the Lord, He "called" her to be a preacher's wife. Since June 25, 1961, she has been a faithful pastor's wife. Without her encouragement, patience, toleration and daily praying, where would I be today?

I suggest that you take good care of this special woman. Do not take your mate for granted. Treat her like a queen.

Date Your Mate

At least once a week give her your undivided attention at a restaurant. Hire a babysitter. Schedule this date just as you would any other appointment. When church members want your counsel or assistance during that special time, tell them you have an important appointment. Request to meet them at another time.

The restaurant need not be expensive with dimmed lights. An early morning breakfast or a luncheon special may suffice. Just date your mate.

Listen to Your Mate

In the evening when the children are asleep is an ideal time to give her 15 to 30 minutes of your devoted attention. If she has run the house like a drill sergeant all day, she needs to share life's joys, burdens and plans with her partner. Let her express her feelings without interruption.

Give Her Affection

Your wife needs to feel your tender touch of love. A touch on the shoulder, a smile of understanding, a back rub while she washes the dishes or a kiss of appreciation after she prepares a delicious meal. She needs the attention that only you can give. Remember, she also lives in a glass house.

Surprise Her

Yes, on her birthday and your anniversary buy her flowers or take her to a nice restaurant or send a lovely card. But surprise her with a special gift on an unspecial day. It doesn't have to cost a lot of money, the surprise will overshadow the cost.

Pastor-friend Henry Van Kluyve taught me a lesson when I was a younger preacher. He was preaching for a week at my pastorate. He insisted on stopping at a local department store to purchase a gift for his wife. Not to be outdone, I purchased one, too. Been doing it ever since. Thanks, Henry!

Write Her Notes

Anonymous, unkind notes aimed at the pastor may be delivered to his wife. This hurts. Just as bad is the fact that most members never write kind, considerate notes to the pastor's wife. You can fill that void with encouraging notes.

Place a love note on her coffee cup or a poem taped to her bathroom mirror. If she is traveling with-



Dennis Wiggs

out you, pin a note on her clothes in the suitcase or travel bag. Never lose that youthful excitement of pleasing the one God has given you.

Use Telephone or E-Mail

When I was in graduate school, one professor used the pay telephone in the hall beside my dorm door to call his wife each afternoon. Oh, what love talk! Unashamedly and loudly, he expressed his love via telephone. Even though he saw her that morning and would be home in an hour or two, you would have thought that their absence had been for days.

A short telephone call from the study to say "I love you" can do wonders for a marital relationship. When on a trip, a timely call can provide comfort and assurance to a wife who is keeping the home fires burning. If a preacher takes a lap top computer with him on a trip and leaves another computer at home, he can inexpensively communicate with his wife via e-mail two or three times daily.

Don't Forget to Court Her

The day is coming when all the children will move out and establish their own homes. Don't let that catch you and your mate off guard. Date your mate all the years the children are growing up. Then, when they leave the nest, you and your queen will still know how to enjoy each other's presence. She is more important to you than the children. Remember, you two are one flesh. The ending years can be even more exciting than the beginning years.

Proverbs 5:18 declares, ". . . and rejoice with the wife of thy youth." ■

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YOUTH UPDATE

THE 1997 NATIONAL YOUTH EVANGELISTIC TEAM



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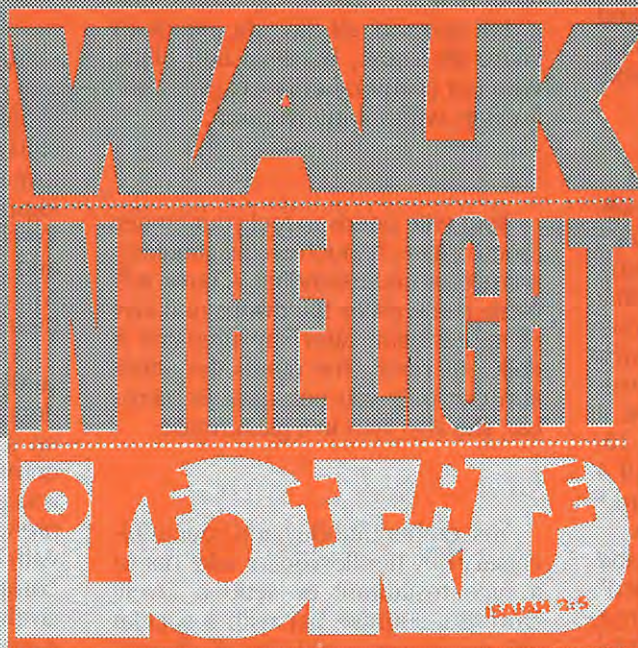
MATTHEW TIMMONSON
MARIETTA, GA



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ALBANY, GA



BRIAN SCOTT
EUREKA, MO



The 1997 NATIONAL YOUTH EVANGELISTIC TEAM consists of winners and top-scorers from the 1996 National Youth Conference in Ft. Worth, Texas. These twelve high-school students will be touring for ten days this summer in Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, and Tennessee. Their program, *WALK IN THE LIGHT* is the story of one student who chose to let the light of God shine through her to her friends. Please uphold them in your prayers and make plans to attend a service in your area. To inquire about the schedule of services, call the Youth Ministries Division at 1-800-877-7030.



Jack Williams

The Phantom Appointment

Last Saturday after 38 years in the ministry, I missed my first appointment where I was scheduled to speak. The story began unfolding six months ago when the Central Association moderator asked me to preach at their April 12 meeting. I consulted my calendar, told him I'd do it, wrote the appointment in red and highlighted it in fluorescent yellow so I wouldn't miss it.

A week later the Chief of all Free Will Baptists (Dr. Melvin Worthington) called me into his book-lined office and asked if I'd go to New Mexico for him on, you guessed it, April 11-12.

"Sorry," says I, "already committed to Central Association."

Six months passed. The Chief flew to New Mexico via Dallas/Fort Worth where stormy weather turned a one-hour flight to Odessa into a six-hour nightmare. He finally landed, found his rental car at 1:30 in the morning and drove 200 miles to Carlsbad.

Meanwhile, back in Tennessee. I'm up at 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 12, reviewing my sermon one last time before a 60-minute drive to the association meeting. Earlier, my creative editorial assistant used a program from her home computer to print out a full-color map showing my exact route to the church.

After telling my sleepy wife goodbye, I poured a cup of coffee and hit I-40 East to keep my appointment that was written in red and highlighted in fluorescent yellow.

An hour later I rolled into Smithville on Highway 56 looking for Bright Hill Road. The full-color map said that Bright Hill Road branched left off Highway 56. The map lied.

But at the moment, I felt grand knowing that I was on time and

ready to rumble. Six miles later I knew that the map was like a lot of other computer-generated stuff, wrong and dumb.

Wheeling around in a cow pasture, I goosed the Ford Contour back to Smithville's city limits and did what wayward travelers have been doing since the first Model-A left Detroit. I stopped at a gas station and asked two good-old-boys for directions. They told me where to go.

I did what they said and one block later found Bright Hill Road. Sometimes good-old-boys are better than computer-generated maps.

The first mailbox indicated a 712 address, which meant that I was going in the wrong direction again, because the church address was 500.

Bright Hill Road ended before I saw a 500. The clock was running, the congregation waiting. The moderator was probably wringing his hands and thinking unkind thoughts about me.

Zippering past a big church on a hill, I glanced at the sign out front and couldn't believe my eyes. It was that elusive Free Will Baptist church. I whipped a U-turn up the long driveway hoping to find a parking place. There were plenty of parking spaces. No one had arrived yet. I breathed a sigh of relief.

Grabbing my Bible and brand new sermon outline, I bounced across the parking lot to the parsonage and rang the doorbell, knowing the good reverend would tell me what time the meeting started.

A young woman and a dog met me at the door. They were both friendly. As I explained my situation, a funny look crossed her face. "You better talk to Mama," said she, "Daddy's not here."

The pastor's wife informed me that the association meeting was Fri-

day night not Saturday morning. I almost died of embarrassment. After 38 years it finally happened; I had missed my first appointment.

"By the way," said the pastor's wife, "the meeting was in Crossville, not Smithville."

I died a second death of embarrassment. Not only had I missed the meeting date, but I'd driven to the wrong place.

Humbly, I asked, "What was said about me not being there to speak?"

"Nothing," she said. "The pastor from Cookeville was scheduled to preach."

I'm not sure how far my mouth dropped open.

The pastor's daughter dialed the moderator's home. She handed me the phone and grinned like the cat sizing up a canary.

Now, please understand, the moderator is an old road-running buddy of mine and we go back a long way. But when he heard my voice, I knew he didn't have a clue.

I could see his ears turning red through the phone lines. He assumed I wasn't coming and got another speaker. We worked it all out in about five minutes. Everybody had a good laugh about the mistaken appointment. Believe me, it's funnier in the telling than in the doing.

But the moderator stopped laughing when I told him that the Chief of all Free Will Baptists had flown to New Mexico in a storm because I had to keep a phantom appointment in Smithville.

Today is Monday. The Chief just walked in and asked how my meeting went. I can't wait to tell him. ■

CONTACT

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21st-Century Fathers (continued from p. 6)

determine parental responsibilities.

Cultures are not always Bible-based and God-fearing. A well-rounded understanding and a firm grasp of God's Word on fathering will help us sift through cultural concepts and separate that which contradicts God's design from that which complements it.

When the majority of scripture on the subject of fatherhood has been researched and read, William Barclay's comment best sums it up, "Fatherhood should be molded and modeled on the pattern of the fatherhood of God."

The pattern of fatherhood that God sets before us shows His interest in our lives, His involvement in our lives, His instructions for our lives, His influence over our lives. Consider ways to put these ideas into practice.

Be There

A formidable challenge to 21st-century fathers will be availability to their kids. Dads, we've got to be there. The number of fathers who abandon their families is alarming, but even worse may be the skyrocketing number of fathers who stay, but are never really there.

Listen to what the children are saying. It's not clothes, toys, gadgets or money they really want; they want a dad who is there to play catch, go fishing, read a book, have a tea party, help build school projects. The most valuable gift a father can give his child is the gift of himself—his time.

LaMoyné Schneider said, "Few dads end up thinking they spent too much time with their kids." Being available is not always easy; sacrifices have to be made. But time invested in a child's life by being there and doing things with them has no equal.

Dr. James Dodson said, "If a dad

and his child can develop hobbies together or other common interests, the rebellious years can pass in relative tranquility."

Set Boundaries

Twenty-first century fathers must set consistent and clear boundaries. Children need boundaries. They need to know where the limits are. Fathers must establish these boundaries in light of God's holy and perfect limitations.

Boundaries offer security. They create a safe environment in which healthy growth can take place. Recent studies show that school children with clearly identifiable boundaries (fences) did better academically, and developed better socially and emotionally than their counterparts who had no fenced boundaries.

The limits a father establishes for his child at home gives a solid starting point from which that child can then understand the concept of God's spiritual and physical boundaries.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend David Taylor pastors First Free Will Baptist Church in Tucson, Arizona. His son regularly thumps him at golf, and his daughter is deciding whether to study law or teacher education. Dave is a graduate of California Christian College.

Talk About It

As society disintegrates and exposes children at younger ages to profanity, violence, drugs and immorality, the ability to communicate effectively with our kids becomes more important. Dads who want to get through to their teenagers must talk to them and listen to them when they are babies, children, grade schoolers and in junior high.

Gordon MacDonald said that "effective fathers listen for questions, the answers to which will shape a child's mind and spirit.

Our children have dreams and God-given abilities, often, greater than those of their parents. Yes, their dreams may change many times over a short period, but that makes them no less real.

Lady Bird Johnson said, "Children are likely to live up to what their fathers believe of them."

Fathers must know their children and recognize their God-given abilities. Only then can a dad give sound, biblical advice and direction to the aspirations and ambitions of his child.

But to do so means knowing our kids through communication. This kind of rapport is not achieved overnight or by demand; it results from lifelong involvement and conversation.

"Training children involves helping them shape ambitions and their sense of personal destiny," (Gordon MacDonald).

Twenty-first century fatherhood will not be any easier than it was for past generations. But neither does it have to be any harder. Our heavenly Father has given us a pattern to follow. He even gave us a Handbook with all the necessary instructions.

Dads, let's learn the right way from the right Book. Let's avoid the mistakes of our forefathers. Let's leave the next generation a good and godly example of fatherhood. ■