

THE NAFWB NEWS

2017 FREE WILL BAPTIST NATIONAL CONVENTION

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Convention on Deck

Free Will Baptists return to the “Slugger City” for the third time July 16-19. Settled along the banks of the Ohio River where Interstates 64, 65, and 71 meet, Louisville is an easy day’s drive from most Free Will Baptist churches. And who wouldn’t want to attend a convention in the city where the celebratory “high five” was created?

MOVE

Getting around Louisville is a breeze, with restaurants, shopping, and tourist attractions within an easy walking distance of the Galt House. For those with limited mobility, the city offers **Zero Bus**, a free shuttle that loops through the downtown area, with stops at all major attractions.

One important transportation note: starting January 2017, the state of Kentucky began charging tolls to cross the two I-65 bridges connecting Downtown Louisville and Southern Indiana. These include the new Abraham Lincoln Bridge and the improved John F. Kennedy Memorial Bridge. Those without a RiverLink pass can expect a bill to arrive in the mail within a month, with fees ranging from \$2 to \$12, depending on the vehicle size.

If travel plans take you into Southern Indiana, you may take the **2nd Street bridge**, which parallels I-65, or cross into New Albany via I-64 without incurring tolls.

EAT

According to TripAdvisor.com, Louisville boasts 1,445 restaurants in the greater metropolitan area. No shortage of eats in this town! According to the Louisville Convention

and Visitor’s Bureau, more than 20 “sit-down” restaurants lie within a four-block radius of the Galt House, with a plentiful group of **quick options** for family or youth group:

- + SmashBurger, 312 S 4th St
- + Subway, 129 W Market St / 411 S 4th St #2
- + Quizno’s Subs, 223 S 5th St
- + Potbelly Sandwich Shop, 302 S 4th St
- + Jimmy John’s, 415 W Jefferson St
- + Qdoba, 312 South 4th St

“Foodies” will want to sample a variety of Louisville favorites. The **Hot Brown** is an open-faced turkey and bacon sandwich smothered in Mornay sauce. Sweet tooth? Try the rich, dark chocolate flavors of **Derby Pie**. Be sure to take home a bag of **Modjeska candy**—a marshmallow covered with rich, buttery caramel and named after Polish actress Helena Modjeska, who performed frequently in Louisville in the late 1800s. (Be sure to stop by the Executive Office exhibit from Monday to Wednesday to sample this delightful concoction.)

Want to try local flavor while contributing to a good cause? Make the five-minute, two-mile drive to **The Table**. Featured on Food Network’s *Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives*, this popular neighborhood eatery serves up more than great farm-to-table local recipes. With a Christ-centered mission, the restaurant also gives back to the community, offering a “pay what you can” option for residents who could not otherwise afford the meal. In addition, the restaurant works cooperatively with other community ministries to “make good happen in the community by being the hands and feet of Jesus.” Sharon, a volunteer at The Table, shared her excitement about what the café is (Continued, page 2)

“High Five” for the Convention

By Convention Manager Ryan Lewis

Welcome to Louisville and the 81st Free Will Baptist National Convention. Thousands of Free Will Baptists will convene in the city this week to worship, carry out the business of the denomination, and participate in service projects, seminars, and CTS ministry expo events. In the city where the “high five” was created, it only seems appropriate to offer our own convention high five:

1. The KFC Yum! Center will host adult worship services and business sessions. Registration, exhibits, prayer rally, meal functions, seminars, and many of the CTS competitions will be held in the Galt House Hotel. **The Kentucky Center** will be the location for General Board, the Theological Trends Seminar, WNAC Celebration Service, and the teen worship services.

2. This year marks the beginning of the Vertical Three (VIII) Conference formerly the National Youth Conference. VIII activities will take place in the Galt House Hotel and The Kentucky Center.

3. The convention added exciting, new components this year as we strive to continually improve. The Prayer Rally serves as an opportunity for us to join together as a denomi-

nation to pray for our churches, national ministries, our nation, and our denominational works throughout the world. Worship services will be live streamed in Spanish thanks to the Media Commission and the translation of Pastor Jose Rodriguez. Attendees and those following along at home will also have the opportunity to give to the convention, International Missions, or North American Ministries from their mobile device.

4. Follow along with convention events on Twitter (@NAFWB), Facebook, www.nafwb.org, or through the NAFWB app (available for iPhone or Android). Use the hashtag #NAFWB on Twitter and Facebook to contribute to the conversation. The NAFWB app allows users to view convention events, check in, and add them to their mobile calendar.

5. “Check-ins for a Cause” will again give Facebook users an opportunity to support a Free Will Baptist ministry. This year’s cause is the North American Ministries church revitalization project in Louisville. For every check-in to the NAFWB Facebook page, the Free Will Baptist Board of Retirement will sponsor three invitations to the church. **The goal is to reach 5,000 check-ins, which will translate to 15,000 invitations.**

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doing: “I’ve always been a believer in giving a hand up, not a handout. This restaurant is doing this, and I am glad to be a small part.”

The Table is open Monday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Visit tablecafe.org. I recommend the meat-loaf melt with beet relish and smoked cheddar. Wow!

(DON'T) SPILL THE BEANS

One of the most common convention concerns is: “Where do we find good coffee?” Several great options are available within walking distance of the Galt House.

Located off Main Street, **Heine Brothers Coffee Shop** has a unique look that piques the interest of passerby. With a strong, robust flavor and amazing taste, the shop definitely wows its customers. Not only does the unique organic flavor make the experience enjoyable, but it definitely encourages a second visit.



Photo and reviews courtesy of Victoria Thomsen.

Press-on Market is a nifty hangout, a good place to stop and savor coffee, tea, smoothie, or sweet. With a modern vibe and one-of-a-kind character, the Market has a charm beneficial to its customers. With both indoor and outdoor seating, it offers plentiful workspace without being disturbed by others.

Sunergos Coffee has a rich, bold flavor that will surely amaze its customers. This tiny room has no seating, but the wonderful customer service makes for a pleasant experience in a small amount of time.

- + Sunergos Coffee, 231 S 5th St
- + Heine Brothers, 516 W Main St / 462 S 4th St
- + Press-On Market, 252 E Market St
- + Starbuck's, 101 S 5th St
- + Dunkin' Donuts, 312 S 4th St

News, Updates & Announcements

General Board to Meet

General Board will meet Monday, July 17, 8:00 a.m. in the Bomhard Theater of The Kentucky Center.

Registration and Exhibits

Registration is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., second floor of the Galt House Suite Tower. The Exhibit Hall opens Monday, July 17, 3:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Galt House

Laughter and Latté

Join WNAC for this special event featuring guests from Côte d'Ivoire, Monday, 8:30 p.m., Galt House, Archibald.

Download the convention app!

Search for NAFWB to get the latest info on your device.

Meet the Speakers

Tim Eaton has been president of Randall University since 2004. Prior to his presidency, Eaton pastored four churches in Missouri and Oklahoma and currently serves as associate pastor at Newcastle FWB Church. Eaton earned a B.Th. from Randall University, a M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the M.Ed. and Ph.D. from University of Oklahoma. He served as a member of the Randall House Board from 2004 to 2016, and has served the Missouri State Association as state clerk, and as a member of the state Christian Education Board. He is president of TRACS (Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools). He and his wife Marthajane have three adult children: Tara, Leah, and Hope.

Missourian **Rick Dement** pastors First FWB Church in O'Fallon, Missouri, where he has served since the beginning of his ministry. Rick is clerk of the Board of Trustees for the FWB Board of Retirement and served as moderator of the Missouri State Association from 2008 to 2010. Currently, he moderates the Mid-Rivers District Association and serves as a member of the General Board of the Missouri State Association. Rick and his wife Jamie have three adult children: Karah, Caleb, and Clayton.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, native **Marshall Boney** and his wife Tiffany are church planters in Virginia Beach, Virginia. After serving in the U.S. Navy from 1996 to 2009 (twice awarded Sailor of the Year), Marshall earned a B.A. in Christian Ministry (2011) and a M.Div. in Interdisciplinary Studies (2014) from Regent University. He expects to complete the D.Min. in Leadership and Renewal from Regent later this year. Marshall has been assistant secretary of the Tidewater Pastors' Association since 2009 and is a member of the Tidewater Ordination Council. The Boney family have one daughter at home and two adult daughters.

PRAYER RALLY

Convention attendees are encouraged to attend a Convention Prayer Rally, Tuesday, July 18, 9:00 a.m. in the Archibald Ballroom of the Galt House Hotel (Rivue Tower). Executive Secretary Keith Burden will lead this time of praise and prayer, following a message from Dr. Barry Raper.

“It is crucial for us to pray deliberately, specifically, and fervently for our families, our churches, our pastors, and our nation,” Burden noted. “Yes, we are here to do business, but this prayer rally might be the most important thing we do at the convention. I hope everyone will take part in this time of prayer.”

Music Rehearsals

Convention Choir rehearsals start each evening at 5:30 p.m. and you can participate. Something powerful happens when 100 voices from all over the nation unite together to lift up the name of Jesus.

Even if you can only sing one or two nights, we'd love for you to participate. We promise you won't be the same.

Signed Up!

Authors Robert E. Picirilli and Jon Forrest will sign their books, Monday, July 17, 8:30 p.m. at the Randall House exhibit following the evening service. Picirilli will sign *Free Will Revisited* and *Paul the Apostle*. Forrest will sign *Help! My Games Stink: 52 Amazing Games for Youth Ministry*.