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ONE

MAGAZINE

Melting the Ice

Million-Dollar
Layman

The Magazine for Free Will Baptists

JUNE/JULY 2008

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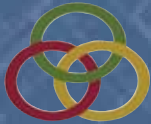
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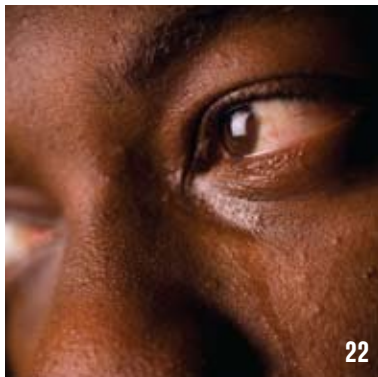
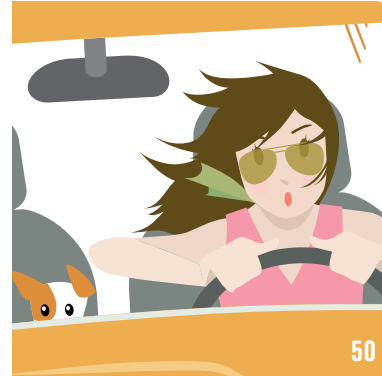
Master's Men

FREE WILL BAPTIST MEN'S MINISTRY

ONE MAGAZINE

**TO COMMUNICATE TO FREE WILL BAPTISTS
A UNIFYING VISION OF OUR ROLE IN THE EXTENSION OF GOD'S KINGDOM.**

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ERIC THOMSEN
MANAGING EDITOR

FIRST GLIMPSE

MISSING

“Honey, wake up!”

“What?” My wife’s sleepy voice sounds irritable in the darkness.

“It’s gone.”

“What’s gone?”

“My passport.”

“Your passport! You’re kidding, right?” Sleepiness and irritability have been replaced by panic.

I shine my flashlight into her squinting eyes. “Do you think I would joke about that?”

A frantic search ensues. Suitcases are emptied. Backpacks are dumped on the bed. Still, no passport.

The full impact of the situation begins to sink in. It is 1:00 a.m. I am 6,000 miles from home in another country. And I am kneeling on a cold, tile floor beside my suitcase with no passport. At least I am in the right position. “Please, God, help me find it.”

As I sort through my socks, I ask myself, “How does a reasonably intelligent, professional adult lose the one document he absolutely cannot lose?”

I don’t ask my wife. I’m afraid of her answer.

The phone calls begin. I retrace my steps, waking former hosts from their sleep to join the search. I am living a nightmare.

You just don’t realize how important some things are until they are missing.

It’s a pastor’s nightmare.

He arrives at church one Sunday morning to find the lights off, no tempting aroma of fresh coffee, no friendly greeters at the door to hand him a church bulletin that was not printed anyway. Before long, a confused crowd begins to wander hallways that lack their weekly cleaning, looking for missing teachers.

Harried mothers carry screaming infants because no patient workers staff the nursery. Small knots of angry people begin to form, talking in strident voices as elementary-aged children dash between them, playing tag.

The confusion continues into the worship service as the pastor struggles to lead unfamiliar songs in a loud voice because no one turned on the sound system. Usually, the piano, organ, and guitars cover his tuneless voice when he fills in for the worship leader. Today he sings alone. When no ushers appear, he asks for volunteers. A stone-faced group crosses their arms and stares back at him. Humiliated, the man of God skips the offering and opens his Bible...

You just don’t realize how important some people are until they are missing.

By the way, I found my passport. It was under the bed. □

LETTERS

I appreciated the article by Vicky Garcia about her husband Julio in *ONE Magazine*. Julio is a fine man and we are proud to have him as part of our student body at the Instituto Biblico La Cruz, (IBLAC) in Altamira, Tamps. Mexico. However, there is an error in the text of the article. Julio and Vicki live on the campus and Julio studies at IBLAC, The Cross Bible Institute in Altamira. The Seminary of the Cross referred to in the article is located in Reynosa—different school, different city.

Ruth Bivens, teacher
Instituto Biblico La Cruz
Altamira, Tamaulipas, Mexico

We really enjoy *ONE Magazine*. Just can’t put it down when we open it and start reading articles written by those we know (and don’t know). This is just a note to say thank you for an excellent job.

Rolla and Helen Smith
Nashville, TN

A word of thanks for publishing the article, “Crossing the River Eros,” in the last issue. I passed it on to the staff here at the Walnut Street Baptist Church. Keep up the good work. It’s quality.

Cornelia Williams
Louisville, KY

I really enjoy *ONE Magazine* and read it through cover-to-cover whenever they come. Is there any way you could change the address for our subscription?

Jyna Beck
Christiansted, Virgin Islands

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where
have
all the

NAALI GAS GONE?

BY KEN AKERS

Those who grew up in the 1950s and 60s will never forget climbing into the car on hot summer days and sticking to the seats. After a few minutes in the sunshine, your legs felt as if they had been glued down, and by the time you arrived at your destination, you were melted to the seat. Who can forget that awful, sucking noise when you started to get out of the car?

Perhaps you remember girls wearing knee-high, shiny boots. Or the first recliners—the ones your mom cleaned with furniture polish. You had to be very careful not to jump into the recliner too fast or you might be seriously injured when you shot out the other side. Yes, those were the days, the days of nauga hide.

But what has happened to the wonderful material from which these items were made? Where have all the naugas gone? Although I have never seen such an animal, as a child, I clearly remember my parents talking about furniture, car seats, and more made from the hide of the nauga. What happened? Did some government agency put a stop to their use, or were they hunted into extinction? Did some new, synthetic material take its place? Maybe leather has become so popular that the hide of the nauga is no longer in great demand.

A quick Google search revealed some interesting facts. First, naugas aren't animals at all! The word is spelled naugahyde—who knew? Second, naugahyde is still being used; they just changed a few things about it, made it more colorful and less sticky. Oh well, I guess that's progress.

After solving the mystery of the naugas, I started on another quest—to find out where all the real men have gone. I'm not talking about males. I'm talking about men—boys

who grow up playing games like army, cowboys and Indians, and baseball; boys who stay outside all day, then want to camp under the stars at night.

Today, it seems many boys are being raised in a passive, lethargic atmosphere. They would rather stay inside and play video games, watch television, or browse the internet.

What has happened to real men who make a life-long commitment when they get married? Who spend time with their sons and daughters—playing, teaching, and setting the right example. Men who show their children what it means to love their wives, to be responsible and provide not only for physical needs but spiritual and emotional needs as well. What has happened to men who will stand for what is right, honest, and good, and stand against what is wrong and dishonest in this world? While I won't claim there are no real men left, there certainly are not as many as there used to be.

Where have all the real men gone? You won't find them on television where they are portrayed as bullies, twits, or idiots. Hopefully, you can still find them in our churches—men who believe in God. Men who believe in and live out their faith and family values. Men who not only send their children to church, but take them there and show them that real men still love Jesus!

I must admit I miss the days of naugahyde, the days when life was simpler, and the worst thing you saw on television was somebody smoking or fighting one of those guys in black hats. Today, life seems much more complex. But God's values have not changed, and today's real man still lives up to them!

Be sure to watch for my next article. I'll tell you where all the snipes have gone. □

**I STARTED
ON ANOTHER
QUEST—TO
FIND OUT
WHERE ALL
THE REAL
MEN HAVE
GONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Ken Akers is the general director of Master's Men, the men's ministry of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Visit www.fwbmastersmen.org to learn more about the organization.



THE
MILLION-DOLLAR
Layman

ADAM “PACMAN” JONES, ALL-AMERICAN FOOTBALL player at West Virginia University, was a first round NFL draft choice in 2005, inking a multi-million-dollar contract with the Tennessee Titans. As a rookie, Pacman started 15 games. His play in the defensive secondary and as a top punt returner stymied Titans’ opponents and electrified fans. But off the field, Pacman did not earn the respect of opponents or fans.

His penchant for trouble with the law embarrassed the Titans and the National Football League. Pacman’s outrageous off-the-field conduct prompted Commissioner Roger Goodell to suspend him from playing in the league. The multi-talented, multi-million dollar athlete turned out to be more trouble than he was worth.

Jones doesn’t believe he is accountable to anyone, preferring to be seen as a maverick. He refuses to change his behavior for the benefit of his family, his friends, his fans, the NFL, and, most significantly, his teammates. Instead of making the most of his physical talents, new-found wealth, and lofty position in the world of sports, his chief aim in life is to please himself. Pacman’s allegiance is to himself. What could the Titans do? They finally traded their wayward superstar to another team.

MORE TROUBLE THAN WORTH

We have some wonderful and gifted laymen in our ranks who almost carry the local church on their shoulders. These amazing men go all-out to demonstrate godly leadership and influence their communities for Christ. I know many of them and have the highest respect for them.

Sadly, there are also some “million-dollar laymen” in our churches who are a little like Pacman Jones. They bring impressive abilities and resources into the local church, and their potential for building up the local body of Christ is indisputable. But selfish conduct and short-sighted behavior damage the testimony of the church and shame fellow Christians. Like Pacman Jones, they turn out to be more trouble than they’re worth.

I wonder if Pacman has ever considered that without the teams and NFL structure, gifted football players would have no stage on which to perform. And of course, there are no one-man teams in the NFL.

Similarly, God gives gifts and resources to all of us and expects us to use what He’s given in the body of Christ. The church is designed to maximize who we are as Christians. Paul reminds us (1 Corinthians 12) that there are no one-member bodies. The terms “maverick” and “Christian” are antithetical and cannot logically coexist.

The local church is where individual Christian faith and God-given gifts intersect to bring accountability to the body of Christ. The million-dollar layman understands he is accountable to Christ and is willing to commit himself to a life of service and discipline out of love for the body of Christ, of which he is but one member.

ACCOUNTABLE LIKE PASTORS

The million-dollar layman employs God’s priceless gift of salvation through Christ, the lofty spiritual position he occupies, and his God-given talents and abilities for God through the local church. Peter explains (1 Peter 2:9) our standing as a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people that should show forth the praises of Him who called us out of darkness, into His marvelous light.

This verse says every Christian has been set aside to declare God’s praises and serve Him. In God’s eyes, the role of the layman in His work is no less significant than the role of the pastor. The layman is no less accountable than the pastor for living a life that declares God’s praises and serves Him.

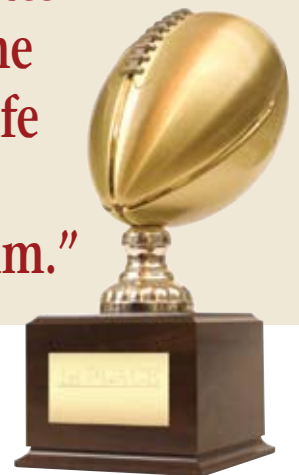
BIBLICAL MILLION-DOLLAR LAYMEN

The Bible speaks of million-dollar laymen who lived up to their potential. One of the most famous laymen in Scripture, Stephen, was chosen by the body to serve. He gave his life as a Christian martyr; he understood that he had been set aside to declare God’s praises and serve Him (Acts 6 - 7).

Phillip, another deacon chosen along with Stephen, proclaimed Christ as a powerful evangelist. He submitted his gifts and resources and became accountable to the body of Christ (Acts 6 - 8).

Nehemiah, an Old Testament layman, engaged in a difficult building project, working patiently with God’s people, symbolically and literally declaring God’s praises and serving Him. God used Nehemiah’s gifts, resources, and experiences in a unique and powerful way because of his burden for the work (Nehemiah 1).

“The layman is no less accountable than the pastor for living a life that declares God’s praise and serves Him.”



MILLION-DOLLAR LAYMAN JOB DESCRIPTION

Laymen are accountable to the local body of believers as husbands and fathers. Fellow believers know these men are to live out Ephesians chapters five and six by loving their wives and raising their children. The million-dollar layman is accountable for right thinking as commanded in Philipians 4:8. He is accountable for practicing pure religion and undefiled before God, visiting the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and keeping himself unspotted from the world (James 1:27).

The million-dollar layman has a genuine, personal relationship with Jesus Christ and is a student of God's Word (Heb. 11:6; 2 Tim. 2:15). As a Christian leader in his home, he earns the respect of his wife and family (Eph. 5:22-6:4). He lives a life of integrity; not just at church, but in his home, at his work, with his friends, and in his community (Eph. 5:15-20; I Thess. 4:1-11; I Tim. 3:8-13). He is able to both encourage and rebuke in love (Col. 4:6; Eph. 4:15). He asks "What is my service in the body of Christ?" (Phil. 3:8-11), rather than what the body of Christ can do for him.

The million-dollar layman is committed for the long haul (Heb. 10:19-25). He is reliable (I Cor. 15:58). He is not lazy but does more than his share (Gal. 6:1-9). He serves others and is not focused on perks and privileges (Phil. 2:1-11). He is not satisfied with the status quo (Phil. 3:13,14). He is generous, kind, and patient (I Cor. 13).

I have come to appreciate the way God uses my local church to hold me accountable. Accountability restrains me from my natural selfishness and arrogance, and encourages me to live up to God's expectations for me within the body.

Simple things like other members seeing me at church regularly or hearing me pray for the lost are subtle ways I am held accountable. When I promise to teach a Sunday School class or when I take communion and thank God for sacrificing His Son to atone for my sins, my accountability is obvious to me and others. When I join fellow believers helping others in need, I am making myself accountable to the body.

WORTH HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD

Pacman Jones may reject the idea that he is accountable to anyone, but his stubborn rebellion doesn't make it true. Our refusal to maximize our gifts through the body of Christ will not change the truth of God's Word and His design for our lives. On the other hand, the million-dollar layman who lives up to his potential in the body of Christ by making himself accountable to his Lord through the local church is worth his weight in gold. □

ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Greg Ketteman, provost at Free Will Baptist Bible College, is a deacon at Cross Timbers Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee.



NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

RIVERA, URUGUAY—Daily vacation Bible school classes were held in February on the outskirts of Rivera with about 50 children attending each day. Molly Barker says, "It poured rain the whole week, but God stopped the rain each day for the school. Then the rain started again when we'd finished."

BONDOUKOU, CÔTE D'IVOIRE—More than 200 women attended a four-day women's retreat March 22-25, following the 50th celebration.

CHITRÉ, PANAMA—Extension Bible institute classes began in Chitré in March. Fourteen students are attending, and two students hope to be full-time students at Chame Bible Institute next year.

THAILAND—Jeff Turnbough taught seminars during the Leadership Matters Course in Thailand, April 5-20. Others of our missionary family attended the leadership development and training course.

HOKKAIDO, JAPAN—The Miharashidai Chapel in Ebetsu, Hokkaido, celebrated Easter with a variety of services. A Thursday evening service featured feet washing, with several experiencing this for the first time. A children's event on Saturday shared the story of Christ's death and resurrection with about 40 children and their parents. A potluck dinner followed the Sunday morning worship. Ebetsu Alive, a community-wide event, focused on the risen Savior.

VILLALBA, SPAIN—A well-attended weekend retreat for all the FWB churches in Spain was held the last weekend in March.

CAMPINAS, BRAZIL—MK and former missionary Terry Eagleton taught a comprehensive missions course incorporating the biblical basis of missions, missions history, and personal and corporate implications of missions involvement to about 10 students in March. The course ran three hours each of eight non-consecutive nights.

MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY—On Saturday, March 22, the Emanuel FWB Church in Montevideo held an "Avanzada." Twelve church members spent a little over an hour canvassing the neighborhood and inviting children and adults to their Easter services. More than 60 children were present for Sunday school the next morning.

BUSH TO SPEAK AT CONVENTION

ANTIOCH, TN—Dr. Troy Bush is the featured speaker at the HM/IM Rally in Charleston, WV, in the Little Theatre on Monday, July 21, from 3:00-5:00. Bush is the director of church starting for Embrace Baltimore, a project transforming the city by starting new churches. The first 500 attendees will receive a free Church Outreach Resource Packet valued at over \$100.



International Missions' *Three* *Musketeers*

By Don Robirds



Left to right: Jimmie Carter, Walt Hatfield, Charlie Hingst.

"All for one and one for all!"

Who can read Alexander Dumas' famous line from his classic volume, *The Three Musketeers*, without hearing the clink of swords raised together in a salute? Or not anticipate a full-scale, though happy-go-lucky, assault on a common enemy?

Charlie Hingst, Jimmie Carter, and Walter Hatfield—the three musketeers of International Missions' shipping department—all have one thing in common: they love the Lord and are committed to the missions department and missionaries. These three top-notch Free Will Baptist men combine 45 years of part-time labor given freely to International Missions since 1986.

General Director James Forlines says, "Thank the Lord for Charlie, Jimmie, and Walt. They are a delight to work with and are very valuable members of our team." According to April Bybee, assistant to the director of stateside development, "They manage a wide variety of logistics. Their outstanding service, coupled with glowing, selfless attitudes, make them endearing and special to IM."

Lone Ranger

Charlie Hingst became the first musketeer after his retirement as the manager of the branch office of Otis Elevator Company in Nashville, Tennessee. When Rolla Smith and Don Robirds approached Charlie after Sunday School one day at Donelson FWB Church, they were certain he was too healthy to sit in a rocking chair after retirement. Charlie recalls, "I don't remember hesitating at all. I was looking for something to do."

When he asked what the job would include, Willie Midgett, secretary to the director of deputation at that time, responded, "There is not enough paper in this office to write your job description." Charlie took the challenge anyway.

The former WWII Merchant Marine radio officer who holds BS and MS degrees from Georgia Technical University laid down his manager's mantle on a Friday in January of 1986 and donned his new ministry at Foreign Missions on the following Monday. The delightful 86-year-old gentleman still displays a picture of health and vitality. Uniquely, Charlie completed 22 years at IM in January of this year and was honored by the staff on his birthday, February 22 (2-22-22), a date he shares with another outstanding man in history—George Washington.

During those 22 years, many missionaries have passed through the department and were given Charlie's special treatment. "His kindness, helpfulness, and smiles have made checking the mail a joy," say missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole of Brazil.

"He always makes us feel special when we see him," declare Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson from France. Charlie has delighted in the special relationships with missionaries like Jeff and Susan Turnbough of Spain: "Susan sent me pictures of their children. When I first started they were little and she has kept me informed. Now Matthew is back in Spain, and he and Brooke have a baby. These memories are special."

Hingst began working full-time with a partial pay package, but decided he

would rather give his time freely. He cut back to three days a week and then to two days when he moved 50 miles northeast of Nashville. Amazingly, he continued making the 100-mile round-trip until he lost Judy, his wife of 55 years, to cancer in 2001. When asked what made him continue making that drive, he responded simply, "It seemed like I had found a niche I didn't want to leave under any circumstances. The people I work with in the missions department are such a delight that I really look forward to coming to work."

After Judy's death, Charlie sold his home and moved to LaVergne, Tennessee, much closer to the mission office. He later married Juanita Patterson, a widow and long-time friend, and she has supported his continued involvement.

Dynamic Duo

Recognizing the heavy workload Charlie was bearing, Eugene Waddell approached Jimmie Carter, a long-time deacon at Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville, about volunteering after his retirement. Jimmie was the clerical supervisor in the Department of Radiology at Vanderbilt University and his wife, Doris, was an X-ray technician. When Jimmy retired in 1993, after 42 years and two months, he threw in his lot with the joyful ex-elevator chief in the IM shipping department. He has continued for 15 years.

The 79-year-old deacon spends two days a week at IM and declares, "It certainly has been a satisfying experience, and I felt it was the will of the Lord. The highlight of my experience has been the people I have worked with and have been associated with here. I have been able to meet quite a few of the missionaries, and it has always been a privilege and a thrill."

Fervid Trio

Walter Hatfield and his wife, Anne, moved to Nashville in 2000, a few years after Walt had retired from the Chrysler Corporation in Detroit, Michigan. They immediately began to volunteer their time in the missions'

office. Today, Anne's poor health keeps her from the job, but Walt pops in on Charlie and Jimmie regularly on Thursdays when the workload seems heaviest.

"This has really been a blessing and rewarding for me," confides the 72-year-old deacon from Rejoice FWB Church in Nashville. "I look forward to it, and as the youngest, working with Charlie and Jimmie has taught me a lot." He has continued for eight years. When he found himself in the hospital in December of 2007, he says it was great to know "missionaries around the world were praying for me."

Swords Raised

Probably one of the most challenging times for the warehouse trio comes in late June and July when they gather elements for the Free Will Baptist National Convention. Often, materials aren't printed until the last minute, so packing and labeling everything quickly can prove tricky.

These amazing men have won the admiration of the IM staff, missionaries, and those working in the Free Will Baptist National Offices building. "One outstanding thing, among many positive attributes possessed by these three gentlemen, is their quiet willingness to work behind the scenes on behalf of the missionaries, the staff, and the Lord," says Steve Lytle, director of field operations.

Charlie challenges anyone who is approaching retirement and looking for an opportunity: "One of the most satisfying things to do is to become a part of a program like International Missions." Jimmie adds, "I would certainly recommend it. I believe you are going to be in the will of the Lord to do this."

Volunteer opportunities are not limited to retirees. Anyone who has some spare time, or people who have been laid off and are drawing unemployment checks can also be blessings and receive blessings from volunteering for the Lord. Simply contact International Missions and tell them you would like to help. Though specific assignments may not be available at that

moment, someone will point out ways to get involved.

In the final analysis, the three humble servants featured in this article have contributed more to the cause of world outreach than can ever be imagined. Rob Conley, director of financial operations, notes: "These volunteers have saved the Mission countless thousands of dollars. They are some of the Kingdom's finest unsung heroes." □



From left to right: Charlie Hingst, Jimmie Carter, and Walt Hatfield prepare a package for UPS.



Don Robirds served with International Missions as a missionary to Brazil, editor of *HeartBeat*, and director of public relations. Now retired, he freelances as a writer, editor, and proofreader.



SO YOU DON'T LIVE IN THE NASHVILLE AREA?

OTHER OPTIONS FOR VOLUNTEER WORK:

Homeless shelters

Rescue missions

Crisis pregnancy centers

Church-sponsored mother's-day-out programs

Teach English to immigrants



A SONG IN A STRANGE LANGUAGE

By Neil Gilliland

*“Un hombre denoche llegóse a Jesús,
Buscando la senda devida yde luz...”*

LAST night, I sat in church and listened to a young couple who had answered God’s call to go to the ends of the earth. Their words echoed a familiar theme. The young man said, “I heard a missionary speak at my church when I was five years old, and the Lord began to deal with me about being a missionary.”

His wife’s story was similar. God used a missionary couple who visited her church when she was young to speak to her heart.

My story is the same. The missionary was my great aunt. She would sing in Spanish, and I would say to myself, “I want to do what Aunt Bessie does.” Her story is simple yet profound.

In December 1895, President Cleveland delivered a historic address to Congress regarding a border dispute with Great Britain over Venezuela and British Guyana. A month before, in a little community in Scioto County, Ohio, Ben and Mary Yeley’s 11th baby, Bessie, was born. Thirteen years later, President Cleveland died, and Bessie was born again into the Kingdom of God. At age 18, she heard her first message on missions and was moved. The missionary sang “Ye Must Be Born Again” in Spanish and a great desire sprang up within her to sing that same song in Spanish.

Aunt Bessie began praying that the Lord would send someone to Latin America to reach the unevangelized. The Father’s response came as a jolt, “Why don’t you go, Bessie?” But there were obstacles: she was caring for her sick mother and lacked proper education.

However, that year her godly mother went to be with the Lord and a Bible school opened in nearby Portsmouth. God provided. Later, he gave her the opportunity to attend Bible school in Kansas City. In May of 1935, under a faith



BESSIE YELEY
1895-1969

Baptist mission, Aunt Bessie and another single lady set sail for Venezuela (the country that made headlines the year she was born). They stopped in Barbados, but were not allowed into Venezuela. After three months of trying, she returned to America claiming Joshua 1:9. In 1936, she left again—this time alone—and had no difficulty entering into the country. For six years she ministered in Venezuela, living in an adobe house. With no regular salary, she often reached the very bottom of the meal barrel just in time for God to provide (Joshua 1:9).



“Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the

LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” Joshua 1:9

In 1942, she returned to her Free Will Baptist roots and joined Mom and Pop Willey on the island of Cuba. These were her most difficult years, as she battled numerous health problems; but continuing to hold on to God’s promise, she labored in Cuba for 12 years. She taught young people at the seminary and traveled to villages on weekends to teach Sunday School and do anything she could to build the Kingdom.

In 1955, she left FWB Foreign Missions and joined Home Missions in Arizona and Texas, working on the border with

Spanish speakers. Her first convert eventually became the pastor of a Mexican church. She later moved to Miami where the Cuban Refugee Center was organized. She ministered there until her retirement in 1964, for, as she put it, “Just a change of work...nothing more.” After almost 30 years of service, she returned to southern Ohio where her journey had begun.

Relatives wanted her to move back to the little community where she was raised. But Aunt Bessie had a calling not many understood. She chose to move to one of the poorest neighborhoods in town and organized Bible clubs for children and Bible studies for senior citizens who were unable to attend church. She was riding the city bus on January 23, 1969, when her Father called her home. I have often thought it was a rather “un-glorious” death for someone who had given so much, but I am sure the welcome on the other side was grand.

In nearly all the services where I have spoken since leaving for the mission field in 1981, I have tried to say something in French. I never know when the next little one in the congregation will be just like me, or the young couple who spoke last night. So, the next time a missionary visits your church and quotes a Bible verse or sings a wee song in another language, watch the children. One of them could hear the Father whisper the words of Joshua 1:9, “Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” □

ABOUT THE WRITER: Neil Gilliland is the director of member care for the Free Will Baptist International Missions Department. Bessie Yeley was his aunt.

MELTING THE ICE

Ohio Church Reaches Out to a Community in Need



BUT THIS WAS NO SNOW-STORM. IT WAS AN ICE STORM—THE UTTER DEVASTATION WAS AMAZING.

PREPARATION

For several years, I have been part of the local volunteer fire department. My coworkers always stress the importance of being prepared for an emergency—especially the first 72 hours. I have always tried to do this personally, but recently a conversation with the local battalion fire chief made me realize that our little church could also make some basic preparations that would cost little, but would make a big impact in a dire emergency.

With the help of our church Master's Men group, we started preparing our church to face an emergency. During the summer of 2007, we began a weekly fellowship meal before the Wednesday night service. After a few weeks, we began to keep more than enough food and beverage for the week.

We planned our menu weeks in advance, serving food like pasta, hotdogs, and pancakes for an average of 65 cents per person. Using donations from the church, we bought food in bulk, and began to keep four to six weeks worth of meals on hand (approximately 800 meals). Buying in bulk was not only cheaper, but it allowed us to keep a supply of food in case of a community emergency.

Sometime earlier, a donor had given the church 50 cots for people to sleep on. The only thing the church lacked to be fully prepared for a major emergency was a power generator.

DEVASTATION

The storm came like most storms. No one predicted that it would be as bad as it was. After all, in Ashtabula, Ohio, snow is no big thing. On more than one occasion, it has snowed more than a foot during a church service!

But this was no snowstorm. It was an ice storm—one of the worst in the history of the community. It brought down thousands of power lines and snapped trees like toothpicks. Ice on the power lines measured over two inches thick. The utter devastation was amazing.

Local police and fire departments received hundreds of calls during the first 12 hours after the storm. Falling power lines causes dozens of small fires across the city. The street department had all crews out, the police department had every officer on patrol, and the fire department called in all personnel to respond to hundreds of emergency calls. Their efforts simply were not sufficient.

The entire community and many of the surrounding areas had no power. After 12 hours without heat, it became apparent this was a full-fledged emergency. In subfreezing temperatures, homes were quickly growing cold, and the power company estimated it would be three days before power would be restored to our town.

No one could buy food. Restaurants and stores were closed. The situation began to get desperate. The chief shared his plans to set up a generator-powered shelter at the fire station. However, emergency personnel were already running short of food. They were accepting people into the shelter, but they had nothing to feed them. He asked if we could help.



With gas appliances, we were able to cook and deliver food for 125 people to the fire station in one hour. The months of preparation and training paid off. We not only had the supplies ready, but we were able to prepare the meal without power and deliver it in an hour!



Another problem soon became apparent. The small fire department was simply not big enough to serve as the lone shelter in town. Because the roads were impassable, people were stranded. The church quickly agreed to keep anyone who did not need immediate medical attention.

While we were able to cook meals, we had no power ourselves. Eighteen hours into the power outage, the temperature was plunging, and the church was getting very cold.

A generator large enough to power a church is not easy to find, so the fire department allowed us to use a heavy rescue truck with a 20 kw generator. With extension cords, an electrician from our church wired the truck into the church. The result was amazing. The lights from the building and the truck lit up our community like a beacon in the cold darkness.

People began to stream into the church when they saw the lights. Relief was written across their faces when they felt the heat and sat down with a steaming cup of coffee. I don't think coffee ever tasted so good.

Church members prepared supper for everyone who came. After dinner, we ate popcorn, and the kids watched a movie while the adults sat and talked. We found it amazing that in such an emergency, no one seemed like a stranger.

Several families stayed in the church that night. The babies slept in the nursery. Some used the old sofas in the teen room. Others used the cots, and, of course, some slept on pews.

INSPIRATION

Our church has always wanted to serve the community. Some simple preparations enabled us to meet a vital need during an emergency. We did not know what emergency we might face, but we were ready...just in case.

It took training and practice in order to meet the needs of those who walked through our doors that night seeking shelter. But we thank the Lord that we were prepared to serve, that our church became the beacon of hope to our community in its time of need.

From the Master's Men group in our church who took care of the building to the ladies in the church who cooked and worked overtime to make our guests welcome, everyone pitched in to "melt the ice" in our town. Only God knows what impact their service will have on those in the community around us. □

ABOUT THE WRITER: Tim Byers is a home missionary in Ashtabula, OH. He and his wife Lori have five children. Learn more about their church at www.lighthousefwb.org.

To learn more about Free Will Baptist Master's Men, visit www.fwb-mastersmen.org.

HOW TO GIVE AWAY YOUR MONEY

Buddy and Martha Morris answer questions about marriage, ministry, business, and stewardship.

Based on an Interview by Bill and Brenda Evans

MARTHA SAYS SHE LITERALLY “WALKED THE PLANK” TO marry her man and has never regretted it. Engaged as seniors in high school, Martha and Buddy Morris married two years later and have spent the past 50 years working together in business and pastoral ministry. We recently sat down to talk with them about their marriage, ministry, business partnership, and their financial goals for the future. They have lived and ministered in Statesboro, Georgia, since 1971.

You both mentioned that you work as a team. What do you mean by that?

Buddy: We make decisions together. You sometimes have to compromise, make concessions. Sometimes it'll go my way; sometimes Martha's. The question is—what is the best way? That's what we try to settle on.

Martha: We ran a Christian bookstore together for 34 years. Buddy was the in-store manager running the day-to-day operations. I kept the financial records, ordered books and products, and tracked the inventory.

Buddy: The margin of mark-up is narrow in Christian books, so you have to know what you're doing financially. I recognized her talent in that area, so that's why we divided the responsibilities. We've made a good team.

How can different abilities or perspectives become strengths in a marriage?

Martha: One of the differences in our background was money. I came from a family that had money available, and Buddy came from a family that didn't. He vividly remembers the time his parents bought him a bike, but later the storeowner came to reclaim it.

My dad was not a Christian, but he was a wise man. As a 16-year-old, he came alone to New York from Beirut, Lebanon. He actually slept on the street at first. He had a very hard life. Somehow he got to Savannah, Georgia, met and married my mother, and became a barber. He worked hard and bought properties, but we lived frugally.

I remember wanting something when I was about 10, and he sat me down to explain why we shouldn't buy it. He drew up columns on paper and had me write down the figures. In the left column I wrote what our income was. On the right, what we had to pay out. It all made sense to me: just because you have money doesn't mean you spend it. That was a valuable lesson and the kind of thing I brought into our marriage and our business.

Speaking of business, how did you get started?

Buddy: In 1973 I had breakfast and prayer each Thursday with six or eight Christian men. One day I said, “Let's pray that someone will open a Christian bookstore here in Statesboro.”

A couple of weeks later, a man in our church said, “I can't get that bookstore off my mind.” He had it all figured out. He and his wife would make one room of their house available—it had a private entrance. Martha would keep the books. His wife would run the day-to-day things, and he and I would each put up \$1,000 to purchase inventory.

Martha, how did you feel about starting a business?

Martha: When Buddy told me the plan, I said, “I don't have time for a bookstore.” But when he finished college in 1966, I had told him I would go wherever he felt led and do whatever he felt led to do. So there was no argument.

I knew I could do the books. I'd had a lot of on-the-job training in bookkeeping. Plus, math was in my blood. I always say that you just do what makes sense in keeping books. Later when we switched to a computerized system in the bookstore, I wasn't worried. I knew if it was logical I could do it.

Buddy: So that is how it began. We ordered \$1,850 worth of books, the salesman gave us a rack to display them, and we opened a one-room Christian bookstore in the middle of December 1973. Less than six months later, the other family relocated and we were on our own.

What are some of the special problems of operating a Christian business?

Buddy: Before I talk about problems, let me just say this: we prayed that the Lord would make the bookstore a good ministry first and then a good business. Also, from the beginning we committed to giving a percentage of the gross income to the Lord—off the top, including sales tax and everything—and we continued that until we sold the business last December.

Martha: We thought we would make money right away, but we worked several years without taking a salary—put everything right back into the business.

Buddy: And that's one of the problems—you can't count on profit right away. In addition to pastoring, I drove school buses, recycled lawn mowers—whatever it took. Another problem is getting customers, and we learned quickly that Christians as a whole don't shop with Christian businesses. So you better not count on that.

Martha: Also, we felt accountable to the Lord for what we put into customers hands.

Buddy: We did not stock books from certain publishers or offer products that didn't match our theological views. That limits your stock and your clientele, but it was our commitment. We did not want to mislead anyone spiritually by what we offered for sale.

Martha: Occasionally, customers would say, "If I can't pay for it, you ought to give it to me because you are a Christian business." Even churches would establish accounts yet not keep current—or not pay at all.

So what made it worth it?

Buddy: One man I won to the Lord in the bookstore told his girlfriend, "If you want to get saved, go down to the

Christian bookstore." So she called me, "Mitch said if I would call you, you would show me how to get saved." I told her she could come right then or the next afternoon at 4:00, whichever was best. So at 4:00 on a Saturday afternoon here she came, and she got saved.

A black man came into the store one day with his family and said, "You don't remember me, but I got saved here 10 or 15 years ago. Now I'm a deacon in my church." One Christmas Eve, we were open late when a family came in. The husband accepted the Lord that night. His wife said to me, "That's all the Christmas I need."



Martha: A retired preacher's wife told me, "You helped raise my children on books we bought here. Now they are raising their kids on those same books." That makes it all worthwhile.

You've sold your bookstore now, and are going to leave your estate to Christian ministries. Why?

Martha: Where did it come from in the first place? We're just going to give it back. We have always been willing to do whatever it takes. We lived in one room during Buddy's college years in Nashville. It was tiny. The refrigerator was next to the bed. The bathroom was under the staircase. Now we don't have to do that, but we still know that God has given us what we have.

Buddy: This is what we've worked for. We don't have children, so we're giving 100 percent of it to the Lord's work. We learned to give a long time ago. Early in our marriage, we gave our last \$20 to a Christian ministry. The very next day, Martha's boss gave her a raise that amounted to \$40 a month.

Do you have a specific estate plan?

Buddy: We have set up a Unitrust with the Free Will Baptist Foundation that will ultimately benefit several ministries. It will also provide income until our death.

Martha, when you said that you "walked a plank" to marry Buddy. What did you mean?

Martha: The new sanctuary at Savannah FWB Church where we got married was not completed, so there was a deep ditch across the entrance. Someone placed boards over the ditch for me to walk on, so I always say that I walked a plank to marry Buddy. He was worth it! □

Putting the Pieces

The Free Will Baptist Foundation offers planned giving services to every Free Will Baptist. Many laymen have utilized our services through the years to arrange their estate. The goal of planned giving is to help donors plan their estates and charitable giving in ways that benefit both family and FWB ministries.

YOUR GIFT	YOUR GOAL	HOW IT WORKS
Bequest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain control of your assets during life. • Make a gift to charity at your death. 	You designate a FWB ministry as the beneficiary of your asset by will, trust, or other instrument.
Endowments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perpetuate your gift to a FWB ministry. 	You make an irrevocable gift to the Foundation to establish the endowment. Earnings are harvested every six months to make a perpetual gift to ministry.
Charitable Gift Annuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive fixed income for life. • Avoid capital gains tax on the sale of your appreciated property. • Enjoy the benefit of tax savings from a charitable deduction. 	You transfer your cash or appreciated property to a FWB ministry in exchange for our promise to pay you fixed income (with rates based on your age) for the rest of your life.
Charitable Remainder Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer your appreciated property without paying capital gains tax. • Enjoy regular income for life or a term of years. • Receive the benefit of tax savings from a charitable deduction. 	You transfer your cash or appreciated property to fund a charitable trust. The trust sells your property tax-free and provides you with income for life or a term of years.
Charitable Lead Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give cash or property to your family in the future. • Avoid substantial gift or estate tax. 	You transfer cash or property to fund a lead trust that makes a gift to a FWB ministry for a number of years. You receive a charitable deduction for the gift. Your family receives the remainder at substantial tax savings.
Bargain Sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer your property and receive cash or debt relief without paying substantial taxes. 	We purchase your property for less than fair market value. You receive the cash and a charitable deduction for the difference between the market value and purchase price.



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- Partial bypass of capital gains tax.
- Possible tax-free payments.
- Partial charitable tax deduction.
- Income for life or a term of years.
- Possible income growth over time.
- Avoid capital gains tax.
- Gift or estate tax deduction.
- Asset and appreciation passes to family at a reduced cost.
- Cash from sale.
- Charitable tax deduction.
- Partial bypass of capital gains tax.

The federal tax code allows for several trust and gift agreements that are used in making these planned gifts to ministry and that provide some tax benefit for donors. Therefore, the study of planned giving is twofold. It involves knowledge of people and their needs as well as knowledge of taxation and the gift agreements available to fill those needs. Let the Foundation help you put all the pieces together.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

Gift annuities offer guaranteed high fixed rates. Some of the annuity is considered return of principal, so a portion of the payment is tax-free income. Therefore, the effective rate of return on these instruments is quite high.

BEQUEST

The concept of tithing on your estate is appealing, and yet many of us do not know how much of our estate we will need. A bequest of 10% of the value at death insures that you will tithe on your estate and at the same time take care of your retirement needs.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

Many individuals have made gifts of highly appreciated properties like stock or fully depreciated real estate to fund these arrangements. Through a remainder trust, it is possible to avoid all capital gains. When the funds are reinvested in a balanced portfolio of stocks and bonds, many times the income is higher and in many cases the trust grows providing inflation protection and more funds available for ministry.

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a person's face, focusing on the right eye. The eye is red and swollen, suggesting an injury or emotional distress. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights on the skin and eye.

**WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO DO**

FIRST AID
for Emotional Hurts

By Edward E. Moody, Jr.

BEAR YE ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS, AND SO FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST.

WE'VE ALL BEEN THERE. A PROBLEM or tragedy strikes a family member, friend, or neighbor. Someone needs to do something. Should it be you? As a body of believers, we are called to bear one another's burdens. Many people look to God when they are in the middle of a stressful situation or experience a tragedy. Our actions, as ambassadors for Christ, may help unbelievers reconcile with God in the midst of tragedy.

A study published in *Family and Community Health* reports the types of coping strategies utilized by parents who lost a child as a result of a violent death: prayer (75%), church attendance (50%), family prayer (30%). This study reveals that people naturally look to God in the wake of tragedy. If you are His ambassador, they may find Him through you.

Often, however, we are inhibited from helping because we simply do not know what to say. What can you do for those in crisis?

BE THERE

Job's friends were most helpful to him when they simply took time to be with him after his children died (Job 2:13). No magic words will make the pain go away, but simply sharing your time with someone who is hurting can help.

LISTEN

But I don't know what to say! If you don't know what to say, don't say anything. Just listen. Perhaps Job's friends didn't know what to say, and pretty soon they began blurting out some harmful words. Eliphaz said, "They that plow iniquity, and sow wicked-

ness, reap the same" (Job 4:8). That sounds a lot like Galatians 6:7, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that he shall also reap." The words are true, but his timing was way off the mark. We should follow the advice of Proverbs 10:19, "He that refraineth his lips is wise."

BE EMPATHETIC

How can we know when to listen and when to reassure? Be empathetic. Put yourself in the shoes of the one you are trying to help. How would you feel if someone quoted Romans 8:28 to you? An ounce of empathy can prevent tons of hurt. What would you need if you were in the same situation? What kinds of acts could you perform to lighten the load? Too often, we look for the right words to fit a situation, when action is really needed.

PRAY

If only Job's friends had used their words to pray rather than condemn, how much better would it have gone? Spend time praying for those who are experiencing difficulty. God will guide you into specific acts you can perform to help them.

God is in the business of changing, healing, and rebuilding lives. You can do your part by lifting the burdens of others and serving as an ambassador to hurting people who need Him. □

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Edward E. Moody, Jr. is the pastor of Tippett's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church and a professor of counselor education. Randall House recently published his book *First Aid for Emotional Hurts: Helping People Through Difficult Times*. You can find more information at his website: www.FirstAidForEmotionalHurts.com.*



**First Aid for Emotional Hurts:
Helping People Through Difficult Times**
Edward E. Moody, Jr. Ph.D

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The background of the page is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, golden tones. The title 'ENGLAND AND AMERICA' is centered in a large, dark blue, serif font with a slight shadow effect. The word 'AND' is smaller and positioned between two horizontal brushstroke-like lines.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA

WILL HISTORY REPEAT ITSELF?

My wife Sandy and I had always wanted to visit England. With our 30th wedding anniversary approaching, we saved our nickels and dimes and made the trip. We ate one main meal a day in order to save money and stayed in a hotel room so small you could sit on the bed and touch all four walls, but we got to see a lot of great sights. I love history, and England has a lot of it.

In America, we think a 100-year-old building is old. In England they have buildings more than a thousand years old. We visited castles and palaces, saw the Magna Carta, and enjoyed great art. We also took lots of rides on the subway. The British call it the tube, and rather than saying, "Watch your step," they say, "Mind the gap."

Some of the most interesting sites we visited were connected to our spiritual heritage. Beautiful churches like St. Paul's Cathedral were so awe-inspiring that they nearly brought us to our knees. We saw a plaque marking the spot where John Wesley was saved and visited his church in London. Across the street, we visited the non-conformists cemetery where John Bunyan, Susannah Wesley, and Isaac Watts are buried. We attended a church service at the Metropolitan Tabernacle where Charles Spurgeon pastored. Everywhere we looked, we saw the evidence of our Christian heritage.

Unfortunately, today one would hardly call England a Christian nation. According to the BBC, only about six percent of the people attend church on any given Sunday. Between 1979 and 2005, half of all people who called themselves Christians stopped attending church. In one recent poll, only 22 percent of teens said they believed in God. "All indications show a continued secularization of British society."

Why am I telling you all of this? Because I don't want the same thing to happen in our country! The Christian church in America is only one generation from extinction. Books have been written and will continue to be written on what we can do to avoid this fate. I have two quick thoughts.

We have to find a way to reach young people. Many congregations today are filled with older people, and a lot of pastors are conducting a great number of funerals. Ac-

ording to Thom Rainer in his book *The Bridger Generation*, only 16 percent of people born from 1965 to 1976 are evangelical Christians, and only four percent of young people born since 1977 are evangelical Christians! These are scary statistics. Our churches must do something and do it now. I asked my 20-year-old daughter to share her thoughts about reaching her generation. You can read her ideas below.

HEY DAD,

So, as I was thinking about my generation, I thought about how we are so hands-on and tech-savvy. I think the church should tap into that. I think we need to teach my generation how to have a mature faith. We know how to have childlike faith, but as we get older, we are left with only a childlike understanding of faith. The intellectual level of Christian training often drops as we get older. I think the church focuses on having so many children's programs in order to gain contact with the parents, but college-age programs are often scrapped or they are poor quality.

We also need to hear more biblical application directed to our lives and what we are dealing with, not just a general "trust in the Lord." Tell us what that means, and how can we do that in our everyday life.

We need more than just fundamentals like *prayer is powerful*. That is definitely good, but we need more information applied. For example, How do I pray for my friends who are living in continual sin? How does prayer work? I have had many friends question how prayer works and why we pray. We need helpful answers.

We NEED community with other believers, and not just in Sunday School. Honestly, the classroom is not the best environment in which to get to know each other. Outside activities provide opportunities for people to come together, and a bond is formed. This is so true, but we often forget to implement this into church life.

As a young person, here is what I would say to a church:

"When a new young person comes into your church, don't assume that you can't relate to them because you are older. You can! You have something they need, and that is friendship. Young people long to fit in, and that need can be met from people who are not our age. Please talk to us, and don't just ask our age and major in school and then walk away. Try to get to know us as persons. Sit with us. Don't expect someone else to talk to us...you do it! SMILE while you talk. That is encouraging and it shows the love of Christ without words. Be our friend, not just a random "hello."

Young people are searching for something; they are just not sure exactly what. The church needs to step in (not in an invasive way but in an encouraging, kind, and loving way). Ask people in the church to invite young people out for lunch instead of just going with their usual friends. College students always love a free meal! Food is a good way to get college students to come to meetings or social events, and it is easier for them to invite their friends to attend as well.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP START NEW CHURCHES?

Here are some suggestions:

Learn the names of the young people in your church. Help them get involved in service to others and the work of the church. Teach them apologetics (why it makes sense to be a Christian). Teach parents how to teach their children. Be willing to give up some of your preferences to reach the younger generation. One of our home missionaries had a couple leave the church because too many of the “new people” had tattoos. That kind of attitude is killing us. We are more concerned with our preferences than whether or not someone is going to Hell. We should rejoice because new people are being saved!

We need to start more churches. From 2000 to 2004, the U.S. needed a net gain of 13,000 new churches to keep up with our population growth. Since we only started about 3,000 churches, the Church incurred a deficit of almost 10,000 churches. Thom Rainer says that 94 percent of our churches are losing ground in the communities they serve. The population is growing, but churches aren't keeping up. Most statistics seem to agree with this quote by David Anderson of the Bridgeleader Network, “More evangelism happens through church planting than mega churches.” More people are saved in newer churches. Everyone should be involved in helping to start new gospel-preaching churches.

Don't misunderstand. This article is not intended to discourage us. God is alive and powerful! He wants people to be saved, and America doesn't have to go the way of England. Let's get excited about the needs and possibilities. I'm fired up! How about you? ☐

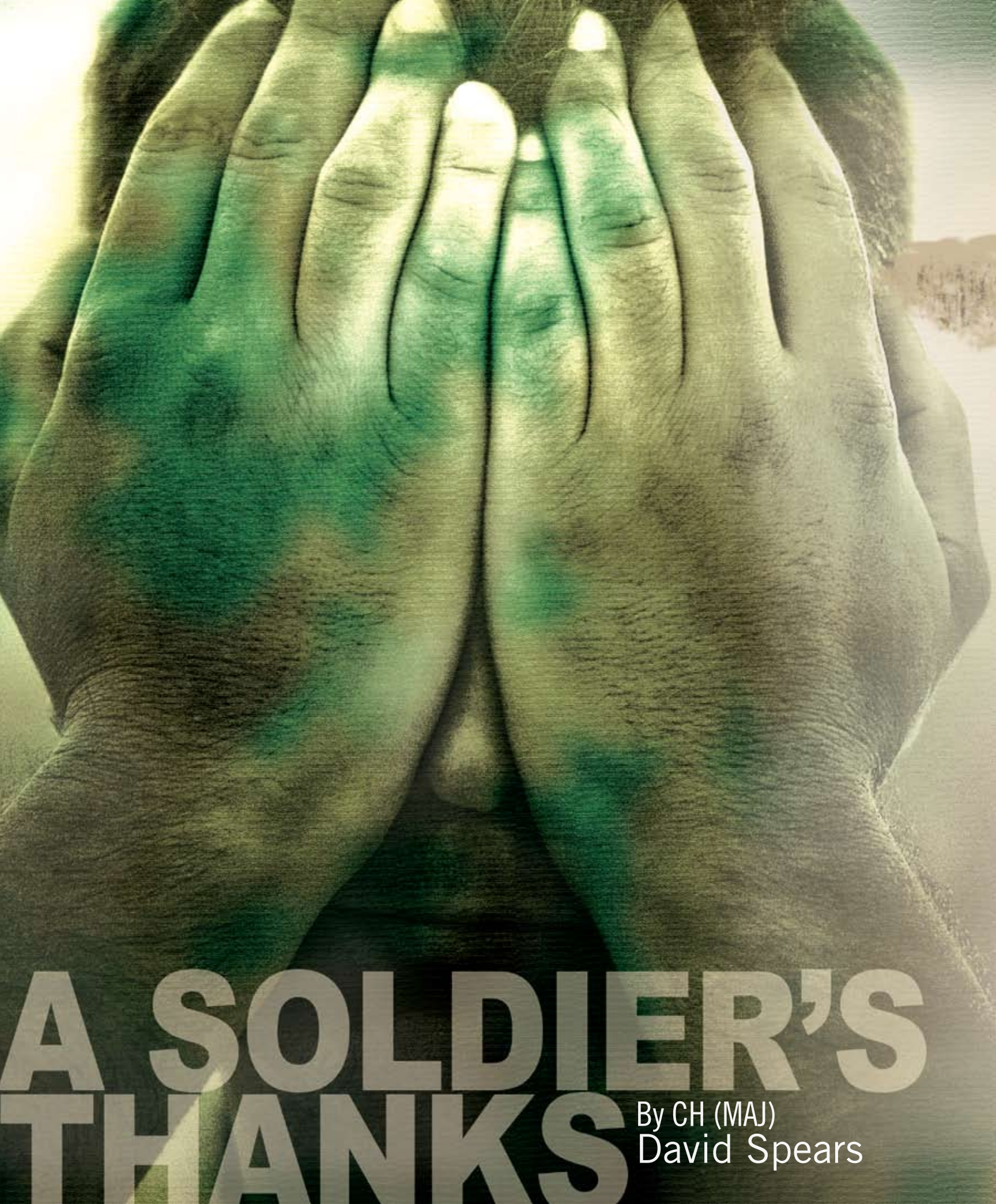
Your church can parent a church. Take a few people 20 miles down the road and get started. There are many ways to do this. Call me if you need some help in this area.

Partner with a home missionary church planter. Pray, give, and take mission trips to help see new churches started across the continent. Visit our website at www.homemissions.net for a list of our home missionaries.

YOU can go. Go either as a church planter or get a job and be a part of the church planting team. Jim and Sylvia Martin moved from Alabama to New York and got jobs so they could help the Booths start a church in New York State. There are a number of others who are doing the same thing. Maybe you should go. Yes, I'm talking to **YOU!** ☐

Richard Atwood is the director of missionary assistance for the Home Missions Department.





A SOLDIER'S THANKS

By CH (MAJ)
David Spears

As I waited at the passenger gate in the Atlanta airport with 50 other soldiers returning to Iraq after a two-week leave, I watched a lady stop and stare as she passed by. Suddenly, she turned and waded through the group, shaking each soldier's hand and thanking him or her for serving our country. As she clasped each hand in both of hers, I couldn't help but think about what those hands had been doing only a few weeks prior.

would serve her country in a combat zone on the other side of the globe. Her smile was out of place in such difficult circumstances.

"Thank you" to the pastor who led a young American Indian, bound by the chains of alcoholism, to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. That young man now shepherds his men in a most violent place.

I couldn't help but think about what those hands had been doing only a few weeks prior.

Anna smiled as the lady shook her hand. Three weeks earlier, Anna's hands had been engaged in a gruesome task that no 21-year-old should have to perform. She is an MP (Military Police), and on a cool November afternoon she was on patrol when she and her fellow MPs received instructions to go to the crash site of two U.S. helicopters. They arrived on a scene of utter chaos and horror. An infantry platoon had sealed off the area to deal with the threat of insurgents while the MPs began to rescue and recover the soldiers. Anna took charge of recovery, identifying and putting back together the bodies of 17 dead soldiers. She protected them during rescue and firefighting efforts.

When the lady came to John, infantry squad leader, she clasped the hands of a soldier who crawled on his belly into the burning wreckage of one of those helicopters. The roof had collapsed upon impact, crushing the soldiers inside. Yet two men were still alive, and John managed to reach one's outstretched hands. He tried desperately to free the man as others scrambled for every portable fire extinguisher they could find. Several times John had to crawl backward from the wreckage until the fire could be suppressed, and then he would go right back in. As the soldier begged him not to let him die, John tried to reassure him by grasping his hands. When the flames finally drove him from the wreckage, John watched in horror as the helicopter became fully engulfed in flames.

As I watched that wonderful woman step out of her comfort zone, opening her heart to those faithful soldiers, my heart was filled with the deepest sense of gratitude. She ministered to my soldiers right in front of me. Even though that's my job on a typical day, the Lord refreshed me by giving me someone to minister beside me. I marveled at the sovereignty of God.

I think it is only fitting that in an issue of this magazine dedicated to lay ministry, a soldier says "thank you" to the citizens of this amazing nation. "Thank you" to the grandmother whose tender nurture so thoroughly grounded a little girl she called "Anna-banana," that she

It is the citizens of this great land who give our military men and women a home worth fighting for—even dying for. If you continue to be the "salt of the earth," soldiers will always have a reason to serve faithfully as they have for more than two centuries. Thank you for the godly heritage.

"For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die" (Romans 5:7). □

CH (MAJ) David Spears currently serves in the U.S. Army as a Free Will Baptist chaplain. CH (MAJ) David Spears has been reassigned from Fort Wainwright, Alaska, to 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, NC.



Afghanistan, September 11, 2002
Chaplains (LTC) Terry Austin and (MAJ) David Spears
after a memorial service commemorating the first anniversary of 9/11.

MISSION:

NORTH AMERICA OFFERING

By
Larry A. Powell



Every year, the National Association of Free Will Baptists sponsors The Together Way Plan. Each national department is assigned a particular month when churches are encouraged to participate in a special offering. At Home Missions, we encourage every person to participate in The Together Way Plan and give a generous offering to each denominational ministry.

The Mission North America Offering (formerly the Benjamin Randall Offering) will be held November 23, 2008. We urge all Free Will Baptist churches to support the work of Home Missions on this day with a generous offering. It is this offering, received once each year, that funds our missionary training and missionary support efforts. The following steps will make this year's offering a success.

PROMOTE

You will receive a promotional package that includes information on the Home Missions Department and current church planting efforts that continue across the nation. We invite you to use all of the materials that are available. Invite a member of our departmental staff or a home missionary of your choice to speak at your church on this special day. Ask your pastor to preach a home missions mes-

sage that emphasizes the need for a strong foundation in Jerusalem, Judaea, and Samaria, so we may be able to reach the uttermost. We ask you to help us by participating in the 2008 Mission North America Offering.

PLAN

Ask your missions teams to involve Sunday School classes and various groups in your church in fund raising. Set a goal for what your congregation can give. Plan to make November 23, 2008, a big day for missions.

PRAY

Let us all pray that God will stir the hearts of Free Will Baptists toward our mission efforts in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the islands. Our current target areas are the Mid-Atlantic and Rocky Mountain regions. Pray that church families will invest in the eternal by supporting the efforts of Home Missions North America. □

ABOUT THE WRITER: Former pastor and church planter Rev. Larry A. Powell is general director of the Home Missions Department.



The Jose Gonzalez family.



HISPANIC MISSIONS in CALIFORNIA

By John Smith

In recent years, the congregation of the First FWB Church in Chula Vista, California, recognized that their community had increasingly become Hispanic in population. Under the leadership of their pastor, they began to pray for God's help in locating a pastor who could reach the community. They made a request to Rick Bowling, director of Hispanic ministries for the Home Missions Department, to help find this person.

With Rick's help, the church located Jose Gonzales who accepted a position pastoring the Hispanic congregation. The group has quickly grown to an average attendance of more than 50 on Sundays. They are proud of their worship music group and look forward to baptizing their five most recent converts.

Among the converts are Gregorio and Hermillo Lopez from an indigenous Indian tribe in Mexico. The two men have begun training to return to their homeland with the gospel.

José's son Jesus, a graduate of the Gwen Hendrix Bible Institute, recently began to pastor in Salinas, California. The English-speaking congregation has flourished under His ministry, and during his brief tenure, Jesus has instituted a Spanish-speaking ministry that enjoys an average attendance of more than 20.

José's work is a joint project between the Chula Vista church and Home Missions. The work of both José and Jesus are supported in part by the California State Missions Board. □

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MISSION WORK

1958-2008



The theme for Brazil's 50th anniversary celebration was "Celebrating the Fruits."

Dave Franks, Sr., honored as the first FWB missionary to Brazil, in turn recognized Dalila Conde, whose deceased husband was our first Brazilian pastor.



The Mission presented both past and present missionaries in attendance with a wooden plaque showing the locations of FWB works.



Top right: Lay preachers responsible for mission works were recognized for their faithful service.



Bottom right: Representatives from 19 of our 25 works were present. Ordained pastors received special recognition of their sacrificial labor.



Left: Dr. Kenneth Eagleton served as event coordinator.



The wonderful fellowship enjoyed by missionaries is demonstrated as Shirley Combs embraces Nancy Hughes.



Below: One of the gifts given to both ordained and unordained preachers was a tie imprinted with the Mission's logo.



Three messages were brought by pastors from the three regions of work: Lucas Lima of First in Campinas, Jeancarlo Achê of FWB Church in Jaboicabal, and Flávio Grossi of First in Barbacena.





Many former missionaries joined the current missionary staff for the celebration.

Ivorian ladies worked hard to provide almost everyone with clothing from cloth specifically designed for the 50th celebration.



Around 1,000 people filled the Bondoukou soccer stadium, the venue for the celebration ceremonies.



Representing the diversity of the Ivorian Church, a national Christian sings in his native Koulongo language, as a local radio station records.

Much of the program consisted of music presented by the national church.



Both the national church and the Mission honored Jerry and Carol Pinkerton, retiring in January 2008, for their 36 years of faithful service in Côte d'Ivoire.



Pastor Jérôme, president of the Ivorian national association, presented framed certificates to all missionaries present. Pictured: Jimmy and Janie Aldridge.



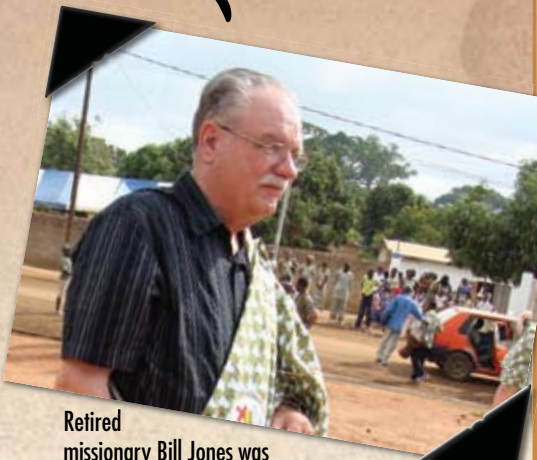
Côte d'Ivoire



Pastor Jérôme proudly displays a plaque presented to the Ivorian church with the major areas of FWB work indicated. Missionaries also received a plaque from the Mission in appreciation for their service.



It wouldn't be a FWB gathering without food. Following the ceremonies, the large group moved across the street to the Bondoukou Church's grounds for fellowship and lunch provided by the Ivorian WNAC ladies.



Retired missionary Bill Jones was honored by the Ivorian church.



Mrs. Lorene Miley presented Pastor Amieze Paul with a large key to symbolize the transfer of the Doropo hospital from the Mission to the NGO owned and operated by the Ivorian national association.

Hobo and Flo

BY JOHN ARLON HAWKE

THEY GREW UP ON OPPOSITE ENDS OF Tennessee. He's a city boy from a North Memphis Italian colony with the Mississippi River at his back. She's a country girl from just across the border on the North Carolina side of the Smoky Mountains. They never should have met. They wouldn't have if it had not been for a call to missions and the humor in God's eye that placed two opposites on a collision course.

He worked in Honduras as an overseer for the United Fruit Company before Communists took over in the early 1950s. He returned to Memphis and tapped his horticultural background to start a wildly successful business raising pansies and selling them by the truckload. She worked in the cutting department of an Asheville garment manufacturing firm, on the fast track to becoming a pattern maker.

Both came to Free Will Baptist Bible College with worldwide missions on their minds and later served 28 years (1964–1992) in Brazil. Both enrolled mid-year as second semester students and came *that close* to missing one another. He enrolled her last semester, the semester she almost didn't stick

around for, because she had enough hours to graduate. Both were older students and serious about their studies. He was born on Christmas Eve, she on New Year's Day.

Turning Points

Louis and Florine Coscia, so amazingly different from each other, will celebrate 45 years of marriage September 22. He was converted at age 10, she at 23. He grew up in a multi-language community with parents who spoke Italian in the home; she was the oldest of five children in a rural Tar Heel family that moved in with her grandmother after her grandfather died.

The turning point for Louis began in Honduras the day a colleague was run over by a train and cut in pieces, and he could not escape the hard question, "Why didn't I witness to that man?" The turning point for Florine came in a Free Will Baptist church the day she admired a poster filled with missionary pictures. A deacon stopped beside her and said, "Maybe some day your picture will be on that."

Some people considered Louis Coscia a religious hobo. He had parted company with Charismatics and Calvinists because of doctrinal differences, and dropped out of an evangelical college because it was too liberal.

Thanks to the late Norlin Jones, he embraced Free Will Baptist doctrine and joined Randall Memorial FWB Church in Memphis where he taught Sunday School.

Church Planting in Brazil

Asked about his best memory from three decades in Brazil, Louis said, "The word is *change*. Watching how life changed new converts as they came to Christ and stepped away from Spiritism and Catholicism." Confrontation with Spiritism was Louis' greatest challenge, resulting in open conflict and outright persecution.

The Coscias landed in Brazil in 1964 and soon found themselves moving from one mission station to another assisting with church planting. They utilized every innovation at their disposal to reach out with the gospel.

"We conducted numerous surveys," Louis said. "We tried whatever worked to win people to Jesus. We started a house church, conducted street meetings, anything to get into people's homes and lives. There were many Italians in the area, so with my Italian background we had an active social outreach with them."

Brazilians are very proud of their language, Coscia observed, and foreigners who ignore the Portuguese language or who speak it poorly are avoided. Those who learn the lan-



Photo of highway on the border of São Paulo and Minas Gerais, the two states where the Coscias ministered in Brazil.

guage and speak it well have easier access to the community.

"If I could do it over again," Louis said, "I'd jump into the language gap and get a better handle on the Portuguese language. I'd find ways to make contact with Brazilians and visit more in their homes. We still miss the work there."

Florine's World

Florine Faulkner put her personal plans on hold for five years after graduating from high school. She stayed in North Carolina to help her mother care for a family with many challenges. But there came a day when she wrote to missions executive Raymond Riggs about her interest in missions. He told her that if she planned to be a missionary, she needed to attend FWBBC.

She worked long hours in the college library and took a heavy academic load in order to graduate sooner and save money. After three and one-half years, she became the first FWBBC student to graduate with a Missions minor.

The first time Florine saw Louis in the college dining hall, she thought he

was a new faculty member. He looked the part and was older than some of the teachers. By the time he enrolled at FWBBC in January 1963, Louis had already attended four colleges (University of Tennessee-Martin, Mississippi State University, Wheaton College, and Mid-South Bible College).

"He asked me about the height of nearby mountains," she said. "I had no idea, so I made up some numbers and told him. The next time I saw him, he informed me that I was way off on the heights. He had been researching my answers to his questions!"

In spite of her creative responses to his questions, Louis and Florine married in September 1963, nine months after they met at FWBBC. A year later, the man from Memphis and the lady from Marshall (NC) were in Brazil serving as international missionaries.

Money in God's Work

The Coscias signed on with the FWB Retirement Plan in February 1970, and stayed with the program until April 1992 when they both took joint-life annuities after returning from Brazil.

Louis said, "The annuities have been a big help to us in meeting ex-

Put in as much as you can as often as you can. (4) Know where your money is going—keep it in God's work.

Beyond Brazil

Louis and Florine now live in Asheville, North Carolina. Serious problems with his eyesight prompted their return to the States sooner than they expected.

"We're not on the shelf!" Louis roars. "We raise plants, vegetables, and fruit on a half-acre plot. Gardening helps with expenses. We are active in witnessing to others and participate in nursing home outreach."

Florine stays informed on local issues affecting the community and city, and they vote regularly. She even took a quick course in mechanics. "I'm curious about practical things," she said. "Why pay someone else to fix it when I can do it myself?"

They have been active in local Free Will Baptist churches since 1992, teaching and preaching. Louis has been an ordained minister almost 50 years and still hungers to reach the lost.

Florine reflected, "I don't know that I'd change a lot even if I could. Every-

The word is change. Watching how life changed new converts who stepped away from Spiritism and Catholicism.

penses. We would have joined earlier in 1964 if the program had been available. Since it wasn't, we diversified our investments in other areas until the program started. We consider it part of God's stewardship for us."

Louis made four suggestions for young Christian workers: (1) Pray for God's direction. (2) Get in the FWB Retirement Plan as soon as you can. (3)

thing that happened to us served a purpose."

Next time you're on the North Carolina side of the Smoky Mountains and need a tip on how to grow world-class pansies, just call the hobo and his lady. □

Veteran Editor John Arlon Hawke writes often for the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

IVORY COAST CELEBRATES

BONDOUKOU, CÔTE D'IVOIRE—On Saturday, March 22, more than 1,000 people gathered in the professional soccer stadium in Bondoukou to celebrate 50 years of God's blessing on FWB work. The event included a time of singing, a historical overview, a message from retiring missionary Jerry Pinkerton, and special recognitions.

After the celebration, the entire crowd moved across the street to the Free Will Baptist church where all were efficiently served a delicious meal by the Ivorian women's group.

For more information on the 50th anniversary celebrations in Ivory Coast and Brazil, visit www.fwbgo.com. *IMpulse 4.4* also featured video coverage of the events and may be ordered on the website.

EIGHT MISSIONARIES APPROVED

ANTIOCH, TN—The Board of Free Will Baptist International Missions met April 23-25 in Antioch, Tennessee. After interviews, three couples and two single men were appointed to missionary service.

Paul and Chrissy Collins of Jennings, Oklahoma, were appointed as career missionaries to Panama where they hope to engage in church planting. Paul graduated in 2005 from Hillsdale FWB College with a degree in missions and pastors Silver City FWB Church. Chrissy is a 2007 graduate of Hillsdale with a bachelor's degree in ministry and leadership. The Collins have three children.

Neil (Sand Hill FWB, Coward, SC) and **Mandi** (Horse Branch FWB, Turbeville, SC) **Morgan** and **David** (Calvary Fellowship, Fenton, MO) and **Kendra** (New Life FWB, Lewisburg, TN) **Dodson** were appointed to career service in Uruguay. They hope to form a ministry team in conjunction with national Christians to begin a new church plant.

Both Neil and Mandi are graduates of Free Will Baptist Bible College. Neil received his degree in missions in 2004. Mandi, a 2003 graduate, majored in English and is certified to teach high school. Neil recently received TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) certification from Columbia International University. The Morgans are expecting their second child in August.

David graduated from FWBBC in 2002 with a degree in pastoral training. He received his M.Div. from Mid-America Theological Seminary in 2006. Kendra received her degree in elementary education from FWBBC in 2003 and is pursuing her Master's at Missouri Baptist University. The couple has a son.

Casey Jones of Wagoner, Oklahoma, was appointed to a two-year term in creative access ministry. A 2008 graduate of Hillsdale, he hopes to pursue career missionary service.

Caleb Dement of First FWB, O'Fallon, Missouri, is a 2008 graduate of FWBBC with a degree in missions. He was approved for a two-year term teaching English in Tokyo, Japan.



Casey Jones



Paul and Chrissy
Collins



Caleb Dement



David and Kendra
Dodson



Neil and Mandy
Morgan



INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS BOARD VOTES TO RESTRUCTURE FUNDING SYSTEM

ANTIOCH, TN—In a historic act, the Board of International Missions voted unanimously this week to implement a new funding structure. This action is a result of more than two years of research, study, and planning.

“We are thrilled with this decision,” said board chairman Danny Williams. “Free Will Baptists are committed to the Great Commission and the way we fund our missionary effort is nothing more than a tool to help us reach people and plant churches. We believe the new plan will be a better tool than our current overburdened and complex system.”

“No longer will we ask missionaries to travel all over the country to raise their own funds for their own accounts,” Director of Development Barry Simpson rejoiced. “Now, all of us will work together to help all of our called and approved missionaries get to, and stay on, their fields of service.”

Highlights of the plan include:

An undesignated Global Evangelism Fund established to pay all the costs of keeping all missionaries on their fields.

The Global Evangelism Fund will be underwritten by contributions to the World Missions Offering, church giving, and individual undesignated contributions.

Every FWBIM missionary will also have a designated ministry and project fund to underwrite the cost of field ministry.

Each missionary’s ministry and project fund will be underwritten by a limited number of strategic partner churches (or groups of churches).

Any designated contributions to a missionary will be placed in the designated missionary’s ministry and project account.

An annual analysis of ministry and project accounts will be conducted and reconciled as follows:

Any deficit in underfunded accounts will be offset by funds transferred from the Global Evangelism Fund.

Any surplus in overfunded accounts will be transferred into the Global Evangelism Fund.

A Board-enforced limit on the percentage of income allocated to administrative expenditures.

Implementation date of January 1, 2010.

All designated funds received prior to implementation will be used as designated.

Randy Wilson, vice-chairman of the International Missions Board says, “We believe this plan is needed to help us broaden the base of support so we can send more missionaries and work with our maturing national churches.” Wilson adds, “The Board is excited about a plan that can include every Free Will Baptist and allows all of us to support every one of our missionaries.”

The Board prayerfully asks all Free Will Baptists to help make the new funding system a success.

For more information on the proposed restructure, visit the Mission’s website www.fwbgo.com and access funding on the home page.



MISSIONARY LEADERS MEET

ANTIOCH, TN—Free Will Baptist International Missions hosted the four regional directors, the NGO director, and eight field chairmen in the national offices building in Antioch, Tennessee, for three days of strategic meetings with Mission staff April 23-25. IM Board Chairman Danny Williams and Vice-chairman Randy Wilson also attended the meeting.

“The regional director/field chairmen meeting is designed to strengthen communication, promote fellowship, and provide a sense of unity,” explained Steve Lytle, director of field operations.

On Monday evening, April 28, the leaders met with the Board of Free Will Baptist International Missions prior to the board’s annual meeting. Missionary leaders provided their input to the board concerning the restructure proposal.

CELEBRATING THE FRUIT

CAMPINAS BRAZIL—Approximately 400 Brazilian Free Will Baptists gathered in Campinas, birthplace of FWB work in Brazil, March 21-22, to celebrate 50 years of labor and growth.

The theme for the gathering, *Celebrating the Fruit*, was emphasized by reviewing the history, rehearsing the present work, and vision casting for the future. Representatives from all the churches were present as pastors, lay workers, and retired and current missionaries were honored for their ministries and kingdom-building efforts.



WE MADE
AN
A!

By Jack Williams

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE MADE AN "A," according to a 2007-2008 student satisfaction survey report by Noel-Levitz, Inc., a leading national firm specializing in collegiate surveys. FWBBC students participated in the Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory administered in 391 four-year private colleges and universities.

Survey results showed FWBBC students giving the college higher satisfaction ratings in eight critical areas of importance than did students in other four-year private colleges and universities.

President Matt Pinson said, "The Noel-Levitz survey confirms what we thought was true all along—our students know they're receiving an excellent education in a helpful, caring, and safe environment. They have access to mentors and teachers at important times when they face decisions. I hope the survey encourages more parents and pastors to direct their children and church youth to FWBBC."

What Students Say

What students say about their college experience often differs from what the promotional literature advertises at some colleges. But that's not the case at FWBBC. Current students echo what's published in the college catalog and promised in annual reports—they like it here and plan to stay.

These are the eight areas where FWBBC students rated their college experience higher than students at other four-year private institutions:

- My academic advisor is knowledgeable about requirements in my major.**
- The quality of instruction I receive is excellent.**

Faculty members are available outside of class.

The campus staff is caring and helpful.

I receive the help I need.

My academic advisor is available when I need help.

Administrators are available to hear my concerns.

The content of the courses is valuable.

Naturally, in the case of FWBBC, a number of items not surveyed by Noel-Levitz are important to us as a Christian college—elements such as chapel effectiveness, growth in devotional life, personal Bible study, Christian Service assignments, and spiritual atmosphere on campus.

Why Student Surveys Matter

An 18-year-old freshman away from home for the first time has a different list of concerns that matter in his collegiate educational experience than do his parents or pastor. Bottom line—if the student isn't happy with the college he attends, it doesn't matter what the Board of Trustees think or how well printed the Annual Report may be.

Students want to feel welcome, to know someone cares, to know help is a phone call away if complications arise. Let's take a closer look at some of the high marks students gave FWBBC and why they're important.

Knowledgeable Academic Advisors / Available When Needed

Faculty members at FWBBC are assigned a number of student advisees each year and meet regularly with them to review degree audits and make sure students are taking the necessary courses to graduate on schedule.

The faculty maintains office hours so students can contact them as needs arise. They also meet at campus events, conferences, chapel services, and meals.

FWBBC students are surveyed each year to measure academic advisor effectiveness. The great majority of advisors receive high marks, with the “Academic Advisor of the Year” award usually decided by hundredths of a point.

Quality of Instruction Excellent

FWBBC students interact daily with top instructors in their fields of study whether its Bible and theology or missions, international business principles or music application, psychology or biology, pastoral ministry or youth ministry, teacher education or exercise science. FWBBC teachers are published widely. They serve on professional and academic boards and committees, and speak in numerous public settings.


intricacies of local and state government, communicate with media representatives, understand a friend struggling with depression, or explain the Christian message in the marketplace of ideas.

10% Higher

One of the most important summary questions asked in the student satisfaction survey was this: All in all, if you had it to do over, would you enroll here again?

Seventy-eight percent of FWBBC students answered Yes. That’s 10 percent higher than students in other four-year private colleges and universities nationwide!

The overwhelming majority of FWBBC students are happy with their decisions to enroll at the college. Eight out of every 10 students would do it over if they could enroll here again. That’s good news for high school seniors considering where they will spend the next four years and for parents who want the best for their children.



“When a phone call to Mom isn’t enough, a friendly staff member makes all the difference.”

National student survey rates FWBBC above the rest.

Classroom presentations include the latest in technology and research, always prepared with the students’ best interests in mind.

Campus Staff Caring and Helpful

Sometimes the unexpected happens during the academic year—a student becomes ill, a friend or family member dies, a breakup occurs with a girlfriend or boyfriend. Perhaps a student’s car stops running or he experiences a job loss. Life happens, and when it does, the caring FWBBC staff reaches out with a helping hand or a shoulder to lean on at the right moment.

When a phone call to Mom isn’t enough, sometimes a quiet discussion and prayer with a friendly staff member makes all the difference. That difference takes many forms—helping students mail a letter, notifying them of a change in classroom location, or assisting them in finding a part-time job. Our staff goes the second mile to make sure students know they’re loved, respected, and important to us.

Course Content Valuable

FWBBC students get a sense that what they’re studying matters. It’s more than completing assignments and writing research papers. The classes are framed in a Christian worldview, whether that class is history or English, Bible doctrines or pre-nursing. What they learn today can be applied in campus residence halls or on the job downtown.

Our students understand that they’re handling the currency of life in the classroom. The courses help them teach a Sunday School class, balance the checkbook, unravel the

What This Means to Prospective Students

Julie Bryant, associate vice president with Noel-Levitz, said, “The Student Satisfaction Inventory provides Free Will Baptist Bible College with the opportunity to determine areas of value to their students as well as identify areas where the college is currently meeting expectations and where there is room for improvement. These lists of strengths and challenges will help guide FWBBC’s decision making in areas that matter to students. Surveying student satisfaction and responding in areas that students value is a powerful way to show FWBBC students that the college cares about them.”

The 2007-2008 Student Satisfaction Survey tells prospective student that FWBBC is serious about its responsibility to provide a quality education both inside and outside the classroom.

It tells parents their financial investment in tuition, room, and board is worth the cost—their son or daughter will be assured of collegiate instruction on a high level from caring professors who excel academically.

It tells pastors that Free Will Baptist Bible College is fulfilling its mission “to educate leaders to serve Christ, His Church, and His world through biblical thought and life.” Pastors can send their church youth to FWBBC knowing they will graduate prepared to take their places in the community, in the local church, and in the work of God’s kingdom.

As it has been for more than 65 years, FWBBC continues to be the most trusted name in Free Will Baptist education. Just ask our students. □

ABOUT THE WRITER: Jack Williams is director of communications at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

FWBBC RESPONDS TO TENNESSEE TORNADOES



Four days after killer tornadoes roared through Middle Tennessee on February 5, students and faculty from Free Will Baptist Bible College volunteered their help in a massive clean-up effort to assist residents affected by storms that left 30 people dead and caused \$100 million damage state-wide, according to John Murray, director of Christian Service.

Mr. Murray said, "Twenty-five of us left campus in biting cold temperatures early Saturday morning and drove to Sumner County to a staging area at Gallatin City Hall. We were assigned to Zone One in Castalian Springs, one of the areas hardest hit by the tornadoes. The students jumped in immediately and began moving wood, tin,

shingles, and endless piles of debris. Others cranked their chain saws and began cutting broken trees. No one had to tell them what to do."

The FWBBC students worked almost seven hours in the bracing cold along streets where tornadoes had snapped homes from foundations and smashed them into rubble. They stopped to assist David and Donna Ryman who had gone to a friend's home for dinner the night of the tornado, and returned to find their doublewide mobile home wrapped around a tree 30 yards away.

Murray expressed his deep pride in the FWBBC students. "I have seen them respond when disasters struck in other places, going to North Carolina, Florida, and Mississippi to help, and now when disaster hit close to home, they stepped up again."

FWBBC RECEIVES \$20,000 GIFT

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College received a gift of common stock for the general fund from Mrs. Sarah K. Newberry of Tallahassee, Florida, according to Tom Sass, vice president for financial affairs. At the time of the gift, the stock was valued at approximately \$20,000. This is the fourth gift of common stock in recent years that Mrs. Newberry has made to the college.

President Matt Pinson said, "We are delighted to receive gifts in the form of stock from donors, as well as cash gifts or gifts of property. This is another way the Lord enables our friends to assist the college. We thank God for Sister Newberry and her generous gift."

The Newberrys became friends with Pinson when he pastored Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church in Georgia before being named FWBBC president. Mrs. Newberry and her late husband Frank were members of New Salem Free Will Baptist Church. She has been active in local, district, and state Women Active for Christ outreach.

"I'm glad I can help support FWBBC," Mrs. Newberry said. "God makes it possible for me to do this."

President Pinson said, "Sarah Newberry is a friend and encourager, as well as a committed Christian who faithfully discharges her stewardship responsibilities. I hope her example inspires others to consider new ways they can support FWBBC."

PATE TO CHAIR TEACHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

Dr. Thurman Pate, chairman of the Teacher Education Department at Free Will Baptist Bible College, was elected chairman of Nashville's Metro Council for Teacher Education for the 2008-2009 school year during the April 25 meeting at the Board of Education.



The council is composed of representatives from Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools and the colleges of education at area colleges.

As chairman, Pate will preside at council meetings and work in conjunction with the vice president to develop each meeting's agenda. The council is responsible for determining contractual arrangements between public schools and the colleges providing Teacher Education candidates for the classroom.

Pate has served 20 years on the council, longer than any other member. Before coming to FWBBC in 1999, he logged 27 years (1968-1971, 1975-1999) as a teacher and principal in Nashville area schools. During that time, he served 11 years as the council's elementary principal representative. He has been a consultant with the Tennessee State Department of Education since 2000.

Dr. Pate said, "This group works to strengthen the working relationships between the public schools and the colleges of education in regards to field experience, practica, and student teaching. The colleges/universities involved in this council include Austin Peay State University, Belmont University, Lipscomb University, Tennessee State University, Trevecca Nazarene University, Vanderbilt University, and FWBBC. The work of the council impacts relations with all surrounding counties."

Dr. Pate is a member of Cofer's Chapel FWB Church where he serves as a deacon. He is the son of Free Will Baptist minister, Reverend Thurman Pate, Sr.



GARNETT REID PRESENTS THEOLOGICAL PAPER

Dr. Garnett Reid, Old Testament professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College, read a paper at the Evangelical Theological Society's Southeast Regional meeting March 14-15 on the campus of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis. This marks the fourth presentation by Dr. Reid to the society's members.

The 31-page paper was titled "Confirmation and Challenge: Thematic Shading and the Theology of the Chronicler." After Reid's presentation to the annual gathering of theologians, he answered questions from the audience.

Dr. Reid said, "Mine was one of nearly 100 papers presented during the fast-paced, two-day meeting. It was a busy session, and I thoroughly enjoyed interacting with the group."

Garnett Reid has been a member of the FWBBC Bible faculty since 1982. His wife Carol is librarian at the college.



CAROL REID NAMED TO ABHE OFFICE



Mrs. Carol Reid, librarian at Free Will Baptist Bible College, was named secretary of the prestigious Commission on Accreditation during the annual meeting of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) in Orlando, Florida, February 21-23. Both Mrs. Reid and FWBBC's vice president for institutional planning, Dr. Milton Fields, are members-at-large on the Commission on Accreditation.

ABHE is the accrediting association for Bible colleges in the United States and Canada. The Commission on Accreditation is the accrediting authority within ABHE, and is recognized as such by the Council for Higher Education and the U.S. Department of Education. Mrs. Reid is one of 12 elected Commission members, and also serves on the Committee on Applicant and Candidate Status.

In her role as Commission secretary, she will function as secretary for the meeting of the entire Commission and will be responsible for placing final minutes for all committees and Commission deliberations in the custody of the executive director.

Mrs. Reid said, "I am honored to serve in any way I can. This is an opportunity to learn from other colleges and to better understand the processes involved in accreditation and reputable higher education. The secretary work will be demanding, but I will use the templates of many well-qualified persons who served ahead of me."

Reid has been a member of the FWBBC faculty since 1988.

STUDENTS MINISTER IN FRANCE, NEW YORK

Twenty-nine Free Will Baptist Bible College students and their sponsors gave up their 2008 spring break in mid-March to minister and witness in France and New York, according to John Murray, director of Christian Service. Nineteen students went to New York with team leader Heath Hubbard, FWBBC's director of recruitment, while 10 students flew to France with team leader John Murray.

The New York team wore distinctive red smocks and stood on city streets asking passersby if they could pray for them. "We prayed with over 700 people," Mr. Hubbard said, "and we saw 11 people converted. It was an amazing time that moved us all out of our comfort zones."

One student said, "We discovered that people are hurting, lonely, and just want to be loved." Another said, "We noticed that people with needs stopped to pray while others rushed right past us."

The 10-member France team distributed tracts and performed manual labor at the Nantes Church where Missionaries Tim and Di Keener serve. They participated in a city-wide meeting of all evangelical churches in Nantes Sunday morning that attracted more than 400 people. Mr. Murray said, "We attended the English Club in the city of Coueron where French and American foods were served. Tim

and Di Keener sang, as did our students. Tim then handed the guitar to the only French man there who 'just happened to be' a French country music singer who asked if the group knew any gospel songs. We sang "Amazing Grace" and many others. God opened doors of future service for the Keeners."

The group also visited the St. Sebastian Church and met with Missionaries Dennis and Carol Teague.

Each year during spring break, numerous FWBBC students and faculty/staff forego their time to relax and visit with friends and family. Instead, they raise funds, board airplanes, and travel mission fields around the world in an effort to embrace other cultures with the claims of Christ.



STUDENTS ELECT 2008-2009 OFFICERS

The following five students at Free Will Baptist Bible College were elected to serve as 2008-2009 student body officers:

Brett Inman, junior English major from Phillipsburg, Missouri, was elected president. The vice president is sophomore Kurston Ward, a Teacher Education major from Van Buren, Arkansas. Teddie Collier, a junior music performance major from Springfield, Missouri, will serve as secretary-treasurer.

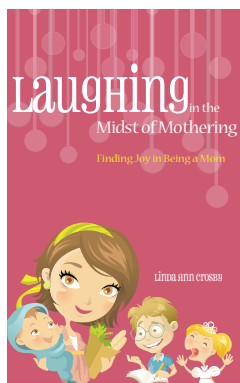
Sophomore Jason McMillion, a youth ministry major from Aberdeen, Maryland, was elected chaplain and will provide spiritual leadership for the student body. Junior music major Brittany Craft from Pryor, Oklahoma, will serve as worship leader.

PHOTO (L-R): Brittany Craft, Jason McMillion, Kurston Ward, Brett Inman, Teddie Collier.



In Review

FEATURES



Laughing in the Midst of Mothering

by Linda Ann Crosby

ISBN 9780892655571 - Price \$10.99

Mothers find a sense of comfort when they learn that other mothers share the same daily challenges in raising kids. It is helpful to be reminded you are not alone in striving for the ultimate goal of raising a godly family.

*Linda Ann Crosby is just that type of mother who willingly shares her personal experiences to encourage other mothers with a dose of humor. Mothers will benefit from taking time out of their daily routine to read a short devotional in her new book, *Laughing in the Midst of Mothering*. Below you will find an excerpt from her new book, which can be purchased at Randall House.*

THE DUSTPAN MAN

But I call to God, and the Lord saves me. Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice . . . Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall (Psalm 55:16,17, 22).

Our children were assigned chores as soon as they were capable of carrying objects. Putting trash in the garbage can, taking shoes to the entry closet and collecting scattered toys were ingrained before they could beg for Pop Tarts. As the kids matured and their abilities increased, the chore chart was birthed, and keeping house has been a joint effort ever since. I was determined not to be the maid for my family.

While touring the house on my “who’s-hiding-during-chore-time” rounds, my son’s reflection on the finger-smudged dining room window caught my attention. Pausing stealthily around the corner, I watched as he swept the entryway. My motherly heart beat proud as he methodically filled the dustpan. I silently congratulated myself: Another child successfully trained in removing dirt from my tile floors. His wife will profusely thank me some day. He truly has learned a life skill that will serve him well throughout his days. He will rise up and call me blessed.

Interrupting my thoughts of maternal grandeur, my breath stuck in my throat as I witnessed a horror of horrors. With entryway dirt securely in the dustpan, my son set the broom against the wall, obviously to open the front door for disposal purposes. The door remained untouched, to my grief, as he crossed the living room carpet and gingerly dumped the dirt, sand, rocks, leaves, hair, bugs and lint behind the yellow sofa.

“HEY!” I blasted, a moment too late. In shock his feet left the floor and a derelict grin crossed his used-to-be-darling face. “How long have you been dumping dirt back there?” I demanded.

A pause . . . then, “A while.” His honest answer was barely a whisper.

He told the truth . . . one point for his side. After peering behind the couch, I adjusted his score to minus 27. Together we pulled out the couch, vacuumed and went through the rightful motions of putting dirt where dirt belongs.

Through the retraining of my son, the Lord reminded me of the many times I dump the dirt of my life behind the couch instead of dealing with it properly. Psalm 68:19 reassures us that God daily bears our burdens. He is waiting for us to follow the directions in the Bible . . . and bring the sins of our lives to Him.

Order Laughing in the Midst of Mothering at (800) 877-7030 or www.randallhouse.com.

TRADING PLACES

Free Will Baptist Bible College Professor Serves as Guest Professor

By Ruth Bivens



DR. RICHARD HENDRIX, PASTOR OF THE MADISON FREE WILL Baptist Church in Madison, Alabama, and adjunct faculty member at Free Will Baptist Bible College, just returned from a week in Altamira, Tampico, Mexico. During his visit, Richard taught a four-day course on Hebrews Chapter 11 at the Instituto Biblico la Cruz (Bible Institute of the Cross), spoke in six different churches, and preached at the Huasteca District quarterly meeting. During these services, he ministered to 700 people and saw three people come forward and make salvation decisions. Another made a public profession of faith; one came for reconciliation, and dozens filled the altars.

His final service on Sunday evening was held at the Peniel FWB Church in the Mano con Mano Colonia of Tampico. This community is comprised of one-room shacks built from scrap lumber and pallets on the site of an old city dump. As he sat outside with members of the congregation, students from the Bible Institute, and Bud and Ruth Bivens eating tamales, he called home. "I'm sitting here eating tamales in the middle of a dump," he told his wife Carolyn. "And, I am in Heaven."

Hendrix expressed his surprise at the size and strength of the work in the Altamira area as well as the quality of the pastors. He was amazed at the attendance when 135 people crowded into the Mahanaim FWB Church in Santa Amalia for the quarterly meeting. Another 85 people (who were unable to fit inside) crowded around the open windows to listen to the message.

Under the direction of Pastor Inocente Pacheco, the church had observed a 40-day prayer vigil at five o'clock each morning prior to the quarterly meeting. They prayed specifically for guidance and direction in the business, special anointing of the speaker during the worship service, and receptive hearts among the people to accept the Word preached. The results of their prayers were evident. The Lord blessed the service in a mighty way.

During his visit, Hendrix stayed in the home of Bud and Ruth Bivens who live in the "Fred Jones House" on the IBLAC campus. The Bivens teach at the institute and travel promoting the Bible institute both in Mexico and the U.S.

Brother Richard went home to Alabama with plans to return to Altamira as soon as possible, and to send as many others that way as he could. The students and staff at the Bible Institute are already anxiously awaiting his next visit. □



This article reprinted by permission from *The Banner* newspaper in Northeast Oklahoma.



God's Wildcat
REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BOB SHOCKEY

Adapted from a funeral sermon by Jack Williams

Reverend Robert L. (Bob) Shockey

Personal

Born: September 16, 1927
Place: Clay City, Kentucky
Converted: 1954
Called to Preach: 1955
Ordained to Preach: 1956
Wife: Betty Anne (Gambill) Shockey
Children: Two daughters—Stephanie and Paula

Education

Bible Diploma / Free Will Baptist Bible College / Nashville, Tennessee / 1958

Pastorates

Raccoon Free Will Baptist Church / Greenup, Kentucky / 1954-1955
Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church / Ashland City, Tennessee / 1955-1957
Donelson Free Will Baptist Church / Nashville, Tennessee / 1957-1959
Second Free Will Baptist Church / Ashland, Kentucky / 1959-1968; 1973-1974
Dothan Free Will Baptist Church / Dothan, Alabama / 1971-1973
Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church / Ashland, Kentucky / 1978-1984
Portland Free Will Baptist Church / Portland, Tennessee / 2004

Denominational Positions

Moderator / Kentucky State Association of Free Will Baptists / 1959-1966
Moderator / Blue Grass Conference / Kentucky
Pastor of the Year / Kentucky / 1964
President / Bethel Bible Institute / Paintsville, Kentucky / 1982-1984

Home Missions Department / 1961-1978 / National Association of Free Will Baptists

Member / Home Missions Board / 1961-1966
Promotional Secretary / 1967-1971
General Director / 1973-1978 (includes Director of Evangelism and Director of Military Chaplains)

Free Will Baptist Bible College / 1984-1995

Campus Pastor
Christian Service Director
Ministerial Fellowship Director
Director of Student Support

National Radio Speaker / Radio-TV Commission
(now Media Commission)
Victorious Faith Program

Evangelist (1954-2008)
United States / Canada / Mexico / Virgin Islands

Publications

<i>Let's Go Fishing</i> (pamphlet)	Tracts
<i>How to Call a Pastor</i> (pamphlet)	<i>God's Simple Plan of Salvation</i>
<i>Five Smooth Stones</i> (pamphlet)	Tip
<i>The Teacher</i> (pamphlet)	<i>Now That You Are Saved</i>
<i>Bus Ministry</i> (pamphlet)	<i>Keys to a New Life</i>
<i>How to Go Soulwinning</i> (pamphlet)	

zeal to win souls and build churches caught the attention of a restless generation of preachers and laymen who were ready for something more, something real, something warm—something that said, “God is here!” Nobody went to sleep when Bob Shockey stepped into the pulpit.

Folksy Image, Brilliant Mind

His signature ministry was always evangelism and soul winning. But those who only saw a “good ‘ole boy” when Bob preached missed the brilliant mind behind that folksy image. Bob understood finance and business; he knew how to work with professional people; he juggled deadlines like a maga-

IT WAS 1949 WHEN BOB SHOCKEY RODE A MOTORCYCLE in the rain all night long trying to get from Norfolk, Virginia, to Jenkins, Kentucky, in time to welcome his first child into the world—a child he was convinced would be a boy. What he found in Jenkins was not a boy but a girl, a girl he promptly began to call “Stevie.”

A few years later when Bob and Betty's second child was scheduled to arrive, Bob again poised to welcome a new son into the world. That “boy” turned out to be another beautiful daughter Bob named “Paula.”

Bob Shockey was always proud of his daughters. And while the Good Lord never gave Bob and Betty any sons, He did something better. God let someone else raise the boys, and he used Bob to win those boys to Jesus. His example impacted the lives of so many boys that dozens of young men answered the call to preach during his 54-year ministry. Bob Shockey—the man with no sons—has literally hundreds of men across America who call him their father in the faith.

The Timeline

There's a 50-year timeline running from 1954-2008 that tracks the miracle we know as Bob Shockey. In that half-century, Bob changed from a rough ‘n’ ready Kentucky roustabout who worked barges on the Ohio and Big Sandy Rivers to one of the greatest soul winners among Free Will Baptists in the 20th century.

If you spent more than a few minutes around Bob, you know the conversation invariably circled back to the moment when God reached down in that river and saved him. Whatever Bob Shockey accomplished (and he did a lot), it all started with his riverbank conversion in 1954 when he was 27 years old.

Preparation Years

A year after his conversion, Bob answered the call to preach and enrolled at Free Will Baptist Bible College where he studied and prepared for his life's work. Who knew that the energetic boy from Clay City, Kentucky, would be trained in the U.S. Navy (where he served two tours of duty as a psychiatric nurse), mix it with three years of Bible, Theology, and evangelism classes, and within 10 years launch a preaching and soul-winning ministry that would galvanize a denomination.

Bob began pastoring a few months after his conversion, and he was ordained at age 29. Churches couldn't get enough of his practical sermons and evangelistic fire. He preached long; he preached hard; and he preached with conversions in mind. He would eventually pastor more than 20 years in seven churches in three states...Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama.

God's Wildcat

For 54 years, Bob Shockey became God's wildcat, hurled into Free Will Baptist churches to stir revival fires. He, more than any other, typified the evangelistic spirit of the early denominational fathers.

His preaching style made him welcome from Kentucky to California, from Alabama to Michigan. At age 37, he was named Kentucky's “Pastor of the Year.” By age 41, he was the promotional secretary for the Home Missions Board. At age 46, he was named general director of the Home Missions Department. His

zine editor; he planned conferences for hundreds of people, and would have been a hotel executive's delight because he always saw the big picture.

Bob Shockey's sermons were crafted to fit his whirling personality. His messages were *laced* with humor that kept us laughing. They were *loaded* with Bible doctrine that kept us studying, but they were deliberately *limited* to one focus—winning people to Jesus—and that kept us honest. Bob never let people forget that the Christian's primary duty was the Great Commission.

Reinvents Himself

When he was 55 years old, Bob became president of Bethel Bible Institute in Paintsville, Kentucky. Two years later, at age 57, he reinvented himself in what would become his last ministry role on a national scale—he became campus pastor and Christian Service director at Free Will Baptist Bible College. For the next 11 years, Bob poured himself into young people who now pastor churches, serve on international mission fields, write curriculum, edit publications, and provide leadership to the denomination. He changed the face of the future with a warm heart and a practical approach to Christian living.

Back to the Beginning

Something happened to Bob in 1978 that shifted the priorities for the rest of his life. He was in his fifth year as director of the Home Missions Department, and it looked like the sky was the limit for that agency energized by Bob's vision for souls and church planting. Then a routine medical check-up revealed a malignant kidney. Bob faced life-threatening surgery. I still remember the eerie hush that filled the national offices on the day when men gathered around Bob to ask God to spare this man who had done so much for so many.

God did spare him, but He also redirected his life. Bob resigned from his stress-filled role as Home Missions director and handed off the job to Roy Thomas.

Within a few months, Bob Shockey was back in Kentucky—happy, healthy, winning souls, and starting another new church in Ashland—Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church. The work flourished, and so did Bob, eventually making his way back to Nashville and his incredible ministry as campus pastor at FWBBC.

Remembering Bob

Everybody has a Bob Shockey story to tell, and most of those stories include a smile—a big smile. Let me tell you mine. Nearly every week for 10 years, Bob would stop by my office when I was editor of *Contact* magazine. Sometimes, I helped him hammer out ideas for an article or wrote a news release for his revivals. But for the most part, Bob talked, and I listened. During those golden moments, Bob took me on a verbal tour of the Big Sandy River and his conversion. He talked about his Navy years and told me about amazing friends who supported his evangelistic ministry.

One day I startled the business manager by requesting that the chair in my office where Bob always sat be repaired. She wanted to know what happened. I can still hear her laughter when she learned that both Bob and the chair had turned upside down. Bob survived without a scratch; the chair, however, required major surgery.

Barry Simpson, Bob's pastor for 12 years recalls, "I could always depend on Brother Bob's encouragement. Every Christmas, he remembered my family—usually with cash—including my boys. [Former pastor] Vernon Barker considers himself Bob's spiritual son. I suppose that makes me Bob's spiritual *grandson*."

Dr. Charles Thigpen, one of two FWBBC presidents with whom Bob worked, said, "Bob was the best personal soul winner I ever knew. He was one of the best preachers we had, and I don't know of a better evangelist. His personal testimony was outstanding. We lost a spiritual giant the day Bob died."

Dr. Tom Malone, the second FWBBC president who worked with Bob, said, "Bob never got over the fact that God saved him and called him to preach. He loved Free Will Baptists. He was the most natural soul winner among us." □



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STAYING CONNECTED

In Retirement

By
Norma Jackson Goldman

Some who read this article are already retired; others are about to enter their retirement years. To this point in your life, most retirement planning has been focused on income—how much you will need, what your sources of income will be, and how long your income will have to last. A quick search of the Internet will produce hundreds, even thousands (really!) of sites that can help in all areas of finance, buying retirement property, fund management, and related topics.



A NEW WAY TO THINK ABOUT WORK

But preparing for retirement (and actually being retired) also involves your emotional wellbeing, specifically, learning to think about personal productivity and accomplishments in a new way. You will find few publications or websites to help you prepare to spend your days in a fulfilling retirement.

Most people entering retirement tend to be very hard workers; it has been a lifelong pattern. They worked hard to get an education, build a career, and raise a family. They worked hard to educate and establish their children in productive lives and careers. Most have helped care for their own parents, all the while giving many years of committed work to local churches.

This cycle of hard work and accomplishment can make retirees feel that retirement cannot be fulfilling. They anticipate little productivity and nothing to show for days not devoted to work. These feelings are sometimes exaggerated when a person attaches too much importance to profession, salary, or title.

But work also involves camaraderie and relationships—the energy and stimulation of groups of people devoted to solving problems, bringing about change, creating a better widget, and making a better world. These words— camaraderie, relationships, energy, stimulation, devotion, and creation—these are the substance of fulfillment.

A Christian psychologist in Texas wrote about “coping with retirement,” but I wish she had written about “thriving in retirement!” Jesus did not say, “I am come that you might cope,” but “I am come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

Look around you. Observe retirees who are radiant, unfailingly optimistic, and a pleasure to be around. What is the common denominator? They are all connected—to friends, family members, organizations, their churches, and (most important) to causes greater than themselves. They have plenty to do, little time for complaints, and lots of worthy endeavors to keep them alert, interesting and productive!

HOW CAN I BE FULFILLED IF I'M NOT WORKING?

Connecting to people, projects, ideas, and organizations is a divine formula for living the abundant life Jesus promised. What more important occupation than investing in the life of another person? Time spent teaching and encouraging a teen yields a far greater return than any CD or savings bond. Time spent on our knees interceding for a failing marriage infuses us with hope and energy. Helping develop and promote a new idea, a new way of doing things, or solving a problem has rewards that cannot be measured in dollars and cents. Such work forces us to be open to change, to risk, to stretch and to expand our mental and spiritual capacities—the very qualities that attract and inspire others to follow our lead.

My connected friends “squeeze” each day to the point that it’s hard to fit into their calendars! They contribute meaningfully to civic and community work. Their children rejoice in their happiness, fulfillment, and optimism. Their churches benefit enormously as they help shoulder the ministry load, demonstrating the reality of the transforming power of Christ! These connected friends could never be satisfied with simply coping. Make it your purposeful, intentional plan to stay connected, and to work productively in the community of faith. □

LIVING A CONNECTED LIFE

ABOUT THE WRITER: Former magazine editor Norma Goldman enjoys a free-lance writing career in her retirement. She lives in Nashville, TN. For more information about the Board of Retirement, call (877) 767-7738

How NOT to drive on the HIGHWAY TO HEAVEN

By Susan Henderson

A WARM BREEZE GENTLY RUFFLES YOUR HAIR AS YOU enjoy a leisurely Sunday afternoon drive. You soak up the beauty of God's creation outside your open windows. The rolling hills, the blooming wildflowers, the brilliant blue sky—all cause your spirits to lift, your heart to sing, and your worries to disappear.

It first appears as a distant speck in the rearview mirror—a car behind you on the horizon. Before you know it, the little red auto is no longer in the distance; it's on your back bumper. As you try to enjoy your drive, the car maintains its position on your tail, occasionally swerving into the other lane in an attempt to pass you.

If you happen to be driving through Southwest Missouri, the driver of the little red car might be me. Hello, my name is Susan; I have a small problem with road rage. Please understand. I love leisurely drives through the countryside; I just don't have time for them. I am always in a hurry, and nothing frustrates me more than following someone who is not. I don't curse at leisure drivers or jump into their cars and throttle them at red lights, but I do sport an overbite and suffer from mild TMJ from gritting my teeth. My steering wheel carries deep stab wounds inflicted by frustrated fingernails.

My need for speed is inherited. I grew up riding with my grandpa, Rev. Winford Davis. He knew only one speed—fast! Whether driving on the freeway, winding round a curvy mountain road, or zooming over a dirt road with potholes the size of small moon craters, Grandpa traveled as fast as possible.

My mild-mannered dad tried to counter Grandpa's example by being calm behind the wheel and reminding me "Susan, just because the speed limit is 70 does not mean you have to drive 70; you can go slower."

Nope. I want every mile-per-hour that is coming to me.

My love of zoom has gotten me in trouble with the men in blue on more than one occasion. In my defense, I'm always honest about my vehicular sins. For example, I recently ordered a DVD for my boyfriend's grandma. Because her birthday was the following day, I had the gift over-nighted. On delivery day, Brandon and I pulled into my apartment complex just as the FedEx man pulled out. Brandon said, "Oh, no. You missed him. I guess Mimi won't get her birthday present tonight." Oh, please. I quickly whipped a U-ey, flew through a four-way stop that I view as completely unnecessary and came to a screeching halt across the street from the FedEx truck. Flashing lights filled my rear-view window. Apparently a dramatic pause is not the same thing as a full stop in the eyes of the law. As the officer got out of his car, I rolled down my window and flagged down the FedEx man. When the officer



arrived I admitted, “Sir, I know I ran that stop sign, but the FedEx man has my boyfriend’s grandma’s birthday gift, and I simply had to stop him. The party is *tonight!* Please feel free to write me out a ticket, but could I please sign for my delivery first?” The officer just shook his head. Brandon and the FedEx man joined him.

I can hear all of you slow drivers now: *She’s got a serious problem.* You’re right; I do, but my road rage is often provoked, especially by take-your-sweet-time drivers whose cars wear spiritually-themed bumper stickers. Instead of calming and slowing me down, they send me right over the edge. In fact, I’ve seriously considered carrying a stack of poster-board and a magic marker with me for just such occasions. My plan—write out a quick response to the bumper sticker message and flash it to the driver as I blow past him. Check out some of my envisioned responses:

- **Bumper Sticker Message:** Follow me to church.
My Poster Message: No, you follow me so we can get there before the benediction!
- **Bumper Sticker Message:** Jesus rides in my passenger seat.
My Poster Message: Pull over and change seats! He’ll get you there quicker!
- **Bumper Sticker Message:** Honk if you love Jesus.
My Poster Message: I do love Jesus, but that’s NOT why I’m honking!



- **Bumper Sticker Message:** In case of rapture this vehicle will be unmanned.
- **My Poster Message:** Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

In all seriousness, both fast and slow drivers have two things in common: we all get mad at one another, and we all disappoint God with our selfishness. His rules of the road read as follows:

- Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another (Romans 12:10).
- Do unto others as you would have them do unto you (“The Golden Rule” based on (Matthew 7:12)).
- Love one another, as I have loved you (John 15:12).

As Paul pointed out, love is neither selfish nor rude (I Corinthians 13). That covers drivers at both ends of the speedometer. We need to drive with others in mind, and I have some bumper sticker-worthy tips to offer. To be fair, I’ll start with lead-foot ladies and gents like myself. How do we control our road rage and demonstrate love behind the wheel?

- **Always obey traffic laws.** They exist for your protection, as well as the safety of those you meet (or pass!) on the road.
- **Leave 15 minutes early.** I’ve found that I’m less stressed in general if I’m not pressed for time. I’ve also discovered that exceeding the speed limit to make up for lost time doesn’t get me where I’m going that much quicker.
- **When you find yourself behind an insanely pokey person, pretend you’re following your mother** (unless, of course, you don’t like her; if this is the case, choose someone else) and treat the dilly-dallying driver like you would want your mother to be treated. After all, I guarantee you’re following someone’s loved one.

Now, on to the tortoise travelers! You may view your tendency to travel

20 mph below the speed limit as holy highway behavior, but it’s not. Unfortunately, we live in a very busy world, and people have places to go and deadlines to meet. If your leisurely traveling sends fellow drivers into spasms, you just might be provoking them to sin. How can you help fizz-aholics like me maintain self-control?

- **If you want to drive slowly, stay in the far right lane.** Most Interstates leave room for all of us to travel at our own speeds; they just want us in separate lanes.
- When you find yourself being followed closely by a string of vehicles on a two-way traffic road, **pull over to the shoulder and allow them to pass.**
- **You, too, should obey traffic laws at all times.** Be especially conscientious when pulling onto a road in front of oncoming traffic. Make sure you have plenty of room and time to make your entrance and match the current traffic speed. We really don’t mind your pulling out as long as we don’t have to slow to an eternal crawl to accommodate your presence.

In closing, I would like to offer a final word of advice to both slow and fast drivers—think carefully about your driving habits before you plaster your vehicle with Christian slogans. If your bumper reads, “Jesus loves you” you’d better be driving in love. I know that control of my road rage is a work in progress. Therefore, I sport no bumper stickers, no window decals, and no fish symbols. I don’t want to reflect badly on God.

I’m thankful that Jesus paid the toll so I could travel the road that leads to Heaven and that I accepted the invitation to make the trip. I’m sure you are, too. However, our responsibility does not end with choosing the right path. At the end of the road, God will hold us accountable for how we behaved on the journey. Let’s drive in divine grace. □

Veteran freelance writer Susan Henderson lives in Purdy, MO, where she works as an elementary school receptionist.



A TALE OF THREE GRANDFATHERS

I finally found his unmarked grave, not too far from Minnie Pearl's. My search for the burial spot had taken me to several archives. Mom and I then paid 200 bucks to put up a simple headstone that reads, "Thomas H. Reid, 1886-1933." My grandfather—my dad's father—died broke in the middle of the Depression, 22 years before I was born. Thomas Reid was the grandfather I never knew.

The Gospel Mule

The grandfather I *do* remember well was also named Thomas. My mother's father, he was "Pa-paw" to me. How I treasure my memories of those golden summers and snowy winters on his farm when I was very young: hunting together, he with his shotgun, me with my Lucas McCain "Rifleman" cap gun; riding on the tractor in his lap; wondering just why it was he always finished off dinner with a plate (a *plate*, mind you, not a bowl) of cereal.

Pa-paw was a Sunday School teacher and the caretaker of the church cemetery—the very graveyard where he, my mom, and my dad now await the resurrection. Got saved, he did, right after a mule fell on top of him. He said he took that as a sign from the good Lord that he needed to get right. I have no reason to think he was wrong about that.

I was robbed, though, of Grandpa Reid, which sounds funny since I never had the chance to call him that or any of the other monikers grandkids use for their father's father. Who knows, he might have been "Pa" or "Granddaddy" or even "Pops," as I am known these days. But "Grandpa" works as well as any, I suppose. Whiskey robbed me of my grandpa. He drank himself to death.

A Slave's Eyes

So you'll understand why I feel angry and cheated every time I read Proverbs 23:29-35. Here the wise man asks six questions, all of which have the same answer: the boozier. It's the boozier

who has woe, sorrow, strife, complaining, self-inflicted bruises, and red eyes (v. 29). He not only has red eyes because he "looks at" the wine, but deluded eyes (v. 33) and closed eyes (vv. 34-35) as well—eyes which open only to hunt for another drink (v. 35).

Evidently that's what my grandpa was like, and my dad hated him because of it. That's right, my father had nothing good to say about his father. No wonder my dad also hated liquor with a passion. And I've never gotten over his advice to me: "Son, you'll never be a drunk if you don't take the first drink." Actually that's sound biblical counsel.

In Proverbs 23 the wise man says, "In the end" its venom poisons its victim like a snakebite. "In the end"—that's just it: there's always the end, the outcome, the last chapter where the boy is robbed of his grandfather. That's what happens when you "go to try" the stuff (v. 30). So I'm convinced my dad was right. As Paul says, you'll not be enslaved by anything (1 Corinthians 6:12), namely alcohol in this case, if you stay away from its company and never give it the time of day.

Ninety-Proof Suicide

Now I'm having the time of my life as "Pops," granddad to two beautiful redheads; and though I never knew him, Grandpa Reid has taught me an unforgettable lesson on grandparenting. I'm just sorry the fee for the lesson was so high, for him and for me.

The truth is you don't know how much it hurts me inside to tell you all of this. My heart breaks every time I just think about it. I grieve for him, for my dad, and his mother and sister for what they had to endure, and for the regrettable legacy Thomas Reid should never have chosen for himself.

As the country song says, "He put a bottle to his head and pulled the trigger." Turns out it was loaded. The shot ricocheted and hit me, too. □

Dr. Garnett Reid is a member of the Bible faculty at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Do You Have Vacation Plans?

Vacations are a great time to reflect on how you can help others.

If you are like many who have benefited through corporate stock options, now is the time to consider how a charitable remainder unitrust can benefit Free Will Baptist Bible College.

For more information on a charitable remainder unitrust, contact the Foundation:



www.FWBGIFTS.COM | (877) 767-7575



WNAC ANNOUNCES RETREAT AT RIDGECREST



Sarah Malone



Joanne Wallace

ANTIOCH, TN—Women Nationally Active for Christ invites women across the nation to experience a new Ridgecrest September 11-13, at the 2008 WNAC National Retreat. The 1,300-acre campus nestled in the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains is a natural haven for attendees. Recent changes to the center make this year's retreat especially appealing.

A new meeting place: Ridgecrest's multipurpose ARC building provides ample space for both sessions and displays. The latest audio and video equipment will enhance worship and ensure that speakers will be heard.

New deluxe accommodations: For those who have ever been lodged in Dogwood—stuck in the back 40—this year's accommodations at the Mountain Laurel Inns will be a welcome change. Conveniently close to meeting rooms, the hotel-style rooms include amenities such as in-room phones, coffee makers, and wireless Internet access.

Powerful Speakers: Nationally acclaimed speaker Joanne Wallace and ELIC teacher

Sarah Malone will challenge women from the Word and in Kingdom efforts. All women are welcome to attend the retreat, regardless of church or WAC affiliation.

Register directly with Ridgecrest by calling (800) 588-7222. Find detailed pricing and program information at www.wnac.org or call WNAC at (877) 767-7662.

HILLSDALE COLLEGE RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL AWARD

MOORE, OK—The Corporation for National and Community Service recently named Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service to disadvantaged youth.

President Timothy W. Eaton said, "Hillsdale is proud to receive this award which honors the volunteer spirit of our staff and students in service through a wide range of activities. The Hillsdale Motto is 'Service to Christ.' I believe we honor Christ by serving Him through our Churches and community."

The Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition any school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award were chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovativeness of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

Students and staff of Hillsdale continue to meet and extend the challenge to serve Christ. The Hillsdale Saints have been involved in service through benevolence, blood drives, children's ministry, City Rescue Mission (each Thursday before classes a group serves breakfast), Christian education, drug-free campaign (Red Ribbon Week for Moore), The Hanna Project (Christian Humanitarian tours into Africa and western Asia), music ministry, nursing home services, preaching the gospel, Red Cross, Salvation Army, tutoring students, and youth ministry.

Hillsdale FWB College students also participate in community outreach as tutors at the Moore Public Library. The primary beneficiaries are from the Moore Public School, but the Tuesday program is open to the public at large. Moore Public Library Director Lisa Wells stated, "Hillsdale was instrumental in making the program a reality for junior and senior high school students in need of assistance. The program has been overwhelmingly successful."

When congratulating the winners, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings said, "Americans rely on our higher education system to prepare students for citizenship and the workforce. We look to institutions like these to provide leadership in partnering with local schools to shape the civic, democratic and economic future of our country."

Walking

in the Light

72nd Annual Convention

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA
JULY 20-23, 2008

The 1991 convention in Charleston, West Virginia, is widely regarded as one of the most memorable in the history of Free Will Baptists. From powerful preaching to soul-stirring worship, the meeting made a profound impression on the lives of many who attended. Why should this year's convention be any different? Join the excitement as thousands of Free Will Baptists return to Charleston. For more information about lodging, pre-registration, safety guidelines, and more, visit www.nafwb.org.

Preliminary Convention Schedule

SATURDAY, JULY 19

Impact West Virginia
Various Locations
8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Registration Opens
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center
Lobby Upper Level

SUNDAY, JULY 20

Registration (Open Daily)
8:00 am – 7:00 pm

Sunday School
10:00 am – 10:45 am
Charleston Civic Center

Morning Worship
11:00 am – 12:00 Noon
Charleston Civic Center

Evening Worship
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center

MONDAY, JULY 21

General Board Meeting
8:00 am – 2:30 pm
Marriott Hotel, Grand Ballroom

NYC Competitive Activities
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center

NYC Seminars

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center

Theological Trends Seminar
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center
Little Theater

WNAC Seminar
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Marriott Hotel, Pavilion

Missions Rally
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center
Little Theater

Exhibits Open
3:00 pm – 10:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center

**Benjamin Randall
Appreciation Dinner**
5:15 pm – 6:30 pm
Marriott Hotel, Salon C

Evening Worship
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center

TUESDAY, JULY 22

NYC Competitive Activities
8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Randall House Seminar
8:00 am – 9:30 am
Charleston Civic Center

WNAC Convention

8:30 am – 10:30 am
Charleston Civic Center

Pastors/Laymen Conference
10:00 am – 11:45 am
Charleston Civic Center
Little Theater

NYC Seminars
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center

Exhibits Open
10:00 am – 10:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center

WNAC Missionary Service
10:30 am – 11:30 am
Charleston Civic Center

WNAC Fellowship Luncheon
12:00 noon – 2:00 pm
Marriott Hotel, Grand Ballroom

Convention Business Session
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center

International Missions Dinner
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Embassy Suites Hotel

Evening Worship
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

NYC Competition Finals
8:00 am – 11:00 am
Charleston Civic Center

NYC Seminars
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center

Convention Business Session
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center

Exhibits Open
10:00 am – 10:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center

FWBBC Alumni Luncheon
12:00 noon – 1:15 pm
Marriott Hotel, Grand Ballroom

Evening Worship
6:45 pm – 8:30 pm
Charleston Civic Center

NYC Awards Ceremony
8:50 pm – 11:00 pm
Charleston Civic Center

of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

CONVENTION WORSHIP AND PREACHING CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Sunday School
Jim Hutchinson
(WV)



Sunday Morning
Ivan Asbury (WV)



Sunday Evening
William Smith
(GA)



Monday Evening
Jim Christian
(FL)



**Preaching
Conference**
Bobby Welch (FL)



Tuesday Evening
Stanley Outlaw
(TN)



**Wednesday
Evening**
Tim York (TN)

Spotlight on Charleston

During a recent visit to Charleston, the editors of *ONE Magazine* enjoyed breakfast with the Charleston Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Try their suggestions to make your stay in Charleston more enjoyable.

1. **Tour the Capital Complex.** The striking capital building (pictured at right), one of the largest in the United States, is accessible with no admission. The complex includes the Governor's Mansion, Vietnam Memorial, and Cultural Center.
2. **Feel the Power.** Cheer on the Appalachian Power minor league baseball club. Enjoy the traditional feel of the recently constructed Appalachian Power Park, which brings to mind Wrigley Field.

While there, be sure to sample "Custard's Last Stand," a unique hot-dog chili sure to be a hit for hours after the game. While at the game, keep an eye out for Deputy Mayor Rod Blackstone, better known as "the toast man."

A life-long baseball fan, he leads the home crowd in heckling the opposing team. When an opposing player strikes out, he makes toast and throws it to kids in the stand while the crowd chants, "T-O-A-S-T, you are toast."





3. Visit the Village. Capital street, also known as The Village, is made up of local flavor...literally. Try a scoop of ice cream at Ellen's, breathe the fragrant aroma of roasting nuts at The Peanut Shop, and enjoy tasty local recipes from a variety of eateries.

4. Plan a Trip to the Indoor-Outdoor Market. Constructed on the site of an historic train depot, Capital Market offers visitors free samples of Hall's chocolates (made locally). A great place for souvenirs, the market offers a wide range of West Virginia products ranging from rock candy to biscuit mix and books written on topics of local interest.

5. Experience West Virginia Clay. Visit the Clay Center for fine arts and performances throughout the year. With hands-on exhibits, a planetarium, the Avampato Discovery Museum, and a large-format, high impact theatre, the Clay Center is sure to be a hit with kids.

6. Walk the East End. Charleston's famous East End provides visitors a glimpse of a wide variety of historic homes, ranging from turn of the century Federal mansions to art nouveau cottages and French-Chateau homes. As you walk the quiet sidewalks, you will travel back in time to Charleston's heyday in the early 20th century.

7. Sunrise on the Trail. Adjacent to the 36-room, Georgian-styled Sunrise Mansion which was built around 1900, visitors to Charleston will find the Sunrise Carriage Trail. This woodland trail meanders along a gentle incline for more than a mile before it ends in a fantastic overlook of the city of Charleston.

8. Eat a Hot Fudge Cake at the Original Shoney's Restaurant. Shoney's opened in Charleston in 1947 as the Parkette Restaurant and Bowling Alley. Before long, the restaurant was renamed Big Boy's Hamburgers, and the rest is history. New owners changed the name to Shoney's in 1953, at the suggestion of an employee.

Although many things have changed during the restaurant's seventy year history, at least one thing remains true to the original...the hot fudge cake is just as good as ever!

CHARLESTON AT-A-GLANCE

Great Places for a Group to Eat

Shoney's Restaurant, various locations
 Graziano's (New York-styled Pizza), Capitol Street
 Fifth Quarter Steakhouse, adjacent to the Civic Center
 Bob Evans, various locations near the city center

Five Scenic Spots Within Ten Miles*

The State Capital Grounds (bring your camera)
 Kanawaha State Park
 Sunrise Carriage Trail/Mansion
 Little Creek Park
 Riverfront Park Downtown

*Visit www.onemag.org for directions and contact information.

Shopping Stops

Town Center Mall, adjacent to the Civic Center
 Kanawaha Mall, McCorkle and 57th
 The Shops at Trace Forks, Highway 119 South
 Southridge Center, Highway 119 South

Nominations for Standing Boards and Commissions

STANDING BOARDS

FWB Bible College Board of Trustees

2014 **Bob Bass (TN)**

Replacing Bob Bass (TN)

Rusty Russell (NC) Replacing Gene Outland (IL) who is ineligible for re-election

Richard Hendrix (AL) Replacing Archie Ratliff (NC) who is ineligible for re-election

International Missions Board

2014 **Jeff Manning, (NC)**

Replacing Jeff Manning (NC)

Paul Creech (GA)

Replacing Bill Van Winkle (TX) who is ineligible for re-election

Robert Morgan (TN) Replacing David Williford (TN) who is ineligible for re-election

Randall House Publications Board

2014 **Steve Lindsey (TN)** Replacing Nuel Brown (CA) who is ineligible for re-election

Danny Dwyer (NC) Replacing Danny Dwyer, North Carolina

Randy Scott (AR)

Replacing David Reece (TN) who is ineligible for re-election

COMMISSIONS

Commission for Theological Integrity

2013 **Matt Pinson (TN)**

Replacing Matt Pinson (TN)

Historical Commission

2013 **David Crowe (TN)** Replacing David Crowe (TN)

Media Commission

2013 **Mark Ousley (TN)** Replacing Mark Ousley (TN)

Music Commission

2013 **James Stevens (TN)** Replacing James Stevens (TN)

GENERAL OFFICERS

Moderator: Tim York (TN)

Replacing Tim York, (TN)

Assistant Moderator: William Smith (GA)

Replacing William Smith, (GA)

Clerk: Randy Bryant (FL)

Replacing Randy Bryant (FL)

Assistant Clerk: Ernie Lewis (IL)

Replacing Ernie Lewis (IL)

Bob Bass has served on the FWB Bible College Board for two years, filling an unexpired term. The board representative on the Relocation Committee, Bass has an engineering and construction background.

Rusty Russell pastors Peace FWB Church in Wilson, NC. A 1981 graduate of FWB Bible College, he also holds degrees from Middle Tennessee State University (M.A.T.) and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div.).

Richard Hendrix pastors Madison FWB Church in Madison, AL. A successful home missionary, church planter, and pastor, Hendrix is a solid supporter of FWB Bible College. A popular visiting pastoral ministry instructor, he has often preached in chapel.

Jeff Manning has been the senior pastor of Unity FWB Church in Greenville, NC, since 1991. He completed his D.Min. in expository preaching in 2002 is an adjunct professor at FWB Bible College and has served on the International Missions Board since 2005.

Paul Creech pastors White Oaks FWB Church in Macon, GA. After serving as short-term missionaries to France and Japan, he and his wife served a term as missionaries to Bouaké, Côté d'Ivoire. Creech serves on the Georgia State Mission Board.

Robert Morgan holds degrees from Columbia International University in Columbia, SC (B.S.), Wheaton Graduate School, Wheaton, IL (M.A.), and Luther Rice Seminary, Atlanta, GA (M.Div.). He has been the pastor of the Donelson FWB Church since 1980.

Steve Lindsey is the minister of Christian education at New Hope FWB Church in Jelton, TN. He is a graduate of FWB Bible College.

Danny Dwyer pastors Cramerton FWB Church in Cramerton, NC. He has served on the Randall House Board for one term.

Randy Scott is a third generation Free Will Baptist preacher and a graduate of FWB Bible College. Pastor of the Sutton FWB Church in Pocahontas, AR, he serves on the state's Christian Education Board.

David Crowe is the director of Development for the Home Mission Department.

Mark Ousley A graduate of FWB Bible College, Mark pastors Forest Grove FWB Church in Knoxville, TN.

James Stevens is the chairman of the Music Department at FWB Bible College.



Convention Updates and Information

In light of the limited hotel space in Charleston, the city will offer a free shuttle service to outlying hotels. Shuttles will run on the following schedule throughout the convention.

- JULY 19*** 5:00-5:30 p.m.
- JULY 20-23**** 7:30-9:30 a.m.
4:00-7:00 p.m.

* Shuttles will return passengers to their hotels following registration.

**Shuttles will run on half hour intervals during the time periods listed above.

2008 CONVENTION ORCHESTRA

Sign up as soon as possible for the 2008 Convention Orchestra. "We invite anyone from ninth grade up to participate," says Chris Truett, convention music coordinator. The ensemble will accompany congregational and choir selections during the convention. Rehearsal times are 4:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. daily.

Participants should send name, address, phone number, and church to:

Chris Truett

PHONE: (252) 522-2451

1936 Banks School Rd.

EMAIL: ctruett@bethelfwb.com

Kinston, NC 28504

Send information by June 16, so music can be mailed. Please specify instrument(s) and years of experience. **All singers are invited to join the Convention Choir** for rehearsal on Sunday afternoon at 5:00 on the convention stage.

PRE-REGISTRATION ALERT

If you pre-registered for the national convention and have not received a letter of confirmation, then you are not officially registered. Call the executive office for more information: **877-767-7659**.

- 1 CAMC Women and Children's Hospital
- 2 Magic Island
- 3 Hampton Inn
- 4 Charleston Civic Center
- 5 Convention and Visitors Bureau
- 6 Holiday Inn Express Civic Center
- 7 Charleston Marriott
- 8 Charleston Town Center Mall
- 9 Municipal Auditorium
- 10 MLK Jr. Recreation Center
- 11 Embassy Suites
- 12 Federal Building
- 13 Kanawha County Courthouse
- 14 St. Francis Hospital
- 15 Park Place Stadium Cinemas
- 16 West Virginia State University Theater
- 17 Charleston House Holiday Inn
- 18 Haddad Riverfront Park
- 19 Kanawha County Public Library
- 20 Renaissance Village
- 21 Capitol Market
- 22 Charleston Plaza Hotel
- 23 Fairfield Inn
- 24 Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences
- 25 CAMC General Division
- 26 Appalachian Power Park
- 27 East End Historic District
- 28 Laidley Field
- 29 The Brass Pineapple Bed and Breakfast
- 30 Veterans Memorial Plaza
- 31 West Virginia Cultural Center and Museum
- 32 Governor's Mansion



Charleston Civic Center
 200 Civic Center Drive
 Charleston, WV 25301
 (304) 345-1500
www.charlestonwvciviccenter.com

Taught by the Bible

WNAC National Convention
Charleston, WV | July 21-22, 2008

amazing stories of grace



Laura Belle Barnard



Trula Cronk



Lorene Miley



Mabel Willey

Relive the adventures of four FWB missionary pioneers. Hear their stories—again or for the very first time—dramatized at a complimentary afternoon tea, Monday, July 21, 1:00 p.m., in the Charleston Marriott Pavilion.



Becky Derby



Kristi Johnson

In her first missionary term, Becky Derby experienced the heartbreak of miscarriage, the joys of birthing twin boys and the agony of cancer. Hear her amazing story, Tuesday, July 22, in the WNAC morning worship service.

Kristi Johnson grew up hearing the amazing stories of FWB pioneer missionaries. Now, as part of FWBIM's Alpedrete Team, she and her family are pioneering a work in this ancient city in Spain—its first evangelical church in over 900 years. Hear her story, Tuesday, July 22, at the WNAC Luncheon.



Marjorie Workman

The 2008 Convention marks a new chapter in WNAC's amazing story as Marjorie Workman steps down as WNAC Executive Secretary-Treasurer and delegates vote to approve a new leader. Come be part of this special farewell and grand welcoming event, Tuesday morning, July 22.

CONVENTION IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL WOMEN.

A \$10 delegate fee (one per church) allows each local women's group a voice in this year's historic transition.

Tuesday's luncheon is a ticketed event @ \$25 a person.
Order tickets early as space is limited.

Led by the Spirit

JOIN THE *Idea Forum*



Randall House is always looking for great ideas. God gives everyone the talent of creativity, and we want to hear your creative ideas. With this in mind, we will convene an Idea Forum during the 2008 convention in Charleston, WV. You do not have to be present to participate. Email your entry ahead of time or show up and read it at the forum. Unleash your creativity and stretch us.

Date: Monday, July 21
Time: 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Charleston Civic Center, Room 205

Email entries must be submitted by July 19, 2008. Please send entries to ron.hunter@randallhouse.com (use the subject line: IDEA FORUM)

Guidelines for all entries:

1. Idea should be 300 words or less, to be read in less than two minutes.
2. The idea should focus on possibilities or ideas for Randall House, including Christian Education, Sunday School, small group studies, training, Student and Children's Ministries, National Youth Conference, Youth Evangelistic Team, Truth and Peace Student Leadership Conference, books published, or any other area under the auspices of Randall House. (Ideas should focus on what could be.)
3. By submitting an idea, you acknowledge that Randall House may implement your idea in any manner we deem helpful.

A panel will evaluate the ideas and award the following cash prizes:

Most Creative Idea for Randall House - \$500
Creative Idea Runner Up - \$250
Creative Honorable Mention - \$100

Sunday School

This year's Sunday School workshop, sponsored by Randall House, will undoubtedly be the most exciting one yet. If you plan to attend the National Convention in July then mark this down! You won't want to miss it!

Tuesday, July 22, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.,
Charleston Civic Center, Little Theater

COME EXPERIENCE THE FOLLOWING POWERFUL PRESENTATIONS:



D6 Church-Family Emphasis Kit—This affordable resource will ignite parents and families to launch forward into the exciting world of being a D6 Family. When parents take responsibility and connect with their kids spiritually, exciting things begin to happen!

The Brink—It's been said that 25-75% of church-attending high school students leave the church after graduation and many never return. What are you doing to reach them? Does your church have a class or a small group for young adults from 18-28 year olds? *The Brink* is a dynamic small group curriculum specifically designed for this unique group of students



Come pick up your FREE 4-week sample!

coming FALL 2008

Walking with Moses – Talking with God
 by Cinda King

Birds in My Mustard Tree
 by Susanne Scheppmann

The Case of Stuart's Ship, Life Kit—It's a four day VBS. It's a small group curriculum. It's a mid-week emphasis program. It's all of the above! Today's leading resource for helping kids understand the difficult topic of stewardship now has a 4-lesson DVD based curriculum companion. Don't wait until your kids are teens to teach them how to give and manage life's resources. Teach them now!

Lola Mazola's Happyland Adventure: My John 3:16 Book—This is Rob Morgan's life's work in reaching children for Christ. Most people who come to know Christ do so before age 13.

Rob is casting a vision to today's church to reach as many of them as we can through the most simple salvation verse in the Bible, John 3:16. Join the wave—buy one for every child in your church for only \$2.99 each.

This book makes a wonderful children's salvation campaign for any church!



C2: Giving Movies a Second Look—When Michael W. Smith wanted to develop a curriculum to help people think critically about the movies they watch, he came to Randall House for their long standing expertise in small group curriculum. *C2* is a DVD small group experience that helps Christians understand how to evaluate movies and entertainment in today's culture. If you are looking for a cutting-edge way to develop critical thinking skills in your small group or mid-week class, *C2* is what you are looking for.



SMALL GROUP STUDIES from Randall House—You asked for it and we are delivering! Churches, pastors, and small group leaders are hungry for Bible studies that are biblical, sound, practical, interactive, and a pleasure to use. That’s just what we’ve developed. Check them out!

Royal by Blood is a small group study centered on the subject of the believer’s royalty in Christ. This study of 1 Timothy 4:12 will help to open the spiritual eyes of the reader allowing a person to see all mankind from the Heavenly King’s perspective.

Verses We Know by Heart is a small group study that will take a snapshot look at six familiar Old Testament passages. The reader will be reminded of truths and answers found in God’s Word to which they can make modern-day application.

Simple Study Guide is a companion piece to the best-selling book *Simple* to be used in a group setting or on an individual basis. The reader will explore further the truths presented in *Simple* and gain a deeper understanding of basic Christian teachings.

Regaining Balance is a devotional journal designed to guide its readers through a season of spiritual revival. Each day of the 91-day journal encourages involvement in a handful of spiritual disciplines in order to help the reader regain focus and balance in every aspect of life.

What to do at the NYC

The National Youth Conference has something for everyone. It is a unique conference that combines a variety of activities related to children, youth, and student ministry.

The worship services are a feature element of the National Youth Conference. Young people from across the denomination gather to worship and raise their collective voices in praise to God. Dynamic speakers challenge them to draw close to God and seek His will for their lives. Hundreds of Free Will Baptist youth worshipping together is something to see and experience.

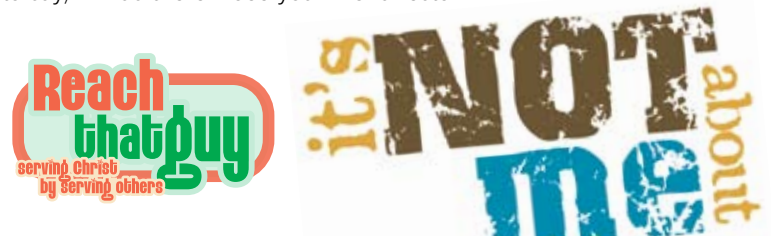
For a growing number of youth, *Reach That Guy* has become the primary event of the National Youth Conference. It is inspiring to see scores of young people going out to rescue missions, soup kitchens, retirement homes, and other agencies to perform service projects. Last year in Little Rock, NYC attendees logged over 2,400 hours of community service. This July, *Reach That Guy* volunteers will serve the people of Charleston in the name of Christ. They will work at the Covenant House, Kanawha Valley Senior Services, The Shanklin Center, Sojourner’s Shelter, Charleston Gardens Nursing Home, and other local charities.

For many attendees, competition is the highlight of the National Youth Conference. The Music and Arts Festival and Bible Competition serve as a great tool for ministry development. Over 90% of the Bible is covered in intensive Bible study through the Bible games. Bible Memorization includes 72 passages of Scripture—over 600 verses. The Music and Art categories cover a broad range of skills to help young people discover, develop, and dedicate their talents to God’s service. Even if you are not involved in the competition, watch some of the events. See some of the amazing talent with which God has gifted our young people.

Training seminars are another benefit of the National Youth Conference. Of interest to youth workers will be a series of seminars by Dr. Eddie Moody and a seminar by Rob Morgan about using *My John 3:16 Book* as an evangelism guide for children. “Meet Your Missionary” sessions provide a great time for young people to learn about missions directly from the missionaries they hear

about at church. There will also be DVD seminars about current issues regarding the Christian faith. Elementary students will enjoy the children’s choir rehearsal each day and the performance on Wednesday evening before the awards ceremony.

Special events this year include: Mike at the Mic—A Night of Comedy with Michael Jay Hollifield and Friends; a Gathering for Youth Workers to meet and network with other youth workers; the 2008 National Youth Evangelistic Team (YET) program; a celebration of the 25th year of the Truth & Peace Leadership Conference; and the organizational meeting of the T&P Alumni Association. This will be an historic year for the National Youth Conference. You will want to say, “I was there!” See you in Charleston.



Split-track CDs of the songs from the teen worship services will be available for purchase at the National Youth Conference or from Randall House.

Pre-register—save time and money. NYC Student Conference fee is only \$25 if pre-registered by June 15. The Student Conference fee will be \$35 after June 15.

NYC Adult Conference fee is \$10. Every person over the age of 5 (first grade), including adults, must have an NYC ribbon on the badge to get past the badge checkers at the entrance of the NYC section in the Civic Center.



KEITH BURDEN, CMP
Executive Secretary
National Association
of Free Will Baptists

NO GREATER JOY

LIKE MOST YOUNG MARRIED couples, our younger daughter and her husband have to keep an eye on their family finances. After paying bills each month there's not a lot left in the "eating out/entertainment" section of their budget.

Recently, her husband surprised her with a night out—dinner at a nice restaurant and tickets to a play. The meal went fine. The play was a different story. The language of the performers unexpectedly became objectionable. Without making a scene, our children left.

Obviously, I agree with their decision. They demonstrated character at that moment; however, it *wasn't* a split-second or spur of the moment decision. Their choice to do the "right thing" came as a result of years of training. Both were raised in Christian homes by parents who made an honest effort to model biblical principles before them.

Scripture encourages godly parents with this promise—*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* (Proverbs 22:6) There's no guarantee your children will *always* make right decisions. They won't! Neither do we. But, if you put the proper tools in their hands (i.e. a biblical worldview and godly example to follow), they are much more likely to make good choices.

As Father's Day approaches, you may be contemplating what to give dear ole dad. A new necktie, a pair of slippers, or a coffee mug are popular choices; but if you really want to impress your dad, consider an intangible gift. If you're not a Christian, commit your life to Christ. If you are a believer, I urge you to pay tribute to your father by making right decisions and good choices.

Take it from a man whose children honor him with their lives and you, too, can experience the reality of 3 John 4—I have **no greater joy** than to hear that my children walk in truth. □

Bring a big swing.

15th Annual Master's Men National Fund Raiser Golf Tournament

July 31, 2008

Pine Creek Golf Course
Mt. Juliet, Tennessee

Register today. Tournament fee of \$75 includes green fees, cart, two mulligans, practice balls, prize drawing, and a buffet lunch.

www.fwbmastersmen.org
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