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The FREE WILL BAPTIST



January 1994

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Table of Contents

3	
Uplifting the Spirit as the Body Slows Down	
4	
The Blessings of Old Age	
5	
Our Elders Are Teaching: Who Is Learning?	
6	
Aging as a Worldwide Concern	
7	
The Aging Church: Opportunities for Growth	
8	
Barriers to Participation	
9	
What It's Like to Be Old in the Church	
10	
Possibilities in Memories	
11	
1994 Devotional Calendar	
39	
Happenings Throughout the Church	
47	
Jots and Tittles	

Enclosed within this issue is the 1994 Devotional Calendar. Dates of submitted denominational events are given. You will also find daily Bible readings. An individual who reads the cited passages will read through the Bible next year.

To use the calendar, carefully tear away the outside pages of this issue.

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UPLIFTING THE SPIRIT AS THE BODY SLOWS DOWN

*O God, from my youth thou hast taught me,
and I still proclaim thy wondrous deeds.*

So even to old age and gray hairs,

O God, do not forsake me,

'til I proclaim thy might

To all the generations to come.

Thy power and thy righteousness,

O God,

reach the high heavens.

Psalm 71:17-18

Can we uplift the spirit as the body slows down? Are we each responsible for the spiritual and physical well-being and care of others? Do we need to find new ways for religious bodies to support older people?

Leaders of religious organizations nationwide would reply with an emphatic “yes” to all these questions. If we asked those same leaders, “How would you lead your congregation in preparing for and helping an aging society?” the answer would not be so definite.

If any institution is perfectly positioned to serve older persons, it is the local religious congregation. As social institutions, local religious congregations have a great capacity to respond to the needs of older persons.

The local congregation is generally based in a neighborhood where it has often been for generations. It may be the only social institution in our times that is so rooted in the community. Most older persons, including many who are at risk, belong to a local congregation. Studies have found that 97 percent of people over age 65 report some religious affiliation. More than 75 percent of people over age 65 say that they are members of a local church or synagogue.

Many local congregations are already carrying out programs for older persons. But many are not, and the potential is enormous. Public opinion polls have reported that 61 percent of the people surveyed who are 65 or older have attended a church or synagogue in the past month; only 19 percent have attended a senior center or club within the same period. For minority older persons and for persons in rural areas, the local congregation may be the only contact with the outside world.

Religious leaders, observing the growing numbers of older persons in their congregations, have too often perceived a burden rather than an opportunity. Lacking specific information about the “whys” and the “hows,” many clergy have failed to become involved on expanding programs or services for older persons within their congregations and neighborhoods, and have failed to develop the full role of older persons within their congregations.

The National Clergy Leadership Project to Prepare for an Aging Society seeks to assist clergy in changing attitudes and creating actions with and on behalf of older persons. The Project is developing methods, programs, and products that national leaders, and congregational clergy and lay leaders can use to educate themselves and others about aging and about serving the needs of older people.

The articles found on pages 4-10 of this publication were offered for publication courtesy of the National Interfaith Coalition on Aging, a constituent unit of The National Council on the Aging, Inc., 409 Third Street SW, Washington, DC 20024.

THE BLESSINGS OF OLD AGE

by Rabbi Brad L. Bloom

When I was a child, I used to imagine what it would be like to be as old as my grandparents. For some reason, their white hair and wrinkled bodies never frightened me. In fact, I was attracted to my grandparents because of their stories. They opened up a door to a world that had preceded me with wonderful insights about my parents, aunts, and uncles. By hearing the stories, I felt that I had something precious in my possession. Just the fact that they, the elders of the family, had such stories, made me anticipate that old age would only increase my secret storage of family lore and wisdom.

The Torah provides a good model of the connection between wisdom and aging in Abraham. What was the relationship between old age and wisdom in regard to the first patriarch? The text says, "Now Abraham was old and the LORD had blessed Abraham in everything" (Genesis 24:7). The life of Abraham had been filled with tests and challenges. True, the Torah tells us nothing about his youth. We only meet him in his later years. For it was when he was in his 70s that he set forth to Canaan. The rest of his trials all occurred in the twilight of his life when, like most of us, he would prefer to reflect on the more risky life adventures of the past rather than live them out again.

The interesting problem in Abraham's life is that up until now, we have no sense that his experiences along with his age conferred upon him any wisdom. But now we find that the Torah connects his advanced age with the blessing of life. It is at this point that the curiosity of rabbinic sages has been aroused. What is the underlying meaning or message of pointing toward Abraham's age and God's blessing?

In one of the ancient collections of Midrash (scriptural homilies) called Midrash Tanhuma, the rabbis noted the change of the name from Abram to Abraham. Without the advice of modern psychotherapy, the sages intuitively understand that the added Hebrew letter "hay" (h) signaled a transformation of spirit and conscience. In fact, the Midrash continues, Rabbi Berekhyah, the priest, said, "The Holy One said to Abraham, 'I am creating



you as a new creation and renovating you."⁴ Furthermore, another sage, Rabbi Judah, son of Rabbi Shallum the Levite, said, "God said to Abraham, 'I am making your name correspond to the number of the limbs within you. Just as there are 248 limbs in the human body, so the letters of your name Abraham, shall add up to 248."⁵

The idea concludes with the rabbis asking, "When did God show to Abraham the divine blessing?" Again we return to the first verse: "Now Abraham was old and the LORD had blessed Abraham in everything." In other words, the rabbis connected old age with a time when Abraham was finally able to see the broad scope of life as a model for not only the Jewish people but the entire world. The spirit behind the verse, "And God blessed Abraham in everything," means he beheld, for the first time in his life, the value of his life.

The rabbis are compelled to pursue this line of thinking as they perform their interpretive skills on the verse. In one more interpretation they note that from every generation from Adam to Abraham there was no reference of old age written about any of the biblical figures except him. Why did God decide to bestow his "gray crown" upon Abraham? This crown of old age required other prerequisites besides long years. Our sages ask in rhetorical style, "When did God put the crown of old age over Abraham?" When he practiced righteousness, because the Book of Proverbs

states, "Gray hair is a crown of glory" (Proverbs 16:31). Again the rabbis ask, "And how does one find such a crown?" The answer is the second half of the same verse in Proverbs. For it is written, "It is found by way of righteousness." Finally God proclaims to Abraham, "By your life, you are worthy of old age."

What is the lesson from these selections of homiletical discourse? We find that old age in and of itself does not necessarily ensure the crown of glory that God bestowed upon the first Jew. The ideal is that old age may serve as the context for recognition of a life of righteousness. There must be a connection between moral health and longevity to merit the kind of blessing in life that was ascribed to Abraham.

Unfortunately, today's society has ignored the value of older adults. Our prejudice is based on the fact that if persons are no longer productive or employed, then they have lost respect. Abraham's life is still a model for us because he defied the long-standing tradition of disrespect for older adults that preceded him in biblical times. He was the first character in history for whom old age was a reward. I would like to think that he had learned to accept his aging process. And because he could embrace his mortality and his past, God saw fit to grant him the privilege of being old and wise.

Finally, as a youth I never really judged my grandparents for their moral conduct. I was too consumed in their lore, which took on an almost mythological proportion. Only later in life could I see them as real people, flawed with the anger and faults that afflict us all. But I would like to hold on to that image that being old could also lead to wisdom. Each of us is creating a record determining whether our descendants will confer a crown of glory upon us like Abraham. Whether our old age will be a blessing or not may depend on factors beyond our control. Those issues that are under our control require us to practice righteousness in our daily activities. Thus, if old age is to be a blessing, it will depend, to a great degree, upon us. And only then will the crown of old age have meaning for us.

OUR ELDERS ARE TEACHING. WHO IS LEARNING?

by Jeanne S. Robinson

Often when thinking about ministry and aging, the assumption is that the ministry is directed from younger to elder, and that those who do the ministering will encounter only massive needs. As in many other ministries, we who make that our life work have come to learn differently.

One of the first pieces of wisdom I consciously accepted as valuable learning—freely given to me by a long-time nursing home resident—was: “Use your head or your feet.” The woman who said that was a wheelchair-bound stroke patient. She was a frequent observer of me, the activity director, who had a propensity for starting out to do one task and responding to so many interruptions that the purpose of the original trip was soon forgotten, along with any paraphernalia I needed to have with me. Her bit of wisdom and humor encouraged me to think ahead and avoid making more trips than were necessary. In the more than 20 years since I received that gift I have had many occasions to remember it. I am fast approaching the age in which younger people are hearing that same bit of wisdom from me.

In more recent history, I had the opportunity to offer a homily on the subject of ministry and aging. In it, I compared the process of aging to a trip in the desert. I am a child of verdant mountainous areas and had no appreciation for the desert until I visited there as an explorer. I learned about the plant and animal life. I appreciated its special scenery and thoroughly loved its unique sky and distant mountains.

My trip to the desert had been planned; I bought books, spoke to desert dwellers and travelers, and prepared myself for those experiences, becoming receptive to the possibility of loving the history, nature, and aesthetic values. Without preparation I could not have appreciated what I found there; the trip might have been dangerous, as wandering through the desert can be. For those who do not live or work in the proximity of elders, there is a danger of wandering into their own old age without knowing how to cope and manage.

Putting oneself in the presence and company of older persons is an opportunity to learn from those who have traveled the trail of the aging process. There are as many ways to age as there are people doing
THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

it, and each aging person has a story to tell.

I came from a family with strong religious ties and have attended worship services one or more times a week throughout my life. But it was not until I began working closely with many older persons that I discovered my spiritual nature, unaware of the changes that were occurring. What I learned about myself was what I was great at doing. From them I learned about being. It was a difficult lesson and I still have to work at it.

My earliest experiences were with very frail elders. Many had been identified by their physicians as being in “an advanced vegetative state,” but I came to recognize that they were “being” to the maximum possible. They taught me that the human spirit is intact long after cognitive functions have dissipated.

Tillie was such a woman: Only her swallowing reflex and the involuntary functions were operating when I met her. She was unable even to make any vocal sounds. I wanted to include her to the degree possible, so I went into her bedroom every weekday as soon as she had been fed her breakfast and greeted her by saying, “Shalom, Tillie, Shalom.” For one year she appeared to be unaware of my presence; she gave no sign of acknowledgement. After a year, I walked into her room as usual; she turned her head and said, “Shalom.” Thus a nonverbal woman in vegetative state taught me a lot about the human spirit. Never underestimate it!



Edith taught me about ministry, that it is not only within the realm of the able-bodied. She was a long-time nursing home resident who was aphasic (unable to make speech) and had very limited vision and reduced hearing. Edith had spent her life practicing the beliefs of her Seventh-Day Adventist religion. One could not count the numbers of children who attended her religious education classes. In our nursing home, Edith was the official greeter for new residents. Many arrived anxious and afraid, and it was Edith who sat by their side and offered comfort. She could not talk, but she could listen; she did not judge when frightened people cried, she just comforted them; and she could be present for the first few days of settling in—the staff would always inform the newcomer that Edith had been there longer than anybody. She was an example of how people could thrive in such a place.

Many people taught me that while we have little or no control over the external events of life, we can choose how we live with them. Not all of the elders I have known had coped well, but I have seen that I can learn how I want to be, which qualities of mine I want to take into old age with me, and that I can begin working to eliminate those that will not be good company in old age.

I quickly began to realize that this vocation was going to result in my learning many things about life, history, human interaction, and how to cope with the changes inherent in living. I am now a social worker in several different sites and I view my job as an exchange of information. I even solicit advice from those identified as my clients. When my son announced his engagement, I included a request for advice on how to be a good mother-in-law in my monthly column to tenants of independent living apartments. Many people responded, and I listened because those who talked to me both had them and had been mothers-in-law.

Ministry with older persons, then, is an opportunity to learn about aging, from these surviving travelers, and about life in its many aspects. We have other sources of information about technology, we need the seasoned saints to tell us about the important things in life.

AGING AS A WORLDWIDE CONCERN

by Jan L. McGilliard and Patricia E. Schroeder

Here in the United States, we frequently read about the "Age Wave" that will occur as a result of 76 million baby boomers reaching the age of 50+. The first of these baby boomers will reach age 50 by 1996. Our country will experience dramatic social changes that reflect the aging of this generation. One of the most important changes will be in providing care.

Today most eldercare is provided by family members. The boom generation has a more complex family structure because of a high divorce rate, remarriage, blended families, delayed child bearing, with fewer children per family unit than was true in most past generations. In short, the boomers have not replaced themselves. The result will be more older adults needing assistance to remain independent with fewer family members available than ever before to provide this care.

At the same time our country is experiencing large numbers of about-to-be older adults, the rest of the world is on the brink of its own Age Wave. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are 495 million elderly (aged 60 and older) in the world today, with 57 percent living in developing countries. By the year 2020, the percentage of older persons will jump to 69 percent. In 1950, the population over age 60 constituted 8 percent of the world population.

This demographic revolution will have economic, political, and social implications that raise difficult questions with no easy answer. Compounding the issues related to people living longer throughout the world is the migration of young people from developing countries to seek employment in other countries. Again, this means the number of family members available to care for elders is shrinking. And in developing countries, it often means that elders remaining in the homeland have to care for children left behind when parents emigrate to find work.

How does this Age Wave affect religious communities throughout the world? Delegates to the 1991 World Council of Churches Consultation Ministry with Senior Citizens, held in Great Britain, struggled with this questions and came to the conclusion, "As humanity comes of age, it will choose to consider this event as a promise or a peril."

The delegates ended their consultation with a challenge to the religious communities of the world to relate their work to all age groups, encompassing the needs of all generations and the needs of those still unborn. The Rev. Larry Pickens, a United Methodist minister from Chicago, wrote the conference summary statement:

"Life is an ongoing process of learning and adjustment. The church is therefore called on to train and retrain older adults to participate in a changing world. It is our task to create an environment in which intergenerational sharing and ministry can occur."

People in religious communities must take the lead both in changing thinking about growing older and in behavior related to growing older. This should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Ridding ourselves of any stereotyped notions about older peoples' abilities, talents, and strengths. Most older people can and will continue to be productive members of society in their homes, families, communities, and workplace.
- Acting always on the belief that our planet and everyone and everything on it are interdependent. Different age groups need to engage in dialogue on issues related to the "common good" for all generations.
- Offering opportunities in worship, missions, and pastoral care to affirm the value of every individual throughout life--ensuring that older adults are involved in mission-setting, using their

unique gifts of wisdom and experience to improve life for others.

- Targeting mission dollars to development projects that are designed to help elderly sustain themselves--older adults planning for and building subsidized housing for low-income elderly.
- Providing training and education about lifestyle, attitudes, spirituality, and, very importantly, enabling older adults to engage in discussions about the realities of death and dying.
- Preparing documentary material for the information, reflection, and action of the religious communities about the numbers, gifts, and needs of the world's elderly.
- For those who will become older adults within the next 20 years, beginning to make lifestyle changes now, such as transferring energies from the consumption of "things" to the achievement of spiritual growth and development.
- Encouraging support of the family as traditionally or newly defined in the context of both "north" and "south" or developed or developing countries. God is calling us to live longer--all over the globe. Clearly, we must respond to this call and make choices that include new ways of living interdependently and believing that this call can be for the good of humanity. Religious communities have a unique opportunity to help individuals prepare for a future of interdependency, concern for people of all ages, environmental sanity, and global benefit.



THE AGING CHURCH: OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

by Jan L. McGilliard

Opportunity for growth in numbers
Opportunity for growth in spirituality
Opportunity for growth in outreach

Many people are alarmed at the demographics of most mainline churches in the United States. Generally, over half of church members are over the age of 50, and one in five is 65 years old or older. Our attitude can be likened to the half-full, half-empty glass of water. We can view the aging of the church as an opportunity and a challenge, or as an indication of a dying church. A common (and panicked) response to a church aging in place is to hire a youth minister with the hope of attracting young families. Older adults themselves tend to focus on the young. They fail to think about their own gifts, abilities, leadership skills, and valuable faith journeys: gifts that enrich the church.

Older adults have a unique opportunity to bring new life to the church. Because they are well-grounded in the faith and comfortable in the church, many make great evangelists. The church could grow in numbers on the basis of older adults reaching out to older adults alone.

Many adults are role models, and we tend to listen to them. An invitation to attend church with an older person would be hard to turn down. There is something infectious about an older person's enthusiasm for the spiritual life and the way that spirituality plays itself out in everyday living. Older adults have a similar effect on young families that have not considered a

church home. Many young families have found their way to our congregation by invitation of an older couple in our church. Their friendliness, willingness to share time and talent, and desire to bring their experiences to others have made an impact on our congregation. Word gets around, and growth is the result.

"Third agers," as some call them, have an advantage over younger generations when it comes to growing in the spirit. At this stage in life, they are less interested in "things" and more interested in the meaning of life and in living abundantly. They are less inclined to be concerned about looking youthful, being competitive in the workplace, or blending with the crowd. They are more distinct and unique in later life than at any other time in the life span. This characteristic alone should bring hope and life to the church.

A pastor who recognizes the diversity, depth of life experience, and willingness to serve of older members has found a great treasure. With positive leadership, older adults can contribute valuable skills that will initiate creative ministries in the church, community, and the world.

A pastor of older adults will discover, with a little effort, that persons of the third age are ready for and capable of in-depth Bible study and discussion. One of the tasks of aging is to simplify and to be attentive to the most important aspects of our existence. What matters most are relationships, intimacy, dealing with the inevitable losses of aging, and transferring knowledge and life stories to the next generation.

I recently drove a member of my church, an 84-year-old woman, to an appointment in another city. She told me about her volunteer work of tutoring stu-

dents with reading problems. Her success rate is phenomenal and the rewards are without bounds. When we returned to her home, she gave me a tour. One entire room was devoted to her teaching, complete with library and computer. She has lived in our community less than two years, and, along with her daughter and son-in-law, has clearly made a difference to many students.

One of the markers of successful aging is having a focus outside oneself. Caring deeply about something or someone or someplace builds self-worth. Even a homebound person can experience a sense of accomplishment if the request fits the limitations. I was once told of a pastor who called a homebound church member every Monday morning with a list of people to pray for throughout the week. Prayer is a powerful ministry, and little physical energy or agility is required. This person feels connected to the church despite her inability to attend weekly services or activities at the church building.

With a positive attitude toward older adults, churches have the ability to grow in many directions: in actual numbers (of both old and young), in depth of spirituality, and in outreach to one another, to neighbors, friends, community, and the world.

They say God does not retire. Perhaps, then, we are never too old to serve.

BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

by Jan L. McGilliard

When I think of the word “barrier,” I envision a barbed wire fence in good repair and as tall as I. For good measure, it would be an electric fence; I would be obliged to touch it to find out, not knowing if I would receive a shock for my effort. A daunting image. I hate the thought that our places of worship may be just as daunting for an older or differently-abled person to negotiate. Not only would participating be difficult, it might feel as though no one cares enough to make necessary changes to a building and its grounds.

If our places of worship are to be inclusive, we must take a look at potential barriers to those who would worship there, and answer the following questions:

•The parking lot and steps to the building.

What irregularities, steps, and dark places do you encounter on your way to where you are going? Are there handrails in stairways and bright strips on steps to signal a sudden change in walking pattern? Can you get to any location in the church without excessive steps? If you are the last one to leave a meeting in the evening, can you find your way safely to your car? Is there a place where folks can be dropped off close to the building, out of inclement weather?

•Bulletins.

Do you offer large-print bulletins for those who need them? Six-year-olds need large print as much as many older adults. I would abolish all small print bulletins in favor of one large-print version so that everything has the same thing.

•Reading and lighting.

Even hymns or psalms can be enlarged for easier reading. Is the place of worship dim and dark, or bright and clear? In some places, congregants may sneak in miniature flashlights to see properly. As we age, we need brighter light--this is simple to provide.

•Wheelchair accessibility.

Does the worship place have a wheelchair available should the need arise? You can guess the next question: Is the building wheelchair accessible? That includes entrances, hallways, the place of worship, and rest rooms. Could a person in a wheelchair participate in or help to lead worship from

the sanctuary? By law, all public buildings must meet accessibility codes, yet places of worship are exempt (in most locales).

•Transportation.

I have fond memories of Dr. Jay Lush, a very elderly professor emeritus of Iowa State University who, in his automobile, picked up other older persons on their way to church. In many cases, the professor was 10 years older than his passengers. However, a real sense of community was felt within the doors of that stately vehicle. Many older adults simply stop attending their church because they can no longer drive, and because they are loathe to ask for help.

A place of worship is more than a building. The structure is a place where we gather for worship and study God’s Word, but prayer, worship, study, faith, and action happen continuously away from the worship place.

When we talk about barriers to participation, we must include barriers other than those inherent in our buildings.

There may come a time when participation in worship is not longer possible, or is not possible for a period of time. Tape-recorded worship services are a useful substitute, provided a volunteer stays with the homebound person to listen. For some, however, a tape is less useful than a visit. Are flowers thrown away following worship, or are they taken to someone who might enjoy them?

A number of years ago, a Presbyterian minister in Virginia thoughtfully considered what was needed most in his congregation of older adults--90 percent over the age of 65. He convinced the church gov-

erning body that participation in the church would be enhanced most by hiring a parish nurse. The half-time parish nurse works closely with the pastor to be sure needs are being met appropriately. Space does not permit a full description of her special ministry in this church, but members feel cared for physically and emotionally, and believe they are needed and wanted in the life of the congregation.

Another barrier to full participation is feeling unwanted, unloved, no longer needed, or unworthy of being heard. There may be a period after retirement when older adults want to try their wings and need to feel free to come and go. The church needs to recognize this new found freedom and work with it.

A person might agree to co-chair a committee but not agree to solo leadership because of the demands involved. There comes a time when newly retired folks are ready to engage once again in meaningful activity (if they ever left in the first place). There is a fine line between early-retirement reluctance to participate and the time to reengage. Failing to ask again often means a member will feel like an outsider.

Last, it is important to honor our elders for their many gifts and accomplishments. Reaching the age of 80 or 90 or beyond is a hallmark occasion. Moving to a retirement community is a big decision for an individual, something positive but also somewhat unsettling. Publicly acknowledging a person’s importance to the congregation and community, and giving assurances of future communication, can do much for a person.



WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE OLD IN THE CHURCH

by Jan L. McGilliard

Being a church mouse, I have spent serious time observing the folks who come here to worship, and I have to tell you in all honesty there are a few problems here. Some of the older folks seem to be set in their ways, always having to sit in the same pew with the same view and the like. I know that not all of them are like that, but I still hear the rumblings when some sing in frustration mostly new hymns, or familiar hymns whose words have been changed. Even the Doxology is not safe! Even the "willing to try" group feels frustrated because the print is too small or the lights are too dim for reading those new words. I won't even get into the poor sound system, small-print bulletin boards, or the many steps they climbed to get into the building.

I have a theory, being a mouse of the church, that older folks want to feel that the church is a haven--a place where community is the hallmark of worship. It is a place where familiar prayers are repeated, where familiar hymns are sung, and where the sacraments are presented in an orderly, and, there's that word again, familiar manner. Why such resistance to change?

My worldly mice friends, who visit me from time to time (after all, I am blessed with all this space and great places to hide), have told me how courageous older people are in their daily lives. Every day they open the newspaper to the obituary page and learn that another friend has died. Another has inoperable cancer. They are besieged with confusing advertising phone calls and scams disguised as help (money up front). Well-meaning friends and relatives persuade them to move away from old neighbors to be in a dwelling without stairs, or near caregivers. Medical bills arrive daily. When to pay? Will insurance cover the cost? Chronic conditions are the norm for these brave folks--but they seldom complain and simply adjust to their limitations. What choice do they have?

From what my pals tell me, the list goes on and on. Older folks experience more change later in life than at any other time, and they may live 20 years longer than their parents did. In some ways, I'm glad mice have a relatively short lifespan!

Anyway, from what my friends describe, it's no wonder some older folks

want their place of worship to remain unchanged. After all, they have supported the church with their attendance, their service, and their pocketbooks for many, many years! They have a long-term investment in the life of the church. It is a link with their

youth, about which they spend considerable time reminiscing in their spare time.

I have half a mind to sneak into the pastor's study and turn on the computer to leave a message. It would read:

Dear Pastor,

I have some advice for you that will make things go smoothly. The church has been a secure home for me and my family over the years, and I'm grateful. I know you have observed us from time to time, but you have faithfully looked the other way, perhaps realizing everyone needs a home.

However, you have some folks in your flock who need your help, though they will not admit it to anyone. If you heed my advice, they'll never be the wiser, but they might smile more often and criticize less.

1. If you make changes in the order of worship or in your style of serving communion, explain what they are and why you are making a change.

2. Be sure one or two familiar hymns are included in the service. Have the choir director spend some time practicing new music with the congregation so it won't feel so awkward when it is time to sing.

3. Once in a while, serve communion the old, familiar way, and offer a choice of how to receive the elements when a new style is tried.

4. Make the bulletin board a large-print one--then everyone is sure to read it!

5. Use higher-watt bulbs throughout the church.

6. Within reason, make the church more accessible. One day, you may have trouble climbing the stairs to the pulpit.

7. Offer hearing devices that can be used anywhere in the church. A familiar seat helps soften the obvious need for help with hearing.

8. Try to speak distinctly and clearly and not too fast. If you don't have an amplifier, get one! Even then, you are not allowed to use your "inside voice."

9. Treat older folks with respect and care: Tomorrow it will be your turn.

10. Assume that older folks are competent. Include them in everything. Listen to them. You'll learn a lot.

I hope this helps.

Sincerely,
"Church Mouse"

POSSIBILITIES IN MEMORIES

by Elaine Tiller



“Life can only be understood looking backwards, but it must be lived looking forward” (Kierkegaard).

“We hurry and hurry, and there are no blessings” (Swahili saying).

“...They are continually talking of the past, because they enjoy remembering” (Aristotle).

Senior adults in our congregations are a treasury of both personal/family history and institutional history. This treasury of history goes untapped by family or congregation. In fact, sometimes we become irritated with older persons’ remembering and storytelling. We are so busy living today and planning for tomorrow that we do not take time to learn from the stories that are told. “We hurry and hurry, and there are no blessings.”

Kierkegaard once said, “Life can only be understood looking backwards, but it must be lived looking forward.” Looking back to understand, to find meaning in our lives, is an important activity that we should encourage and support. Memories can hold great significance for the rememberer and for the receiver of the stories.

Recollection of events in one’s life is a way of bringing meaning from all of one’s experiences--both good and bad. Throughout life, and especially at transitional periods, there is a need for most of us to remember--to go over stories of our lives in order to find direction for our future. If we are encouraged to do this aloud with family members and friends, we gain greater depth and our relationships gain greater depth.

Aristotle once said, “...They are continually talking of the past, because they enjoy remembering.” This is true, but the truth goes beyond just enjoyment. We need to remember to find significance and meaning in the lives we have lived. Remembering at times will be painful because parts of our lives have been painful. Reminiscing is the process of integrating the joyful and the

painful in our past to enrich the present and future. A biblical example of this is the Israelites, when they were exiles in Babylon, receiving hope for their future by remembering God’s liberation of them from Egypt. Reminiscence can help us to remember God’s faithfulness and unconditional love in our lives. This helps us to accept God’s forgiveness in the present and the future.

Each of us has a story to tell about our life and how we lived it. That story needs to be shared with younger generations. Let us think back on all the struggles we have faced, and how we have handled them. Let us remember the simple things in our childhood that gave our lives meaning and direction. We are unique because of the experiences we have had and how we have handled them. Each of us has a special story to tell.

There are many ways of sharing our stories. We can record our individual experiences and their significance to us in a loose-leaf journal or by talking into a tape recorder. These records of our lives make wonderful gifts to family members, especially if we then take the time to discuss the stories with our family. Another possibility is to form a small group in the congregation interested in sharing life stories. This kind of group can write stories outside and bring them in to discuss and share. Such a group has the bonus of building deep friendships as it is learned in depth what has made each person who he/she is.

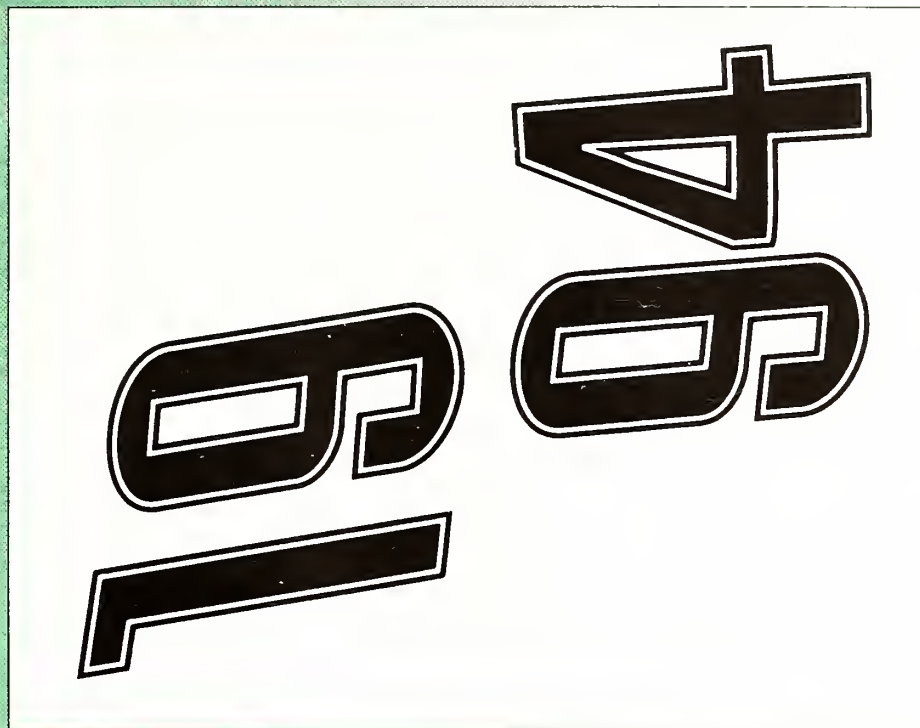
Another mode of sharing life stories is in congregational life. Senior adults might be asked to be on a panel to share their stories at a Wednesday night dinner, a Sun-

day night forum, or at a youth meeting. Possible questions might be:

- What was school like when you were a child? A teenager?
- What was your first day of school like?
- What kinds of games did you play?
- What kind of music did you like?
- What kind of clothes did you wear?
- Do you remember the first time you saw a car, airplane, television, etc.?
- How did you celebrate Christmas?
- Tell about the first house you remember living in.
- Tell about the first time you attended this church.
- How old were you when you were baptized? When you joined the church?
- What brought you to this decision?
- Who were the most influential persons in your faith development?

In the Christian tradition, Jesus saw the value of remembering and sharing these memories. Jesus requested that Christians do certain things in a repetitious manner in order that we find meaning in our lives. At the last supper, Jesus told that some things are worth remembering and repeating regularly, and He asked that believers do these things within the community of faith as a shared experience. When we follow Jesus’ words, “Do this in remembrance of me,” our lives are filled with new meaning, new possibilities, and new significance. Share memories and bring new life to individuals and to the congregation. It is well worth slowing down and finding the blessing in our past and each other’s pasts.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST





January is Retirement Homes Month

The Rev. Walter Sutton, Executive Director
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

JANUARY 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Genesis 1-3 New Year's Day FWB Bookstores Closed
2 Genesis 2-5	3 Genesis 6-9	4 Genesis 10-12	5 Genesis 13-15	6 Genesis 16-18	7 Genesis 19-21	8 Genesis 22-24
9 Genesis 25-27	10 Genesis 28-30 Convention Executive Committee, Headquarters	11 Genesis 31-33	12 Genesis 34-36	13 Genesis 37-39	14 Genesis 40-42	15 Genesis 43-45
16 Genesis 46-48	17 Gen. 49-Exo. 1	18 Exodus 2-4 Sunday School Board, Headquarters, 7 p.m.	19 Exodus 5-7	20 Exodus 8-10	21 Exodus 11-13	22 Exodus 14-16
23 Exodus 17-19	24 Exodus 20-22	25 Exodus 23-25	26 Exodus 26-28	27 Exodus 29-31	28 Exodus 32-34	29 Exodus 35-37
30 Exodus 38-39	31 Exodus 40					



February is Christian Education Month

Dr. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College
634 Henderson Drive
Mount Olive, NC 28365

FEBRUARY 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Leviticus 1-3	2 Leviticus 4-6	3 Leviticus 7-8	4 Leviticus 9-10	5 Leviticus 11-13
6 Leviticus 14-15	7 Leviticus 16-18	8 Leviticus 19-21	9 Leviticus 24-25	10 Leviticus 24-25	11 Leviticus 26-27	12 Numbers 1-2
13 Numbers 3-4	14 Numbers 5-6 Valentine's Day	15 Numbers 7 FM Board, Hdqrs, 10 a.m. CFA Board, 10:30 a.m. CFA Annual Meeting of Membership FWB Press Board, Headquarters, 1 p.m. SS Board, Hdqrs., 7 p.m.	16 Numbers 8-9 Ash Wednesday	17 Numbers 10-11	18 Numbers 12-13	19 Numbers 14-15
20 Numbers 16-18	21 Numbers 19-20	22 Numbers 21-22	23 Numbers 23-25	24 Numbers 26-27	25 Numbers 28-29	26 Numbers 30-31
27 Numbers 32-33	28 Numbers 34-36					



March is Foreign Missions Month

The Rev. Harold Jones, Executive Director
Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

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MARCH 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Deut. 1-2	2 Deut. 3-4	3 Deut. 5-7	4 Deut. 8-10 Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet, Lee's Chapel	5 Deut. 11-13 SS Institute, Daniels Chapel, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
6 Deut. 14-16	7 Deut. 17-20	8 Deut. 21-23	9 Deut. 24-27	10 Deut. 28	11 Deut. 29-31 World Missions Conference, Stoney Creek, 3 p.m.; Rally, 7:30 p.m.	12 Deut. 32-34
13 Joshua 1-3	14 Joshua 4-6	15 Joshua 7-8	16 Joshua 9-10	17 Joshua 11-13 St. Patrick's Day	18 Joshua 14-16	19 Joshua 17-19
20 Joshua 20-21	21 Joshua 22-24	22 Judges 1-2	23 Judges 3-5	24 Judges 6-7	25 Judges 8-9	26 Judges 10-11
27 Judges 12-14 Palm Sunday Telethon Sunday	28 Judges 15-17	29 Judges 18-19	30 Judges 20-21	31 Ruth 1-4		



April is Home Missions and Evangelism Month

The Rev. David C. Hansley, Executive Director
Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

WVHCE 1001

APRIL 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 1 Samuel 1-3 Good Friday	2 1 Samuel 4-7
3 1 Samuel 8-11 Easter	4 1 Sam. 12-14:23 Easter Monday Kinfolk (Family Week Retreat), Cragmont	5 1 Sam. 14:24-16	6 1 Sam. 17-18	7 1 Sam. 19-21	8 1 Sam. 22-24 Morning Star (WA Mini-Conference)	9 1 Sam. 25-27
10 1 Sam. 28-31	11 2 Sam. 1-2	12 2 Sam. 3-5	13 2 Sam. 6-9	14 2 Sam. 10-12	15 2 Sam. 13-1	16 2 Sam. 15-16
17 2 Sam. 17-18	18 2 Sam. 19-20 Convention Executive Committee, Hdqu.	19 2 Sam. 21-22	20 2 Sam. 23-24	21 1 Kings 1-2:25	22 1 Kings 2:26-4	23 1 Kings 5-7
24 1 Kings 8	25 1 Kings 9-11	26 1 Kings 12-13	27 1 Kings 14-15	28 1 Kings 16-18	29 1 Kings 19-20	30 1 Kings 21-22



May is Children's Home Month

Dr. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director
Box 249
Middlesex, NC 27557
(919) 235-2161

MAY 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 2 Kings 1-3	2 2 Kings 4-5	3 2 Kings 6-8	4 2 Kings 9-10 CFA Board, 10:30 a.m.	5 2 Kings 11-13	6 2 Kings 14-15	7 2 Kings 16-17
8 2 Kings 18-20 Mother's Day	9 2 Kings 21-23:10	10 2 Kings 23:11-25 FM Board, Hdqu., 10 a.m.	11 1 Chron. 1-2	12 1 Chron. 3-5	13 1 Chron. 6-7	14 1 Chron. 8-10
15 1 Chron. 11-13	16 1 Chron. 14-16	17 1 Chron. 17-20 FWBP Board, Hdqu., 1 p.m.	18 1 Chron. 21-23	19 1 Chron. 24-26	20 1 Chron. 27-29	21 2 Chron. 1-3
22 2 Chron. 4-6	23 2 Chron. 7-9	24 2 Chron. 10-13	25 2 Chron. 14-17	26 2 Chron. 18-20	27 2 Chron. 21-24	28 2 Chron. 25-27
29 2 Chron. 28-30	30 2 Chron. 31-33 Memorial Day FWB Press and Stores closed	31 2 Chron. 34-36				

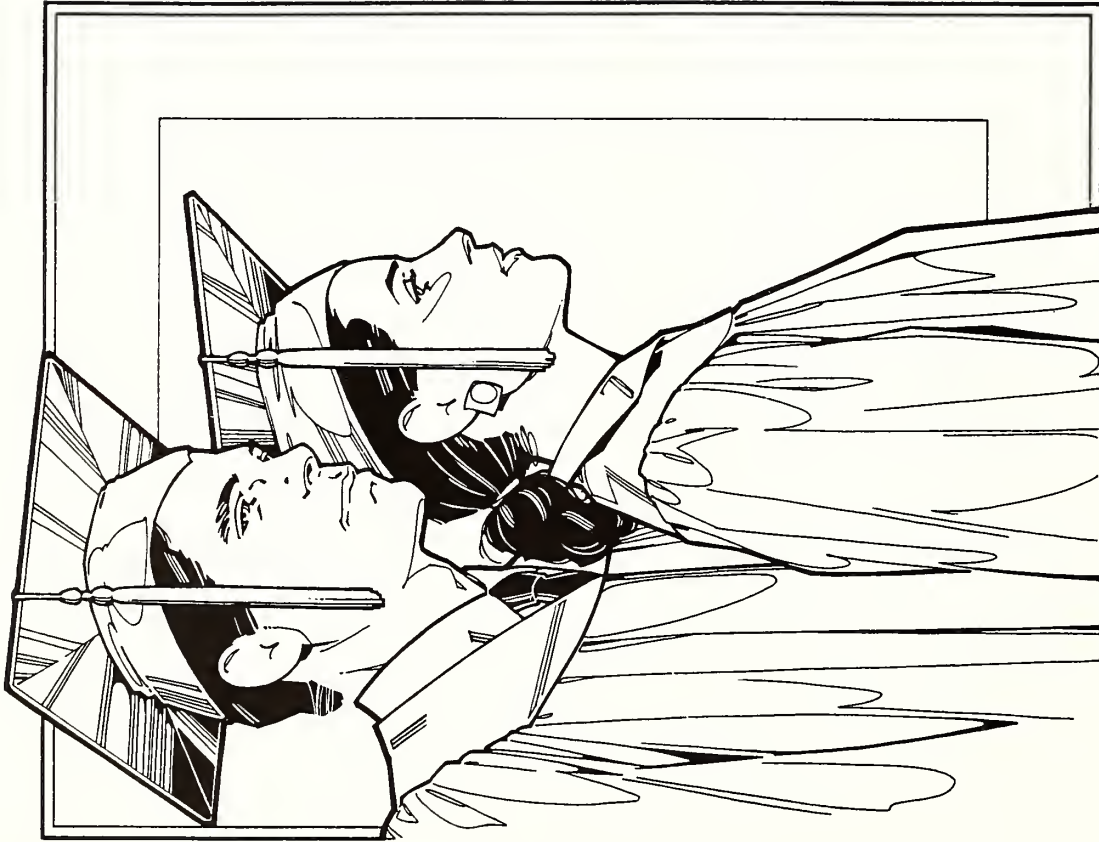


June is Cragmont Assembly Month

The Rev. John Williams, Manager
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711
(704) 669-7677

JUNE 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ezra 1-2	2 Ezra 3-5	3 Ezra 6-7	4 Ezra 8-9
5 Ezra 10	6 Neh. 1-3	7 Neh. 4-6 June W	8 Neh. 7-8 man's Auxiliary Conference, Cragmont	9 Neh. 9-10	10 Neh. 11-12	11 Neh. 13
12 Esther 1-3	13 Esther 4-7	14 Esther 8-10 Flag Day	15 Job 1-4	16 Job 5-8	17 Job 9-12	18 Job 13-16
19 Job 17-20 Father's Day	20 Job 21-24	21 Job 25-29	22 Job 30-33	23 Job 34-37	24 Job 38-40	25 Job 41-42
26 Psa. 1-9	27 Psa. 10-17	28 Psa. 18-22 Youth Frontier Conference (YFA Week), Cragmont	29 Psa. 23-30	30 Psa. 31-35		

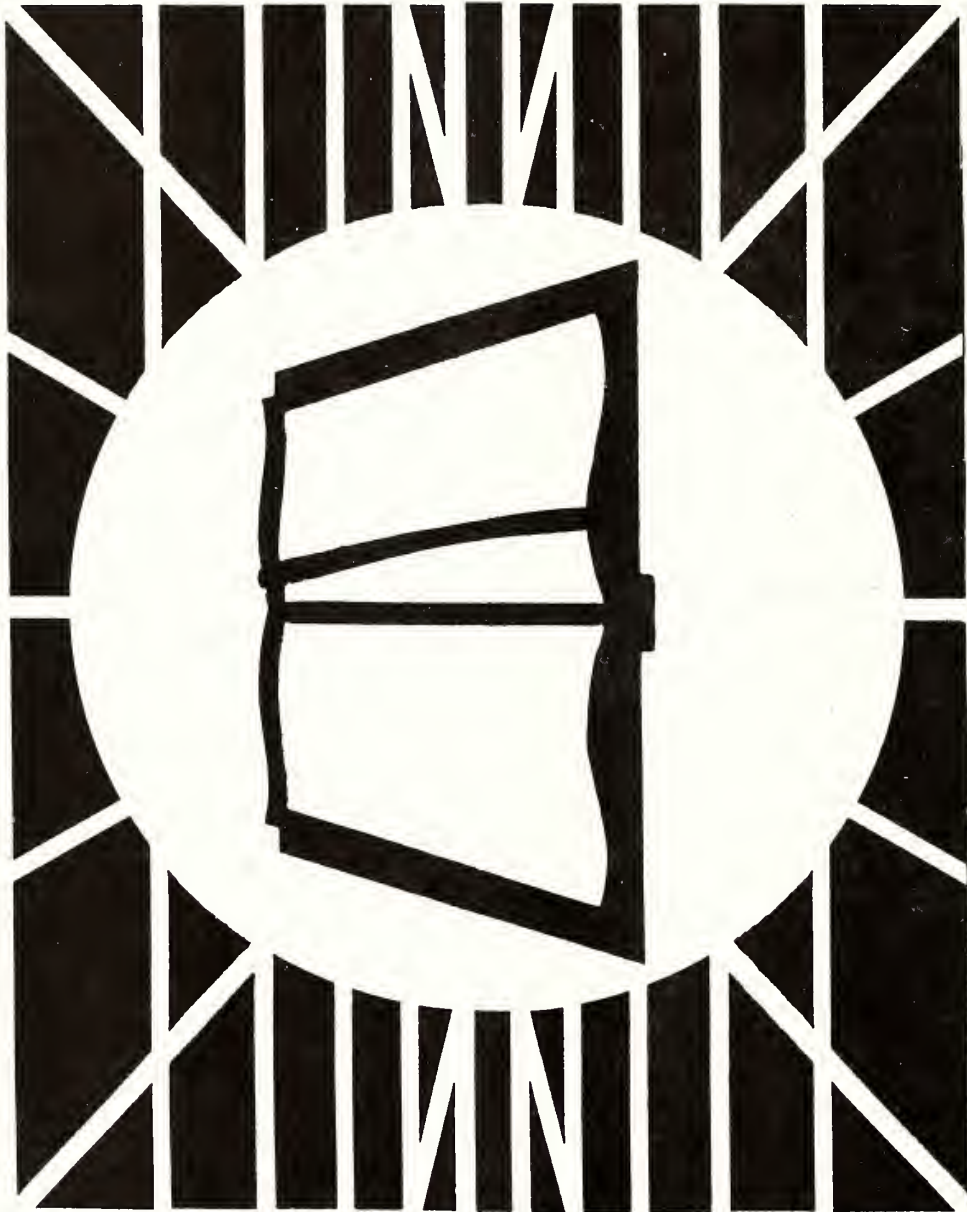


July is Christian Education Month

Dr. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College
634 Henderson Drive
Mount Olive, NC 28365

JULY 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Youth	Frontier Conference (YFA)		1 Psa. 36-39 Cragmont	2 Psa. 40-45
3 Psa. 46-51	4 Psa. 52-59 Independence Day FWB Press and Stores closed	5 Psa. 60-66	6 Psa. 67-71	7 Psa. 72-77	8 Psa. 78-80	9 Psa. 81-87
10 Psa. 88-91	11 Psa. 92-100	12 Psa. 101-105	13 Psa. 106-107	14 Psa. 108-118	15 Psa. 119	16 Psa. 120-131
17 Psa. 132-138	18 Psa. 139-143	19 Psa. 144-150	20 Prov. 1-3	21 Prov. 4-7	22 Prov. 8-11	23 Prov. 12-15
24 Prov. 16-19	25 Prov. 20-22	26 Prov. 23-26	27 Prov. 27-31	28 Eccles. 1-4	29 Eccles. 5-8	30 Eccles. 9-12
31 Sg. of Sol. 1-8						



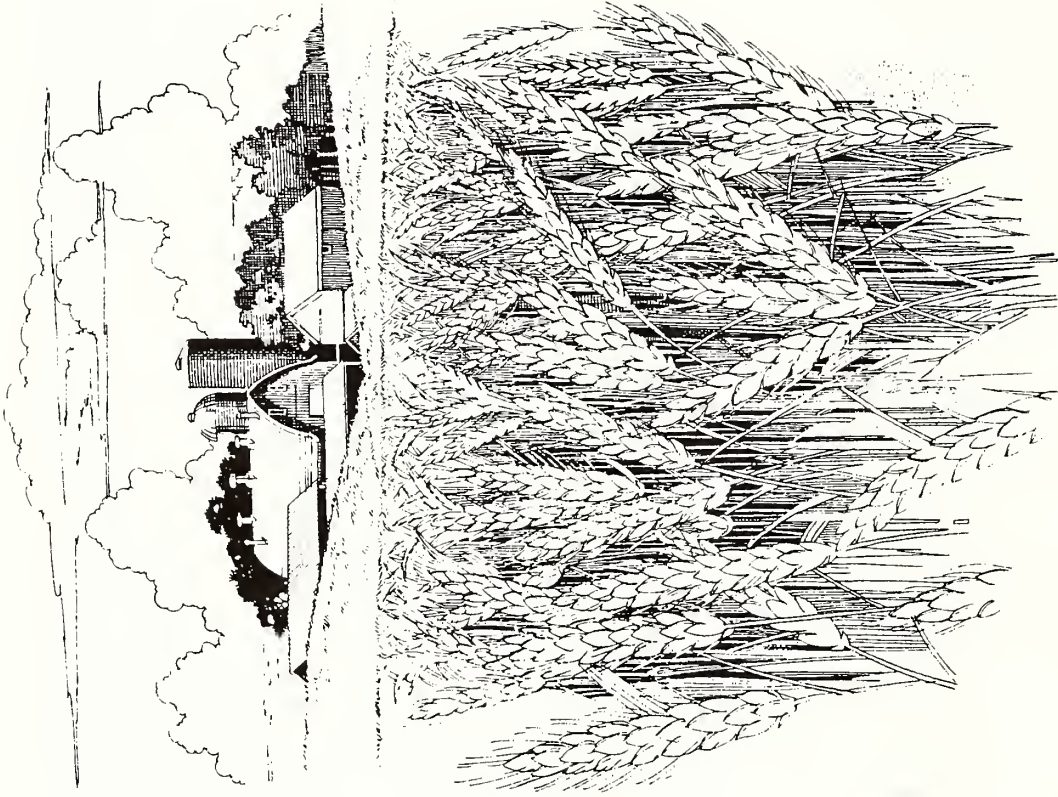
August is Convention Promotion Month

The Rev. C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator
Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

AUGUST 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Isa. 1-4	2 Isa. 5-9	3 Isa. 10-14 CFA Board, 10:30 a.m.	4 Isa. 15-21	5 Isa. 22-26	6 Isa. 27-31
		August Women's Auxiliary Conference, Cragmont				
7 Isa. 32-37	8 Isa. 38-42	9 Isa. 43-46 FM Board, Hdqu., 10 a.m. Convention Executive Committee, Hdqu.	10 Isa. 47-51	11 Isa. 52-57	12 Isa. 58-63	13 Isa. 64-66
14 Jer. 1-3	15 Jer. 4-6	16 Jer. 7-10 FWBP Board, Hdqu., 1 p.m.	17 Jer. 11-14	18 Jer. 15-18	19 Jer. 19-22	20 Jer. 23-25
21 Jer. 26-28	22 Jer. 29-31	23 Jer. 32-33	24 Jer. 34-36	25 Jer. 37-40	26 Jer. 41-44 Piedmont Conference	27 Jer. 45-48 Piedmont Conference
28 Jer. 49-50	29 Jer. 51-52	30 Lam. 1-2	31 Lam. 3-5			



September is Home Missions and Evangelism Month

The Rev. David C. Hansley, Executive Director
Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

SEPTEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Ezek. 1-4	2 Ezek. 5-9	3 Ezek. 10-13
4 Ezek. 14-16	5 Ezek. 17-19 Labor Day	6 Ezek. 20-21 FWBP Membership Meeting	7 Ezek. 22-24	8 Ezek. 25-28	9 Ezek. 29-32 SS Superintendents' and Pastors' Banquet, 7 p.m.	10 Ezek. 33-36
11 Ezek. 37-39	12 Ezek. 40-42	13 Ezek. 43-45 Convention Night of Evangelism, 7:30 p.m.	14 Ezek. 46-48 Annual Convention Missions Rally, 7:30 p.m.	15 Dan. 1-3 Annual Convention	16 Dan. 4-6	17 Dan. 7-9
18 Dan. 10-12	19 Hosea 1-6	20 Hosea 7-14	21 Joel 1-3	22 Amos 1-5	23 Amos 6-9; Obadiah Benson Limited Edition	24 Jonah 1-4
25 Micah 1-7	26 Neh. 1-3; Hab. 1-3	27 Zeph. 1-3; Hagg. 1-2	28 Zech. 1-7	29 Zech. 8-14	30 Mal. 1-4	

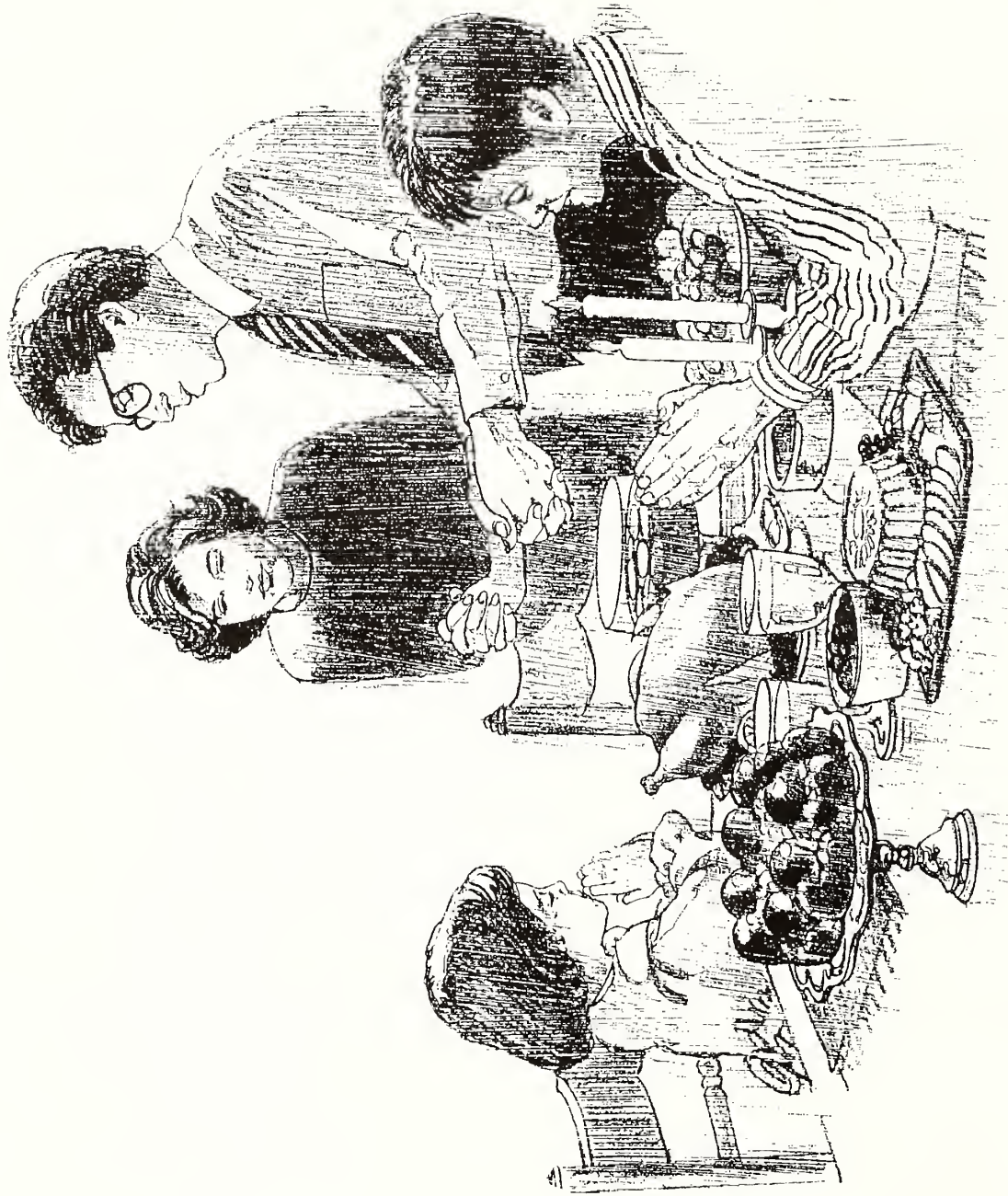


October is Minister's Program Month

The Rev. Don Fader
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

OCTOBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Matt. 1-3
2 Matt. 4-6	3 Matt. 7-9	4 Matt. 10-11	5 Matt. 12 Albemarle Conference	6 Matt. 13-14	7 Matt. 15-17	8 Matt. 18-20
9 Matt. 21-22	10 Matt. 23-24	11 Matt. 25-26	12 Matt. 27-28	13 Mark 1-3 Western Conference, Stoney Creek	14 Mark 4-5 — Cragmont Club I — Pee Dee Association	15 Mark 6-7 Cragmont Club II, Cragmont —
16 Mark 8-9	17 Mark 10-11	18 Mark 12-13 Fall Limited Edition, Cragmont	19 Mark 14-16 Eastern Conference	20 Luke 1	21 Luke 2-3 Cragmont Club II, Cragmont —	22 Luke 4-5 Luke 19-20
23 Luke 6-7	24 Luke 8-9	25 Luke 10-11	26 Luke 12-13	27 Luke 14-16 Cape Fear Conference	28 Luke 17-18	29
30 Luke 21-22	31 Luke 23-24					

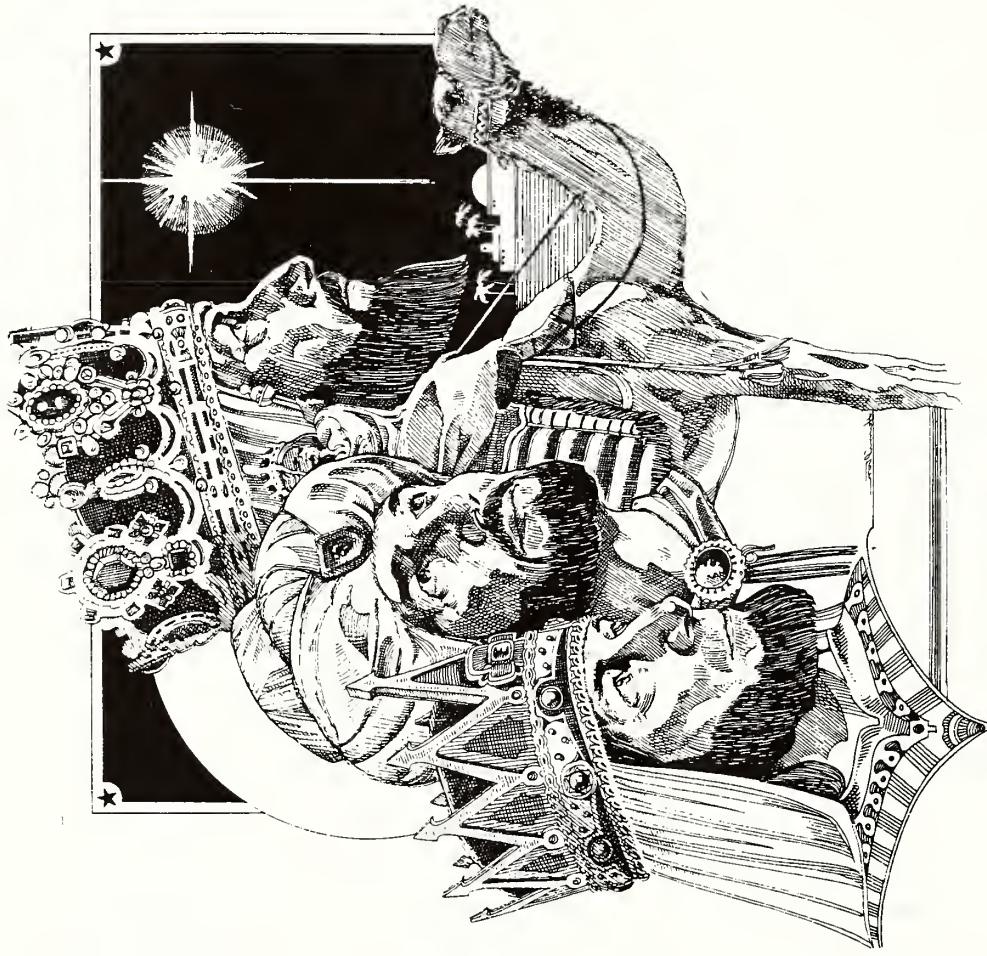


November is Children's Home Month

Dr. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director
Box 249
Middlesex, NC 27557
(919) 235-2161

NOVEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 John 1-3	2 John 4-5 CFA Board, 10:30 a.m.	3 John 6-8	4 John 9-10	5 John 11-12
6 John 13-16	7 John 17-18	8 John 19-21	9 Acts 1-3	10 Acts 4-6 Central Conference	11 Acts 7-8 Veterans Day	12 Acts 9-10
13 Acts 11-13	14 Acts 14-16	15 Acts 17-19 FM Board, Hdqu., 10:30 a.m. FWBP Board, Hdqu., 1 p.m.	16 Acts 20-22	17 Acts 23-25	18 Acts 26-28	19 Romans 1-3
20 Romans 4-7	21 Romans 8-10	22 Romans 11-13	23 Romans 14-16	24 1 Cor. 1-4 Thanksgiving Day	25 1 Cor. 5-9	26 1 Cor. 10-13
27 1 Cor. 14-16	28 2 Cor. 1-4	29 2 Cor. 5-8	30 2 Cor. 9-13			

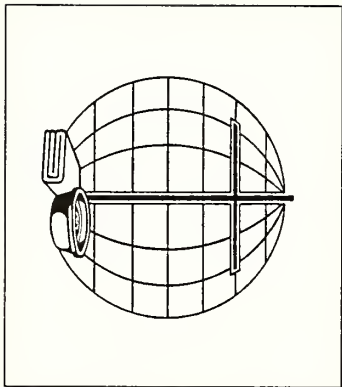


December is Foreign Missions Month

The Rev. Harold Jones, Executive Director.
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

DECEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Gal. 1-3 Christmas Limited Edition, Cragmont	2 Gal. 4-6	3 Eph. 1-3
4 Eph. 4-6	5 Philip. 1-4	6 Col. 1-4	7 1 Thess. 1-5	8 2 Thess. 1-3	9 1 Tim. 1-6	10 2 Tim. 1-4
11 Tit. 1-3; Phil. 1	12 Heb. 1-4	13 Heb. 5-7	14 Heb. 8-10	15 Heb. 11-13	16 James 1-5	17 1 Peter 1-2
18 1 Peter 3-5	19 2 Peter 1-3	20 1 John 1-3	21 1 John 4-5	22 2 & 3 John; Jude	23 Rev. 1-2	24 Rev. 3-5
25 Rev. 6-8 Christmas	26 Rev. 9-11	27 Rev. 12-13	28 Rev. 14-16	29 Rev. 17-18	30 Rev. 19-20	31 Rev. 21-22 New Year's Eve



HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

ANTIOCH CHURCH CELEBRATES EXISTENCE AND SERVICE

submitted by Norma Harvey

Homecoming 1993, celebrated on October 10, seemed a little more special at the 103-year-old Antioch Church, Craven County. There had been five nights preceding it of good old-fashioned Bible preaching that convicted many to accept Christ and revived hearts of complacent Christians. The Rev. Tom Martin, of Hendersonville, was guest evangelist.

Then on Saturday night, the Four in Christ quartet gave their annual homecoming concert. Antioch is home church of most of these men; and their songs and testimonies were a blessing. Afterwards, the family (of Christ) gathered in the Fellowship Building for refreshments and fellowship.

A pig then had to be barbecued to help supply lunch on Sunday. This was done by the Men's Fellowship.

Homecoming Day also marked the 25th anniversary of Dr. Jerry English as pastor. There was a surprise program honoring him and his family.

Mr. Beck Bennett was Master of Ceremonies. He gave his first impressions of Mr. English, when he as a young lad went with his family to Pamlico County for his deacon father, J. B. Bennett, to tell Mr. English he had been called by Antioch Church as pastor. Beck thought he talked funny, or different; but today, he said that talk and walk have proven themselves, as God's wisdom guided him to lead us as a church family through good and bad times, from October 1968 to October 1993.

The English family--his wife, Evelyn, and daughters, Kristi and Heather--was called to the front to stand with Mr. English. Then Jimmy and Diane Carraway and Clay and Michelle Gaskins came forward and pinned a boutonniere on him and corsages on his wife and girls. Diane and Michelle were "born into the church" and married young men and brought them in; and our family grows.

Mr. Bennett stated, "We've been up and down, but all of it together." He told Pastor English, "You have led when we were not very leadable...and we have followed when you were not very followable. But, we are still together, a family. Let's get some other family members up here," he said, and called the trustees. Al Collins,

chairman of the trustees, was asked to comment. He stated that there have been three major building programs in these 25 years: Our church sanctuary was enlarged with extra classrooms; the Fellowship Building erected, not to mention extensive renovations on the interior with new pews and carpentry work; a bathroom was added to the parsonage. Mr. Collins said the pastor lives with three women and no further comment was needed.

Mr. Bennett called the deacons. He said the original deacons are not here because they have been called to Glory. They were: Thad Tripp, J. B. Bennett, Vause Gaskins, and John Tyndall. Mr. Willie Lee is still with us and is chairman of the present board. The deacons were there to support Mr. English as family members. Mr. Lee presented a plague to Mr. English and assured him he was loved and respected by the present board; he explained that the pastor was their friend and pastor.

Mr. Bennett presented a framed poem to the pastor after he read it to the church. It was a poem of thankfulness for his nearness to his people in every situation. He is "on call" 24 hours a day.

On the light-hearted side, Mr. English was presented a bungee cord and a certificate good for one jump. Mr. English assured the congregation he would not be using it, but thanked everyone for their thoughtfulness.

Patricia Thomas went forward and presented the pastor with a silver engraved pin to be used for his lapel or as a tie tack, commemorating 25 years of service to God through Antioch Church and its ministries. Also, a silver charm was given to his wife. She has stood by him and supported his work, even to the point of sacrifice at times.

The English family was then asked to have a seat on the front pew and a poem was read about the meaning of a church by Mr. Bennett: "It's just like a family who sticks together through good and bad times, sickness and health, bereavement and sorrows. Christ loves us and never forsakes us; neither does a church family its members."

Mr. Bennett stated that our church has been through many projects and has experienced much growth. Dozens of new converts, as well as transfer members, have

been added to our fellowship during the past year. "A spiritual awakening is in evidence and we thank God," he said.

Mr. Bennett told Pastor English that the minister's health has been a concern, but that he seemed determined to push on for the people. The ushers were asked to receive a love offering for the family as a testimony of the congregation's gratitude.

Mr. Nathan Harvey Jr. sang "My Friend" to the family, accompanied by Mr. Benny Ray Everington on the piano. About midway the song, he stopped and asked the pastor to join him in singing. There were tearful memories of times when the pastor was a member of the Four in Christ quartet.

The noon hour was upon us and a homecoming dinner awaited the congregation, but Pastor English took time to stroll softly through 25 years at Antioch. He said, "God has had His hand on us and He's not through with us yet. Many souls need saving, and his time is short here on earth. More than half his life has been spent here at Antioch, and he wants to work even harder for 'the night cometh when no man can work.'"

Many of the English family members drove from Rockingham to share in this very special occasion. Some of those present were Mrs. Catherine English, the pastor's mother; and his sister, Mrs. Jean Green; his aunt, Mrs. Rena Mae Singletary; Evelyn's mother, Mrs. Lillie Linton; her nephew and his wife, Elton and Donna Cafferata.

Mr. George Gibson made a video of the program and this was later presented to the English family as a lasting memorial.

YOUTH OFFER A HELPING HAND

"Give a helping hand." This was the slogan used by the youth of Rock Springs Church, Bailey, NC, to solicit the help of the entire church in an effort to collect needed items for the Children's Home.

A display covered with various colored hand-shaped cut-outs was placed in the Fellowship Building in late September. Each hand listed one item, each ranging in value from \$.40 to \$12. This wide range of values allowed everyone to select a hand within his financial means. Some of the items included toothpaste, soap, blankets, sheets, Ajax, dish detergent, etc.

What a "helping hand" response! Approximately \$475 worth of goods were collected and taken to the Children's Home by the youth on their visit to the campus of November 20.

CHILDREN'S HOME CELEBRATES FRIENDS OF CHILDREN DAY



The annual Friends of Children Appreciation Day was held on November 20, 1993, at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, with nearly 400 people in attendance. This event is held annually to honor those participating in our Friends of Children program (and their guests). The day began with a turkey and ham lunch catered by Wilber's Barbecue of Goldsboro, NC. After lunch, the Rev. Doug Skinner, president of the Board of Directors, welcomed everyone and introduced the special music for the day, "Covenant." Following the special music, Tina Allen, director of Church and Public Relations, gave a brief overview of The Heritage Society, an endowment program set up to insure the future of the Home.



The keynote speaker for the service was Mr. Jerry Smith, an alumnus of the Home. Mr. Smith is the Director of the Wilson County Department of Social Services and also serves on the Board of the Home. Mr. Smith's theme was, "Challenge of the Beat." He stated, "In the beginning of the Children's Home in 1920, the Home served basically one classification of children, orphans." He continued by addressing the changes of the '50s, '70s, and the late '80s as related to children and their needs. "Children today are from dysfunctional families and divorced families. Most have been neglected or abused and many sexually abused. Some are runaways, some are behavioral problems that families can no longer manage, and the list goes on."

The highlight of the day was the reopening of Smith Cottage, which had been closed for 10 years. During the program, the Rev. C. H. Overman, executive administrator for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, led a rededication service for the Cottage. Afterwards, Dr. Bobby Taylor presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mrs. Marjorie Harris and Mrs. Elsie McCoy for all the hard work they did in the reopening of the Cottage. Also, on behalf of Hugo Church, the Rev. Tom Miller was presented a picture of the Children's Home campus for the congregation's service in making this dream become possible.

Dr. Taylor, executive director of the Home, closed the program with "Committed to Caring," which reminded those present that, "When it comes to commitment to care, there are those who could, but will not; those who would, but can't; and those of us who can and will." The rest of the afternoon was filled with tours of the buildings and a grand tour of Smith Cottage by residents of the Home.

The staff would like to thank each individual who helped to make this day possible, especially those who helped to make the reopening of Smith Cottage possible.

FIELD DAY HELD AT HOME



On November 6, 1993, the Western District youth held their annual field day on the Children's Home campus. The evening began with about 150 registering in Memorial Chapel. After a short business session, the groups separated by ages and went to their designated areas. The Cherubs remained in the chapel and came out with their faces painted, while the AFCers gathered in the Recreation Center where they played various balloon games. The YFA group united in the Whitley Center where they began their meeting with a unique game to "know each other." Meanwhile, the parents were busy preparing a large spread of finger foods which all enjoyed. The evening closed with devotions by Chris Joyner, the son of the Rev. and Mrs. James Joyner of Kenly Church.

NOTICE!
Plan Now to Attend the
ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE
AND RALLY

Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions

MARCH 11, 1994

Place: Stoney Creek FWB Church
Highway 111, four miles north of Goldsboro
6 miles from Highway 222 South.

Time: 3:00 P.M. Opening Session
4:00 P.M. Second Session
5:00 P.M. Meal Break
7:30 P.M. Mission Rally



Speaker: Dr. H. Eddie Fox

Dr. Fox is the World Director of Evangelism for the World Methodist Council. He is responsible for leading 15 regional secretaries of world evangelism in developing indigenous evangelism on every continent. When Dr. Billy Graham learned of Dr. Fox's appointment to the World Methodist Council he said, "I believe God has chosen you for such an hour as this. You will be in my prayers." Dr. Fox pastored for 16 years and is the author of several books. He has lectured and preached in more than 50 countries and throughout the United States of America.

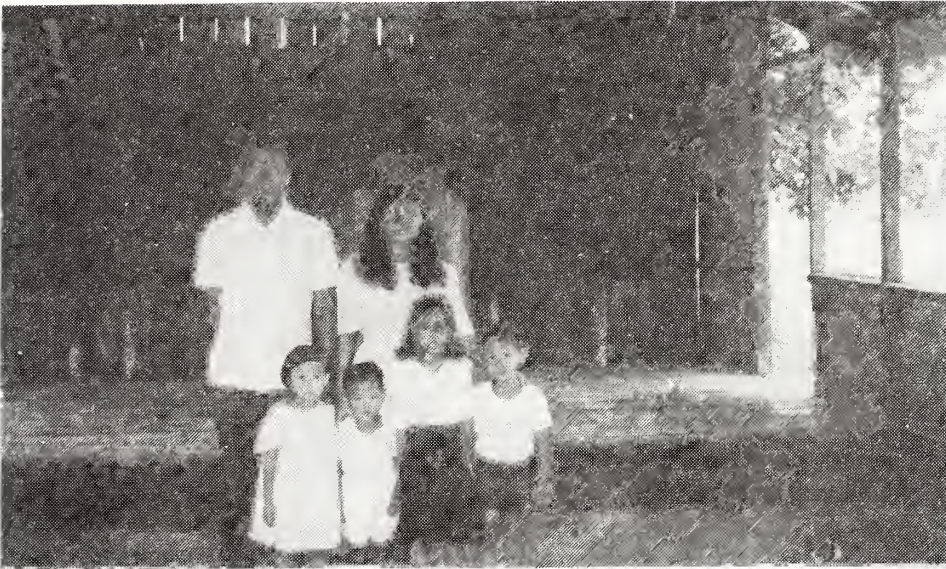
This Conference is a must! You have only one life to live, so take advantage of the things that enrich you spiritually. Special music will be featured in each session.

Attend and bring someone with you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR A GREAT CONFERENCE!

GOD'S WONDERFUL WORK

by Mrs. Susan Basingil



It is such a blessing to see the wonderful works of God on the mission field.

On July 1993, Deacon Arturo Aspa and his wife were assigned as a local pastor of Charity Free Will Baptist Church, Dumaran, Palawan. It is two hundred kilometers from the city of Puerto Princesa.

He worked before as a volunteer worker of Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Calawag Taytay Palawan. He finished theological education by extension last year.

Through the blessings and guidance of God, there are twenty-five members in the church.

We need God most of all; and we need your support through prayer as co-laborers together with Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP

by Esmie P. Segay



I served the Lord as a secretary of the Printing Department for almost six years. Aside from my job as secretary, I also served as a Sunday School teacher. Last April, Emmanuel Free Will Baptist Church, where I was a member, started a Children's Fellowship every Sunday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. The Fellowship is divided into two groups, one of which is led by Sister Letty J. Segay; I lead the other group. The Fellowship averages 15 to 25 children in attendance. Time is spent in prayer, spiritual songs, learning memory verses, telling Bible stories, and playing parlor games. The children are excited to hear God's Word.

Having this activity with the children is really a great responsibility before the Lord. This is what Jesus said in Mark 10:14, "Let the children come to me, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as they." We should not ignore children for they are precious to God.

The purpose of the Fellowship is to reach the unchurched children with the gospel because some parents are unwilling to listen to the gospel. This helps us to reach these parents.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Pray for us as we prepare our lessons and activities, and as we share the Word of God each Sunday afternoon. Pray that we will abide in God and that His saving grace will abound to those children. They in turn will become channels through which the gospel will be presented to other children and to their parents.

MORE ABOUT PRINTING

by Andy R. Segay



One of the dreams of the Printing Department is to be able to offer a good quality of printing, such as is capable by means of a good offset press, one that can even print more than one color at a time. This dream has almost become a reality because of the Board of Foreign Missions. The Rev. Harold Jones, director of the Convention Board of Foreign Missions, confirmed that they will donate one offset press (air suction type) and one plate maker. These pieces of equipment are presently being shipped to the Philippines. Although they have not arrived at this time, we give thanks to God and the brethren whom God used to make such machinery available to us.

I believe this equipment will be a great help to us and will accommodate more jobs with quality print; I understand that this equipment is more efficient than the one we have in the office now. Pray for the safe and diligent shipment of this equipment. We hope that it will help make our efforts more efficient as we strive to do the ministry Jesus has entrusted to us.

One other thing that is on our prayer list is a heavy duty mechanical cutter. Such a cutter is important for cutting, or trimming, edges of paper, especially when hundreds of sheets of paper are bundled together. As of now, the cutter used has the ability to cut, or trim, up to ten pieces of paper at the time. A mechanical trimmer would allow us to trim the edges of books, making them even.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY
Encourages You to
MARK YOUR CALENDAR
With These Important Dates...

April 3-7	Kinfolk (Family Week Retreat)
April 8-10	Morning Star (Woman's Auxiliary Mini-Conference)
June 8-11	June Woman's Auxiliary Conference
June 13-16	Minister's Conference
June 20-25	Christian Cadet Conference
June 27-July 2	Youth Frontier Conference (YFA Week)
July 4-9	Youth Frontier Conference (AFC Week)
July 11-16	General Youth Conference II
July 18-23	General Youth Conference I
July 25-30	Young People's Bible Conference
August 1-6	August Woman's Auxiliary Conference
September 22-28	Branson Limited Edition
October 14-16	Cragmont Club I
October 17-20	Fall Limited Edition
October 21-23	Cragmont Club II
December 1-4	Christmas Limited Edition

January is
Retirement Homes Month

Sunday, January 23, is Retirement Homes Sunday

Please remember this ministry with your
prayer and gift support.

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513

Kinfolk

a family conference

What's Kinfolk?

Kinfolk is a conference designed for the family. It will include lectures, discussion groups, and free time. We have even planned activities for the very young so that the adults will be free to participate in the lectures and discussion groups. With this conference, we hope to offer information, help, and encouragement for the problems confronting families today.

What Are the Dates?

April 3-7, 1994. We plan to have you arrive Sunday, April 3, 1994, by 8 p.m. and to begin our program at 8:30 p.m. Each morning (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), we will have our lectures and discussions. Following lunch, you are on your own to shop, sight see, and/or study as you like. Each evening, we will have a devotional activity. Thursday, following breakfast, the conference will end.

What Is the Cost?

The cost is \$65 per person. Children 5 years old and younger may attend free of charge. If you are interested, please fill out this form and return it with a \$25 family registration fee (non-returnable). Send everything to:

"Kinfolk"
c/o Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

For more information, please call (704) 669-7677
or FAX to (704) 669-1463

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONES: (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Number in Family Attending Conference _____ Children's Ages _____

BRANSON LIMITED

Cragmont is offering an exciting trip in September 1994 to Branson, Missouri. The price includes cost by motor coach, six nights lodging (one in Nashville, three in Branson, one in Jackson, TN, and one at Cragmont); two meals at Cragmont; three breakfasts and two dinners while in Branson; lunch in Springfield; four shows in Branson; a visit to the "Fantastic Caverns"; and a trip to the Bass Pro Shop in Springfield. All of this is offered for \$700 per person. This excludes personal spending money and the cost of the meals not designated.

"Branson Limited" will begin on Thursday, September 22, 1994. Transportation to Cragmont will be provided by motor coach, with several stops in eastern North Carolina. Lunch will be served at Cragmont and then we will travel to Nashville for our first night.

Friday, September 23, will be spent traveling to Branson and settling into our motel, giving you an opportunity to see some of the beauty of the central United States.

Saturday, September 24, promises to be fun, beginning with breakfast on the Lake Queen. We will cruise the river and have live entertainment while we eat breakfast. After breakfast, we will go to the Branson Mall for some shopping. While we are there, lunch will be eaten. In the afternoon, we will go to the Mel Tillis Theatre. After the matinee, we will go back to the motel and get ready for dinner at the Apple Mill Restaurant. Then we will head on to "The Shepherd of the Hills," an outdoor drama portraying a great American classic. The "Shepherd" has been filmed by Hollywood four times.

Sunday, September 25, will be another fun-filled day, with breakfast at the Bonanza Restaurant. After we have finished eating, we will have a short devotion while we are all together. There will be free time to do what you want until 11:30 a.m., when we will meet to take a ride on "The Ducks." This is a 70-minute excursion through the heart of the Ozark Mountain Country. The Ducks travel over land and water, making this a unique ride. After this adventure, we will enjoy a matinee at the Andy Williams Moon River Theatre. After the matinee, we will head back to the motel for a little rest before dinner. Dinner will be at the Roy Clark Crystal Hall before traveling to the Shoji Tabuchi Theatre.

On Monday, September 26, we will pack up and leave Branson. After the luggage is on the bus, we will have breakfast at the Dondics Riverboat Restaurant. We will then head north to Springfield and make a couple of stops. The first stop will be at the "Fantastic Caverns." Because the beauty of the Caverns is vulnerable, the Cave is toured in jeep-drawn trams (no walking). After we tour the Cave, we will travel on to the Bass Pro Shop for a visit. While there, we will enjoy lunch together. After lunch, we will head to Jackson, Tennessee, for the night, stopping along the way for dinner.

Tuesday, September 27, we will check out of the motel by 8 a.m. and stop for breakfast on the way out. We will eat lunch and dinner on the way back to Cragmont, where we will spend the night.

"Branson Limited" will come to an end on Wednesday, September 28, 1994. The bus will leave after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space, we will only be able to accept forty people. Reservations will be taken on a first-come first-accepted basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form, along with a \$100 non-returnable deposit* for each person. Payments of \$100 per person are due on January 15, 1994, February 15, 1994, March 15, 1994, May 15, 1994, June 15, 1994; and the final payment on July 15, 1994. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Branson.

If room is available, you may register anytime, but if a payment date has passed, all amounts up to that date will have to be paid.

If you are interested in taking this trip, please register. Sometimes we hear people say that they are waiting to find out if we get enough people before they will send in their registration. Please don't fear for your deposit. If you register and we do not get enough people to do the tour, please rest assured we will return your check as soon as the decision is made. Also, many people hesitate to register because they fear the tour is already full. Once again, please be assured that if you send in a deposit and we have reached the maximum number for the trip, we will return your check promptly.

Come join us for this special get-away. All arrangements are made by Cragmont, freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*We will need to have 30 people to sign up by May 15, 1994, or the trip will be canceled and all money will be refunded.

Mail to "Branson Limited," Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Night _____

Church _____

If you have a roommate preference, please list name here:

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of such as: heart condition ___ diabetes ___ hypoglycemia ___ trouble with stairs ___ other ___

Preferred Bus Stop (La Grange will not be the busline we will be using so no La Grange Bus Lot stop will be made. We will be coming as straight up Highway 70 as possible.)

Non-refundable deposit: \$100 _____ (Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.)

JOTS AND TITLES

CAL REPORTS GOOD YEAR

The Christian Action League of North Carolina reports that state citizens have much to be thankful for when surveying the state's moral and ethical scene. Consider the following:

•**Gambling:** North Carolina is the largest state in the nation without any form of legalized gambling. In fact, North Carolina is the only one of the remaining "Bible-belt" states that has not fallen victim to some form of legalized gambling.

•**Drunk Driving:** North Carolina is now one of six states that has an .08 breathalyzer reading as the standard for impaired driving.

•**Liquor:** The liquor industry sought to secure legislation that would have allowed spirituous liquors to be sold in convenient stores, grocery stores, and other retail outlets. Liquor lobbyists claimed that liquor products ought to be allowed the same market access as beer and wine. Currently spirituous liquor can only be purchased through the 383 ABC Liquor Stores, but this legislation would have opened such sales to some 30,000 additional outlets.

Christian Action League of NC

VOTERS SAY NO TO SCHOOL CHOICE

On November 2, 1993, the voters in the state of California went to the polls to decide one of the most important issues in many decades. Passage of Proposition 174 would have given state citizens the opportunity to break the monopoly held at the National Education Association and the teachers' unions, and to return power to the parents in controlling their local schools.

This vote was particularly important due to the "safe-sex" campaign that is accelerating now to indoctrinate every 10 to 19-year-old in America with the "safe-sex" message. Sex education is only one issue wherein mothers and fathers often find themselves powerless to influence their local school officials. But with a voucher in their hands, they can take their children wherever they choose--and get a hearing with school administrators who want their business.

However, California did not endorse "choice" in education in the last election. We must not be discouraged because we

are on the right side of this issue, and it will not go away. In fact, the same decision will soon come to every state. Choice is the best answer to the mediocrity and falling test scores that have characterized many of our schools in recent decades. Competition always improves the performance of human beings, and it is time that we infuse our educational system with a healthy dose of it.

Focus on the Family

ELDERS CONFIRMED AS SURGEON GENERAL

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of Dr. Joycelyn Elders to be the next Surgeon General of the United States. They took this action despite a sustained outpouring of letters and phone calls that ran approximately 100 to 1 against her candidacy.

Dr. Elders is one of the most radical liberals ever to occupy a senior position in U.S. government. She has promised to proclaim the great "condom solution" to every teenager in America. She advocates sex education for kindergartners and is a fanatical supporter of abortion on demand. She once chided pro-lifers to "get over their love affair with the fetus." She has said recently, "We've taught teenagers what to do in the front seat of the car; now it's time to teach them what to do in the back seat."

During Dr. Elders' tenure as Arkansas Health Director, the teen pregnancy rate rose 17 percent. From 1989 to 1992, cases of syphilis among the state's teens were up 130 percent, while the rate of HIV infection increased 150 percent.

If you have sons and daughters in school, they will soon come under the influence of this misguided woman and her sponsor, Sen. Ten Kennedy.

Boston Herald/FOF

WITCH BECOMES MEMBER OF INTER-FAITH COUNCIL

The Salem, MA, Religious Leaders Association recently expanded the definition of "interfaith" by accepting a practicing witch as a new member.

Shawn Poirer, a high priest of the Rosarian Order of Wicca, is now a member of the Massachusetts community's inter-faith

council. The Rev. Randy Wilkinson, of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, told the *Boston Sunday Globe*, "It just means we're recognizing it as a valid faith tradition."

Christian World Report

HIS VIDEO

A family-oriented store in Southern California has been so successful renting wholesome movies that it plans to turn the concept into a nation-wide chain that will carry classic Disney titles, Christian films, and especially edited versions of other releases.

"The basis of our business is to provide entertainment for the families of the '90s," explained Leah Duet of His Video. "Basically, we're offering a choice that doesn't exist right now."

Between the Lines

HEALTHY AND RELIGIOUS

Religion is good for your health, both mentally and physically, according to two sociology professors at the University of Western Ontario.

The professors found that students who belong to religious groups rated themselves happier and more satisfied with their lives. The students also had fewer visits to doctors and emergency rooms, spent less time in hospitals, and were more likely to describe their health as good.

The findings were based on a questionnaire given to 172 students belonging to religious clubs on campus and 127 other students in the same classes.

Toronto Sun

JOTS AND TITLES is a monthly news and comment on issues which concern Christianity. It serves as the communications arm of Politically Active Conservative Christians (PACC), which was founded in 1990 by Gary Burbage. PACC serves to promote and preserve the Christian heritage upon which our nation was founded.

PLEASE NOTE

The Rev. D. T. Cleve passed away over a year ago. All ministry personnel are requested to remove his name from their mailing lists. Appropriate mail should be addressed to Mrs. Lila Cleve, 2226 Old Brick Road, Vanceboro, NC 28586.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SCHEDULED**

The annual meeting of the Church Finance Association will be held on Tuesday, February 15, at Free Spirit Church, Highway 301-South, Wilson, NC. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m.

All those representing memberships are encouraged to attend.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Sidney Church invites applications for the position of pastor.

Requirements: Licensed and ordained by a conference in the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Responsibilities: Provide the Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by overseeing, training, and caring for the needs of Sidney Church.

Position Available: February 14, 1994.

Salary: Competitive and based upon Free Will Baptist Compensation Package.

Applications: In order to be considered, candidates must submit a detailed resume to:

Gary Burbage
Route 1, Box 239-A
Bath, NC 27808
919-964-4429 (Home)
919-946-6194 (Office)

All applicants will be notified when the selection has been made.

Sidney Church, founded in 1890, is a small, but growing comprehensive church offering a wide range of ministry programs including: Children's Church, van ministry, Men's Fellowship, Woman's Auxiliary, Cherubs, AFC, YFA, and Caring and Sharing.

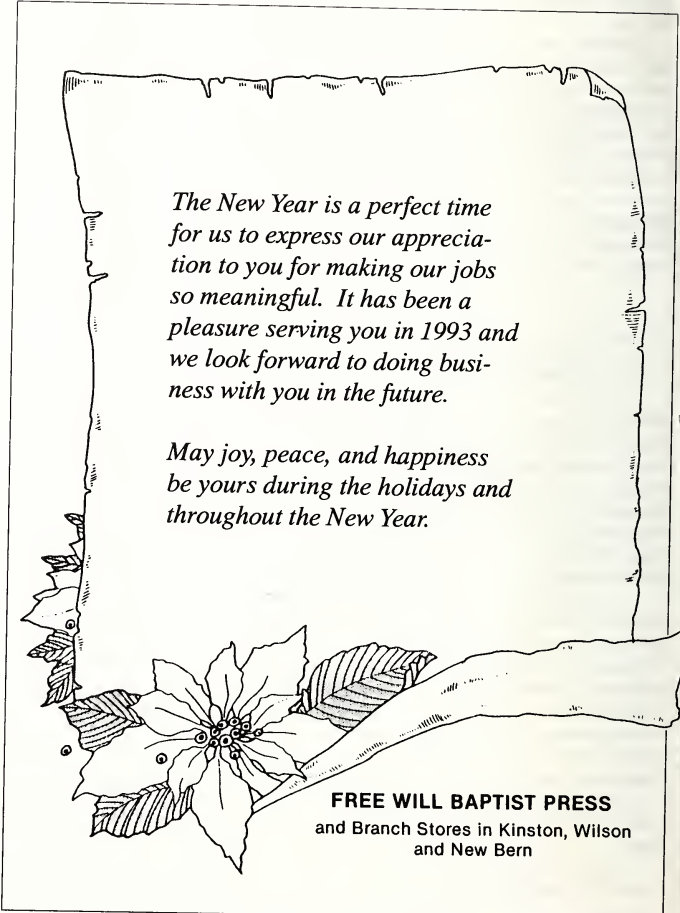
The Church is located in Beaufort County, six miles south of Belhaven (pop. 2,500) on Highway 99 at Sidney Crossroads. Washington, the county seat (pop. 10,000), is located 30 miles east on U.S. 264. The entire church complex, including sanctuary, classrooms, offices, fellowship hall, parsonage, recreation field, and cemetery, is located on a five-acre parcel of land.

**1994 CRAGMONT
WOMEN'S CONFERENCES**

Morning Star
April 8 - 10
June Conference
June 6 - 11
August Conference
August 1 - 6

DUKE UNIVERSITY
PERKINS LIBRARY
SERIAL DEPARTMENT
DURHAM NC 27706

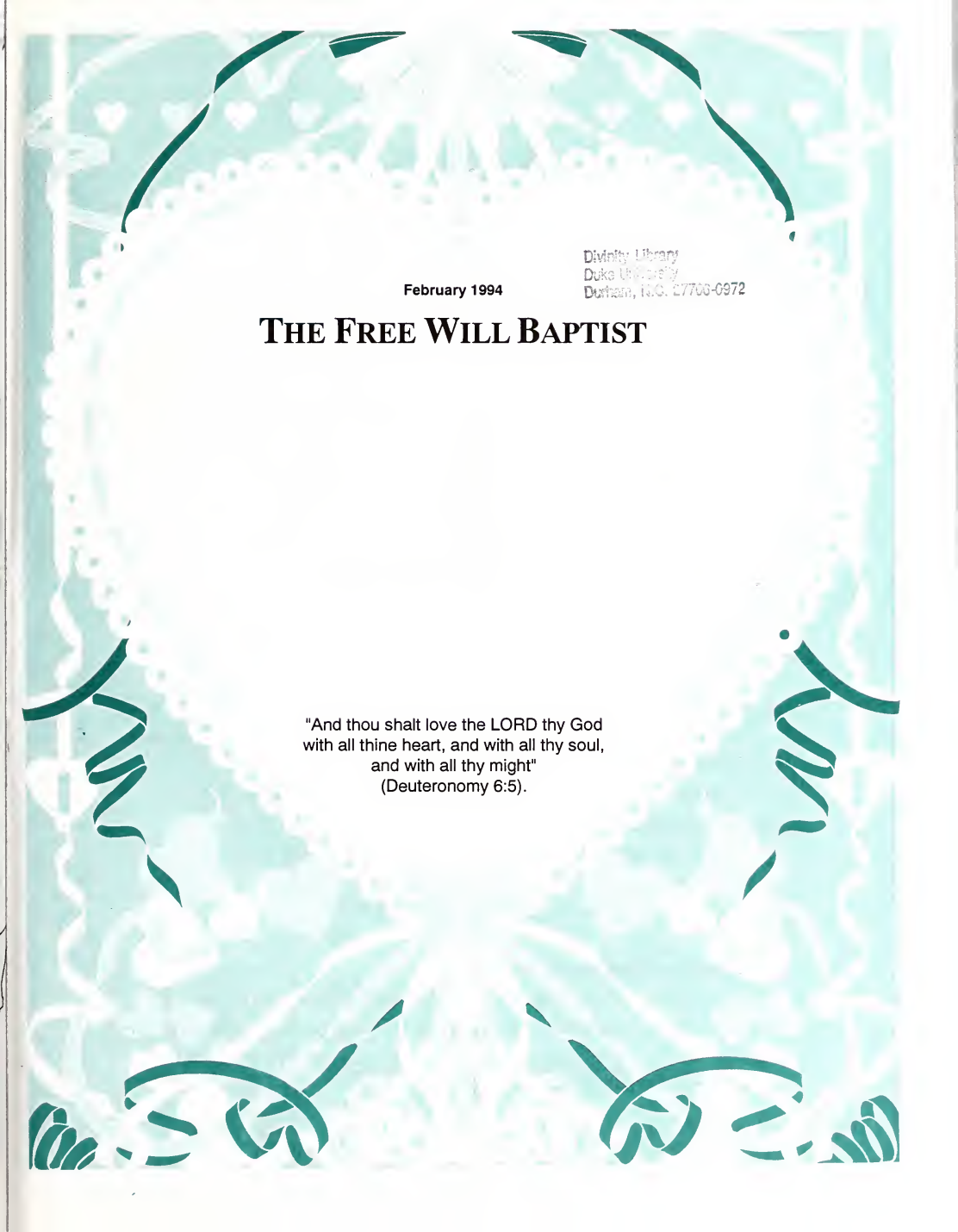
06/23/07



The New Year is a perfect time for us to express our appreciation to you for making our jobs so meaningful. It has been a pleasure serving you in 1993 and we look forward to doing business with you in the future.

May joy, peace, and happiness be yours during the holidays and throughout the New Year.

FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
and Branch Stores in Kinston, Wilson
and New Bern



February 1994

Divinity Library
Duke University
Durham, N.C. 27706-0972

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

"And thou shalt love the LORD thy God
with all thine heart, and with all thy soul,
and with all thy might"
(Deuteronomy 6:5).



WE'RE THROWING A PARTY!

Everyone loves a party!

Birthdays. Weddings. Anniversaries. Promotions. We're always ready to gather our family and friends together to celebrate the joyful events of our lives, just as Jesus did.

Jesus went to parties. He hosted picnics. Jesus drew people to Himself through the magnetic warmth of His personality.

Come to the Party...Celebrate Jesus is a party to end all parties! It's a brand new Vacation Bible School program from Standard Publishing.

Celebrate Jesus will draw kids to your VBS like a magnet. It's a way to share the love of Jesus with the kids in your church--your community--as never before, doing something everyone loves. Celebrating!

And we are throwing a party, too!

On Tuesday evening, March 1, 1994 Vacation Bible School materials will be previewed. Where? Ayden Bible and Bookstore, 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina. The viewing will begin at 7:30 p.m. We would love for you to join us. (For more information, call 1-800-849-3927.)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

February 1994
Vol. 109, No. 2

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$9.01; two years, \$16.43; four years, \$31.80 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50, and \$30, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday; New Bern and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

Board of Directors: Carrol Hawkins, Chairman; James B. Hardee, Vice Chairman; Gary Burbage, W. S. Burns, Frank Flowers, Ermon Godwin, Jean Marlowe, Mitchell Roller, Ruth Taylor; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

Table of Contents

4	Need a Small Group?
	Get Up and Go to Sunday School
5	
	Men in Sunday School
	Praise from the Past
6	
	I Grew Up in a Christian Home (Yawn)
7	
	Happenings Throughout the Church
27	
	Sunday School Charms
28	
	On the Move with the Layman's League
29	
	Notes and Quotes
30	
	Jots and Tittles
31	
	Preparing Articles for Publication

NEED A SMALL GROUP?

GET UP AND GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!



Americans in general are discovering something Free Will Baptists have known for decades: Participation in small groups (in our context, read that "Sunday School") is good for you.

"Millions of Americans today are seeking help for psychological, physical, emotional, or spiritual problems in small nurturing and caring groups of various kinds," reported pollster George Gallup. "Perhaps...the 1990s will become known as the Decade of Healing."

Up to 4 in 10 Americans are "currently involved in small groups that meet regularly for care, support, and nurturing," Gallup's survey revealed. Another 7 percent are interested in joining such groups.

The study showed several reasons people have begun "to seek the solace of small groups," Gallup said:

•"We appear to live in an addicted society --addicted not only to chemicals, but to possessions, to success, to wealth, and to an easy, self-indulgent lifestyle."

•"Six of 10 new marriages will end in divorce, 'a root problem' in our country and the cause of any number of other social ills."

•"We are physically detached from each other. We continue to move our places of residence frequently. Seven in 10 persons do not know their neighbors."

•"Loneliness is widespread. As many as one-third of Americans admit to frequent periods of loneliness...the absence of deep and meaningful relationships."

•"Privatism contributes in a major way to go-it-alone philosophy in religious matters."

Taken together, these trends have fragmented society and have "contributed to separatism, even unrestrained individualism," Gallup said. "The small-group movement appears to be bringing us back together, answering what would appear to be one of the central needs of our era--the need for an intimate and healing community."

A couple who came to a Sunday School class I taught several years ago illustrate this concept. They were young, bright, ambitious. He was on his way "up" in his company, and they had lived in our community about six months. Both of them grew up in church but had dropped out in college. When they got to town, they knew they needed a network of friends, so he

joined a civic organization that often involved families. Those relationships proved shallow and unfulfilling; and by the time they came to our class, they were lonely, frustrated, angry, and starved for nurture and community. Fortunately, they found what they needed in our church through the members of that class.

Of course, the first and basic purpose of Sunday School is to study Scripture. As Bible-believing Christians, we realize an understanding of God's Word forms the foundation for how we live our lives.

That's exactly why Sunday School provides such an effective "small group" for millions of us. As we study the Bible, we open ourselves up to challenges that pound our souls and shape our lives. And by doing this in community, we build relationships that are founded on the bedrock issues of life, not superficial social whimsy. Small wonder, then, that Sunday School classes become the vehicles for life, emotions, and spirit-sustaining relationships.

Get yourself to Sunday School. You need it!

Adapted from *Western Recorder*, the Western Kentucky Baptist newspaper, 1993.

MEN IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

What a difference men can make in our Sunday School classes. For many of the children who attend, that teacher may be the only example of a Christian man they ever see. The teacher will help form the child's view of God, our Heavenly Father.

From Dallas, Texas, an adult looks back on his teacher: John, weighing in at 250 pounds, had a bone crushing hand shake. He was also the perfect junior high teacher for me.

First, he loved young teens. Second, he had the best looking daughter in town. Third, he knew how to feed junior highers.

John sealed my faith. Looking back, I know that what he said wasn't always right, but he tried to answer my questions. More important, he showed me that he loved me.

From Elyria, Ohio, parents tell about their daughter's first male teacher: Kadie wouldn't stop crying. The louder the thunder roared, the harder she cried. Over and over she begged us, "Take me to Sunday School! Take me to Sunday School!"

Finally the storm subsided and Kadie explained, "In Sunday School God said He would take care of me. I wanted to go find Him."

"God can take care of you at home, too," I told her.

"But I can see Him in Sunday School."

Then her mother and I understood. Kadie had gotten her first male Sunday School teacher and God mixed up. Kadie's teacher was a human model of a loving Jesus in her formative years.

From St. Petersburg, Florida, a teacher runs into a former student: At my father's funeral a young man said, "You don't recognize me all grown up, do you?" When he said his name, I had no trouble remembering the boy he had been. Sunday after Sunday I would leave class thinking, "My mouth was moving. I must have been saying something. So why didn't that kid hear?"

"Look," he said. He showed me the cross hanging around his neck. "This isn't jewelry to me. I wear it to tell people that Jesus is in my heart. Are you surprised? What you said stuck."

David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 North Grove Avenue, Elgin IL 60120.



PRAISE FROM THE PAST

In 1949, well-known figures shared how Sunday School had been important in their lives.

Their comments ring true four decades later.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th president of the United States

The lessons I learned in my Sunday School days are ones that I've never forgotten. I'm glad to greet the Sunday School pupils of today--I know you'll be the leaders of tomorrow.

Roy Rogers

I'm sure glad you're going to Sunday School, and I hope you're learning just as much about the Bible as you possibly can. There isn't any better guidepost for the right trail of life.

Dale Evans

I think Sunday School was the first important step in my life, because there I learned the Golden Rule which to me is vital for successful living.

Thomas E. Dewey, governor of New York, 1943

The lessons I learned in Sunday School have stayed with me all through my life. They will last longer than any other lessons --and do the most good--because they are the eternal truths by which we must live.

Walt Disney

Observation and experience tell me that the boys and girls who attend Sunday School enjoy an advantage over other youngsters not so fortunate which lasts throughout a lifetime. In my own case, the lessons there learned have played a very big part in shaping the kind of entertainment associated with my name and in my whole personal, family, and business life.

I GREW UP IN A CHRISTIAN HOME (YAWN)

by Debbie Elkink

If I were really honest I would have to admit that there were many things I hated about Camp Arnes. I hated the early morning calisthenics in a clammy bathing suit, and I hated the outhouses and the mushy porridge. But what I hated most about Camp Arnes were the testimony times.

Testimony time took place on the beach around a huge bonfire. We sang. We prayed. And then we passed around a box full of little chunks of wood, and everyone took one.

Somebody, most often a self-assured gorgeous blond, would flick her chip of wood into the fire, stand, and tell the story of her salvation.

"My parents were divorced when I was four because my father beat my mother black and blue every night. So my niece and I grew up together and ran away to Morocco when we were sixteen. While hitchhiking around, I--uh--fell in love with a 30-year-old Greek, and we were married. Then he ran off with my niece (remember my niece?). Finally the Lord brought me to a revival meeting in Holland, and it was there I got saved."

How could I follow an act like that?

Why didn't I get up? Why didn't I stride forward and throw my "chip" into the fire? I didn't because, alas, I had no tale of misfortune or self-destruction to tell. I had had no life of abuse or truancy from which I had turned to Christ.

I'd always gone to Sunday School and church. I'd always listened to my parents (more or less) and didn't cheat on exams, or shoplift costume jewelry from K-Mart, or even smoke behind the school. I took part in the local "Prayer and Praise" meetings with the other Christian kids in the neighborhood. I went to a Christian boarding school for my eleventh grade year and even taught little children about Jesus one summer with Child Evangelism Fellowship. My story, compared to the others, was about as interesting as porridge.

One time when I actually did get up the nerve to "toss in my chip," my testimony went like this:

"I was brought up in a Christian home (here one-half of the campers began to yawn) and accepted Christ at a very early age. I'm so happy I'm a Christian." So who was interested in that? I felt

cheated--left with the kind of testimony no one cared to hear. I thought I had nothing to tell.

It wasn't that I thought I realized that my "small" sins were as despicable to God as others' "big" ones. But one has to face the facts: Losing your temper doesn't seem half as glamorous as stealing a car! With such a humdrum, steady, and secure Christian life, how could I be expected to be a witness of God's power to others?

One day my questions were answered.

My friend Bonnie was raised in a Christian home, but turned her back on that way of life. First it was mild--deceiving her parents, ignoring her spiritual training. Soon she found herself partying and doing drugs. Then she got into witchcraft.

Eventually Bonnie got herself straightened out, and now she's a gentle, loving, and in many ways spiritually mature Christian. But I see that old life of hers pulling at her. Even though she's given herself completely over to God, her past experience haunts her.

But Bonnie isn't the only person whose pre-salvation life "unbalances" her now. There's the girl who got attention by wearing

suggestive clothes and now finds herself craving that attention again and the new Christian who unwittingly twists God's Word around because he never had a spiritual upbringing.

A friend of mine grew up within a secular family and had no contact with Christians until a year ago when she met me. She accepted salvation recently and commented to me, "I really started thinking seriously about Christianity when I saw the love and security of your parents' home. Everyone seems to trust God in everyday life, and no one makes a big deal of it."

It was through that calm and secure feeling--the very one I considered the humdrumness of Christian life--that my friends saw the power of God. So what if I don't have firsthand experience in drugs or gambling? My conversion wasn't a turnabout from a sensationally wicked life to a saintly existence.

Rather, my Christian experience has been a day-by-day spiritual plodding--two steps forward, one step back. I thought I didn't have a story to tell, but I found out that God will display His power in every type of Christian witness. Isn't He creative?

David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 North Grove Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120.



HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

submitted by the Congregation of Oak Grove Church

Oak Grove Church, Pee Dee Association, celebrated "Pastor Appreciation Day." What we celebrated was the lives of a faithful minister of the gospel and his wife. The Rev. James Billy Hardee and Nancy have ministered at Oak Grove Church for over 35 years.



(Left to right) The Rev. James B. Hardee, Mrs. Nancy Hardee, and David Pait.

Mr. Hardee was born February 6, 1931, in Bladenboro, NC (on the Mill Hill), to Hiram Bradley Hardee and Fadie Lucille Rich Hardee. He had five sisters and two brothers. His family moved to Columbus County in the Union Valley Community. Mr. Hardee attended Union Valley Baptist Church, went to Whiteville High School, and worked with Coca-Cola Bottling Company.

In 1951, Mr. Hardee married Nancy Ward. One year after their marriage, he was called to service with the United States Marine Corp. He trained at Parris Island, SC, and was then stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC. While he was at Camp Lejeune, he was converted in a tent meeting outside the camp gates in Onslow County. After he gave his heart to the Lord, God called him into the ministry of preaching His Word.

On August 9, 1954, Devonna, their first child, was born. In October of 1954, Mr. Hardee was licensed to preach for Cypress Creek Church, in Whiteville, NC. He preached at all the churches in the Pee Dee Association in 1954 and 1955, as well as serving as assistant pastor of Abbottsburg Original Free Will Baptist Church, which was under the leadership of the Rev. Carey Cheshire.

On October 14, 1955, Mr. Hardee was ordained at Oak Grove Church during the Annual Conference. His first pastorate was at Mount Calvary Church in Columbus County on a half-time basis; he also pastored two other churches on quarter-time. So,

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

you can see he has loved pastoring from the very beginning. During his years in the ministry, he has pastored Mount Calvary, Pine Level, Little Bethel, Mission Valley, Mount Olive, and Oak Grove Church.

There have been many people who have helped Mr. Hardee in his ministry and we could not name them all; but we're sure he would want us to mention the name of the Rev. Dow Harrellson, his step-father, who was a great help to him.

February 25, 1957, was another very important date in the lives of Billy and Nancy. Their son, Daryl, was born; and on the same day, Mr. Hardee was hired by Nathan Lee to work for Holsum Bread Company. He worked there until retirement.

For us now and all those who have been here at Oak Grove Church since 1958, that was a very important year because that was the year Mr. Hardee became our pastor. He came to us on a quarter-time basis; then several year later, it changed to half-time. In 1975, Oak Grove Church called him full time. Next to the all important task of getting people saved, the decision to call our pastor full time has been the greatest blessing God has bestowed upon our congregation. Over the years, our church has been truly blessed. In 1962, ten Sunday School rooms were added to the old part of the church; 1967, a sanctuary; 1974, an Education Building and baptistry; 1982, a Fellowship Building was erected and ten

acres of land purchased.

Some of the various activities and positions Mr. Hardee has been involved in are:

The Free Will Baptist Press Board, Ayden, NC, for several years; Moderator of the Pee Dee Association for 15 years; The Free Will Baptist Children's Home Board, Middlesex, NC, for 18 years; The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes Board for several

years; The Moderator of Union #1 Pee Dee Association for several years; Representative of the Pee Dee Association on the Revision Committee for the *Articles of Faith* (when *Faith and Discipline* was revised); Master of Ceremonies for the Bladen County Fifth Sunday Night Singing for many, many years; Chaplain of Bladen County Hospital for 13 years and 2 years before that was Assistant Chaplain; Presented the Governor's Award for Community Service by Governor James Martin on September 12, 1991; A member of Oak Grove Church Choir.

Nancy, of course, has been by Billy's side through all these various things; so, she, too, has been busy. Stop a moment and think about the position of a pastor's wife, especially one that has held a public job for many years, served very actively in the Oak Grove Woman's Auxiliary and the Pee Dee District Convention, and served on the Board of Cragmont Assembly representing the Pee Dee Association.

We celebrate the faithfulness of a godly man and women, James Billy Hardee and Nancy Ward Hardee. An authority and great believer in faithfulness has this to say, "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man [and a woman] be found faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2).

Preacher Hardee and Nancy, we love and appreciate you. May God grant you continued faithfulness is our prayer.

(Turn the Page)

A HOMECOMING TO REMEMBER

Come with me, my Christian friends,
And let me take you back
To a wonderful day some years ago
We had at old Black Jack.

'Twas Homecoming time at our church;
Crowds came from all around,
From every farm and village,
And every little town.

The house was overflowing.
Folks sat in every aisle.
And everyone was welcomed
By the church with a friendly smile.

I'm glad we didn't have a crisis,
We had no fire alarms.
In facts, my biggest problem
Was where to put my arms.

The ushers packed us in real tight.
There was no room to wiggle.
And if we had a chance to laugh,
It turned into a giggle.

Alas, it was collection time.
Things got a little funny.
We found it rather difficult
To get to our money.

The plate was piled extremely high
With bills of all amounts.
This went into the Building Fund
To settle our accounts.

The service was a lovely one;
The choir sang a beautiful song.
The preacher's sermon touched our
hearts,
But it seemed a bit too long!

You see, it was a sultry day;
The church was getting hot.
Electric fans were on the walls,
But didn't cool a lot.

Our lunch was served out on the yard,
Under the tall pine trees.
Not only were we hungry,
But dogs, and cats, and fleas.

The wire fence table was weighted
down
With barbecue, cakes, and pies.
The food was good; we ate so much,
And didn't mind the flies.

After the meal, we returned inside
For a beautiful gospel sing.
The events of the day were enjoyed so
much,
They were fit for any king.

This was a glorious meeting time,
But never will it compare,
To the great Homecoming we will have--
When we meet Jesus in the air.
Ernestine Forrest

MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULED

The annual meeting of the membership of the Church Finance Association will be held on Tuesday, February 15, at Free Spirit Church, Highway 301-South, Wilson, NC. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. All those representing memberships are encouraged to attend.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. James Warren, of Kinston, NC, is available for full-time, part-time, or supply work. He was ordained on September 25, 1972, and is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. Any church interested in his services can reach him by writing to him at 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, NC 28501; or by phoning, (919) 527-1648.

ADDRESS CHANGE

The Rev. Jerry Stephenson announces an address change. His new address is as follows: 5486-B Highway 301-South, Four Oaks, NC 27524. His new phone number is (919) 963-4175.

SPECIAL THANKS

I wish to thank all the churches, Sunday Schools, auxiliaries, and individuals in North Carolina and Georgia for all your letters, cards, gifts; and prayers at Christmas, as well as during the year. Please know that I love you all, and I pray for you.
Thank you again.

Mrs. E. C. Morris
1912 Taylor Street
Durham, NC 27703

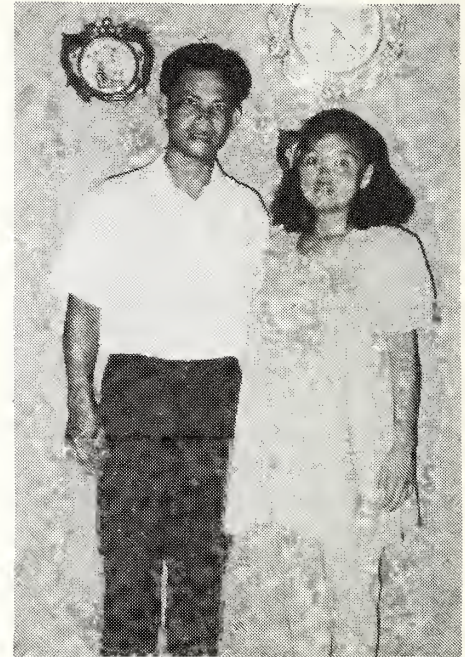
SECOND PRINTING AVAILABLE

Devotional Diary, written by Mrs. Ruth Warrick, has been printed a second time. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of this book should contact Mrs. Warrick. She may be reached by writing to her at Pine Knoll Manor, Apartment 106,

202 Skyland Drive, Smithfield, NC 27577;
or by phoning, (919) 934-2952.

THE NEW WAY IN TAYTAY

by Mrs. Rosana R. Briones



God is so good to all His children who obey His Word and commands. We are so blessed: Another church was opened July 12, 1993, at Taytay Palawan. It is about 200 kilometers from Puerto Princesa City. The worker assigned in central Taytay is a graduate of Palawan Bible College and his wife is a former secretary of PBC. She decided to resign and work in missions as a church planter. Their heart's desire is to spread the Word of God to the lost, because we know as Christians that the second coming of Jesus Christ is rapidly approaching. Before they were assigned to Taytay, Sister Analiza was a full-time worker at Maranatha Free Will Baptist Church.

As a worker of God, she considered her task. Even though she was pregnant, she did not stop; and on September 27, 1993, she delivered a baby boy. In spite of problems and trials they have encountered, the only thing they could do was to trust the Lord at all times. No one can strengthen us like God. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

The most important part of their work involves prayer because prayer is our shield against the enemy. I ask for your prayerful support, brethren. Please pray for our new workers and the total membership of the Free Will Baptist Church in the Philippines. Also pray for the work on our mission field.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE PROMISE OF GOD

by Mrs. Rosana R. Briones

The 81 Plaridel Free Will Baptist Church is located in Plaridel Aborlan Palawan. We are very grateful to the Lord for the opportunity that He has given us to work in His field.

The new pastor of this work is Rodolfo Precenillo; his wife is Raquel. They have two children. Before they went to this church, Sister Lorena Padilla pastored the church. She is only a third year student at Palawan Bible College; but she failed because of problems in the church. We believe that God never failed to keep His promise to us, as His Word promises, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

Everything is going well now, through the help of the Lord.

Praise Him for His goodness to us. Please continue to pray for our workers, even those throughout the entire world.

PBC STUDENT BODY ORGANIZATION

by Gina Bargamento

The Palawan Bible College student body was organized last July 1993. There were ten elected officers. The Rev. Antonio Samones Jr., the College dean, acts as an advisor of this organization. Here are the names of the elected officers: President, Gina Bargamento; Vice President, Brother Paul Pusong; Secretary, Mirriam Dagomboy; Treasurer, Mariviv Adia; Au-



ditor, Adelia Cuba; Business Managers, Precyl Jusos, Nilda Atanoso, Merly Tumang; C.R.O., Bernabe Bungalso and Alvin Dagot.

On August 23, 1993, we were inducted by the College's President, Ma'am Luz dela Rosa, at Puerto Princesa City Free Will Baptist Church. Pastor Nerie Peralta was our invited guest speaker, together with the Musical Crusaders for Christ, who inspired and challenged us through the Word of God and their message in song.

"One for All, All for One," is the theme for this organization, which emphasizes the unity of the body and Christ as its head. In connection with this organization, we have a mini-store located on the campus of PBC. The money for this store was provided by God's grace.

Brethren, please pray for us, the leadership of this organization, and our mini-store. To God be the glory!

A MOSLEM CHILD DEDICATION

by Lydia van der Plas

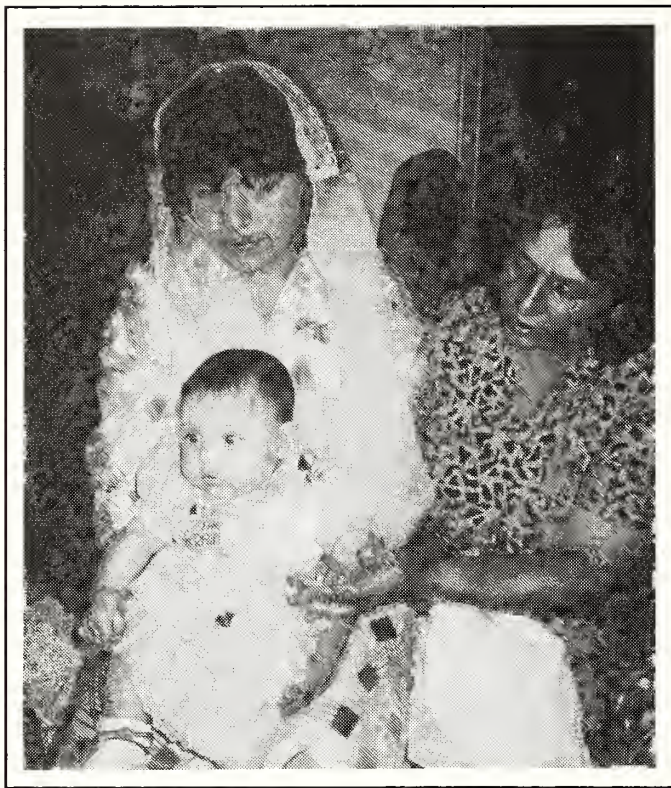
We were very honored when we received an invitation to attend a Moslem child dedication. This is an infant's introduction into the Islam faith and into the Islamic community. I was invited for the "Women's Celebration," which is the religious part of the ceremony held during the daytime. In the evening, the men come together, but that is the informal part which is mainly a social event, with a lot of talking, eating, and drinking.

The day before, I was able to witness all the preparations, as the baby girl's parents are our neighbors. (Our neighborhood is populated by Turkish, Tatarian, and Gypsy families. They live separated from the Bulgarians and form another colorful warm-hearted minority. Their religion is mainly Islam.) On the neighbor's terrace, a sheep was slaughtered and a group of Turkish women started cooking, frying, and baking on a furnace outside. Our home smelled good all day.



At about 10 a.m., they called me to come. There were many there who I had been introduced to before. Their names were mentioned, but all were difficult and did not settle in my mind.

In front of the door were about 40 pairs of shoes. I added mine and went upstairs to the "present room." On the closed curtains, all the presents were pinned--mostly clothes and money bank notes ranging from 1. to 100. leva. I handed my gift to the "gift lady"; she recorded and hung it with the others.



Downstairs was a round table with some paper napkins on top and eight chairs around it. We ate in groups of eight; no plate or cutlery were used. In the middle, a large dish was placed; each got a piece of bread and the eating began--yes, with our hands and out of the same dish. The bread served as a spoon. They gestured for me to hurry and I soon noticed why: The dish was taken away and another put in its place.

The other women had a lot of experience with this and they ate with a healthy and noisy appetite! In total, there were eight dishes. Here are the names, as far as I know them: glyab, bread; kush kush, a very fine macaroni and gravy; mlyako, sour milk with bob (white beans); sermie, sheep meat and rice wrapped in leaves of the vine; oftset, spiced meat of the sheep, a number of unknown substances but delicious as dessert; luminada tatleze, Turkish sweet cookies.

Around 12 o'clock, the eat shifts were ready and then we went upstairs again. We all were seated on the ground. Two "mollahs," Moslem lady teachers, started to chant the Koran Surahs. (The ladies looked alike and I am sure they were sisters, aunts of the grandmother of the baby.) The women covered their heads; they gave me a white prayer shawl. And so we sat there for two and a half hours. Sometimes, all the women participated, especially in the formal prayers. It was interesting and at the same time it made me sad that all these devout prayers went to Allah without the knowledge of Jesus Christ. I prayed with them, but to our Lord and Saviour, that He might open their hearts to the good news of the gospel. After the *Koran* chanting, the baby was

brought in and the two mollahs took her in their arms, rocked her, and whispered in her ears. The little girl, Seynur, went from one to the other. Everybody rocked her and said something to her. When my turn came, I used my Dutch language and prayed, asking God to bless her and to use Willem and me to reach her and her people with the gospel of salvation found in Jesus Christ.

Working among the Moslem people is known to be difficult. The first step is giving the people an opportunity to know you and to give them the feeling that you respect them even though differences exist. This was one of the opportunities which we have received recently to be among them in a social setting.

We pray for wisdom and for guidance in our work. We do that together with Willem's secretary, Pavlina, a young Bulgarian women from Varna, and Tezdyan, the firstfruits of our labor, who is twenty years old and a Turkish-Tatarian woman. She speaks Turkish, Tatarian, and Bulgarian fluently. I teach her English one hour each day and she learns very fast. She was baptized in the Black Sea with our new daughter-in-law, Julia.

Pray for our mission and receive our love.

TOO MANY SHEPHERDS

by Lydia van der Plas

On the birthday of Pavlina, our secretary, we organized a beach party with some friends. A small non-commercial place located about six miles from Balchik was chosen.

Willem made a primitive cooking site of the available stones and firewood. While we enjoyed each other's company, a big herd of sheep came along the beach toward us. Apparently, it was a joined group because there were five shepherds and a little boy who found one another and who were

very busy with their conversation. The beach was about 30 meters wide, surrounded on one side by the Black Sea and on the other by a rather steep mountain. While the men were talking, some of their animals went up the mountain. In no time, the whole herd was climbing up--the shepherds did not notice that!

Halfway the mountain, the first sheep stopped. Where were they to go? They just stood there and called their shepherds for direction. Their shepherds looked up and started to scream, climbing the mountain, falling down, and sliding back. In one

word: There was panic.

I could not help thinking about the many missionaries from the West who came to the Eastern bloc and who confused the people with all kinds of different opinions about the gospel. They came with all kinds of rules: No gold jewelry, heads had to be covered, hair had to be a certain length, people were told they had to speak in tongues, you could no this, you could not do that.... The poor sheep were stuck on the mountain.

But then something beautiful happened: The little boy climbed up without

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



much trouble and succeeded to bring the first lead sheep to a safe place from where they could reach the top easily.

For me, this was like the leading of the Good Shepherd. The little boy was leading them in the right direction; it *may* have been that his name was David. I remembered Jesus' words: "Follow me."

There is hope for the people of Eastern Europe. But this is possible only when they forget about the quarrels and misunderstandings of their "shepherds." They need to meet the Lord, the Good Shepherd, and they have to understand His leading directions, His teachings.

Pray for us that we will remain in His light and in His Word.

SANTA CLAUS VISITS CHILDREN'S HOME



The evening of December 10, 1993, was filled with food and fun at the Children's Home, when Santa and Mrs. Claus entered the doors of Whitley Center. Woodmen of the World have provided our children with a Christmas party for approximately thirty years, bringing with them gifts and lots of delicious finger foods. As Mrs. Claus called each child's name, they proceeded to sit on Santa's knee and tell their Christmas wishes.

UNITY CHURCH YOUTH PRESENT PLAY AT HOME

A Christmas musical play was presented to the children at the Children's Home on December 7, 1993, by the talented youth from Unity Church in Wilson. Their director, Mrs. Annette Lamm, stated that the group had been rehearsing for their play since October.

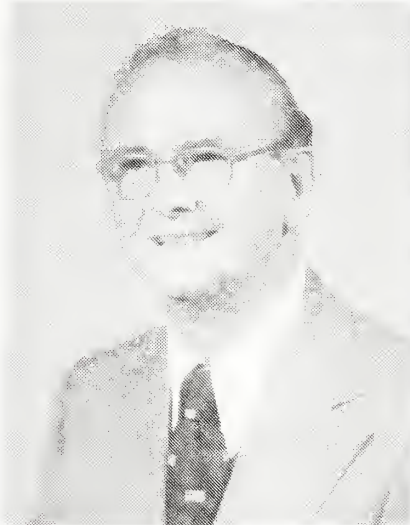
The youth had also purchased a stereo system for the Home for general use. The staff and management of the Home is so

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



grateful that groups want to share their talents, time, and their gifts with the children.

THE REV. AND MRS. FRED RIVENBARK TO BE HONORED



On February 20, 1994, Sherron Acres Church will observe its 60th Anniversary. Also on this occasion, the members of the church will honor the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Rivenbark for their many years of devoted service to Free Will Baptists. All those who know and love the Rivenbarks are invited to join the church membership for this celebration. The morning service will begin at 11 a.m. and it will be followed by lunch in the church's Rivenbark Hall. An

afternoon song service is also planned.

If you are unable to attend, the Riverbarks would appreciate hearing from you. Please address your correspondence to: The Rev. and Mrs. Fred A. Rivenbark, 904 Midway Avenue, Durham, NC 27703. Sherron Acres is located at 1300 Lynn Road, one block off Highway 70. For more information, write: The Rev. Doug Skinner, 817 Lynn Road, Durham, NC 27703; or call (919) 596-2456.

A REMINDER TO LEAGUES

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at Rodgers Chapel, Mount Olive College, in Mount Olive, on Saturday, March 12, 1994, 10 a.m. Registration will begin at 9:30.

Local Leagues are encouraged to have a project during the year to raise money for the State League Convention expenses which consist of (1) sponsoring a week at Cragmont, (2) operating expenses, (3) printing of Minutes in the *Yearbook*, (4) the state project--Cragmont, and (5) awards for Sword Drill winners (\$450+).

Leagues are thus reminded that if they have not had a money-raising project, there is still time before the Convention in March. An example of a project Leagues might

sponsor is to have a supper--spaghetti, hot dog, or other--before prayer meeting one week.

In addition to the quarterlies, *The Young Leaguer* and *The Adult Leaguer*, published by the Free Will Baptist Press, videos on various topics and other study books are available at the Press.

The Convention theme this year is "Christian Stewardship" (1 Corinthians 4:2), and the theme song is "Trust, Try, Prove Me." The morning program will feature "Hands for Christ," from Whaley's Chapel. The afternoon session will feature a singspiration featuring various League groups.

A highlight of the Convention each year is the Sword Drill. Each church, regardless of whether or not it has a League, may enter two contestants in the Junior Sword Drill (ages 9-11) and two contestants in the Intermediate Sword Drill (ages 12-15), with a contribution of at least \$25. It is not too late for contestants to make preparations to enter the contests. Copies of the drills for study may be obtained from Miss Becky Jo Sumner, Route 4, Box 410, Ahoskie, NC 27910.

SIDNEY YOUTH WINS AWARD



Chad Poole, a Belhaven Junior High School student and a member of Sidney Church Sunday School, was recently chosen as the second place winner (grades 7-9) for his poster entry in the North Carolina 1994 "My Future Is in Your Hands--Don't Drink and Drive" Poster/Essay Contest.

Chad was presented the award at the Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month Awards Dinner and Ceremony held

at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Raleigh. Prior to the dinner, a candlelight vigil was held at the Bicentennial Plaza across from the Capitol to remember victims of impaired driving.

Chad's parents are Steve and Lucinda Poole. His parents, grandmother, Ava Poole, and brother, Stephen, all attend Sidney Church. Chad also has been honored at Sidney Church for over 11 consecutive years of perfect attendance in Sunday School.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs. E. C. Morris has a new address and phone number. They are as follows: 500 Pickwick Trail, Apartment 248, Durham, NC 27704; (919) 477-3700.

TINY TIM AND LITTLEST ANGEL WERE THERE

submitted by Lizzie W. Dawson



Carl P. Warren, son of Carl and Stephanie Warren.



Madison Johnson, daughter of Brad and Debbie Johnson

"I just can't believe Christmas is so near," one of the worshipers declared as she entered Shady Grove Church, Route 5, Dunn, NC. "I know," her companion

WOMEN VISIT SHUT-IN



The members of the Woman's Auxiliary of Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee Association, visit with those who are shut-in throughout the year. Shown here are members visiting Mrs. Emma McPherson. Pictured are (top, left to right) Bessie Cartrette, Deborah Godwin, Minnie Godwin, Brenda McPherson, Annie Cribb, Katie McPherson, Dorothy Godwin, Phyllis Mercer; (kneeling) Berniece Griffin, Dorothy Batten, Mrs. Emma McPherson, Lillie Hinson; (on the floor) Louise Cartrette with her granddaughter Brooke Cartrette, Edith McPherson (not pictured, Donna McPherson, reporter).

agreed. "I just can't get the Christmas spirit."

After the church was transformed through the beauty of the Christmas decorations, the children joyfully brought decorations for the tree. Among them was a frail lad on crutches who had been in an automobile accident. Both her hands were needed on his crutches so his ornament hung over a button on his coat. There was a gasp from the audience as someone whispered, "It's Tiny Tim."

Then the smallest children each brought a figurine from the nativity scene to be placed on the communion table. The youngest child in the church, who can walk, came holding the baby Jesus. As her mother picked her up in her arms, she beamed at the congregation looking like a tiny angel.

Needless to say, no one left that night lacking in Christmas spirit. How wonderful it would be if all God's children could hold that peace and good will all year.

PASTOR AT ELM GROVE RECOGNIZED



submitted by Nina Fussell

The members of Elm Grove Church held a Pastor Appreciation Day on Sunday, December 5, 1993. Steve Hargrove has been pastor for twelve years.

Benny Cox had written a poem for Steve. It told of some of the things that had happened since he has been pastor. Some of the poem was humorous; some was sincere.

Steve was presented a plaque by Nina Fussell from the church.

A dozen red roses was put in the church in his honor by Barbara and Misty Mills.

Special music was presented by the choir and Paula Lee.

Special guests were Mrs. Hazel Hargrove, Steve's mother, and his children, Paula Lee from Virginia, and Grant from Kansas.

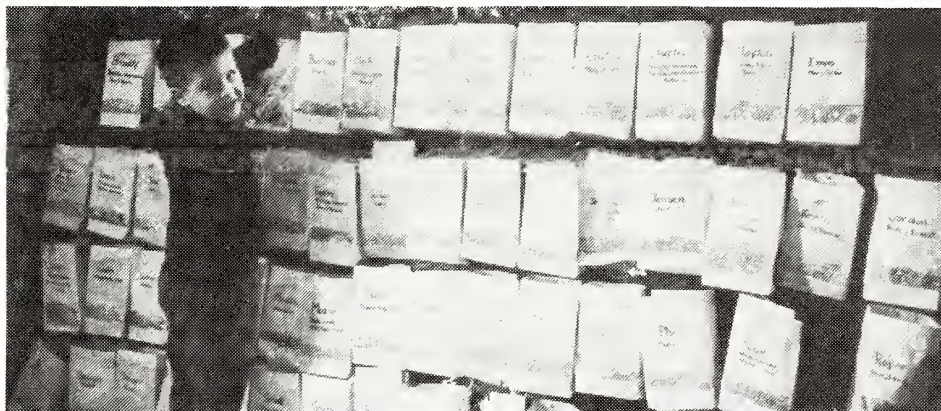
Virginia Chambers brought the message. She spoke about the history of the church and how it was organized.

At noon, a covered-dish dinner was shared in the Fellowship Building.

A very enjoyable day of worship and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

We thank Steve for all the work he has done.

CHURCH POST OFFICE TURNS PROFIT FOR MISSIONS



Kyle Burbage eagerly checks his family's mailbox.

Approximately \$100 was raised for Free Will Baptist mission work during the Christmas season at Sidney Church. In its second year, the Sidney FWB Church Post Office provided Christmas card senders within the church the opportunity to donate their stamp money to missions.

The project is sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary and was initiated in 1992 by Zinkie Jones who had heard of its success from a church in Arkansas. The process is fairly simple. A large display is made utilizing decorative paper bags as the mailboxes. Each church family is given a mailbox whereby Christmas cards are delivered postage-free. The twenty-nine cents that would have gone for postage is then placed in a donation box for missions.

"It's been a fun way to send and get Christmas cards," a Sidney member states. "When we do it this way, we know two things immediately--where the postage money is going and where the cards are going. You can't always say that about the U.S. Postal Service."

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Spring Hope Church, Eastern Conference, is in need of a pastor. Interested ministers can contact Troy Jones, 550 Truitt Road, New Bern, NC 28560, 919-637-9674; or Sam Tyson, 919-636-5740.

Sidney Church invites applications for the position of pastor.

Requirements: Licensed and ordained by a conference in the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Responsibilities: Provide the Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by overseeing, training, and caring for the needs of Sidney Church.

Position Available: February 14, 1994.

Salary: Competitive and based upon Free Will Baptist Compensation Package.

Applications: In order to be considered, candidates must submit a detailed resume to: Gary Burbage, Route 1, Box 239-A, Bath, NC 27808; 919-964-4429 (Home), 919-946-6194 (Office).

All applicants will be notified when the selection has been made.

Sidney Church, founded in 1890, is a small, but growing comprehensive church offering a wide range of ministry programs including: Children's Church, van ministry, Men's Fellowship, Woman's Auxiliary, Cherubs, AFC, YFA, and Caring and Sharing.

The Church is located in Beaufort County, six miles south of Belhaven (pop. 2,500) on Highway 99 at Sidney Crossroads. Washington, the county seat (pop. 10,000), is located 30 miles east on U.S. 264. The entire church complex, including sanctuary, classrooms, offices, fellowship hall, parsonage, recreation field, and cemetery, is located on a five-acre parcel of land.

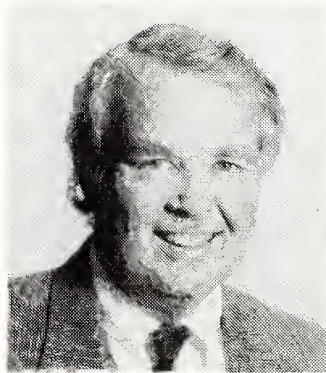
NOTICE!
Plan Now to Attend the
ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE
AND RALLY

Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions

MARCH 11, 1994

Place: Stoney Creek FWB Church
Highway 111, four miles north of Goldsboro
6 miles from Highway 222 South.

Time: 3:00 P.M. Opening Session
4:00 P.M. Second Session
5:00 P.M. Meal Break
7:30 P.M. Mission Rally



Speaker: Dr. H. Eddie Fox

Dr. Fox is the World Director of Evangelism for the World Methodist Council. He is responsible for leading 15 regional secretaries of world evangelism in developing indigenous evangelism on every continent. When Dr. Billy Graham learned of Dr. Fox's appointment to the World Methodist Council he said, "I believe God has chosen you for such an hour as this. You will be in my prayers." Dr. Fox pastored for 16 years and is the author of several books. He has lectured and preached in more than 50 countries and throughout the United States of America.

This Conference is a must! You have only one life to live, so take advantage of the things that enrich you spiritually. Special music will be featured in each session.

Attend and bring someone with you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR A GREAT CONFERENCE!

SUPERINTENDENT MAINTAINS BUILDINGS AND FAITH

by Winkie Lee, Features Editor
Goldsboro News-Argus

Toby Faucette, superintendent of buildings and grounds at Mount Olive College, talks about the College's campus facilities almost as if they are his children. He speaks of how they've grown, praises their merits and mentions his expectations. The Mount Olive man tells how pleased he is that they not only play a role in education, but are part of a Christian environment.

His connection with the school began long before his being employed there six years ago. As a child in the 1950s, he would walk a block from preschool to the old downtown campus, where his mother, Ruby Faucette, worked as assistant dietitian. He would play around the water fountains until she finished her work day.

Faucette later attended Mount Olive College. After graduating from Southern Wayne High School, he enrolled and earned an associate degree in applied science in 1971. He thought about furthering his education, but the death of his father, Leroy Faucette, made him reconsider. He decided to take a job so he could help his mother, who suffered from severe diabetes and was unable to work in public jobs for more than a few years at a time.

Just as his parents had provided an interest in and willingness to help him during his youth, members of the Mount Olive community rallied around him during his working years and helped him learn how to

succeed in business and life, he says.

Byron Bryan, a family friend and successful businessman, helped the 20-year old get a job at Kemp Furniture Industries in Goldsboro, where Faucette stayed for 16 years. Faucette speaks of that time with appreciation and says he was privileged to work with some of the finest men he has ever known.

"Kemp implemented me into a program for supervisors," he says. That training, he says, continues to be of great value because it helped prepare him for what he does now. John Thompson was one of his supervisors.

"There probably has never been a greater man I've known. He taught me that how you treat people is how you achieve true success," he said. During his last 10 years at Kemp, Faucette worked as maintenance supervisor. But his realization that the furniture industry was facing problems and his desire to work at his alma mater led Faucette to apply for the position he currently holds. His employer, Bill Kemp Jr., "thought it was a good opportunity," Faucette says.

After contemplation and prayer, Faucette accepted the position. "I felt like God led me here," he says. Faucette continues to be in frequent contact with Kemp, who volunteers several hours a week on the campus' beautification projects.

Faucette frequently mentions that he likes being at a Christian school. Raised by a Free Will Baptist family with deep beliefs, Faucette learned much about Christianity and finds comfort in his faith. He is

now a Southern Baptist, having "converted" after marrying the former Jenny Pate of Goldsboro. Faucette laughs, "Dr. Raper lets me get away with that," referring to W. Burkette Raper, the College's president.

Faucette says his belief in Christ enables him to see the positive things in life. "You can take the negative sense in life and really let it be a downer," he says. "A lot of times it is hard for me to understand how non-Christians can stand to live in the world we have today."

His faith is not an untested one. In addition to losing his parents to illness, two of his brothers, Jackie and Bobby Faucette, both died from health problems at ages 42 and 55 respectively. He admits that during the worst of times he had questions, but each experience made his faith stronger. "It's OK to question," he says. "But it's wrong to let the questions pull us down.

Whenever I asked why, my personal relationship with Christ pulled me back up."

Faucette is a member of Love Memorial Baptist Church in Goldsboro where he serves as a deacon, Sunday School teacher, and advisor for the Royal Ambassadors for Christ, a mission-oriented organization for boys in the seventh through ninth grades. Faucette has a special interest in working with young boys because he and his wife have a 13-year-old son, Brandon.

And he is a man who loves his work. Driving across the campus in a golf cart, he points out each building and tells a bit about its history. There are 12 buildings on the campus. The oldest, the Henderson Building, dates to 1965; the newest, the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, opened this year. "These buildings have stood the test of time," Faucette says of the older facilities. "We take a lot of pride in maintaining them."

Setting up a preventative maintenance program is time consuming, but once established, is not hard to keep up with and prevents expensive problems from occurring, Faucette explains. Finding ways to save money is part of what the superintendent does.

The state of the art Lois K. Murphy Regional Center is computerized, which enables Faucette's office to keep energy from being wasted. For example, if people want to turn up the heat in a room in the Murphy Center, they can take it up a few degrees, but no further. The maintenance staff can keep tabs on the building's



operation and condition by simply punching it up on their computer, Faucette says. The department will put College Hall and the administration building on the same type of system within the next couple of months.

As Faucette talks about how far the campus has come, he says the school, students, and community have been blessed. While touring the old cafeteria, which is not nearly as nice as what the College now offers, he says the school never regretted what it had.

"We made do with it and were proud of it," he says. But, to serve its students and the community better, the College needed and wanted to expand. Faucette looks around the old cafeteria, still seeming a bit awed by the progress. "I come in here, walk around, look, and say 'how did we ever do it?'" he says.

And he likes the touch of irony that the son of a cafeteria worker on the old campus would be employed in buildings and grounds work when the new dining hall was constructed. "I imagine Mama looks over the portals of Heaven and smiles when she sees the improvement," he says.

TRUSTEES, OTHERS RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE

Eight Mount Olive College faculty and staff members and two College trustees were recognized recently for their service to the College.

Certificates of recognition, given annually to those who have served the College for a period of six years, were given during the College's 42nd annual Founders Day ceremony on the campus. Lorelle Martin, former chair of the College's science department, delivered the Founders Day address.

Certificates were given to Danny McPherson, principal of Williams Township School of Columbus County, and William Hennessee Jr., president of Chas. F. Cates and Sons of Faison, both of whom have served on the College's Board of Trustees since 1987.

Also receiving certificates for work since 1987 were Olivia Best, athletics department secretary; Richard Bounds, professor of science, Patricia Burrus, professor of business; Katherine B. Gardner, admissions department administrative assistant; Anthony Hatcher, professor of English; Ruth Herring, food services specialist; Larry

D. Lean, professor of fine arts; and Dorothy C. Whitley, academic dean.

In her address, Ms. Martin recalled the early days of the College and the conditions in which the students lived, studied, and worked. Ms. Martin and religion professor Michael Pelt, who introduced her at the ceremony, began their tenures in 1957.

"We only had that one old building, the one you've heard about ever since you've been to Mount Olive College," she said. "But don't you think we didn't have a good time then."

All of the College's courses were taught in the single building, which formerly served as the Mount Olive Elementary School and was condemned before its use as the College's first home.

"We had to rent some homes in town for the boys, but other than that, everything we did was in that one building, and we had fun in it," Ms. Martin explained. The frugal but talented students arranged their own entertainment, organizing May Day activities and frequent plays or skits.

Ms. Martin added that on one occasion, she found it significant that a woman student who had studied in her upstairs dormitory room for exams relaxed by visiting the classrooms and lab downstairs.

Evidence of the College's impact on its students is found in the College's current

personnel directory, Ms. Martin said. She noted that a number of its staff, faculty, and administration are also alumni.

Mount Olive College was chartered in 1951 by the North Carolina Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and opened in 1952 at Cragmont Assembly, near Black Mountain, as Mount Allen Junior College. In 1953, it was moved to Mount Olive and later renamed Mount Olive Junior College. It became Mount Olive College in 1970 and attained four-year status in 1986.

Mount Olive College serves approximately 1,000 students on its main campus, at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and at its newly-established New Bern Center.

SIGNS OF PROMISE IN 1993

by Cecil Cahoon II

MOC Public Information Director

1993 was a year of promise for Mount Olive College, providing ample ground for vision and expectations in the years to come. Highlighting the year was the completion of the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, the \$2 million student center and dining hall complex that made possible the transfer of the College's food services to the main campus. The opening of the Murphy Regional Center, said President W. Burkette Raper recently, "has done a great deal to change the atmosphere and climate on the



Front, left to right: Patricia Burrus, Dorothy C. Whitley, Dr. Richard Bounds; second row: Katherine B. Gardner, Danny McPherson; back row: Larry Lean, Anthony Hatcher, William Hennessee Jr. Not pictured are recipients Olivia Best and Ruth Herring (photo by Cecil Cahoon).

campus," and it has significantly enhanced the College's ability to reach out to its publics.

An April 5 luncheon during the College's annual Project EAST program drew noted North Carolinians, including former Gov. Jim Martin and Gov. Jim Hunt. The day-long forum on the proposed Global TransPark has proven to be invaluable in the promotion and development of the TransPark plan, and a follow-up event is being considered for 1994.

Mount Olive College graduated the largest class in its history in 1993.

CBS newsman Charles Kuralt, with the Loonis McGlohon Trio, performed his anthem to the state, "North Carolina Is My Home," in his second visit to the campus in October. Kuralt's visit and the annual performance of the North Carolina Symphony topped the list of special events held on the College campus.

In 1993, gift support to Mount Olive College totalled \$2,038,703, the highest amount of gift support given in a single year in the College's history. The figure showed an increase of almost a quarter-million dollars over the previous year's support total.

The autumn opening of the New Bern Center represented the expansion of educational services of the College to its students, with "a creative edge," Dr. Raper explained. Through the Center, Mount Olive College is "carrying education opportunities to students in their environment," he said. In addition to the successful opening of the Center, the College has noted a marked increase in enrollment at its Seymour Johnson Air Force Base extension.

DR. PEPPER TRAVELS

Dr. Pepper Worthington, editor of the Mount Olive College Press and writer-in-residence at Mount Olive College, traveled in January to the Philippines and India on a tour of the Free Will Baptist denomination's missions there. A series of articles on her experiences will be published in *The Free Will Baptist*.

"I was blessed to be able to serve our constituency by experiencing firsthand the foreign mission field," Dr. Worthington said.

She planned to participate in the tour, she said "to garner some insight into the



Dr. Pepper Worthington

difference the Christian faith makes in the everyday lives of ordinary people. But whenever anyone has a chance to observe how people live, what their needs are, and the impact of their cultural traditions, what inevitably results is some new awareness of what it means to be an American."

In the Philippines, Dr. Worthington and those she was traveling with were to join Foreign Missions Director Harold Jones and his wife, Sandra, on a tour of the mission field in the Philippines and India. The itinerary included a meeting with the President of India and a trip to the foot of the Himalayan mountain range in Nepal.

Previously, Dr. Worthington has traveled in South America and Europe. A book of travel essays, "Travels with Dr. Pepper," documents her experiences in the United Kingdom and Ireland. But her tour of the mission field, Dr. Worthington said, would be different from earlier tours.

"This kind of global experience is unique in that we are not touring to see places and buildings. We will move among native people, eat in native homes, go to their church services, and really experience how the people live," she explained. "It is much different from what you experience on tour groups."

FREE WILL BAPTISTS NAMED TO HONORS LISTS AT MOC

Seventeen Free Will Baptist students attending Mount Olive College were named to the College's President's List and Dean's List for academic achievement during the fall 1993 semester.

Students named to the President's List were Dwayne Bailey of Stoney Creek Church, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Bailey; Elton Gooding of Pleasant Grove Church in Pikeville, son of Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Gooding; Deborah Gray of Westside Church; Barbara Lancaster of May's Chapel Church; Christine Paynter of Stoney Creek Church; Melanie Swinson of Free Union Church in Pinetown, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Swinson; Susan Watson of Saint Mary's Church in Kenly, daughter of Quince and Annette Watson; and Michael Wiggs of Stoney Creek Church, son of William and Joy Wiggs.

The President's List is published to honor students who attain the highest possible academic standing. To qualify, students must be attending Mount Olive College on a full-time basis (12 semester hours or more) and must achieve a quality grade point average of 4.0 for the semester just ended.

Students named to the Dean's List were Clifton Cuddington of Stoney Creek Church, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cuddington; Royce Grady Jr. of Rock of Zion Church, son of Dorothy and W. C. Helms III; Bobby Johnston of Zion Church in Blakely, Georgia; Clee Jones Jr. of Trinity Church in Clayton, son of Ms. Wanda C. Jones; Martin Lee of Saint Mary's Grove Church; Martha Peacock of Pleasant Grove Church in Pikeville; Velvet Reynolds of Sound Side Church, daughter of Royce and Fleedie Reynolds; Lucy Smith of Northeast Church, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Smith; and Christian Waters of St. Mary's Church in New Bern, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Waters.

The Dean's List is published to honor students who attain high scholastic standing. To qualify, a student must be attending Mount Olive College on a full-time basis and must achieve a quality grade point average of 3.5 or higher with no grade lower than a "C" for the semester just ended.

TOMATOES, COLLARDS, AND CHRISTIAN'S EDUCATION

by Cecil Cahoon II, MOC Public Information Director



One might typically expect to find tomatoes and collards on the cafeteria menu, but as Mount Olive College junior Christian Waters found, tomatoes and collards may also have a place in the classroom.

Christian's discovery came last summer when he assumed the lead role in an experiment begun by Dr. Richard Bounds, Mount Olive College professor of science. The experiment had an interesting beginning: When Dr. Bounds saw a television commercial that claimed one brand of plant fertilizer was better than another, he decided to test the claim.

Students in Dr. Bounds' summer biology class planted tomatoes in beds on the College campus and measured their progress to compare the value of Miracle-Gro Plant Fertilizer and Peter's Professional Plant Food -- and plain water.

Christian "took over" the experiment about five weeks into the operation. Dr. Bounds gave instruction, but Christian handled the "gardening" chores -- measuring the leaves, pulling weeds, and applying the fertilizer.

Christian said he didn't bring much gardening experience to the project. "I had worked in the garden before, but I didn't know what I was doing. So this was a new experience for me," he said.

With the harvest of the tomatoes came the results of the experiment, which intrigued the scientists.

"We expected that there would be a difference. We expected the fertilizer to perform better than the water," Christian said. But the research turned up no differ-

ence between Miracle-Gro, Peter's Professional, or plain water.

"Maybe if we'd done some pruning or planned better sunlight distribution, or given a different rate of fertilizer, it might have shown a difference. But our experiment concluded that there was no difference," he said.

In the fall, Christian worked with Dr. Bounds again to repeat the fertilizer experiment, this time growing collards. The treatment of the plants was the same as in the tomato experiment -- the tomato plants and their fruit were measured each week, and the leaves were counted on the collard plants. In the end, the results were the same, too.

"We found only one case of difference in the collards, but otherwise the results were identical to the tomato results," Christian said.

When Christian reported his findings to a meeting of the North Carolina Council on Undergraduate Research recently, several older scientists were astonished by the project's results, he said.

Christian, a biology major and math minor, said his parents, Warren and Frances Waters of New Bern, enjoyed hearing reports of the experiment's progress.

"When I first told my dad I wouldn't come home because I was working with the tomatoes, he laughed, but then he came up to see the project later," Christian said.

Mr. Waters offered tips on pruning, Christian said, and in return, Christian gave him some of the harvested tomatoes.

Christian's gardening experience is continuing, as three collard plants left over from the experiment are still growing -- in Christian's dormitory room. Because of the project, he said he may continue gardening "a little bit -- maybe a little house garden. I enjoy growing things."

Others benefited from the project, too, he added. Most of the tomatoes harvested in the project were given to those who helped in tending to the beds. The collards found a more festive end when Dr. Bounds' class held a collard dinner at his home.

"The tomatoes were good, but I don't eat collards," Christian reported. "Though when we ate at Dr. Bounds' house, everybody seemed to enjoy the collards."

Christian will attend the North Carolina Collegiate Academy of Sciences at Davidson College in the spring to present a paper on his research. Other similar projects may lie ahead, he said.

"We're planning to replant tomatoes and maybe collards, too. But whether we plant other vegetables or not depends on what kinds of beds they need. Only certain kinds of plants can be grown in our situation," he said.

Cucumbers, for example, might present problems. "Cucumbers grow on a vine, and we have to keep the plants separate from each other," he explained.

Christian's work with the tomato and collard projects, and his work as president of the Henderson Science Club, will suit him well to pursue his goal of a graduate degree in environmental engineering, Dr. Bounds said.

"He's a dedicated student with a lot of desire and aptitude," Dr. Bounds continued. "His attitude is his strongest suit -- he's always willing to go the extra mile. And as a role model and mentor for other students, he leads by example."

Christian and his parents are members of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church in New Bern.

MOC PRESS--AN OUTREACH

by Cecil Cahoon

A recent book of devotional poetry, a hymn and an upcoming poetry collection mark the turning of another year of service for the Mount Olive College Press, says its editor, Dr. Pepper Worthington.

The Press recently released *Blessed Assurances -- Inspirations from Jane's Heart*, and the original hymn, "He's My Lord," by Kinston writer Jane Register.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



The publication schedule of the Press includes the release of *Because I Love You*, the second collection of poetry by Lee Witte, and *The Crisis of Leadership*, an analysis of leadership styles by Dr. De Wayne Eakes. Mrs. Witte's book is scheduled for release in an April 14 event at Mount Olive College. A release date has not yet been set for Eakes' book, which also includes commentary from several Free Will Baptist pastors.

The publication of these and other books fulfills the three-fold mission of the Press to the College and its sponsoring church.

"First, we want to give attention to unknown voices who have talent, talent that hasn't had a chance to become public," Dr. Worthington explained. The second purpose of the Press, she said, "is to publish some material which, in some way, might be a blessing to people."

Third, the Press serves to draw attention to its host college, its church, and the region. "The Press brings attention to this College, a burgeoning school in a part of the state basically forgotten by the literature, the legislature, the academic world, by the rest of North Carolina," she said.

The Mount Olive College Press was founded in 1990 as an outgrowth of Project EAST, a regional forum sponsored by Mount Olive College for the analysis of current economic, technological, and educational trends affecting eastern North Carolina.

The catalog of the Press now includes a novel, a biography, a mystery, a calendar featuring black and white photographs, a cookbook, a continuing chapbook series, a theological guide, a collection of devotionals, and the annual Mount Olive Review.

"I am looking for work that will not just be of a time, but will have some lasting effect for people who are blessed by this material," Dr. Worthington said.

Those interested in the work of the Press or those interested in purchasing copies of books by the Mount Olive College Press may check their local

bookstores or call Dr. Pepper Worthington at 919-658-2502. All Press books are also available in the Mount Olive College bookstore.

COMING EVENTS AT MOC

Globe Works: Scenes from Shakespeare

Tuesday, February 8
Rodgers Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Church Basketball Night MOC vs. Barton College

Saturday, February 12
College Hall, 5:30 p.m. (Women)
College Hall, 7:30 p.m. (Men)

Vivian B. Harrison Memorial Lecture

Tuesday, February 22
Rodgers Chapel, 9:30 a.m.
Chapel Service, Dr. Tom Graves
Rodgers Chapel, 11 a.m.

"The Lorelle F. Martin Lecture"

Thursday, March 3
Virginia Martin, speaker
Rodgers Chapel, 7:30 p.m.



MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

CHURCH BASKETBALL NIGHT

Saturday
February 12, 1994

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE Vs BARTON COLLEGE

5:30 p.m. Women's Game
7:30 p.m. Men's Game

There will be free throw competition during half-time of the men's game - designate your "best shooter" to compete!

Competition will be divided into 3 groups:
Grades K-8, Grades 9-12, Out of High School (any age).

Special recognition to the church with largest attendance.

COLLEGE HALL
(Special ticket \$1.)

To reserve your tickets, call the Admissions Office today!

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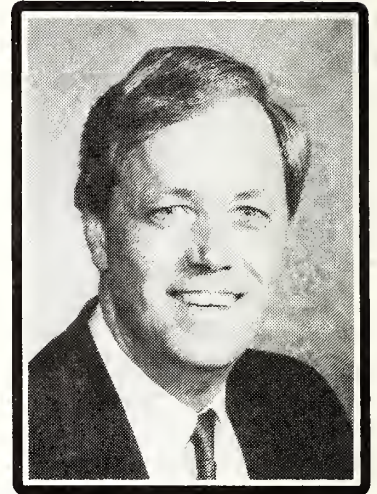
3 pt. Competition



The Fourth Annual
Vivian B. Harrison Memorial Lecture

Theme: The Power of God and the Presence of Evil

**Guest Lecturer: Dr. Thomas Graves, President
Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, Virginia**



**Tuesday • February 22 • 9:30 a.m.
Rodgers Chapel • Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina**

Schedule of Events:

Registration (no fee)	9:00 a.m.
Lecture One:	9:30 a.m.
Break and Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Luncheon and Dialogue	12:00 noon
In the Hennessee Room of the Murphy Regional Center	
Lecture Two:	1:30 p.m.

About the lecturer. . .

Dr. Thomas Graves is President of Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, Virginia, a position that he has held since 1991. He received his Ph.D. and Master of Divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He also holds a S.T.M. from Yale Divinity School and a B.A. from Vanderbilt University. Prior to assuming his position in Richmond, Dr. Graves was professor of Philosophy of Religion at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. He is an ordained minister and has served as pastor in Southern Baptist churches in North Carolina, Florida, and Kentucky.

Dr. Graves' reputation as a scholar is well-established. From 1982-1986, he was editor of *Faith and Mission*, a scholarly journal published by the faculty of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. His publications include "God's Power: Isaiah 52:13-53:12," in *Interpreting Isaiah for Preaching and Teaching*.

About the Vivian B. Harrison Lecture. . .

The Vivian B. Harrison Lecture was established by the Reverend Frank R. Harrison in memory of his wife. The purpose of the lecture is to provide a medium for continuing education for the ministers and lay persons of eastern North Carolina.

Mrs. Harrison was a graduate of Mount Olive College and Barton College, where she earned a B. S. degree in elementary education. She taught public school in North Carolina for 17 years before retiring in 1986 due to illness. She was a member of Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County and was the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Beamon and the late Mr. Charlie T. Beamon of Walstonburg, North Carolina.

The Reverend Frank Harrison is a graduate of Mount Olive College, Barton College, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has completed two years of post-graduate studies in pastoral care and counseling at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. Mr. Harrison has served as Campus Minister at Mount Olive College since 1971 and teaches courses in practical theology.

For further information contact, Dr. K. David Hines, Assistant to the President, Mount Olive College, 919-658-2502.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: THE CHURCH AND MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

K. David Hines
Assistant to the President

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Matthew 28: 19-20).

When the risen Christ commissioned His church to "make disciples," He included two major strategies for fulfilling the command: teaching and baptizing. Since the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has designated February Christian Education Month, I'd like to use this occasion to address three issues: 1) What is the purpose of Christian education? 2) How does Mount Olive College seek to relate Christian education with higher education? and 3) How might we emphasize Christian Education Month in our local churches?

I. What is the Purpose of Christian Education?

People in our society are learning, but often that which is learned has little value or may be in direct conflict with the values of the Christian faith. Often it seems that values are learned by default. We and our children are being blitzed by the media. Many children spend hours glued to "M-TV" and other valueless types of entertainment. We need to remember a simple maxim: garbage in, garbage out. In other words, we will begin to reflect the attitudes of the ideas we immerse ourselves in.

However, by involving ourselves in the ministry of Christian education we say "No more!" to this lowest common denominator approach to learning. Allow me to suggest five goals we seek to achieve in Christian education.

1. To increase the knowledge of the Bible. I believe that the Bible is in fact inspired by the Holy Spirit. I also believe that the Bible is inspirational. Let me explain. You may feel that the simple passing on of more information about the Bible will not be helpful. I disagree. I believe that as people really begin to hear God's Word, that God's Spirit will work through that Word to change lives. That's what I mean when I say that the Bible is "inspirational." God's Spirit works through God's Word.

2. To reinforce Christian values and ethics. Our system of public education has lost sight of values. Instead of the Judeo-Christian ethic being seen as an agreed-upon core, a new perspective has been

substituted. This new religion is "What I want now." This "Essau mentality" is destroying lives. In Christian education we seek to remind us all that life's greatest joy is found in serving God. Our value system centers on God.

3. To strengthen the witness of the Church. When Christians do not have a basic knowledge of the Bible and of their faith, the witness of the Church is impoverished. Christians, let's know what we believe, why we believe, and how to share that faith with others.

4. To prepare Christian leaders. By nurturing others in the precepts of our faith, we help insure that our denomination will have well-equipped leaders. Effective service as a Sunday School teacher, deacon, or pastor requires education. Through Christian education we equip tomorrow's leaders today.

5. To combat segmentation. This goal may seem a bit esoteric, but stay with me for a moment. Far too many people have their lives divided up into individual compartments, such as family matters, job, church, recreation, etc. What we do on the job may have little to do with the church. In other words, each part of our lives becomes an island unto itself.

Christian education has to do with life and living. Living under the lordship of Christ relates to all that one does at home, at church, or on the job. In Christian education, we are seeking to help persons relate their faith to all of life, not one part of it.

II. Mount Olive College and Christian Education

The purpose of Mount Olive College is defined by our charter:

To establish, maintain, and operate a four-year college for the Christian education of men and women. To maintain an emphasis upon scholarship and Christian living in an academic community made up of persons dedicated to the practice and advancement of Christian ideals in all areas of life.

In Christian higher education we reinforce the same goals noted above. For example, in my classes I do not simply try to teach about the Bible; my goal is to teach the Bible. Christian education goes beyond the mere fact that we offer religion classes. Christian education is a pervasive attitude in our programming. Our academic programs seek to prepare students for vocations--for work through which they can serve. A Christian perspective is vital regardless of the program of study. In student life programs, we provide growth and leadership development opportunities for our students.

Maintaining this Christian perspective is no more automatic at Mount Olive College than it is anywhere else in our society. It is the responsibility of all of us who work here to keep this ideal in clear focus. We urgently request the prayers of our church people that this mission continues to drive Mount Olive College.

III. Christian Education Month and Your Church

Through our denominational calendar, attention is called to the various aspects of Free Will Baptist ministry. In February, take the opportunity to promote the ministry of Christian education in your church. Here are some suggestions you may want to consider.

1. Plan a special Discipleship Service. In this special service recognize those in your church who are excelling in teaching. Note the goals for your Christian education program.

2. Educate your congregation on the mission and work of Mount Olive College. One way to learn about the College is to study our report in the 1993 Convention

Report book. We will also be happy for someone from the College to visit your church to share information and answer questions you may have.

3. Visit Mount Olive College. When we visit you, we can share our view on the work of the College. However, when you visit us, you see for yourselves. If you

would like to arrange a visit, please feel free to call me (919-658-2502).

Christian education--the building of disciples. Together, with God's grace, we can see it happen.

DINNER GIFTS STILL BEING RECEIVED

In the 1993 Mount Olive College dinner season, Free Will Baptist churches contributed \$307,004 to the college and recognized a total of 1,304 Bridge Builders. Bridge Builders are individuals or groups who give an unrestricted gift of \$100 or more at the dinners. Below is a report on dinner gifts received as of January 10. The report may be called a "work in progress" as gifts and pledges are still being received.

County	Bridge Builders	Total Gift	Chairman
Beaufort	52	\$ 10,328	Billy Gurkin
Carteret	58	13,475	Reginald T. Styron Nathan Garner
Craven	67	17,314	Marice DeBruhl
Duplin	45	10,229	William D. Thigpen
Edgecombe	31	5,554	Luther Bissette
Greene	88	20,982	Lena Walston Randy Beaman
Johnston-Wake	146	39,440	V. T. Craddock
Jones	19	4,251	Mildred Jenkins
Lenoir	88	16,178	Dean Rouse
Nash	26	7,853	John R. Manning
Onslow-Brunswick	14	3,866	Ronnie Parker
Pamlico	28	6,930	Carol Prescott
Pitt	127	26,988	Jane T. Tripp
Sampson, Harnett, Cumberland	135	26,810	C. Felton Godwin Lee Morton Jernigan
Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, Pasquotank	28	9,805	David Cahoon
Wayne	167	51,245	Tempie Jones
Wilson	185	35,756	James B. Hunt, Sr.
Totals	1,304	\$307,004	

Each year, Free Will Baptists hold 17 county dinners throughout eastern North Carolina as a means of providing gift support for the college. In addition to financial support, the dinners provide fellowship and a strong communication link between the Free Will Baptist church and its college.

Gifts accepted at the dinners provide for the college's general operation and for its annual grant and scholarship programs. Such programs, like the College Service Scholarship Program, allow students unique opportunities for personal and spiritual growth through meaningful work and study experiences.

MORNING STAR Woman's Auxiliary Retreat

Cragmont Assembly
April 8-10

Dianne B. Riley, speaker

Send \$10 registration to:

Teresa Ball

Route 1, Box 96-B

Grifton, NC 28530

Balance due upon arrival

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY SUMMER WEEKS Cragmont Assembly

June 6-11

Cynthia Craft, speaker

August 1-6

Willem and Lydia van der Plas,
speakers

Total Cost: \$120

Send \$20 registration fee to:

Teresa Ball

Route 1, Box 96-B

Grifton, NC 28530

If you have questions, contact:

Donna Holland

Route 2, Box 246

Fremont, NC 27830

Winning Choices: Mount Olive College Press Voices

Buy Books for Gifts

Price includes postage and handling!



Special – Five Books for \$25!

Check the five books you select in the box by the book of your choice

- A Chosen Vessel: The Luke H. Wetherington Story** as told to Cecil Cahoon II(donation)
The Luke H. Wetherington story is a story of miracles. Born with physical and financial restraints, Luke Wetherington has risen to accomplished heights through God working in him and through him. His story is the story of the power of the Lord in a man's life. Read this one and share the spirit of the Lord in a man who is a chosen vessel.
- And The Night Rumbles Past** by Raymond Dotson(\$5.00)
From the coal mines of Kentucky to the nightmares of war, Raymond Dotson gives the reader a raw earthy poetry that will leave the heart touched, the mind challenged, and the ear ringing.
- Because I Love You** by Lee Witte(\$26.95)
Once again the spirit of Lee Witte recalls the heritage of the Dismal Swamp region of eastern North Carolina. She takes us back to Lake Phelps and to some of the people she remembers in her childhood. She carries us across time to greet the folks and places she has loved. Nostalgic in tone, smooth in lyrics, this limited edition of one of eastern North Carolina's poets is a collector's item.
- Blessed Assurance** by Jane Register(\$12.95)
In the mood for Christian poetry? Jane Register might be called the Helen Steiner Rice of eastern North Carolina. Her poetry celebrates special occasions, provides assurance in times of trouble, and offers a beacon of hope to any reader.
- Church Growth and Evangelism** by Dr. K. David Hines(\$11.95)
Dr. K. David Hines is convinced that the growth of a church is linked to its evangelical spirit. In this theological and practical study, Dr. Hines gives the reader both a conceptual insight for the Christian witness and a realistic procedure for Christian communication.
- Familiar Quotations: True and False** by Ray K. Hodge(\$14.95)
For readers who are fascinated with familiar quotations and how they might be read in a new, somewhat shocking way, Ray K. Hodge has put together this unique interpretation of familiar quotations and left a literary and spiritual treasure with every reader.
- He's My Lord** by Jane Register(\$7.50)
Want to play the upbeat music of Christian faith? Jane Register's new song will provide both the rhythm and lyrics for a moment of Christian celebration.
- Images in Art and Life** by Pepper Worthington(\$15.00)
Interested in a psychological perspective of life and art? This little gem is a memoir of a Lucy Daniels Conference held in the Triangle Park. Featured are unique memories of discussions on graffiti, Wagnerian images, dreams, and Florence Nightingale. Witty is the gathering of psychoanalysts and writers who view one another at first as suspects, later as colleagues. After all, both seek the freedom of the creative self.
- Images and Echoes: Beaufort-by-the-Sea** by Carol Bessent Hayman(\$12.95)
Beaufort's poet laureate, Carol Bessent Hayman, has captured the flavor of historic Beaufort. Prepare to travel with her through time, walk the shadowed lanes, hear old-fashioned Christmas voices, rock on porches, and listen to the sea. Included in this travel gem is a walking tour of Beaufort with a fold-out map. What a bargain for every adventurer of old towns!
- In the Shadow of Job** by Cleve Wilkie(\$14.95)
Hold on to your seatbelt when you sit down to read this one. Get ready for a fast read with a preacher getting kidnapped, a man murdered, and a host of other plights that echo the tortured Job in the Old Testament. Cris Clayman is the preacher who has something to tell each reader, and that message becomes a gift not to forget.
- Just Like Grandma Used To Make** by Barbara Anderson Mapp(\$14.95)
Ever wanted to find that old recipe of your grandma's? Ever wished you could cook the way you remember in your childhood? Well, get ready and read Barbara Anderson Mapp's new cookbook and spot some of those old-fashioned recipes that your grandma used to make.
- Levora** by Lee Davenport Witte(\$12.95)
Want to experience the personal pilgrimage of a woman who grew up in eastern North Carolina, left home, only to return to her roots to discover the value of the land, rural people, and family ties? Read this one. You may even get to know yourself better as you get to know Levora.

- Light for Living** by Ray K. Hodge(\$12.95)
Need a devotional essay before you go to sleep? Why not pick up Ray K. Hodge's series of devotions and spot the story that will end your day with inspiration and joy.
- 1992 Mount Olive Review: Images of Women in Literature**.....(\$ 8.50)
You won't believe the variety of articles in this exciting issue of the *Mount Olive Review*. Get ready to read short stories, poems, essays, criticism, quotations, and interviews--all with a slant on women that will wake you up, get you thinking, and send you out smiling.
- Winter 1993/Spring 1994 Mount Olive Review: Myth and Literature** .(\$15.00)
For an amazing lively variety of literary articles, poems, essays and book reviews that highlight myth, you might find this issue a treat that will get you thinking about myth and send you into new imaginative connections. More than 60 writers emerge in this cutting-edge journal.
- Night Walk** by Eddie Williams(\$ 5.00)
Eddie Williams has a flare for rhyme and myth that will haunt your imagination. He carries us through his good ol' boy days and down memory lane until he finds myth. Then he's off with Beowulf, solid images, and fabled sirens. This chapbook is a treat.
- Rights and Ethics: Individual Rights and the Common Good** (Memoirs of the 1992 Phi Kappa Phi Summer Symposium) by Pepper Worthington(\$ 6.00)
Feel like too many people talk about rights while no one speaks about responsibilities? This upbeat pamphlet is a gem. Co-sponsors, The National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the MOC Press, have joined together to produce a publication that recounts lectures, dialogue, tours, and memories of the 1992 Phi Kappa Phi Summer Symposium in Charlotte which highlighted the concerns of rights and ethical responsibilities. An eyewitness account that is an eye opener!
- Stand Up And Be A Voice: Eight Poetic Voice Plays** by Pepper Worthington(\$14.95)
Ever read a poetic voice play? No? Then try this new book, because the poems represent voices, all knitted together to make up eight poetic plays. Perfect for a small drama performance. Each play has simple stage directions, character identification through the voice, and a title that reveals the tie that binds the voices. Perfect for student groups, evening programs, and workshop dialogue.
- The Challenge of Today: Three Wishes** by Dr. Penny B. Ziemer(\$ 2.00)
Wonder what three wishes you would have for today's youth? Dr. Penny B. Ziemer speaks of losing a job, never having an occupation, and hearing a calling as desirable realities for all. Her speech is the second of the MOC Press Mnemosyne Series and will wake any reader up to the concept of the personal voice.
- The Scalpel and the Cross** by Wilbur L. Creech(\$19.95)
Jerry Landars decides he must leave a lucrative surgery position and head for Leesboro where he will become the desperately needed general practitioner. In a time when medicine is being ferociously criticized, this book appears as a breath of fresh air to remind us of the value of a doctor who serves not only the body but also the soul.
- Travels With Dr. Pepper** by Pepper Worthington.....(\$14.95)
Ever been to England, Scotland, and Wales? Ever wanted to see literary places and haunted castles through the eyes of an English teacher? Try this humorous collection of essays that take you from the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral to the hairdresser of Dylan Thomas in Laugharne.
- The Triadic Archetype in Keats' Poetry** by Pepper Worthington(\$14.95)
Archetypal criticism is once again alive in this new insightful study of John Keats. Dr. Worthington insists that Keats experienced the archetypal shift from innocence to experience to a sought-for reconciliation of the two in his poetry. This one is especially for fans of the Romantic genius, John Keats.
- What's 'English' In Departments of English** by Pepper Worthington ..(\$15.00)
As the American classroom is becoming multicultural, what is considered 'English' in departments of English? This memoir highlights issues from the Twenty-Fourth National College English Association Conference held in Charlotte. Discussions of Stephen Crane, Edith Wharton, Chaucer, Dr. Johnson, Oscar Michaeus, Salman Rushdie, Joseph Campbell, Robert Browning, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Kipling and Yeats make this publication a special delight to lovers of literature.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make check or money order payable to Mount Olive College Press
Mail to Mount Olive College Press, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365 (919-658-2502)

TOTAL _____

Kinfolk

a family conference

What's Kinfolk?

Kinfolk is a conference designed for the family. It will include lectures, discussion groups, and free time. We have even planned activities for the very young so that the adults will be free to participate in the lectures and discussion groups. With this conference, we hope to offer information, help, and encouragement for the problems confronting families today.

What Are the Dates?

April 3-7, 1994. We plan to have you arrive Sunday, April 3, 1994, by 8 p.m. and to begin our program at 8:30 p.m. Each morning (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), we will have our lectures and discussions. Following lunch, you are on your own to shop, sight see, and/or study as you like. Each evening, we will have a devotional activity. Thursday, following breakfast, the conference will end.

What Is the Cost?

The cost is \$65 per person. Children 5 years old and younger may attend free of charge. If you are interested, please fill out this form and return it with a \$25 family registration fee (non-returnable). Send everything to:

"Kinfolk"
c/o Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

For more information, please call (704) 669-7677
or FAX to (704) 669-1463

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONES: (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Number in Family Attending Conference _____ Children's Ages _____

BRANSON LIMITED

Cragmont is offering an exciting trip in September 1994 to Branson, Missouri. The price includes cost by motor coach, six nights lodging (one in Nashville, three in Branson, one in Jackson, TN, and one at Cragmont); two meals at Cragmont; three breakfasts and two dinners while in Branson; lunch in Springfield; four shows in Branson; a visit to the "Fantastic Caverns"; and a trip to the Bass Pro Shop in Springfield. All of this is offered for \$700 per person. This excludes personal spending money and the cost of the meals not designated.

"Branson Limited" will begin on Thursday, September 22, 1994. Transportation to Cragmont will be provided by motor coach, with several stops in eastern North Carolina. Lunch will be served at Cragmont and then we will travel to Nashville for our first night.

Friday, September 23, will be spent traveling to Branson and settling into our motel, giving you an opportunity to see some of the beauty of the central United States.

Saturday, September 24, promises to be fun, beginning with breakfast on the Lake Queen. We will cruise the river and have live entertainment while we eat breakfast. After breakfast, we will go to the Branson Mall for some shopping. While we are there, lunch will be eaten. In the afternoon, we will go to the Mel Tillis Theatre. After the matinee, we will go back to the motel and get ready for dinner at the Apple Mill Restaurant. Then we will head on to "The Shepherd of the Hills," an outdoor drama portraying a great American classic. The "Shepherd" has been filmed by Hollywood four times.

Sunday, September 25, will be another fun-filled day, with breakfast at the Bonanza Restaurant. After we have finished eating, we will have a short devotion while we are all together. There will be free time to do what you want until 11:30 a.m., when we will meet to take a ride on "The Ducks." This is a 70-minute excursion through the heart of the Ozark Mountain Country. The Ducks travel over land and water, making this a unique ride. After this adventure, we will enjoy a matinee at the Andy Williams Moon River Theatre. After the matinee, we will head back to the motel for a little rest before dinner. Dinner will be at the Roy Clark Crystal Hall before traveling to the Shoji Tabuchi Theatre.

On Monday, September 26, we will pack up and leave Branson. After the luggage is on the bus, we will have breakfast at the Dondics Riverboat Restaurant. We will then head north to Springfield and make a couple of stops. The first stop will be at the "Fantastic Caverns." Because the beauty of the Caverns is vulnerable, the Cave is toured in jeep-drawn trams (no walking). After we tour the Cave, we will travel on to the Bass Pro Shop for a visit. While there, we will enjoy lunch together. After lunch, we will head to Jackson, Tennessee, for the night, stopping along the way for dinner.

Tuesday, September 27, we will check out of the motel by 8 a.m. and stop for breakfast on the way out. We will eat lunch and dinner on the way back to Cragmont, where we will spend the night.

"Branson Limited" will come to an end on Wednesday, September 28, 1994. The bus will leave after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space, we will only be able to accept forty people. Reservations will be taken on a first-come first-accepted basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form, along with a \$100 non-returnable deposit* for each person. Payments of \$100 per person are due on January 15, 1994, February 15, 1994, March 15, 1994, May 15, 1994, June 15, 1994; and the final payment on July 15, 1994. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Branson.

If room is available, you may register anytime, but if a payment date has passed, all amounts up to that date will have to be paid.

If you are interested in taking this trip, please register. Sometimes we hear people say that they are waiting to find out if we get enough people before they will send in their registration. Please don't fear for your deposit. If you register and we do not get enough people to do the tour, please rest assured we will return your check as soon as the decision is made. Also, many people hesitate to register because they fear the tour is already full. Once again, please be assured that if you send in a deposit and we have reached the maximum number for the trip, we will return your check promptly.

Come join us for this special get-away. All arrangements are made by Cragmont, freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*We will need to have 30 people to sign up by May 15, 1994, or the trip will be canceled and all money will be refunded.

Mail to "Branson Limited," Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Night _____

Church _____

If you have a roommate preference, please list name here:

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of such as: heart condition ___ diabetes ___ hypoglycemia ___ trouble with stairs ___ other ___

Preferred Bus Stop (La Grange will not be the busline we will be using so no La Grange Bus Lot stop will be made. We will be coming as straight up Highway 70 as possible.)

Non-refundable deposit: \$100 _____ (Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.)

CRAGMONT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE FOR 1994

KINFOLK

(Family Week Retreat)

April 3-7

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28611

MORNING STAR

April 8-10

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE

June 8-11

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

June 13-16

Philip Boykin
Route 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE

June 20-25

Gary Bailey
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

YFA Week

June 27--July 2

Scott and Janie Sowers
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

AFC Week

July 4-9

Doug Skinner
817 Lynn Road
Durham, NC 27703

GENERAL YOUTH II CONFERENCE

July 11-16

Chris Singleton
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

GENERAL YOUTH I CONFERENCE

July 18-23

Bryant Hines
Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

July 25-30

Donald Mason
Box 672
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE

August 1-6

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

BRANSON LIMITED EDITION

September 22-28

CRAGMONT CLUB I

October 14-16

FALL LIMITED EDITION

October 17-20

CRAGMONT CLUB II

October 21-23

CHRISTMAS LIMITED EDITION

December 1-4

(For the Above Five Contact:)

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for the cards, gifts, and visits of many of our friends during this past holiday season. We request your continued prayers in our behalf.

The Rev. and Mrs. Bruce Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

I want to take this means to thank all those who remembered me with cards, prayers, and gifts during the holiday season. Please continue your prayers for me.

The Rev. James A. Evans
Pinewood Cottage Family Care
Pink Hill, NC 28572
Phone, 919-568-3390

**February is
Christian Education
Month**

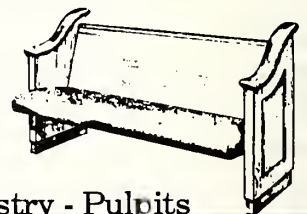
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Sunday School Institute

March 5, 1994

Daniel's Chapel

Original Free Will Baptist Church
Black Creek, N.C.

Registration 8:15 - 9:00 a.m.
Institute 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch on Your Own

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

Sponsored by the Sunday School Board of Original Free Will Baptists

ON THE MOVE WITH THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE

submitted by Randy Beaman

What Goes On?

ACTIVITIES

LOCAL

- Establish regular meeting time.
- Make program interesting.
- Devotion.
- Projects (properties improvement, etc.).
- Rest home ministries.
- Visit sick.
- Annual Layman's Day.
- Sponsor church-wide events (cook-outs, fish fry, prayer breakfast, etc.).
- Invite Conference and State layman's meetings.
- Support State layman's project.
- Keep Layman's League exciting.
- Serve as pastoral support group.
- See the *Layman's League Handbook* for more ideas.

CONFERENCE

- Establish regular quarterly meetings.
- Be sure all Layman's Leagues in conference are aware of time and place of each meeting.
- Prepare interesting programs at host church.
- Consider assembling early for refreshments or dinner, at the discretion of the host church.
- Host church will create climate for a meeting of Christian laymen.
- Host church will see that printed programs are ready for distribution and that ushers are on duty.
- Annual selection of conference officers should represent several churches and be men excited with the opportunity to serve.
- Support the state project for the year.
- Be sure that activities and contributions to our denomination are shared with the community and denomination publications.
- Support conference events; for example, Ladies Night, Spring Singspiration, Fall Singspiration, etc.
- See *Layman's League Handbook* for additional information.

STATE

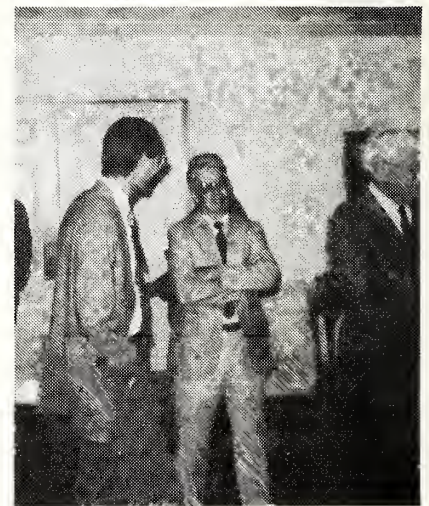
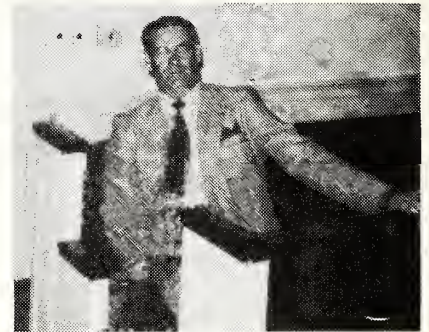
- Establish regular state Layman's League meetings.
- Committees and officers should represent many conferences and churches.
- Bi-annual meetings should be well publicized and prepared.
- The officers shall be a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and song leader.
- A promotional committee representing a cross section of the Layman's League will promote the Free Will Baptist Layman's League, and assist in chartering new groups, Layman's Leagues.
- Promote and assist in the annual projects.
- See *Layman's League Handbook* for more information about state work.

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE BOARD

- It shall be the responsibility of this Board to perpetuate the Layman's League organization on a local and State level, and in cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press provide programs and other such literature as may be needed for the advancement of this organization. The Layman's League Board shall be composed of twelve members with the terms of four members expiring each year, the

vacancies to be filled by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE MEETING



Shown here are scenes from the Central Conference Layman's League meeting held at Winterville Church on December 6, 1993.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- February 3 Promotional Committee Meeting of the Layman's League, Elmer Harrell's office, Southeast Third Street, Snow Hill, NC, 7 p.m.
- February 21 Eastern Conference Layman's League Meeting, Sound View Church, 1655 Highway 24-East, Newport, NC, 7 p.m.
- March 7 Central Conference Layman's League Meeting, Friendship Church, near Farmville, NC; 7 p.m., supper; 7:45 p.m., business
- April 8-9 Spiritual Life Retreat, Eagles Nest, Mount Olive, NC
- May 6 State Layman's League Meeting, Harrell's Chapel Church, just off Highway 58-North, near Snow Hill, NC; 7 p.m., supper; 8 p.m., business

If you need any information on the Layman's League or on how to organize a League, please contact State President Elmer Harrell (919-747-2894) or Promotional Chairman John Newton (919-823-3049).

If you would like to put your local happenings from your League in *The Free Will Baptist*, send the material to Randy Beaman, 1105 Grovemont Drive C-3, Greenville, NC 27834; or call, 919-830-5592.

NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator
Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

OUR CHALLENGE TO FAITHFULNESS

For four years, our Convention's overall theme has been, "Hear the Word of the Lord." Each year has had its own individual theme, and for 1993-94 the theme is "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Stewardship." In view of this, and since we are now facing the beginning of the year 1994 with its many opportunities, I thought it appropriate to take a look at the challenge to faithfulness.

One of the most familiar biblical verses pertaining to stewardship is 1 Corinthians 4:1-2: "Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful."

The word *steward*, or *stewardship*, primarily denotes "the manager of a household or estate." In Paul's day, a steward was usually a slave or freedman. In this particular passage, it is used in reference to "preachers of the gospel and teachers of the Word." Paul, of course, fitted into this category; however, he then declares that a steward must be found faithful. Though the word *steward* is of key importance here, it is lacking true impact without the application of the word *faithful*. Paul and the other apostles were stewards of the "manifold grace of God." This means that they were to be faithful in the proclamation of the "manifold grace of God (see 1 Peter 4:10); however, the responsibility of faithful stewardship is not limited to ministers of the gospel. It is the responsibility of anyone who has received some special ability, or gift, or guardianship.

The main idea of stewardship is responsibility. A steward is a trustee who faithfully discharges his trust; he simply uses what God has entrusted to him in the way God expects him to use it.

Paul does not present faithful stewardship as a heavy burden, as many today seem to regard it. In fact, Paul's sense of stewardship to Christ has a liberating effect on his life. It was his goal to please the Lord. He sees his stewardship as a gift as well as a demand, and a gift denotes something that is willingly received and willingly put to use. Thus, we are reminded that the most essential quality a steward can have is not

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

brilliance or ability, but faithfulness. This truth is clearly taught in the words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 25:14-30.

The Faithful Servants

As a part of the Olivet Discourse, Jesus told the Parable of the Three Servants who were entrusted by their master with his goods.

The master went on a journey and gave each servant a specific amount of money, or talents, which were of silver. A talent weighed between 58 and 80 pounds. This, of course, was a considerable amount of money and each was given the amount that was in keeping with his abilities.

Two of the servants were faithful in the use of their master's wealth. Each one doubled that which had been entrusted unto him. Each had been faithful "over a few things," and therefore was awarded with greater responsibilities, wealth, and sharing of the master's joy. The point here is not of the amount which they put to use, but their faithfulness in what they had.

The Unfaithful Servant

The third servant was given one talent. He reasoned that his master may not be returning at all. If he did return someday, the servant could simply return the talent to his master without loss from any poor investment. (After all, his master was a hard one to deal with.) If his master failed to return, he wanted to be able to keep the talent for himself. He did not want to deposit the money in a bank where it would be recorded that the talent belonged to the master. He proved to be a worthless servant and thus lost what he had and was cast into judgment.

This parable stresses the need to serve the Master while He is away. In other words, faithfulness is needed!

Joy or Misery

Our Master left this earth almost 2,000 years ago. Before departing, He left us with the instructions to go forth and make disciples, to share the good news with others who have not heard. One day He will return. What will we hear Him say to us as individual Christians and as people of the Original Free Will Baptist Church? Will it be, "Well done," or "Depart from me"?

The two faithful servants were invited to "enter into the joy of thy Lord." The

unfaithful servant lost his one talent and was "cast into outer darkness."

How faithful have we been? How faithful are we now? How faithful are we concerning the Word of God? How committed are we to true Christian service? There are, of course, many faithful Christians who are working for Him and faithfully supporting the work of the Kingdom. Many others are not faithful. What about our denomination? Are we faithful in the absence of our Master?

Based upon the reports sent to our Convention, we have not been so faithful in the matter of soul winning, or in the matter of our stewardship of giving. At times, our ministries find themselves struggling to survive. Church budgets fall short in well-balanced support for all ministries, support that we have committed to in our founding of them.

Through our Church Covenant, we have promised to give according to our ability for the support of the church and its benevolent work and agreed "...to cooperate in the promotion of denominational institutions and enterprises, the support of the work of the local church, and the evangelization of the world."

Are we meeting the challenge of faithfulness? If not, consequences will follow. Are our struggles upon us today because of our unfaithfulness? There is no limit to what Free Will Baptists can do if we will accept the challenge of faithfulness. Are we willing?

On Behalf of
**The Convention of Original
Free Will Baptists**
and the
Headquarters Staff
We Wish You
A Happy New Year!

JOTS AND TITLES

compiled by Gary Burbage

TWO MEN WHO NEED YOUR PRAYERS IN 1994: CLINTON AND LIMBAUGH

Two men that we should be holding up before the Lord are liberal President Bill Clinton and conservative talk show host, Rush Limbaugh, according to Eric Barger, a popular conference and seminar speaker, writer, and evangelist.

Barger admits that Clinton and Limbaugh are a politically strange pair to single out but reasons that the positions that the men hold--Clinton, as president of the most powerful country in the world, and Limbaugh, the most listened to person in the history of radio and undoubtedly the voice of the conservative right today--should head the prayer list of every Christian today.

The Christian World Report

PETTY POLITICS

Richard Petty, recently retired NASCAR driver, is hinting that he may run for governor in 1996. Petty said he is a conservative who is concerned about the drift toward socialized medicine and the decline of morality. Among the politicians he admires are former Governor James Martin, Senator Jesse Helms, and former President Ronald Reagan.

"I don't know that I'm interested in politics, OK?" Petty said. "I'm interested in the way of life I grew up with and that I see changing. We're getting more and more into equalizing the world and the United States. This is not the way it's supposed to be. If you work, you're supposed to have something. If you don't work, then that's just tough."

Associated Press

LAW TO SILENCE RELIGIOUS BROADCASTERS

Christians are urged to contact their congressmen and tell them to vote "NO" on the Fairness in Broadcasting Act. The Christian Coalition describes the law as a cleverly designed weapon which federal regulators can use to harass, intimidate, and possibly even close down Christian and pro-family broadcasters.

The so-called Fairness in Broadcasting Act does this by requiring of stations "reasonable opportunity for discussion of

conflicting views on issues of public importance."

This may not seem so bad at first glance --until you realize that interpretation of this law will be left up to the discretion of federal regulators. If they don't like James Dobson, Billy Graham, or others, they can require the stations carrying those programs to provide equal time to liberals. The result will be that many stations will cancel Christian and conservative programs rather than risk getting on the bad side of these federal regulators and possibly losing their broadcast licenses.

Christian Coalition

TEENS AND CHURCHES RESPONDING TO CHASTITY CAMPAIGN

A campaign urging teens to postpone sex until marriage started by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board as an adjunct to a sex education program has spread rapidly to other denominations and is well on its way to a goal of eliciting chastity vows from half a million teenagers.

The "True Love Waits" campaign recently received its biggest boost to date when the nation's largest denomination, the 59 million-member Roman Catholic Church, came on board.

Church officials say the gathering together of some of the nation's largest denominations for the program may herald a new sexual revolution among teens, and help convince government policy makers of the value of teaching abstinence to prevent disease and teen-age pregnancy.

Other denominations and groups that have signed on include the Assemblies of God, Pentecostal Church of God, The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Campus Crusade for Christ.

Nearly half of the teen respondents to a Time-CNN poll in April of 1993 said it is wrong to have sex before marriage.

Associated Press

COURT RULES: BOY SCOUTS CAN KEEP "DUTY TO GOD" IN ITS OATH

The Boy Scouts can deny membership to those who are unwilling to subscribe to the Scout oath, including its pledge to do one's "duty to God," according to a Chicago appeals court.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit ruled 2-1 that civil rights does not require the Boy Scouts to admit agnostics or atheists, since the group is a private organization, not a place where the public must be accommodated.

EP

TEENAGE SMOKERS

Teenagers who smoke are more likely than nonsmokers to drink, have sex, cut school, be depressed, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

The average teenage smoker is a boy in trouble and the world of a teenage smoker is dangerous in many ways. When asked, "How many people your age get drunk at least once a month?", almost half of the teen smokers say that most of all teenagers get drunk. When asked, "How many people you know have ever had sex?", more than one-third of teenagers who have never smoked say none, and just one in five says most or all. But two out of three teenage smokers say that most or all of the people they know have ever had sex.

Teens who smoke have a harder time in school. They are six times more likely than nonsmokers to say they have cut school in the previous weeks, six times more likely to say their school performance is below average, and four times more likely to say that the things they learn in school are not at all useful later in life.

American Demographics
December 1993

JOTS AND TITLES is a monthly news and comment on issues which concern Christianity. It serves as the communications arm of Politically Active Conservative Christians (PACC), which was founded in 1990 by Gary Burbage. PACC serves to promote and preserve the Christian heritage upon which our nation was founded.

BOARD TO MEET

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet February 7 at 10 a.m. at Selma Church, Selma. Any person having business with the Board is asked to be there at that time.

PREPARING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

The staff at the Free Will Baptist Press is always ready to help you get your news items and articles published. Following are some tips for making the process easier.

1. Typewrite all copy. Use 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper; smaller paper can get lost or misplaced. Do not strike over letters, and make all erasures as neat as possible. Be sure that the typewriter ribbon gives a clear copy.

2. Keep a copy of all material typed. This will avoid the possibility of having to redo the item in case of loss.

3. Indicate the title of the article approximately two inches down from the top of page one. Leave an inch and a half at the top of each succeeding page; and for convenience of editing, please number succeeding pages. Type on one side of page only.

4. Leave a margin of at least an inch on both sides of paper.

5. Never write perpendicularly in the margin.

6. Write no more than one article on a sheet.

7. Do not divide a word between pages. Avoid dividing words between lines as much as possible.

8. Clip pages together, using paper clips. Do not staple pages.

9. Read, reread, and correct your own copy before submitting this. This is most important and will expedite matters greatly toward early publication.

10. If words, phrases, or sentences are of particular importance to the point of needing to be emphasized, indicate such by underlining or underscoring.

11. Observe and practice the proper rules of grammar and punctuation, inasmuch as possible.

12. Prepare your articles and reports as early in advance as possible so as not to delay their publication. It should be noted that all articles for publication should be in no later than twenty days in advance. For example, articles for publication in the March issue should be in the hands of the editor by February 10. It is most important that everyone observe this. Late copy delays the publication and causes problems on all fronts. (Holidays, such as Christmas, cause earlier deadlines. Items not received as indicated usually can not be included, as the publication goes to the darkroom earlier than usual. Typically, items received after



the 10th can be included in an issue; but there is no guarantee of this.)

13. Remember that all items to be published should be submitted in typed form. Items should not be phoned in.

14. Churches and pastors wishing to announce their availability should note that this information is run as space permits. It should also be noted that there is absolutely no way anyone but the minister himself can relate his availability. (In the past, churches have tried to make such an announcement for their pastors. You can imagine the problems this causes!)

15. It should always be remembered that the editor makes the final decision as to whether or not something is deemed worthy of printing.

16. Send articles to the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513-0159.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Sit down and think for a few minutes about your church. What activities do you think others would like to know about? Use the space below to write your church and its activities. See preparation details. When writing, remember to relate the who, what, where, and when.

06/23/07



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*...from every nation, tribe, people
and language...*



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

March 1994



EVERYONE LOVES A PARTY!

Birthdays. Weddings. Anniversaries. Promotions. We're always ready to gather our family and friends together to celebrate the joyful events of our lives, just as Jesus did.

Jesus went to parties. He hosted picnics. Jesus drew people to Himself through the magnetic warmth of His personality.

Come to the Party...Celebrate Jesus is a party to end all parties! It's a brand new Vacation Bible School program from Standard Publishing.

Celebrate Jesus will draw kids to your VBS like a magnet. It's a way to share the love of Jesus with the kids in your church--your community--as never before, doing something everyone loves. Celebrating!

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Kinston, New Bern, Wilson

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$9.01; two years, \$16.43; four years, \$31.80 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50, and \$30, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday; New Bern and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

Board of Directors: Carroll Hawkins, Chairman; James B. Hardee, Vice Chairman; Gary Burbage, W. S. Burns, Frank Flowers, Ermon Godwin, Jean Marlowe, Mitchell Roller, Ruth Taylor; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

Table of Contents

4

Part I -- From Raleigh to Manila:

The Beginning of the Pilgrimage to

Free Will Baptist Mission Sites

8

Happenings Throughout the Church

25

On the Move with the Layman's League

26

Notes and Quotes

27

Sunday School Charms

PART I
FROM RALEIGH TO MANILA:
THE BEGINNING OF THE PILGRIMAGE TO
FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION SITES

Dr. Pepper Worthington

Writer-in-Resident

Mount Olive College

Editor's Note: In January, Dr. Pepper Worthington and five others joined Harold and Sandra Jones for a tour of some of the Original Free Will Baptist foreign mission sites in the Philippines, India, and Nepal. For the next several months, we will highlight a portion of the trip as recorded through the camera and words of Dr. Pepper. We appreciate her willingness to share these memories with us and only regret that they are not our own personal memories (Janie Jones Sowers).

Harold and Sandra Jones were brave if not intrepid to gather under their missionary wings six fledglings: Delbert and Lib Scott, Paul Anderson, Mike Scott, Alma Dale, and me, for a pilgrimage through the mission fields in both the Philippines and India. Already in the Philippines, Harold and Sandra figured the six of us could follow the plane flights into Manila by ourselves, meet them on time, and begin to explore what Free Will Baptists are doing as a denomination in foreign missions.

Alas! We six eastern North Carolina baby birds managed to fly from Raleigh-Durham to Phoenix to Los Angeles without much ado. In L.A., we boarded Cathay Pacific Airways to head for Hong Kong in order to catch our flight to Manila. To our amazement and the Joneses' inconvenience, we missed the connection in Hong Kong. The six of us found ourselves as high as 39,000 feet with a head wind that passed 170 m.p.h. Cathay Pacific Airways had a computerized map that constantly showed us *where* we were (the plane's position highlighted over the Pacific Ocean), how *light* we were, what the *head wind* was, how *cold* it was outside. Outside temperatures varied, got as low as



Six eastern North Carolinians who support the Free Will Baptist Board of Foreign Missions program prepared for departure from Los Angeles to Manila. From left to right, bottom to top: Alma Dale, Mike Scott, Pepper Worthington, Lib Scott, Paul Anderson, Delbert Scott.

minus 50 degrees F. Because the head wind was fierce, our pilot told us that we would have to land in Taipei to refuel. This delay caused havos for us, because we missed our connecting flight to Manila. Harold and Sandra had no idea where we were, because information is not relayed as a civilized convenience at the edges of the Far East. Using his wits, however, Harold called a number in the States and found out that Cathay Pacific Airways had put the six of us up in Hong Kong and that our flight to Manila would follow the next morning. He and Sandra shuffled

rooms in Manila and waited for us as parents birds flutterings about in a world outside the familiar nest. Indeed, the Far East is far away from the West.

Meanwhile, we six fledglings slept in 5-star delight at the Regal Airport Hotel. We had flown 3,000 miles to reach L.A., then 7,243 miles to Hong Kong, a total of approximately 10,243 miles. The Cathay Pacific Airways Boeing 747 seated 376 people.

HONG KONG

The evening and morning in Hong Kong became an early adventure for the six of us. We grew interested



Jones embraced us--the wings of aeronautical genius locked with the wings of adventure and love.

We were blessed. We had safely flown halfway around the world. The Free Will Baptist missions field in Palawan lay ahead like the dawn when we awake and the light of love is in us.

Landing in Manila, we packed into a van. The road was filled with the famous "jeepney," a vehicle Delbert Scott kept "wowing." He loved these old World War II jeeps that had been customized by shrewd Filipinos who dolled them up, named them. The jeepney could seat 10 to 12 people.

"You'll never see two alike," declared Delbert (whom I fumblingly called Gilbert for three days).

Our driver jerked us about over crowded Manila roads. He was going to show us the "people's Manila" on the Pasay River. Suddenly, the jeepney veered toward narrow, winding streets that blasted pollution, people, and poverty. Children ran up to the van, smiled at us, volunteered for their pictures to be taken. Zigzagging the Pasay River were tricycles (a motorcycle with a side car seat).



PASAY CITY

Manila's Pasay City seemed to be busting out all over not with June sunshine but people and more people. Clothes hung everywhere; debris blew in the hot wind; the smell of urine soaked the crowded streets. Over 10 million people live in Manila and more than a million and a half babies yearly enter this country of seething growth. Our driver, Lito Casihan, was a whiz as he scraped through traffic, sped through narrow streets along the Pasay River, shifted in and out of six lines of traffic.

in Hong Kong which was ceded by China to Britain in 1841. As late as 1860, the Kowloon Peninsula up to Boundary Street was ceded by China to Britain as a perpetual lease. However, the New Territories were leased from China in 1898 for 99 years. This area from Boundary Street North up to the Shenzhen River, along with many outlying islands (Hong Kong is made up of more than 200 islands and islets) will return to China at midnight on June 30, 1997.

Hong Kong's three-tier political structure was set up by Britain and includes a legislative council, municipal councils, and district boards. In 1997, all of these will be disbanded by the National People's Congress (NPC) of China. Will China's take-over of Hong Kong change Hong Kong?

History awaits.

MANILA

Likewise, our flight to Manila via Cathay Pacific took us 37,000 feet high over 700 miles of the South China Sea to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila. We baby birds had flown almost 11,000 miles to reach the Philippines where tired Harold and Sandra

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Top left: The six fledglings flew Cathay Pacific Airways from Los Angeles to Hong Kong. Bottom Left: One of the wonders of the world is the jeepney, a restored and revitalized World War II jeep used in the Philippines. Right: Pasay City in Manila is the poverty area of the city.

"The jeepney driver is one of the wonders of the world," said Harold Jones.

As we left Pasay City along the Pasay River, I felt language could never evoke what we saw. People lived in dire poverty, their homes as vulnerable to collapse as their lives. Children roamed the narrow edges of the River with mother not far behind. The people's eyes looked at us, wondered at us, just as we looked back, each of us caught in the environment of our birth. We saw from the eyes of a westerner; they saw from the eyes of Pasay City.

The needs of Manila screamed in silence, stench, and stone.



MANILA AMERICAN CEMETERY

We left Pasay City to visit the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial at Fort Bonifacio (formerly Fort McKinley) in the province of Rizal. Lib Scott hoped to find the grave of her mother's brother, Norwood Gwatney, who was one of the founders of what is now the Philippine Airlines. In World War II, he was in the Army Air Corps, but he did not die in the war.

Lito flew us jeepney-style to the cemetery which is about six miles southeast of the center of Manila. The cemetery site covers 152 acres and is reported to be the largest cemetery in graves and in noting those Missing-in-Action (their names are recorded upon the walls of the Memorial and give the same moving experience as the names recorded upon the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC).

Approximately 17,206 are buried here, most of these lives lost in the epic defense of the Philippines and the East Indies in 1941 and 1942. Some 36,279 names of the missing appear on the walls.

Delbert and Lib Scott asked the guard to bring out the list of the dead and grave numbers to see if they could locate Norwood Gwatney's place in the burial ground.

No luck.

He was not buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial.

We left the sweep of white crosses, walls of carved names, and dramatic map rooms in silence.

We faced the past with its unspeakable death count, the present with its assault of poverty, and the journey to Manila already had accomplished something language could not speak.

A UNIVERSE OF MANY FACES

Clothes crinkled in the afternoon sun
in Pasay City, place of floating children
locked in slum space
by birth.
We pray to God for sunlight
that streaks through dirt
to show the sparkle of selves
linked to the Spirit of the universe,
God called Yahweh
or agape
no matter--words fail
to catch the whiff of wind
on a packed river's edge
where boats, people, plates, and clothes
cover the face of day
making the night come too soon.

Behind the slums of Manila
lay faces,
many faces staring at the whites
who flew across time changes
then imagined
only to find time stand still
at Pasay City--Manila's dark shadow
hidden at the edge of waste water.

Where is God in a universe of faces
flushed from labor, poverty, debris?
Suddenly laughter sliced time
as Filipino children scampered
across the narrow roads
to look at newness--
a moment but another chance

to be
in a universe of many faces.

More than ten million people poured
into streets stuffed with jeepneys,
buildings lined with machines,
shops beckoning sales,
markets puffed with produce,
monorails thick with passengers,
Manila but a reminder
of modernity in a land
of pristine islands
covered with Nipa huts,
banana trees,
mangoes,
ox-driven carts,
rice fields,
handmade fishing boats that glide
through the South China Sea
like large-winged herons cutting air.

Where is God in a universe of islands
linked by name--Philippines--
but separate in soul?
Manila to Palawan as far away
as ice to Jamaica.

Palawan hung left of Manila
its greenness bathed in sunlight
as Filipino eyes welcomed missionaries
come to speak the magic
of faith and prayer
to a hungry people
alive, bright, warm
from the experience
of a new bread of life
in Christ.

Pepper Worthington

IS THE CHURCH COSTING TOO MUCH?

by Greg Harper



Last Sunday, another golfer sank the last putt on the 18th green and received a check for \$50,000 for four rounds of golf, plus an automobile for himself and one for his wife. This week, the papers reported that a certain popular singer will receive in excess of \$100,000 per week for her current singing engagement. Americans spend more on dog food annually than on church contributions. It is not unusual for an individual to pay more for his country club membership than he gives to the church. Is church costing too much?

Let me share an experience with you. One June 2, 1940, a little girl was born to us. She cost us money from the moment she was born. As she grew from babyhood to girlhood, she cost us even more...her dresses and shoes were expensive and we had to have the doctor through all those childhood diseases. She was even more expensive during her school and teen years. She needed long dresses to go to parties. When she went away to college, we discovered, along with other parents, that all college expenses are not listed in the catalogue. Then after graduation, she fell in love and married. She was married in a church wedding and that, too, cost a lot of money.

Then, five months after her marriage, she suddenly became sick and within a week she was dead. She has not cost us a penny since the day we walked away from her grave.

As long as the church is alive, she will cost money; and the more alive a church is, the more money she will cost. Only a dead church, like a dead child, is no longer expensive!

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

WESTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet with Sherron Acres Church, Durham, on April 6. The theme of the Convention will be "Wholehearted Obedience"; Deuteronomy 26:16 will serve as the theme Scripture.

The planned program is as follows:

- 9:15--Registration
9:45--Hymn, "Trust and Obey"
--Devotions, Linda Chambers
--Welcome, Linda Chambers
--President's Remarks, Jean Marlowe
10:15--Hymn, "In the Service of the King"
--Special Music, Local Auxiliary
--Obedience in Missions, Mattie Braswell
--Obedience in Benevolence, Agnes Corbitt
11:00--Hymn, "Take My Life and Let It Be"
--Convention Offering
--Special Music, Local Auxiliary
--Message, Jean Bunn, Marsh Swamp
12:00--Lunch
1:00--Hymn, "He Leadeth Me"
--Devotion and Memorial Service, Roselene Bass
--News from Cragmont
--Business Session
--Closing Hymn

RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne Riley will be the guest speaker at the Albemarle Sunday School Convention Spring Workshop. Shiloh Church will host the event on March 18. The workshop is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

SPRING REVIVAL SCHEDULED

Roberts Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, has scheduled a series of revival services March 7-11. The Rev. Earl Glenn will be the evangelist. Special music will be featured each night.

The Rev. Fred Baker is the pastor of Roberts Grove Church.

SERVICES SCHEDULED AT MARLBORO

Revival services have been scheduled March 6-9 at Marlboro Church, Farmville, NC. The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, pastor of First Church, Greenville, will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be featured

each evening and a nursery will be available.

A native of Farmville, Mr. Hobgood is treasurer of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He is a past moderator of the Central Conference and is quite active in both local, conference, and Convention work.

The service will begin on Sunday evening at 7; the remainder of the services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Marlboro Church is located on Highway 264-A, east of Farmville.

The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor, and the church congregation cordially invite everyone to join them in these services.

CAMP VANDEMERE REVIVAL PLANNED

Memorial Church, located on the Gray Road in Chocowinity, has scheduled a Camp Vandemere Revival March 21-25. There will be a different speaker and a different group to sing each night.

The following ministers have been tentatively scheduled to speak: Monday, Grady Simpson; Tuesday, Joel Cannon; Wednesday, Timothy Webber; Thursday, T. O. Terry; Friday, Robert Burke.

Services will begin each night at 7:45 and all proceeds from the revival will go to Camp Vandemere. This is the time of the year that income comes in every slowly for Camp Vandemere and the congregation felt this effort would prove beneficial. All surrounding churches are encouraged to support this revival in every way possible; it is also requested that prayers be offered for the salvation of souls during this time.

ATTENTION, NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1994 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 12, at Lee's Chapel Church, located on Route 5, Dunn, NC. Each Auxiliary should represent with one delegate for every 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of \$15. Many auxiliaries mail their registration fee in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegate the trouble of handling the money and allows the State Treasurer to prepare the cards in advance.

Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, to the following address:

Mrs. Nadine Crocker
568 House Road
Kenly, NC 27542

If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the Convention needs your support. It is hoped, however, that all Auxiliaries will represent in person.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH NEWS

During the Cape Fear Youth Rallies in January and February, Talent Competitions were held. The Cherubs competition took place on January 8, when the Rally met at St. Mary's Grove. The winners were: First place, Saint Mary's Grove Cherubs; second place, Andrew Parker, Bethel Church; third place, Shelby and Jonathan Tyler, Lanwood Springs.

The AFC and YFA competitions were held on February 5 at Lee's Chapel Church. Winning the AFC competition were: First place, Beth Lancaster, Lanwood Spring; second place, Alan Parnell, Bethel Church; third place, Leann Markison, Genesis. YFA winners were: First place, Carla McLamb, Shady Grove Church; second place, Lee Honeycutt, Robert's Grove; third place, Sarah Parker, Bethel Church.

These young people are congratulated for a job well done! They will represent the Conference at the State Youth Convention in May.

AUXILIARIES: DUES ARE DUE

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your District Treasurer before, or in time for, your District Convention. The dues are \$.40 per member per year.

Send these dues to your District Treasurer. She will keep \$.20 and send \$.20 to your State Treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your Convention. Thank you for your past cooperation; we know that we can continue to count on you.

Your State Treasurer,
Nadine Crocker

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. David DeHart is available for interim and supply work. He can be contacted by writing to him at: 11860 Highway

42-East, Kenly, NC 27542; or by phoning (919) 284-3724.

THANK YOU

Mrs. Rose Bowen, widow of the Rev. C. F. Bowen, has been critically ill. Having bronchial pneumonia, she was given an antibiotic to which she reacted. Still very sick, she was given another antibiotic before the first one cleared her body. This medication caused a terrible reaction. She was taken back to the doctor, and then rushed to the emergency room and administered drugs to counter those already prescribed. While the doctors feared a cardiac arrest, Mrs. Bowen survived the trauma and continues to strengthen.

Because of her health problems, she was unable to write all of her thank you notes; she does wish, however, to express her heart-felt appreciation to all who remembered her during the holidays and in her sickness.

ST. PAUL CELEBRATES

On January 16, 1994, St. Paul Church in Elizabeth City celebrated a long-awaited day. The members of the church dedicated their new porch and handicap ramp in honor of a very special lady, Mrs. Corinthia Owens. The day was even more special because it was Mrs. Owens' 96th birthday. The men and women of the church have worked very hard to see this dream become a reality. It was built with many people in mind; but there was one special person in mind, Mrs. Owens.



During the morning worship hour, the Rev. Johnny Sexton, interim pastor, presented Mrs. Owens with a plaque that read, "St. Paul Original Free Will Baptist Church proudly dedicates our porch and handicap ramp in honor of Mrs. Corinthia Owens January 16, 1994."

After the worship service, Mrs. Owens was honored with a dinner and a birthday party. The congregation of the church continues to wish Mrs. Owens a happy birthday, for truly her dedication to the Lord and to St. Paul Church speaks a sermon without words.

It was truly a day of celebration!

REVIVAL SERVICES AT WESTSIDE

Revival services have been scheduled at Westside Church, Kinston, March 20-24. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of Marlboro Church, Farmville, will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin Sunday evening at 7 and at 7:30 the remainder of the series.

The Rev. Jeff Daughtry, pastor of Westside Church, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to join them for these services.

EASTER PRODUCTION SCHEDULED

"The Choice," a dramatic musical for Easter, will be performed at Marlboro Church, Farmville, on April 1-3.

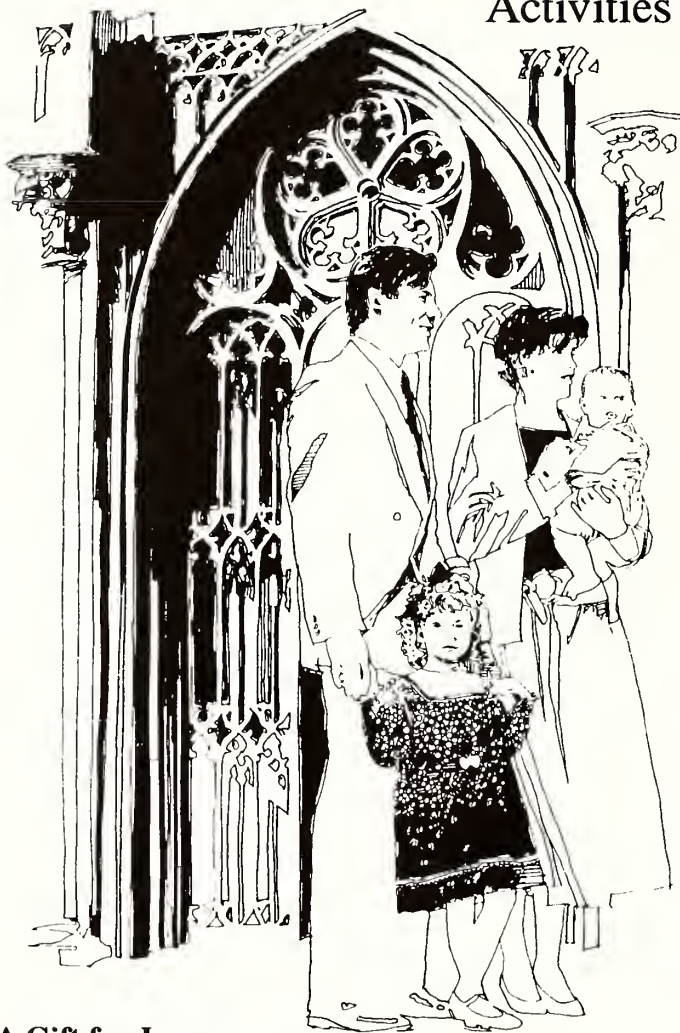
During the rule of Tiberius Caesar, in the seaside city of Capernaum, a young Roman centurion, Marcus, falls in love with a beautiful Jewish girl, Hannah. She is a follower of Jesus, the radical teacher from Nazareth. As Marcus becomes fatefully intertwined in the tumultuous events leading to the execution of Jesus, he weighs the words and example of Christ against the wealth and power of the world. In the balance hangs...*The Choice*.

The Friday and Saturday evening productions will begin at 7:30. The Easter morning service will begin at 10:45. For more information about the production or to reserve tickets for the Friday or Saturday performance, call (919) 753-2185. (Tickets are available at no charge but will be necessary because of seating restrictions.)



FAMILY IDEAS

Activities for Everyone



A Gift for Jesus

During the Easter season, talk with your family about giving something to Jesus at this time when we are thinking about how He gave His life for us. What special gift does each family member have? It may be to write a song or poem, give some extra time to a job that needs to be done in the church, sing with the choir.

After talking about it, have each person make a card to Jesus and express what that gift will be. At a dinner (Good Friday or Easter would be good), share the card with the rest of the family and give them a chance to tell how giving the gift affected them and others.

Litter Hunt!

Spring is an especially good time to do this activity because the evenings are lighter--the sidewalks, streets, and alleys are revealing winter's collection of trash, litter, and clogged sewer drains.

Take family responsibility for your neighborhood by having a Litter Hunt one evening after supper. Give each family member a grocery bag and say there's an ice cream cone waiting for each

person who fills it up (little ones may need to team up with Mom or Dad). If a full bag isn't a reasonable expectation, give a time limit when the bags will be collected and placed ceremoniously in your garbage or recycling bins, and ice cream enjoyed by all.

You could also invite other families on your block to join in! It's a fun way to take mutual responsibility for your immediate neighborhood, or even a nearby park. Invite everyone to return to your house at a set time for ice cream cones, or popcorn and lemonade.

The Message of Victory

During the Easter month, pick a passage of Scripture (more than just a single verse) to memorize together as a family. Choose a joyous, victorious passage that gives some practical examples of how Christ should be alive and conquering our lives. (Consider 1 Corinthians 15:12-19; Colossians 3:12-17; Romans 15:17; Philippians 3:8-14; or Ephesians 3:14-21 as possible passages, or check the memory work your children will be doing in Sunday School for further ideas.)

Illustrate the verses with a poster; have different family members learn various portions of the passage, then put it together with each person saying his part; make a crossword puzzle or other word puzzle with the passage; put a tune to it and sing it; or any other creative method you can devise.

Team Project

Find a project that needs doing in your church. Pick one in which your whole family can participate. Repairing and replacing nursery toys and furnishings, painting a Sunday School room, planting flower beds, washing windows, earning money for a missionary, or getting together a "care package" for a needy family would all be possibilities.

In doing the project, point out to your children how you are functioning as a team and how you can be part of the total church team. Perhaps you can share with other families and encourage them to pick a project of their own. Help your children see the church as a team of small functioning teams.

Excerpted from *Storehouse of Family-Time Ideas* by Dave and Neta Jackson, published by David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 North Grove Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120. David and Neta are free-lance writers and the parents of two children who live in Evanston, Illinois.

ATTAINMENTS REACHED IN 1993

Prince of Peace Church, Piedras Negras, Mexico

by Antonio Escobar

The Rev. Jose Angel Moncada is one of our pastors that works in one of our neighborhoods here in Piedras Negras. A few years ago, he preached and held worship services in the homes of the believers. He kept looking to the day when he would be able to raise up a church building. He and his congregation bought a piece of property and began to build a church. It was completed in November 1993. There are some things yet to do, but the majority of the building is finished. It is a time of rejoicing and a time of victory.



JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE IN BICOL, PHILIPPINES

by Elmer Garcellano

In November 1993, the Nabua Free Will Baptist Church had a joint worship service with Bato and Pagatpatan. The speaker at this meeting was the Rev. Pio dela Rosa, administrator of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines. His topic was "The Power of Prayer" and was very encouraging to those in attendance. The three churches join together for worship the last week of each month. Their objective is to strengthen and encourage one another.

The trip to the Bicol region by Mr. dela Rosa, and his companions, the Rev. Dario Basingil, missions director, and the Rev. Joel dela Rosa, board trustee, was to survey the work and offer encouragement to the workers in the area. The Bicol region of the Philippines is often struck by typhoons which cause severe damage to homes, businesses, and farm land. There were terrible floods during December. One dam in the region had to be destroyed because it became too weak to hold back the flood waters. The loss of the dam will affect the whole province.

Please remember to pray for these congregations. They need the uplift of our prayers as they push the church forward in the Bicol.



Pictures: The top two scenes are from the work in Piedras Negras. The bottom picture is of a joint worship service held in the Bicol region.

NOTICE!
Plan Now to Attend the
ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE
AND RALLY

Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions

MARCH 11, 1994

Place: Stoney Creek FWB Church
Highway 111, four miles north of Goldsboro
6 miles from Highway 222 South.

Time: 3:00 P.M. Opening Session
4:00 P.M. Second Session
5:00 P.M. Meal Break
7:30 P.M. Mission Rally



Speaker: Dr. H. Eddie Fox

Dr. Fox is the World Director of Evangelism for the World Methodist Council. He is responsible for leading 15 regional secretaries of world evangelism in developing indigenous evangelism on every continent. When Dr. Billy Graham learned of Dr. Fox's appointment to the World Methodist Council he said, "I believe God has chosen you for such an hour as this. You will be in my prayers." Dr. Fox pastored for 16 years and is the author of several books. He has lectured and preached in more than 50 countries and throughout the United States of America.

This Conference is a must! You have only one life to live, so take advantage of the things that enrich you spiritually. Special music will be featured in each session.

Attend and bring someone with you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR A GREAT CONFERENCE!



FOREIGN MISSIONS ANNUAL TELETHON SUNDAY

Today is a special day to give
through prayer and financial support
for the advancement of the gospel around the world.

MARCH 27, 1994

THEME: ONE LIFE TO GIVE
THEME SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 16:24-28

GOAL 1994: A total of \$100,000 in gifts on this Sunday.

This goal can easily be reached if every church and individual gives with the same spirit that Christ gave, and continues to give. Pray daily for this goal.

Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. Dial (919) 746-4963. Your generous gift and call on Telethon Sunday are true expressions of life given for His purposes.

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:6-7).

DAY OF PRAYER FOR REVIVAL AND WORLD MISSIONS MARCH 27, 1994

Revival is essential for the church to fulfill its mission.

Revival comes when God's people seek Him with their whole heart,
declaring complete dependence on Him.

Revival and World Missions call for extraordinary prayer.

Let us give ourselves this day to prayer that brings revival and
casts us forth to the ends of the earth for the gospel's sake.

PRAYER GOAL 1994: All churches joining together in united prayer
during the Worship Hour, March 27.

This year -- revival!

This year -- world outreach!

A RARE OPPORTUNITY

by Dr. Bob Harber, director of Ethnic Missions

A rare opportunity occurred on May 15, 1993. This opportunity occurred when the Rev. David Charles Hansley, Original Free Will Baptist Home Missions Director; Pastor Polo Prong Lor, Spokane Lao Evangelical Church pastor; Brother Yao Moua, Spokane Lao Evangelical lay leader; and I crawled into a rented car in Spokane, Washington, for an ethnic home missions journey.

We traveled from Spokane, Washington, across the pan handle of Idaho, by the beautiful lake of Couer D'Alene, with its crystal blue water. The little rented car took us up and over the Bitterroot Mountain Range with its lovely pine trees reaching upward towards the sky. The high mountain peaks were where the green grass was replacing the melting snow making spots of green and white, mingled with brown and read to form a mosaic on the mountain tops. The mosaic was dotted with all colors of mountain flowers. There was the sound of the melting snow water running down as it made little riverlets on its way to the mountain streams and made them sparkle in the early morning sun. We continued our journey into the Big Sky Country of Montana to Missoula, which is nestled in a valley with mountains on all sides and a river which ran through it. Oh! the majesty of God's handiwork! His creation truly declares His glory!

But this was more than a sight-seeing trip. The purpose of our trip was expressed very well by lay leader Yao Moua when he said, "We are going fishing today for the big fish. When we catch the big fish, then we can catch many, many little fishes. You have to get up early to catch the big fishes." He had reference to Jesus' statement: "Come and follow Me, I will make you fishers of men." The term *big fish* refers to the H'mong patriarchal system, where important decisions are made by clan, sub-clan, and family leaders. Before we can start a new Lao Evangelical Church, we must have a clan, or sub-clan, leader involved for it to be successful. When a clan leader decides to



become a Christian, then others of his clan follow him. When a family leader becomes a Christian, his family does too. The followers are the "little fishes" that Yao talked about. We had to leave Spokane at 5 a.m. to arrive in Missoula by 10 a.m., our appointed meeting time with some of the H'mong Christian leaders.

There are over 20 H'mong families in Missoula, somewhere over 200 H'mong people. In this group, there are three elder animistic shaman. These are priests who believe that animals and objects have spirits that have power over our lives. These elder shaman have told them that Jesus was not God's Son; that Christians are evil; and if they, the H'mong, were to become Christians, bad things would happen to them. But, praise God, in spite of this, five of the H'mong families are Christians.

We arrived at our appointed place on time, but the H'mong people had forgotten that this day was graduation day at the University of Montana, located at Missoula. Two of the young H'mong men were graduating with bachelor of science degrees. As a result, we had to wait until about 2 p.m. to meet.

We met in the home of Lue Lee and his family. He appears to be the clan leader in Missoula. He believes in Jesus, has accepted Jesus as his Saviour. As we sat around his dining table, after a H'mong meal, he told us that he believed and would like very much to start a new Lao Evangelical Church in Missoula and lead his people to Jesus. Since his father is one of the shaman, he had promised not to be baptized

until after his father's death. He had promised this because his father had told him that if were to be baptized before his father's death, he would place a curse on the H'mong people of Missoula. Lue believes that he could not be a Christian leader without being baptized. We told Lue that we would respect his decision; however, we would continue to pray for him to be baptized,

so we could start a Lao Evangelical Church in Missoula. We also told him that we would ask you to pray for him. (So, please remember Lue Lee and his family in Missoula, Montana, when you pray.)

As we traveled back to Spokane, much of the four-hour trip was spent in silence. Each person seemed lost in his own thoughts. I don't know what others were thinking; but let me share some of my thoughts with you. They are:

Oh, Lord, please touch Lue Lee's father's life, bring him into the fold; then we can start a new Lao Evangelical Church in Missoula. Or, Lord, if he should die (he is now 83), we could start the LEC in Montana. Oh, no, Lord, I know you love him, too, and want to save him.

Lord, how fortunate I am to have these mind-boggling, life-stretching experiences. It's because you redeemed me, it's because you called me, it's because you sent me forth into this ministry of ethnic missions. It's also because of the Original Free Will Baptist people and the General Baptist people supporting home missions. It's also because of the lady left behind, Dollie, my wife, who stays home and makes the living and keeps the home fire burning while I am away.

Thank you, Lord, for this rare opportunity of an ethnic mission journey and for all of those people who made it possible.

It will not be long before we shall travel to Montana again to follow-up our visit, praying that God will help us to touch lives for a lifetime and provide a Lao Evangelical Church for the H'mong people.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

APRIL
HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM
MONTH



- Our Assignment:** Begins as we open doors to Touch Lives for a Lifetime: "Missions at our Doorsteps"
- Our Stewardship:** That all people will have the opportunity to hear the Word of the Lord.
- Our Challenge:** To galvanize the members of our churches into an expansion which will mean 20 or more new mission churches within the next seven years.

SUNDAY
APRIL 24, 1994

Home Missions and Evangelism Sunday

Every church is asked to:

- 1) Remember this ministry with a special altar prayer.
- 2) Recruit Harvest Helpers.
- 3) Receive a love offering.

REMEMBER: Your prayer and financial support are essential if we are to keep our commitment to:

Touch Lives for a Lifetime

CAMP VANDEMERE

by the Rev. Owen Arthur

I remember the first camp that took place at Camp Vandemere. My wife Pat and I helped that week. I don't remember how many boys and girls we had, but I do remember the fun and enjoyment that the campers experienced.

Each evening after supper, we would go down to the water and have a worship service. The only building on the property was the old house, which is still there. It was hot weather and the open-air services were much more pleasing than being in a small room inside. We would sing some choruses, then I would have a message for the boys and girls as they sat and listened. At the close of the service, we would have an invitation and some of the campers would come forward and accept Christ. This was always the highlight of the evening. At the end of the week, we would have a baptismal service for those who were saved during the week. This was a real joy to see the enthusiasm and joy on the faces of these boys and girls. This enthusiasm and joy were not coming from the idea of getting in the water, but from the knowledge that Jesus had come to live in their hearts.

This was the beginning of Camp Vandemere. After that year, we had two large tents which were used for sleeping. This was better, but was a long way from the facility the Camp now enjoys. That year it rained and then it rained some more, but that did not dampen the Spirit of the Lord from working in the hearts and lives of these children.

Another year or so, we had the dining hall, which also served as a worship center. We even had a piano in there; before this, my wife would take her accordion and use it for our music. The boys and girls loved to sing and many would give testimonies. They would listen to the message and respond to the invitation. Many young boys and girls were saved during camp.

One year, we had a baptism service, with the threat of a hurricane coming. I worked during the day on my job in New Bern and would drive down at night and help my wife, who was doing all the work. On Friday evening as I was driving into camp, the boys and girls met me and asked if we could still have the baptismal service --even though it was still raining. This reminds me of the song, "Isn't He Wonderful?" These boys and girls had found Jesus

that week and felt that He was truly wonderful.

My wife and I have not been involved in camp for several years, but the Camp is still very active. It has made a lot of progress since those days when we used tents. Last year, the Camp celebrated twenty-five years of service and the indebtedness was paid off. The Board saw the need to step out on faith and do some more things to help improve the Camp. A much-needed recreational building was erected so the children would have a place to play even if it rained. Then they decided to build some apartments so that adults could have a good place to stay while enjoying the quiet relaxing atmosphere of the Camp. All this has cost money and cannot be continued without your prayers and sacrificial giving.

I often wonder what has happened to those boys and girls who attended camp in those early years. I wonder if some of them help the Camp by praying and encouraging their churches to support it.

It amazes me how much the Lord can do with young minds when you send them to camp. They get away from everything and are able to concentrate on what the Lord wants them to do. Many of them, at this time, are saved and their lives are fuller and richer--and our churches are blessed--because you parents saw the opportunity to let the Lord use your children. There is no doubt but that some of our church leaders have found Christ during a week at camp.

Won't you help us make this year the most successful year of Camp Vandemere by sending us your children, continually praying for us, and by giving your financial support? Help us put into action Proverbs 11:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

NOTES AND QUOTES FROM FOC DAY

by Tina Allen

As I think back and recall our Friends of Children Appreciation Day, I can't help but be proud of those who care so much about our children. The staff and children at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home would like to express how much it meant to us to have such a large number in attendance--over 400! As our children glanced around that day at the many visitors, I'm sure it gave them a feeling of comfort mixed with joy to know that so many cared



Friends of Children Appreciation Day, 1993.

for them and took the time to visit the campus.

As the day went along, I talked with participants in the Program and here are some of their remarks:

"Being a member in the FOC program gives me a sense of pride in knowing that for such a small amount, I can do so much for a child's life."

"It's a great opportunity that gives me a chance to reach out and help less fortunate children."

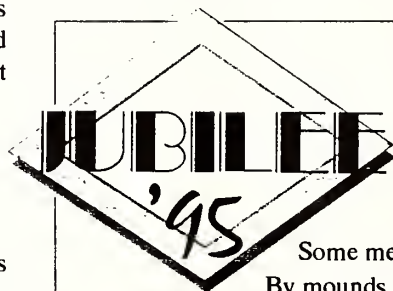
"As I toured the grounds today and saw the children, it is evident where my money is going."

"It makes me feel good to know that I have contributed to help meet the financial needs of the Home."

"The program is a systematic way of supporting one of our most important ministries that helps children with a spiritual emphasis."

Even though this day is set aside each year to honor those who participate in our Friends of Children Program, we always invite those who do not. We would like to invite you to be a part of a child's life--one who deserves a chance. There are three levels at which you can participate and there are other benefits to being in the Program. If you would like to join the team and help to make success possible in a child's life, we invite you to do so.

For more information, contact the Children's Home by phoning (919) 235-2161.



"The End Is Near..."

Some measure success by money or fame
By mounds of possessions, by a reputable name
But we measure success by how much we give
By the people we reach, by the way that we live
Some live their lives in seasons of fear
But we live in hope: for the End Is Near...
Come September '95 we celebrate Jubilee!
Our debt will be ended and Cragmont will be free.

--De

Number of Pledges: 241.5; Revenue Received: \$183,837.24

“ 'Tis the Season to SKI!!! ”

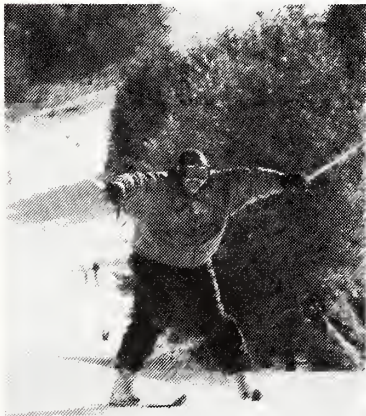


A ski group from Clayton poses in front of a chair-lift at Wolf Laurel.

Cragmont was definitely the place to be this fall and winter! With the close of the summer, Cragmont saw some of the most beautiful fall colors in years. And with the wave of arctic air from the north, we also had some of the best skiing we could ask for.

Groups coming to Cragmont were able to fellowship as well as learn to ski some of North Carolina's most beautiful country.

A Sunday morning worship service was the usual end to a fantastic weekend.



Left: David Ealy; center: a group from First Church, Wilson; right: John Williams.

CRAGMONT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE FOR 1994

KINFOLK

(Family Week Retreat)

April 3-7

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28611

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

AFC Week

July 4-9

Doug Skinner
817 Lynn Road
Durham, NC 27703

FALL LIMITED EDITION

October 17-20

CRAGMONT CLUB II

October 21-23

MORNING STAR

April 8-10

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

GENERAL YOUTH II CONFERENCE

July 11-16

Chris Singleton
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

CHRISTMAS LIMITED EDITION

December 1-4

(For the Above Five Contact:)
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE

June 8-11

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

GENERAL YOUTH I CONFERENCE

July 18-23

Bryant Hines
Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

June 13-16

Philip Boykin
Route 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

July 25-30

Donald Mason
Box 672
Newport, NC 28570

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE

June 20-25

Gary Bailey
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE

August 1-6

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

YFA Week

June 27--July 2

Scott and Janie Sowers
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

BRANSON LIMITED EDITION

September 22-28

CRAGMONT CLUB I

October 14-16



It's easy to become a Lifetime Cragmont Club member! For just \$1,500--which can be paid over 3 years--you can become a Club member for life! Not only do you get to enjoy the benefits of membership, but you can have the satisfaction of investing in Cragmont's future. Just fill out the form below and mail it to:

Lifetime Club
c/o Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Lifetime Club Application

Name _____
Address _____

City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Church _____

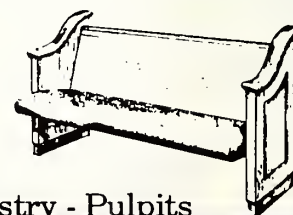
Helping Churches Grow...

Gabriel Church Services

1-800-935-PEWS (7397)

New / Used Pews - Steeples - Windows - Cushions - Robes - Baptistry - Pulpits

Complete Upholstery Services



We Specialize in Church Carpets - Mill Prices!

Cragmont Assembly presents

Kinfolk

a family conference

What's Kinfolk?

Kinfolk is a conference designed for the family. It will include lectures, discussion groups, and free time. We have even planned activities for the very young so that the adults will be free to participate in the lectures and discussion groups. With this conference, we hope to offer information, help, and encouragement for the problems confronting families today.

What Are the Dates?

April 3-7, 1994. We plan to have you arrive Sunday, April 3, 1994, by 8 p.m. and to begin our program at 8:30 p.m. Each morning (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), we will have our lectures and discussions. Following lunch, you are on your own to shop, sight see, and/or study as you like. Each evening, we will have a devotional activity. Thursday, following breakfast, the conference will end.

What Is the Cost?

The cost is \$65 per person. Children 5 years old and younger may attend free of charge. If you are interested, please fill out this form and return it with a \$25 family registration fee (non-returnable). Send everything to:

"Kinfolk"
c/o Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

For more information, please call (704) 669-7677
or FAX to (704) 669-1463

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONES: (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Number in Family Attending Conference _____ Children's Ages _____

JUNE AND AUGUST WOMEN'S TRIPS

Tuesday: Black Mountain Shopping Trip, \$2.50

Wednesday: Asheville/Farmer's Market, \$2.50

Thursday: Mountain Images of Christ, \$45.00

Mountain Images of Christ

A Bible tour of the mountains is planned for the 1994 summer camp weeks for the women. The trip will begin at 10 a.m. and will provide beautiful scenery that will be interwoven with devotions related to key events in Christ's life. Among our stops will be Lake Junaluska and the Natchala Gorge.

The trip will conclude on the lighter side in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, with some shopping time and tickets to a musical show starring Ava Barber and Dick Dale, former members of the Lawrence Welk Show.

1994 Youth Frontier Conferences

Cragmont Assembly

YFA Week

June 27-July 2

Scott and Janie Sowers

Route 1, Box 106-B

Farmville, NC 27828

AFC Week

July 4-9

Doug Skinner

817 Lynn Road

Durham, NC 27703

See next month's issue of

The Free Will Baptist

for more details about these conferences.

You can also contact the directors for more information.

REGISTER FOR CAMP

NOW...

There's No Need to Wait!

MORNING STAR Woman's Auxiliary Retreat

Cragmont Assembly

April 8-10

Dianne B. Riley, speaker

Send \$10 registration to:

Teresa Ball

Route 1, Box 96-B

Grifton, NC 28530

Balance due upon arrival

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY SUMMER WEEKS

Cragmont Assembly

June 6-11

Cynthia Craft, speaker

August 1-6

Willem and Lydia van der Plas,
speakers

Total Cost: \$120

Send \$20 registration fee to:

Teresa Ball

Route 1, Box 96-B

Grifton, NC 28530

If you have questions, contact:

Donna Holland

Route 2, Box 246

Fremont, NC 27830

BRANSON LIMITED

Cragmont is offering an exciting trip in September 1994 to Branson, Missouri. The price includes cost by motor coach, six nights lodging (one in Nashville, three in Branson, one in Jackson, TN, and one at Cragmont); two meals at Cragmont; three breakfasts and two dinners while in Branson; lunch in Springfield; four shows in Branson; a visit to the "Fantastic Caverns"; and a trip to the Bass Pro Shop in Springfield. All of this is offered for \$700 per person. This excludes personal spending money and the cost of the meals not designated.

"Branson Limited" will begin on Thursday, September 22, 1994. Transportation to Cragmont will be provided by motor coach, with several stops in eastern North Carolina. Lunch will be served at Cragmont and then we will travel to Nashville for our first night.

Friday, September 23, will be spent traveling to Branson and settling into our motel, giving you an opportunity to see some of the beauty of the central United States.

Saturday, September 24, promises to be fun, beginning with breakfast on the Lake Queen. We will cruise the river and have live entertainment while we eat breakfast. After breakfast, we will go to the Branson Mall for some shopping. While we are there, lunch will be eaten. In the afternoon, we will go to the Mel Tillis Theatre. After the matinee, we will go back to the motel and get ready for dinner at the Apple Mill Restaurant. Then we will head on to "The Shepherd of the Hills," an outdoor drama portraying a great American classic. The "Shepherd" has been filmed by Hollywood four times.

Sunday, September 25, will be another fun-filled day, with breakfast at the Bonanza Restaurant. After we have finished eating, we will have a short devotion while we are all together. There will be free time to do what you want until 11:30 a.m., when we will meet to take a ride on "The Ducks." This is a 70-minute excursion through the heart of the Ozark Mountain Country. The Ducks travel over land and water, making this a unique ride. After this adventure, we will enjoy a matinee at the Andy Williams Moon River Theatre. After the matinee, we will head back to the motel for a little rest before dinner. Dinner will be at the Roy Clark Crystal Hall before traveling to the Shoji Tabuchi Theatre.

On Monday, September 26, we will pack up and leave Branson. After the luggage is on the bus, we will have breakfast at the Dondics Riverboat Restaurant. We will then head north to Springfield and make a couple of stops. The first stop will be at the "Fantastic Caverns." Because the beauty of the Caverns is vulnerable, the Cave is toured in jeep-drawn trams (no walking). After we tour the Cave, we will travel on to the Bass Pro Shop for a visit. While there, we will enjoy lunch together. After lunch, we will head to Jackson, Tennessee, for the night, stopping along the way for dinner.

Tuesday, September 27, we will check out of the motel by 8 a.m. and stop for breakfast on the way out. We will eat lunch and dinner on the way back to Cragmont, where we will spend the night.

"Branson Limited" will come to an end on Wednesday, September 28, 1994. The bus will leave after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space, we will only be able to accept forty people. Reservations will be taken on a first-come first-accepted basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form, along with a \$100 non-returnable deposit* for each person. Payments of \$100 per person are due on January 15, 1994, February 15, 1994, March 15, 1994, May 15, 1994, June 15, 1994; and the final payment on July 15, 1994. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Branson.

If room is available, you may register anytime, but if a payment date has passed, all amounts up to that date will have to be paid.

If you are interested in taking this trip, please register. Sometimes we hear people say that they are waiting to find out if we get enough people before they will send in their registration. Please don't fear for your deposit. If you register and we do not get enough people to do the tour, please rest assured we will return your check as soon as the decision is made. Also, many people hesitate to register because they fear the tour is already full. Once again, please be assured that if you send in a deposit and we have reached the maximum number for the trip, we will return your check promptly.

Come join us for this special get-away. All arrangements are made by Cragmont, freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*We will need to have 30 people to sign up by May 15, 1994, or the trip will be canceled and all money will be refunded.

Mail to "Branson Limited," Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: Day _____ Night _____
Church _____

If you have a roommate preference, please list name here:

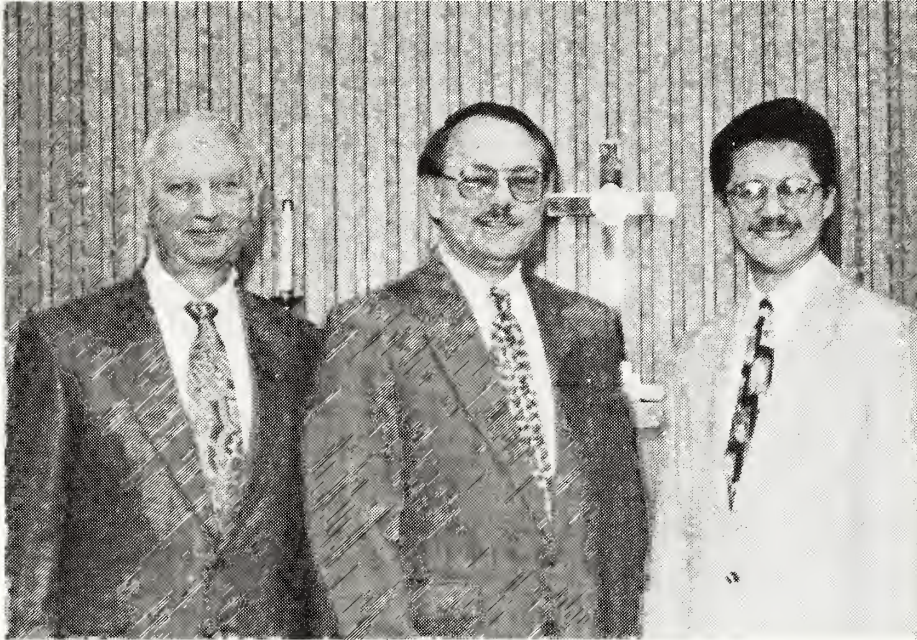
Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of such as: heart condition ___ diabetes ___ hypoglycemia ___ trouble with stairs ___ other ___

Preferred Bus Stop (La Grange will not be the busline we will be using so no La Grange Bus Lot stop will be made. We will be coming as straight up Highway 70 as possible.)

Non-refundable deposit: \$100 _____ (Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.)

STUDENT CALLED TO MINISTRY BY "PEACEFULNESS," FAMILY TRADITION

by Cecil Cahoon II, MOC Public Information Director



Left: The Revs. Frank Ray Harrison and De Wayne Eakes talk with Stephen after a chapel service.

Some pastors and Christian service workers tell that they found their call to the ministry in epiphanies, visions, quiet voices, or similar, otherwise unexplainable, phenomena.

Stephen Prescott, who answered his call in September, said his came in "a peacefulness. I knew this was what I was supposed to do at this time."

Stephen enrolled in Mount Olive College's church ministries degree program in January, less than two years after graduating with a bachelor's degree in business management.

In the time he spent away from the College campus, Stephen moved back home to Pamlico County and worked in the insurance business. Though his position was in customer service and the pay was good, he said he found the experience "lacking."

"I think there are some individuals like me, raised in the church, who have to go out and see what the world has to offer and from there, make their decisions. That's what I did," Stephen explained. "I went out and saw everything the world had. I found that where I really want to be is in a position to express my faith, and express it to others."

The Rev. T. O. Terry, pastor of Rock of Zion Church in Pamlico County, has known Stephen for nine years. During the last year, Terry said, Stephen became an active part in the church's ministry and services.

"He has worked with me, he took care of the congregational singing, and did a good job with it," Terry explained. "He has

maintained an interest in church work as a whole and he's been very helpful to me in that respect."

Terry played the role of mentor in Stephen's decision to pursue ministerial plans. "He started talking with me in the summer; and in September, he publicly announced his call during our revival.

"In his heart and mind, I think, it was already clear that it's what he believed the Lord wanted him to do," Terry said.

Terry added that after his years of watching Stephen grow in the church, he wasn't surprised at his call to the ministry.

"I knew he had grown up in an atmosphere and culture that would lend itself toward making a young man consider dedicating himself to the service and honor of the Lord. I knew he was brought up in a home where the Lord was honored," Terry said.

That home is one "where God is at the center," Stephen explained. "It includes a strong prayer life and biblical values — especially love."

Stephen's growth in the church was founded in his home and a family tradition of Christian service. His grandfather, Elbert, was a deacon and his grandmother, Rhoda, now in her nineties, is still active in church events. And one of his two sisters, Becky Prescott, is a full-time missionary for New Life Ministries, a non-denominational ministry for youth.

So when Stephen announced his intention to his family, his mother Carol was

elated. "She said she had been waiting for it," he noted.

Another who knows Stephen as an achiever with solid values is David Williams, guidance counselor at Pamlico County High School, where Stephen graduated in 1988.

"Stephen is a fine young man with a good character and leadership abilities. He's a caring person and has always shown concern and an interest in others," Williams said. "In high school, Stephen was an excellent student and a wonderful achiever with good, solid values that were instilled in him by a nurturing family. He is unique."

Once the Eastern Conference Ordination Board approves his license application, Stephen said, he will spend a year working in the supply and associate pastorate before applying for ordination.

"My goals are to speak, pastor, or minister wherever God takes me, be it Pamlico County or anywhere else in the state," he said. His ultimate goal is a full-time pastoral position.

With his varied talents, Mr. Terry said, "He'll be good in working with youth and he'll be an asset to the music department.

"I have hopes that he'll make a good preacher, but any of us, when first starting out, have to be honed and trained," Terry said. "Stephen's getting his training now, and how effective or capable he'll be, time will determine that.

"I expect good things out of Stephen," Terry said.

Williams remembered, as some Free Will Baptists will, that as a child, Stephen sang with his family's singing group, the Prescott Family. "I expect him to be a very successful minister and to have a dynamic ministry," Williams said. "His musical abilities will surely enhance his ministry, and I expect he'll be an inspiration to those whom he serves."

Stephen is also the son of the late E. Matthew Prescott.

JOIN US THIS SPRING!

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH • *THE HONORABLE CAROLYN RUSSELL, GUEST LECTURER*

Monday, March 21 • Rodgers Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

The Honorable Carolyn Russell of Goldsboro is now serving her second term in the North Carolina House of Representatives. She will discuss the changing roles of women in the workplace, home and political arena.

YOUTHQUAKE II: THE AFTERSHOCK

Saturday, April 9 • College Hall, 4:00 p.m.

This youth program will provide workshops for youth and youth leaders beginning at 4 p.m. and concluding with a rally featuring music by "Straight Up."

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE CHOIR • *BURKE RAPER, JR., DIRECTOR*

Tuesday, April 12 • Rodgers Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Spring performance of the Mount Olive College Choir, directed by Burke Raper. Mr. Raper is recognized as an accomplished leader in the area of choral conducting and organ performance.

MOC PRESS PRESENTS *BECAUSE I LOVE YOU* BY *MRS. LEE WITTE*

Thursday, April 14 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 6:00 p.m.

"Witte's poetry, entirely personal, opens her up and shows an essence that is at once pained and relieved, dark and jubilant. And, taken as a whole, is her testimonial to the rejuvenating quality of the human spirit," writes the Mount Olive *Review*. This second collection follows her debut work, *Levora*, published in 1990 by the Mount Olive College Press. Following a reading of her works, the author will be available to autograph copies of the book.

21ST ANNUAL SPRING FLING • MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SINGERS • *IRENE PATTEN, DIRECTOR*

Thursday, April 21 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 8:00 p.m.

"The marvelous Mount Olive College Singers, which are my favorite singing group in the entire state, have taken a message of joy and totally positive affirmation to Free Will Baptists and others throughout this state and several other states," declares Gov. Jim Hunt. Expect to be entertained!

RETIREMENT BANQUET FOR DR. MICHAEL PELT

Saturday, April 23 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 7:00 p.m.

Friends and alumni are invited to this event held in honor of Dr. Pelt, who has served for 37 years as chairman of Mount Olive College's Department of Religion. Cost of the buffet dinner will be \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under age 12. For reservations, contact Dr. K. David Hines.

COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 14 • College Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Commencement is the last formal gathering of the college family's academic year. This year, Mount Olive College expects to graduate the highest number of students in its history.



CHURCH BASKETBALL NIGHT AT MOUNT OLIVE



Groups from area Free Will Baptist churches visited Mount Olive College in February to watch the Trojans and Lady Trojans do basketball battle with the Bulldogs from Barton College in Wilson.

A three-pointer show down and free-throw contest during half-time of the night's games netted Mount Olive College t-shirts for several contest winners. Winners included Daniel Coon of First Church, Smithfield, pictured here (left, bottom) with his pastor, the Rev. Billy Nowell (center), and MOC Admissions Counselor Eric Weeks. Daniel won the three-pointer contest after sinking five baskets in a row from the three-point line. Norman Branch of Lee's Chapel Church, Dunn, pictured here with Eric Weeks, won the free-throw contest, adult division (right, bottom).



Joshua Harrison, left, of New Haven Church, Ernul, and Jamie Ensign, First Church, Smithfield, were t-shirt winners in the boys and girls adult free-throw contest.

Rains Crossroads Church received a certificate during the evening for having the highest number of church members attending the College's annual church basketball night.



ON THE MOVE WITH THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE PROMOTIONAL COMMITTEE

Elmer Harrell
President State Layman's League
94 Central
502 Southeast Third Street
Snow Hill, NC 28580
Phone: 747-2894

John Newton
Chairman
94 Central
500 West Walnut Street
Tarboro, NC 27886
Phone: 823-3049

Paul Beaman
94 Central
Route 1, Box 406
Snow Hill, NC 28560
Phone: 753-4263

Chuck Whitford
94 Albemarle
Route 2, Box 10
Jamesville, NC 27846
Phone: 793-2900

Joseph (Jo) Panichelli
95 Central
Route 1, Box 397-4
Winterville, NC 28590
Phone: 746-3262

Robert Ramsey
95 Eastern
2050 Highway 118
Vanceboro, NC 28586
Phone: 244-0034

Earl Shackelford
95 Central
2605 Main Street
Tarboro, NC 27886
Phone: 823-1344

Rex Wainwright
94 Central
Route 1, Box 130-A
Winterville, NC 28590
Phone: 756-5032

Randy Tyson
94 Central
340 Pitt County Line Road
Grifton, NC 28530
Phone: 524-4863

Robert L. Tripp
95 Eastern
305 Piney Neck Road
Vanceboro, NC 28586
Phone: 244-0222

Gene Boehning
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807 Rembrandt Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28306
Phone: 868-4578

David Manning
95 Central
Route 2, Box 100
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: 746-3428

The Rev. Leon Harris
Layman's League Advisor
95 Central
Route 3, Box 36
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: 746-4320

The Rev. C. H. Overman
Executive Administrator
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: 746-4963

The Rev. C. L. Patrick
Honorary Advisor
Route 1, Box A-22
Snow Hill, NC 28580
Phone: 747-8877

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- March 3 Executive Board of Layman's League, Elmer Harrell's Office (Southeast Third Street, Snow Hill), 7 p.m.
 March 7 Central Conference Layman's League, Friendship Church (near Farmville, off Highway 258); supper, 7 p.m.; business, 7:45 p.m.
 April 7 Layman's League Promotional Committee, Elmer Harrell's Office, 7 p.m.
 April 8-9 Spiritual Life Retreat, Eagles Nest, Mount Olive, NC
 May 5 Executive Board Meeting, Elmer Harrell's Office, 7 p.m.
 May 6 State Layman's Meeting, Harrell's Chapel Church (off Highway 58, near Snow Hill); supper, 7 p.m.; business, 7:45 p.m.
 November State Layman's Meeting, Bethany Church (off Highway 903, near Winterville)

NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator
Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

FUNDS PROVIDED FOR COMPUTER SYSTEM

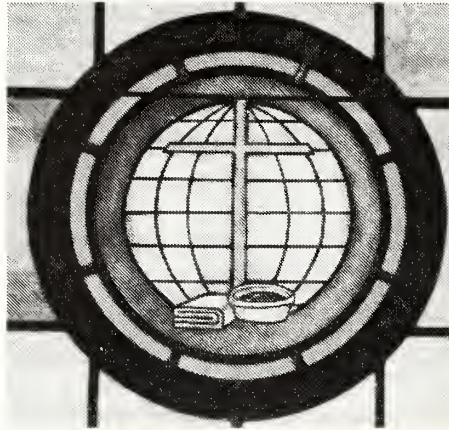
For several months, the Convention's Executive Committee has been considering updating our computer system. The need for such a move was evident; however, there was the matter of available funds. Having launched into the full-time statue only a few months ago, there was some reluctance about moving too fast. We soon learned, however, that there was a possibility that the funds for a new computer would be made available by the Eastern Conference. And sure enough, in its meeting on January 25, 1994, the Eastern Conference Executive Committee voted to allocate the funds. The order was placed the same day and the system was delivered to the Headquarters on Monday, January 31. Ironically, the old system malfunctioned on the day before the funds became available. For several days thereafter, we feared the loss of all stored information.

Since the new computer has been in operation, we have purchased a laser printer which will produce quality, camera-ready copy. This new system, needless to say, has greatly enhanced our capabilities. My personal computer terminology is quite limited, and therefore I cannot adequately describe its technical features. Mrs. Michelle Fordham, who operates and understands computers, can talk the language. If she's uncertain about a process, she figures it out. I am deeply appreciative of her and her work and dedication in our efforts.

I wish to express our deep appreciation to the churches of the Eastern Conference, through their Executive Committee, for the funding of this system. The Lord has moved in the hearts of His people to help supply our needs; and for this, we offer our sincere gratitude.

OUR CONVENTION LOGO

Pictured is one of the beautiful stained-glass windows that can be viewed at Selma Church, Selma, North Carolina. This window is unique in that it contains our Convention logo--the globe, the cross, and the towel and basin. Our logo has become quite familiar to Free Will Baptists; how-



ever, this may be the only one that has been inset in a church window. If there are others, we would like to hear from you.

The pastor of Selma Church is the Rev. Frank Grubbs.

CONVENTION SUPPORT

As stated previously in "Notes and Quotes," we want to thank all the churches that have responded to the challenge of this phase of the Convention's work. In the past two months, several churches have responded in meeting their total challenge. We are hoping and praying that sufficient funds will be coming in between now and mid-summer to carry us through this fiscal year. Soon letters will be sent to our pastors and churches reminding them of the need for increased and continual support. Through this promotional work, we pledge to honor the One who has blessed and redeemed us, and we pledge our loyalty to the Free Will Baptist cause. Soon, you will be hearing about our plans for our denomination.

Every Free Will Baptist will learn about ...

PROJECT SOLUTION

Watch for the ...

Promoter

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

It's celebration time! While we spend so much time welcoming the coming of Spring, why not take time to celebrate the coming of Jesus' influence in our Sunday School? On Saturday, March 5, 1994, at Daniel's Chapel Church, the Sunday School Board will sponsor a grand celebration, The Sunday School Institute. Mrs. Dianne Riley, director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will deliver the keynote address, which will challenge us to seriously look at our church's Christian Education program. Seven workshops on topics relevant to today's society will be conducted by knowledgeable people dedicated to the process of growth in commitment to Jesus Christ. Each workshop will be taught twice in order to give you an opportunity to participate in two discussions. Workshop topics and leaders are as follows:

1. Faithfully Teaching the Word -- The Rev. De Wayne Eakes
2. Discipline in Sunday School -- The Rev. Donald Coates
3. Reaching the Single-Parent Family -- The Rev. Craig Simmons
4. Parenting Skills for Preschoolers -- Mrs. Mary Dudley
5. Ideas for Future Growth -- The Rev. Terry Ellis, Mrs. Sandra Ellis
6. Evangelism in the 90s -- The Rev. David C. Hansley
7. FWB Doctrine as It Relates to the Sunday School Lessons -- The Rev. C. H. Overman

The Institute will begin at 9 a.m. and will conclude at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be on your own. So, fill up your car with people who are interested in Christian nurture. Come and join us on March 5. We guarantee you will come away with information you can share with others, as well as some "treats" for yourself. A nursery will be provided for your convenience.

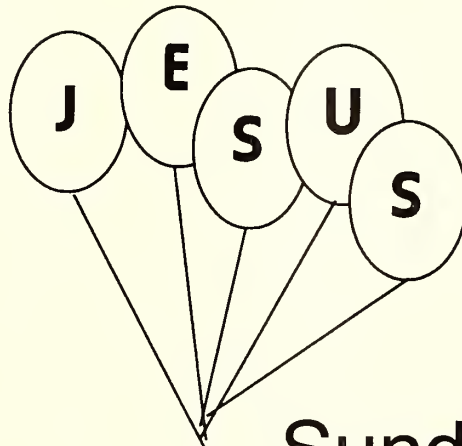
Watch for Coming Announcements of Special Happenings!

March Activities

Near the first day of Spring, gather your entire Sunday School membership, with invited guests, and have a Sunday School party in celebration of Jesus. You could have Bible games, a singspiration, a talent show, as well as other activities to show you are proud to worship a living Christ.

March Bulletin Board

Celebrate



in
Sunday School



When your Church needs
PRINTING, of any kind . . .

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PRINTING DEPARTMENT

We have the equipment, the staff, and the know-how to fill your every printing need. We offer practical printing, carefully planned and produced by skilled technicians. Deliveries are prompt and prices are reasonable.

Free Will Baptist Press



The Free Will Baptist

April 1994

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

April 1994

Vol. 109, No. 4

Edited and published monthly by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 2094-4000).

All materials for consideration in any issue must be in the hands of the editor thirty days prior to the publication date of that issue. Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, *The Free Will Baptist*, P.O. Box 159, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$9.01; two years, \$16.43; four years, \$31.80 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50, and \$30, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday; New Bern and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

Board of Directors: Carroll Hawkins, Chairman; James B. Hardee, Vice Chairman; Gary Burbage, W. S. Burns, Frank Flowers, Ermon Godwin, Jean Marlowe, Mitchell Roller, Ruth Taylor; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

Table of Contents

3

Happenings Throughout the Church

27

On the Move with the Layman's League

30

Sunday School Charms

29

Notes and Quotes

30

Part II: From Manila to Palawan

to the Free Will Baptist Missions

at the Palawan Bible College in Puerto Princesa

33

Shhh! I Am Standing on Holy Ground

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

EASTER PRODUCTION SCHEDULED

During the rule of Tiberius Caesar, in the seaside city of Capernaum, a young Roman centurion, Marcus, falls in love with a beautiful Jewish girl, Hannah. She is a follower of Jesus, the radical teacher from Nazareth. As Marcus becomes fatefully intertwined in the tumultuous events leading to the execution of Jesus, he weighs the words and example of Christ against the wealth and power of the world. In the balance hangs "The Choice."

"The Choice," a dramatic musical for Easter, will be performed at Marlboro Church, Route 1, Farmville, on April 1-3.

The Friday and Saturday night productions will begin at 7:30. The Easter morning service will begin at 10:45 and the evening performance will begin at 7.

For more information about the production or to reserve tickets for a performance, call (919) 753-2185. (Tickets are available at no charge but will be necessary because of seating restrictions.)

GRUBBS ACCEPTS PASTORATE OF SIDNEY CHURCH



The Rev. Paul Grubbs, a former missionary to both the Philippines and Bulgaria, has accepted the call to pastor Sidney Church.

Mr. Grubbs is a graduate of Princeton High School, Mount Olive College, Barton College (Atlantic Christian College), and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has also attended the Billy Graham School of Evangelism.

Past pastoral experiences include Trinity Church, Pantego, NC, and Friendship Church, Middlesex, NC.

From 1986-1993, Mr. Grubbs, his wife Teresa, and sons Nathaniel, Matthew, and Andrew served as missionaries to the Philippines and in Eastern Europe (Bulgaria). Mr. Grubbs states that he "believes the

Lord is calling me back to the mission field within the United States of America. Every community and church is a mission field."

On March 27, Mr. Grubbs officially began his pastoral responsibilities at Sidney Church. The church is located six miles south of Belhaven, off Highway 99 at Sidney Crossroads. The parsonage and church phone number is (919) 964-4402.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE PINS

On March 6, 1994, nine Sunday School members were presented pins for perfect attendance by Charles Wood, superintendent at Yelverton Grove Church, Smithfield.

Those who received pins were: Scotty Taylor, 1 year; Melissa Taylor, 2 years; Holly Markuson, 3 years; Abigail Capps, 6 years; Dawn Capps, 6 years; Scarlet Toole, 17 years; Kristie Davenport, 18 years; Gene Rose, 38 years; Ada Hughes, 52 years.

YELVERTON GROVE CHURCH BIBLE STUDY GRADUATION



Yelverton Grove Church, Smithfield, NC, held a graduation service on February 27, 1994, to honor 15 members who successfully completed the requirements for "The Foundational Church Ministries Certificate" awarded by Evangelical Training Association (ETA). Claudette G. Lane was the instructor.

The certificate is presented upon completion of four courses on which ETA/CEU credits are granted. Each course consists of 10 hours of instruction, taught by an ETA approved instructor.

Those shown who received certificates are (left to right) the Rev. William Littleton, Claudette Lane (instructor), Charles Wood, Deborah Davenport, Mike Littleton, Dorothy Wood, Mavie Daughtry, Clara Powell, Carol Strickland, Carletta Jones, Clinton Lane.

Patsy Lane, Leona Stallings, Eugene Jones, Margaret Pounds, and Effie Martin (deceased) were absent at the time of the picture.

ALBEMARLE UNION MEETING SCHEDULED

The Albemarle Union Meeting will convene on May 28, 1994, at Belhaven Church, Belhaven, NC. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00--Devotions, the Rev. James Owens
10:10--Welcome, the Rev. W. L. Brickhouse

--Response, the Rev. W. S. Burns

10:15--The Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton

10:20--Roll Call of Ministers

--Recognition of Visiting Ministers

--Roll Call of Churches

10:30--Offering for Denominational Ministries

--Announcements

--Prayer Time

--Two Testimonies (continued on next page)

- 10:40--Report of Children's Home, via Literature
- Report of Mount Olive College, via Literature
- Report of Free Will Baptist Press, via Literature
- Report of Missions: Home and Foreign, via Literature
- Report of Cragmont, via Literature
- Report of Retirement Homes, via Literature
- 10:50--Report of Treasurer
 - Old and New Business
 - Announcements of Next Union
- 11:00--Minutes Read and Approved
- 11:10--Hymn
- 11:20--Special Music, Host Church
- 11:30--Message, the Rev. W. L. Brickhouse
 - Benediction
 - Adjournment and Lunch

**WOMAN'S AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT GIVEN SPECIAL
RECOGNITION**

submitted by Jewel Smith



(Left to right) Eunice Boykin, Life Award Recipient, and Hilda Sasser, who made the presentation on behalf on the Woman's Auxiliary.

Mrs. Eunice Boykin, president of the Woman's Auxiliary of First Church, Wilson, was recognized on Sunday, February 27, and presented the Life Membership Award. Mrs. Boykin was chosen from among 87 Auxiliary members to receive this prestigious award during a special Woman's Sunday at the church.

During this worship service, other Auxiliary members greeted, ushered, provided special music and various other devotionals.

Kelly King presented a dramatic monologue entitled, "Five Loaves and Two Fishes," the view of the mother regarding Jesus' miracle in feeding thousands with her son's lunch.

Deborah King delivered an inspiring message on being a "Gimper," a word she created for a person who uses all his or her energies and talents to become and produce the most benefit for themselves and for the world.

An all-women's choir presented special music, including "The Family of God," "In the Service of the King," and "Step Up, Step Up to Jesus." This song was written by one of the members incorporating key words from this year's Woman's Auxiliary theme.

Hilda Sasser, a former Life Award recipient, presented the Award to Mrs. Boykin. During the eight years Mrs. Boykin has been president, this Auxiliary has maintained A-1 status all eight years.

During these years, she has led the Auxiliary to have several bake sales, bazaars, and other fund raisers. Funds from these projects have enabled the women to make sizable contributions to denominational ministries, as well as local projects. Eunice gives freely and gladly her service, always keeping in mind the threefold purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary: Missions, Service, and Devotion.

In past years, she served this church as clerk and has also worked with the youth organizations. She is presently serving as secretary and treasurer of the Senior Citizens' Fellowship and has served in this capacity for several years.

As a good, hard-working citizen, she taught in the Wilson City School for 29 years. Since 1981, when she retired from teaching, she has served as a hospital auxiliary volunteer at Wilson Memorial Hospital. She is also a member of the Wilson County Chapter of AARP.

Former Life Award recipients were also recognized during this service.

WA OFFICERS INSTALLED

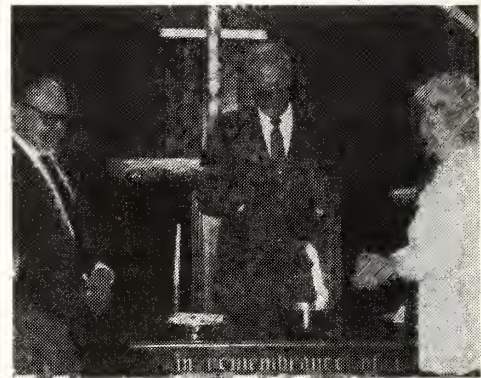
The members of Hillsberry Church, Clinton, NC, recently held their first installation service for the Woman's Auxiliary since being re-established as a church.

During morning worship on January 9, 1994, the Rev. Daniel A. Jordan conducted the service, presenting a single red rose to each officer after reading the charges of her office. At the conclusion of the ceremony, yellow and pink roses were presented to the rest of the Auxiliary members, symbolizing the unity of the organization. It is the goal of Hillsberry Auxiliary to be an A-1 Auxiliary in the near future.

The 1994 officers are: president, Grace Price; vice president, Hazel Williams; secretary, Barbara Stroud; treasurer, Audrey Jordan; missions chairman, Magdalene Young; benevolence chairman, Ruby Johnson Smith; youth co-chairmen, Luane Matthis and Jennifer Cox; study course chairman, Linda Nazzal.

MORTGAGE BURNING

submitted by Ruth B. Springle



Sunday, February 6, 1994, was an important day for Beaufort Church, West Beaufort Road, Beaufort, NC. The pastor, Raymond Hardison, and trustees Sue Emory and James Moore burned the mortgage on the Fellowship Hall. Missing from the ceremony was trustee William C. Lupton. This leaves the congregation debt-free with hopes and plans for the future.

All the praise and thanks are being given to God who helped the congregation accomplish so much in such a short time.

CAPE FEAR WOMEN TO MEET

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet with Genesis Mission, Fayetteville, on April 13. "God Will Supply Every Need" is the theme for the Convention and Philippians 4:19 is the theme Scripture. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 9:30--Registration
- 10:00--Hymn, "He's a Wonderful Savior to Me"
- Devotion, Grace Barbour, Hopewell Church
- Welcome, Martha Parsons, Host Church
- Response, Ruth Warrick, Johnston Union Church
- Greetings, Claudette Lane, president
- Hymn, "Count Your Blessings"
- Reports

Foreign Missions
Mount Olive College
Free Will Baptist Press
Cragmont

Home Missions
Children's Home
Retirement Homes
Youth

11:15--Hymn, "He Hideth My Soul"

--Offering
--Special Music, Host Church
--Convention Message, the Rev. Phillip
Boykin
--Lunch

1:00--Hymn, "God Will Take Care of You"

--Memorial Service, Linda Jackson,
Shady Grove Church

1:20--Miscellaneous Business

--Hymn, "For He Is So Precious to
Me"

STUDY COURSE PLANNED

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary will have a study course on April 18 at Yelverton Grove Church. The subject of the course is "Stewardship." Mrs. Jean Tripp, of Johnston Union Church, will be the guest speaker. The study course is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

DUBLIN GROVE FAMILY VALENTINE DINNER



On Saturday night, February 12, Dublin Grove Church, located at Route 2, Aurora, held a Family Valentine Dinner. The Fellowship Hall was beautifully decorated in a Valentine motif and a delicious ham dinner, climaxed with cherry cheesecake, was served. Following the dinner, a program by local church members was dedicated to the pastor, the Rev. Edward Thornton, and his family. His entire family, consisting of his wife, Brenda; daughters Becky and Beverly; son, Neal; and grandchildren, Jonathan, Andrew, and Merissa, were all honored.

Mrs. Dot Hollowell, president of the Woman's Auxiliary, was mistress of ceremonies. A quartet of Fay Peele, Doris Bonner, Troy Peele, and Tommy Cavanaugh, accompanied by Mary Ellen
THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Galloway, started the program by singing "Heart of My Heart" and "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." They were followed by Jill Williamson singing "You Light Up My Life." The children's choir then sang a medley of songs.

Next were three speakers. Mary Peele told of amusing incidents that occurred while they were searching for a pastor. Ann Cayton praised the work of the pastor's children in the church; and last, Harvey Brothers paid tribute to all of the Thornton Family members and their efforts since they have been at Dublin Grove.

The surprise of the evening was Doris Bonner dressed as Pollyanna. While rocking in her chair, she impersonated a five year old talking to her doll, Elvira, about her impression of the new pastor.

The pastor and his wife favored the group with "I'll Stroll Over Heaven With You," accompanied by their daughter, Beverly.

To close the program and bid those present good night, the quartet sang "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You."

Many pictures were taken for the pastor's memory album.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Richard Holmes has accepted the pastorate of Milbournie Church. His new address is as follows: 5701 Country Side Road, Wilson, NC 27893.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Bethel Church invites applications for the position of pastor.

Requirements: Licensed and ordained by a conference in the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Responsibilities: Through a desire to serve the Lord, preach, teach, lead, and care for the spiritual needs of the congregation, the pastor will provide youth guidance and leadership in youth fellowship and other programs. Conduct Sunday morning and evening worship services.

Position available: June 1, 1994.

Salary: Competitive.

Applications: Please submit a detailed resume to: David Fairley, Pulpit Committee, 1002 Sunset Drive, Merritt, NC 28556; phone, 919-249-0731.

Bethel Church is located in Whortonsville, NC, in Pamlico County. It serves as a hub to a growing and loving community. The community is a mixture of young and older folks, some with new

families and some retired. This is an attractive area for hunting, fishing, and boating. The church is located in the lower Neuse River and Pamlico Sound area on Broad Creek, about 10 miles from Oriental and Bayboro, and 30 miles from New Bern.

TO ALL ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists would like to suggest to your church that you sponsor your pastor's stay at Cragmont for the week of June 13-16. This week is our yearly meeting of the Ministers' Conference at Cragmont. We know that many churches are in the process of working with their budget for next year, so we would suggest that it become a yearly budget item of \$200 for your pastor. If your church is already budgeting this and it is less than \$200, please consider an increase. If you are budgeting more than this figure, we thank you for your consideration of your pastor and his family. If this letter is too late for this year's budget, please consider this now and budget this for the years to come.

Our week at Cragmont is one of the highlights of the year for our ministers. If your pastor is not attending this week, one of the main reasons may be the financial cost, and you can correct this by allocating these monies. I'm sure if you will pass this request, your pastor will be motivated to make an effort to be with us on June 13-16 of this year. Our week is full of classes and worship by many of our Free Will Baptist leaders, so we as the Executive Committee highly encourage each church to sponsor her pastor. If the Committee can be of any help to your church or answer any question you may have, please feel free to contact me.

In Christ's service,
Rev. Phillip Boykin, *Secretary*
Rev. Ray Wells, *President*

THANK YOU

I would like to express my heart-felt appreciation to everyone for their prayers, thoughts, gifts of food, cards, and other acts of kindness during the recent death of my mother, Mrs. Edna Jones. Your expressions of love will never be forgotten.

Kay Jones
Miss Jones is a member of the Retirement Homes family.

TO: ALL MINISTERS OF THE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Ministerial Association wishes to invite you to come be with us at Cragmont Assembly on June 13-16, 1994. This is our annual Minister's Conference and we would like for you to attend. If you plan to attend, please fill in the pre-registration form below. The cost of pre-registration will be \$25. This money will cover your membership in the Association and your picture of the week.

Make all checks payable to North Carolina Ministerial Association and mail to:

Phillip Boykin
Route 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

Please return this form by June 1, 1994.

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Zip _____

Please indicate your building preference. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Main Building _____ Motel _____ Floyd House _____
Dorm _____ I will be staying off-campus. _____

Do you have any existing health problems that would prevent you from being on the second floor? Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate those with whom you wish to room if you stay in the Main Building or in the Motel:

Please note: All ministers' wives who stay on campus will room in the dorm behind the dining hall.

_____ Check here if your wife will be with you.

If you are unable to attend our Conference this year and wish to join our Ministerial Association or renew your membership, please send \$20 membership dues to: Phillip Boykin, Route 5, Box 177, Dunn, NC 28334.

SIX MONTH EVALUATION OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME

by Tina Allen

Director of Church and Public Relations

Working at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for the past six months has been highly educational, emotional, and yet a blessed experience overall. For one who has always been a Free Will Baptist and on the "outside," to describe the "inside" can be a very difficult thing to do.

A normal, routine visit to the Children's Home may be described as this: a walk around campus, small talk with the employees, tour of the buildings, and a glance at the children around the grounds. You come and you leave with all kinds of questions in your minds: "Why are these children here?" "Is it their fault that they are here?" "Why do we have to have a children's home in the first place?" Many of you may have already had these questions in the back of your minds. I used to wonder the same things before I began my work here.

I'd like to try and answer some of your questions. First of all, let me point out that these children are just like your children. They are normal kids trying to grow up in a not-so-normal world. They don't choose to be living away from their families but because of today's society, they have no choice. Children are not brought into this world by choice and certainly do not deserve to be treated as our children have been.

As I have observed the last six months, the need for a children's home is definitely there. The care and concern I have seen by the houseparents and the entire child care department are truly sincere. Although we love our children here, and want the best for them, and try to provide the most family-like atmosphere we can, that's not always possible.

No one can take the place of a mother and father. And it gets really tough when you have twelve children in a cottage and one or two have a ball game or a wrestling match and the houseparent is unable to attend because he has to continue with the daily routine of the cottage with the remaining residents. I think the public feels that our children are supposed to "expect" these disappointments. If you think about that for a moment, is it really fair? It is certainly not fair to a child who was sexually abused when they were ten or beaten because of irrelevant anger of a parent. These children do not want to be here. That doesn't mean

they aren't thankful that they have a roof over their heads, food to eat, clothes to wear, and so on. It just means that deep down they wish to be normal and not labeled as a "child who lives at the Children's Home."

Our goal here at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is to provide the best possible Christian care to our children. I think that we as Free Will Baptists should take pride in the ministry that we have established and show that pride with your love, support, and especially your prayers.

Why?

Why do we have so much violence?

Why are we here?

Why do we have life?

Why do we have fear?

Why is there hurt?

Why is there pain?

Why is there war?

Why is it sadness or rain?

Why is it love or hate?

Why is it black or white?

Why do we have to dress a certain way?

In order to solve a problem,

Why do we fight?

Why is there craziness or anger?

Why can't I talk to a stranger?

Why can't I be a normal child?

What is a normal child?

God put us here for a reason

And through it all--violence, life, fear,

hurt, pain, war, rain, hate, and anger,

We will soon have a prize!

Oh, what a great surprise!

Alison

Age 12

Young Alison is currently in the care of the Children's Home.

A CHANGE OF PACE AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

by Tina Allen

The residents at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home are staying busy between their school schedules, homework, and their daily chores. Visiting groups also keep some of their evenings and weekends occupied.

During the month of February, we had a very busy schedule. The children were invited to attend Unity Church, Wilson, for their Youth Sunday. Some of our children also participated in the choir.

On the evening of February 8, the Woodmen of the World (Lucama Lodge) provided a hot dog supper for the children and staff. This was a treat enjoyed by all!

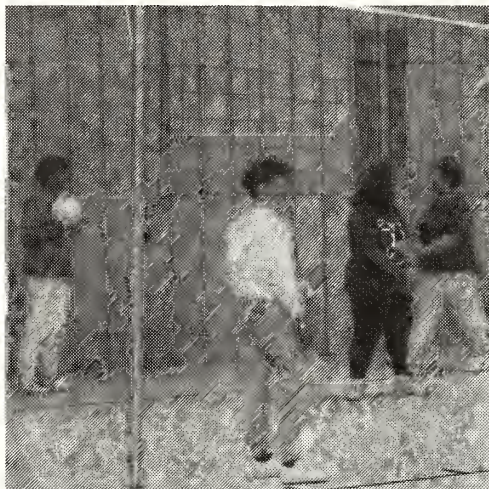


Valentine's Day was made especially nice by the Union Chapel Church Good Samaritan Group (Plymouth). After a tour of our campus, they unloaded their vans of needed supplies, puzzles and games, and boxes full of Valentine cookies and treats for all of the cottages.



On Saturday, February 26, the Stoney Creek Church Disciples Class came to our campus not believing that we could "beat" them at their own games. As we all played various rounds of basketball, volleyball, and a new type of dodgeball, it became evident to the visitors that we play to win.

We'd like to thank all of these groups for caring about our children and taking the time to come visit with them.



Members of the Eastern Conference Woman's Auxiliary Executive Committee.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY COMMITTEE VISITS HOME

by Tina Allen

Director of Church and Public Relations

On Saturday, February 26, the Executive Committee of the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary visited the Children's Home for a tour of our campus, seeking to gain first-hand knowledge of their child care ministry.

As the ladies toured one of the girls' cottages, they found that it was a typical Saturday morning for any teenager who has attended school all week and wanted to lounge around. Later, they toured through the newly renovated Smith Cottage and saw the need to update all of the cottages. Mrs. Lorraine Garner, who was among the group, enlightened us with some of her experiences while she and her husband, the Rev. Francis Garner, worked at the Home.

It takes special people to be leaders in our denomination. And it takes dedication from the ladies of the Eastern Conference to take the time to learn more about their denominational ministries. We cherish the close relationship that we have always felt with the ladies of our denomination and are appreciative of the good work all of the Auxiliaries do for our children. Thank you for playing such an important role in the success of our ministry.

Please come again soon!

STATE
WOMAN'S
AUXILIARY
CONVENTION

May 12, 1994

Lee's Chapel Church

Route 5

Dunn, NC

OUR 1993 CHURCH CONVENTION IN INDIA

by Dr. E. M. Lall

Our eighteenth annual convention was held in Bareilly November 4-7, 1993, for both countries, India and Nepal. I was not too well, having had a cold since the beginning of winter. Yet, we all enjoyed the fellowship of those who came to participate from different places. Each had something to tell and share as he stayed on the church campus.

There were 76 participants, including three who came from Nepal. The election of boards, councils, and committees was the highlight of Friday, November 5. The reports from the Executive Secretary and the council secretaries reaffirmed that the work of our church is progressing. Many new centers have developed where congregations have been constituted and are under mobilization. There are two big centers named Marhare and Laramda, located in the district of Agra in Northern India, where a large number of conversions is expected after some time. I recently had the privilege of visiting both these centers, which have been entrusted to Dn. Vijay.

The need for two more primary schools is becoming pressing in the circuits of Tondalpur and Dhaurra Tanda. The school buildings at Asafpur, Satpur Bilolia, Shekhupura, and Matkhera need repairs. At present, some arrangements have been made to reconstruct the boundary wall of Matkhera School; it had split as a result of the walls falling because of heavy rains. Asafpur School needs two more rooms because two of the existing rooms are made of mud with thatched roofs and are dilapidated.

It was reported by the delegation from Nepal that the government is becoming restrictive of some Christian activities. The schools have had to take down the cross and to use a swastika instead, a Hindu sign. I made a trip to Dhan-Garhi and contacted the education officer concerning this. He was courteous but showed his helplessness in the matter, as it was a mandate of the government. On the other hand, it has become possible, with the help of the local congregation and the vigorous efforts of this office, to build a small chapel at Tara-Nagar, near Dhan-Garhi, on the donated plot of the believers in Nepal. The chapel is almost ready and a tile roof is being added.

Arrangements for a campfire services were made by Mr. Sunil Singh, a very active layman of our church. As we came together singing and praying, dedicating ourselves for the great work of the Lord's Commission ahead of us in both countries, it was a time that great revival was seen among all the delegates. They were revived concerning their Christian responsibilities and we all felt the presence of the Spirit.

The Convention concluded with the celebration by illuminating the lamp of the Free Will Baptist Church, offering prayers and praises to the Lord for establishing the church on the soil of India and Nepal, and for enabling us to work and gather souls for His Kingdom. A great enthusiasm, zeal, and concern were seen among the participants who departed with a heavy heart carrying the cross of the Lord with them. It looked as though a great amount of progress was in store for the church in the coming year and we all pray and ask God for our workers to feel their responsibilities.

Even though none of the members of

the Board of Foreign Missions were able to be with us this time in person, except in thought and prayer, we felt their presence. The work of the Lord spread over these two countries has a root in the work of the Board of Foreign Missions. They share in this ministry and are to be credited for their vision.

"AT HOME I AM ALWAYS SAD...."

by Willem van der Plas

We organized a Christmas party in our new classroom on December 23. Eighteen children from the gypsy-quartal, which is not far from our home, arrived at 2 for the party to be held in our former garage. These children do not speak Bulgarian, but Turkish and Gypsy. Many of them have Indian-like features; they may be descendants of people who were brought to these areas from Bangladesh.

With her natural skill, Teshdyan quieted the excited children within seconds. All these children come from Moslem families and they do not know anything about Jesus, not even Allah, because their parents are not religious.

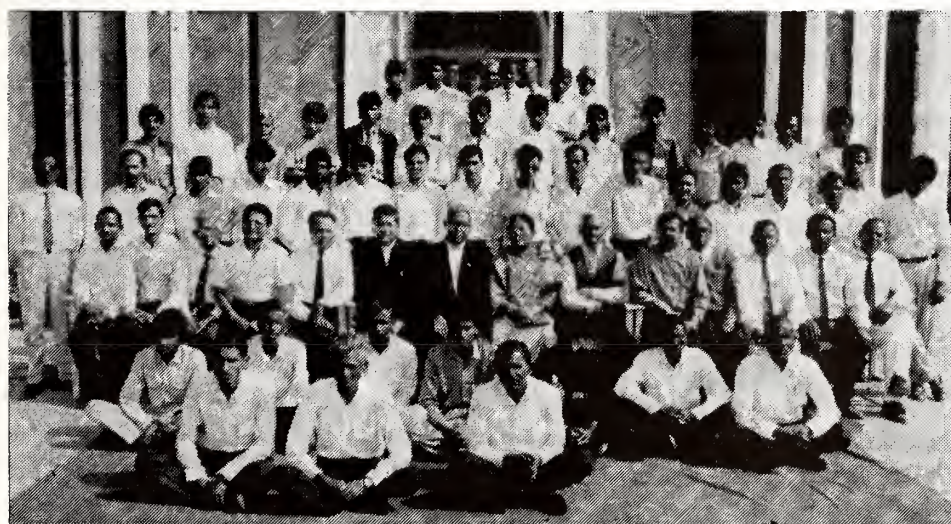
Our first objective is to show them love and respect for others. To teach them how to live is the primary goal of our educational program.

These children have never possessed toys. Friends and family in the Netherlands sent us several boxes with toys and children's clothes, which we can use now in our youth work. With amazement and care, they began to touch the toys before they started to play. We had enough materials so that every child could make a choice.

One child chose a doll made of pieces of cloth, a quilt-like patch doll. It was a thrill to see her sit with it; she was completely lost in herself. After a while, she began to touch the hands, the feet, the face of the doll. Then she let the doll touch her hands and face. Again she cuddled it like it was a baby. We thought that Saniye was about 6 years old, but later we learned that she might be 10 to 12 years of age.

Another girl with the same name, Saniye, told us that she cannot be happy at home. She said, "At home I am always sad, but here I feel good and here I can laugh." This Saniye behaves almost like a boy; she loves to play with cars and construction materials. All the children experience the love which Teshdyan gives them.

At the end of the Christmas party, every child received a small bag with an





orange and a roll with M & Ms. This brought us scores of people who came to ask for bread and money to buy food for Christmas.

The children are coming regularly now. We plan to teach illiterate children to read and to write, so that they will be able to read our beautiful picture and children's Bibles.

The first song Teshdyan teaches the children is "Jesus Loves Me." They sing this in Bulgarian.

Please pray for Teshdyan and her important task: reaching these children. We cannot reach them because we are not able to speak their language. Pray for the children who live in hardship and in a rough environment. Pray that their parents may see changes in their children and will cry out for God's grace in their own lives.



**THE FOURTH ANNUAL
VIVIAN B. HARRISON MEMORIAL
LECTURE:
THE POWER OF GOD AND THE
PRESENCE OF EVIL**

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

Thick fog hovered over flat eastern North Carolina the day Dr. Thomas Graves, president of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, was to speak. Traffic wrecks were being announced all over the radio--one lady wretchedly trapped beneath a gigantic truck; six cars stacked up together in mad confusion in Raleigh; a Farmville accident blocking one road. The landscape seemed surrealistic as wide cornfields hid beneath the fog while the sun slipped through suddenly, then disappeared.

The Vivian B. Harrison Memorial Lecture was ahead--a reminder of the wonderful spirit of the Rev. Frank R. Harrison's wife who died, her death as much as a reality as the endless fog filtering across eastern North Carolina. She was a member of Spring Branch Church in Greene County, an elementary school teacher for 17 years, the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Beamon and the late Mr. Charlie T. Beamon of Walstonburg, NC.

What better way could Frank Harrison remember his deceased wife than to offer a day of lectures for Mount Olive students, Free Will Baptist ministers, and laity? And what if that lecture series provoked, awoke, and stimulated souls to confront the essential realities of life? Who alive today can dismiss the dilemma of the power of God in the presence of evil?

No one.

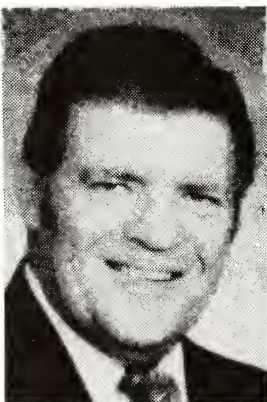
Many people feel that the modern world is soaked with discontentment, anger, rage, war, murder, lies, deceit, betrayal, evil. And evil exists within as well as without. Nature has not been kind to California nor to people at the edges of the Mississippi. AIDS rages across the world as does cancer. Feuds erupt like volcanoes.

No matter what department I belonged to at Mount Olive College, I pushed through the fog hoping this day of lectures would clear some of the fog inside.

And I was blessed.

Rodgers Chapel sat at the center of Mount Olive College, its frame seasoned with Presence and prayer. The people assembled and the lecture series began, the fog outside forgotten for the moment.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



**SPECIAL INVITATION TO ATTEND
A BIBLE CONFERENCE ON PROPHECY**

DATE: Sunday, April 17, 11 A.M.--Thursday, April 21, 1994. All night services will be at 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: Pleasant Grove Church, Western Conference, Pikeville, NC, located 1 1/2 miles west at 1100 Pikeville-Princeton Road (State Road #1002).

SPECIAL MUSIC: In all services.

NURSERY PROVIDED: For all services.

SPEAKER: Dr. Fred Hartman, National Field Director, with the Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc., Bellmawr, NJ.

EVERYONE INVITED: The pastor, the Rev. Jerry Stephenson, and Pleasant Grove congregation invite all Free Will Baptists and friends to attend all of these services.

THE ISSUE OF OMNIPOTENCE

To deal with such a question, Dr. Graves decided to begin with the issue of the omnipotence of God. "What exactly does omnipotence mean? If God is fully in power, then why couldn't an omnipotent being bring about a world without evil? If

In discussing omnipotence, Dr. Graves indicated that there were two positions. Some might define *omnipotence* as absolute power in a sense of monopoly. This definition would imply that all other beings are powerless and the movement of history would be toward determinism.

However, another definition of omnipotence might be less absolute and more free. Once God gives away power to free agents, then mankind as these agents are not coerced. In this sense, God's power is perfect power not absolute power. Perfect power allows a free will. "Instead of focusing on the problem of evil, we need to redefine the omnipotence of God," declared Dr. Graves. "Omnipotence does not mean to do something illogical. C. S. Lewis reminded us that nonsense is still nonsense when you talk about God doing it. What we need to do is to limit the idea of omnipotence. God chose to move into creation, limits exist. Creation involves limits. You know," he elaborated, "we cannot have water to quench our thirst but not to drown us. We cannot have fire to warm us but not to scorch us. A sensible mind implies there can be an insane mind. God's power cannot be in experience without the limitations of experience. That would be illogical, inconsistent. God's perfection exists in loving us," he stressed.

God is morally perfect, then why isn't the world good? If there is genuine evil in the world, then where is God? There can be no omnipotent God in the face of evil, can there?" he asked.

"What then is omnipotence?" he asked.

To answer this question, Dr. Graves turned to the etymology of the word--*omnis* as "all" and *potence* as "power." God has power over all things. But what does this mean?

"The word *omnipotence* appears only two times in the Bible. It appears in Revelation. Elsewhere the word *Almighty* is used. God is described as Almighty. With God, nothing is impossible," he noted.

"But," he continued, "omnipotence can be traced back to neoplatonism. Emil Brunner has traced it back to the neoplatonist idea that God is a celestial fountain," he explained. Dr. Graves noted that God's own Being overflows into all things. God's overflowing from the fountain makes all things mixed out of God's Being. The neoplatonist saw everything as part of God's Being--everything. All flows from God. The world is part of God's own Being. Add to this neoplatonic view of overflowing Being the element of the Hebraic sense of Almightyness, and the meaning of omnipotence embraces the two--the Hellenic and the Hebraic.

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A NEW LOOK AT OMNIPOTENCE

Carefully, cautiously, clearly, Dr. Graves began to divert our attention away from omnipotence as absolute power to omnipotence as absolute love. "Power is not the benchmark of God's character," insisted Dr. Graves. "Love is the model the Scripture puts forth. The key issue is what divine power is."

In clarifying divine power, Dr. Graves stressed the Scripture's message--the story of God's interaction with us. "God doesn't make the world like a carpenter makes a table. God leads the world as a parent leads a child. God is in creation not independent of creation. God is affected by creation

Dr. K. David Hines introduced Dr. Graves as a man who could challenge hearts and minds. Certainly the topic--the power of God and the presence of evil--was no light topic so that all people on the face of this turbulent earth could see clearly an answer. What answer? What question?

THE ISSUE OF EVIL

"The issue of evil is real," began Dr. Graves. "How do we square that with God's power?" His question hung in the air like cannon fire. I thought of Gettysburg where 53,000 died. I thought of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. I thought of Hitler's hatred of the Jews and the reality of genocide in history today.

Dr. Graves decided to begin his lecture with the story of his daughter Jenny. Last year, when Jenny was 11 years old, Dr. Graves took her to see the Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. As he took her through the museum, he kept asking her how she felt. They went on a railroad car, saw re-created barracks where as many as five Jews slept on one bed. One room was piled high with old shoes to demonstrate what was left behind when Jews walked toward the death showers. Jenny saw the bakery equipment on which Jews were burned.

After the visit, Dr. Graves asked his daughter, "Aren't you overwhelmed?"

The two of them were sitting in the Hard Rock Cafe in DC. Jenny turned to her dad and declared, "Dad, this is awful. Yes. But, Dad, you know we live with this every day. Just a few weeks ago people burned in Waco. One of my friends drowned. Bosnia. Look at Bosnia, Dad."

Dr. Graves was stunned. He felt his 11-year-old daughter expected violence, hatred, cruelty in this world. She expected evil.

Where is God in a world of evil?

(Shown are the Rev. K. David Hines, coordinator of the event; the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, MOC campus minister; Dr. Thomas Graves, president of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond and speaker for the series; Dr. Michael R. Pelt, chair of the Department of Religion.)



because God relates to us. The Hebrews speak of God as a changing God. God gets angry, froths at the mouth, repents. God is in relation to persons. God is like a grandparent who pulls out our picture from His wallet. We are His grandchildren. God's power is in relationship," said Dr. Graves.

The issue of the omnipotence of God began to shift from God as absolute power to God as one who relates in love. To relate to the world, God grants free will, so that power belongs to us also. With that power comes human responsibility. Acts then of pride, of evil, of denial become acts of human power. "The biblical story displays love not power as God's characteristic attribute," declared Dr. Graves.

In a world where power structures dominate, Dr. Graves noted how Jesus tried to teach the disciples the heart of power in love. The disciples often argued who was going to be first. Jesus stressed that he who would be first must be last. "When Jesus told His disciples that all power was delivered into His hands by the Father, Jesus then picked up a towel and basic and washed their stinking feet," he said.

"God's omnipotence is the power to suffer to death. God's love is omnipotent," Dr. Graves stressed. "What this means is that God Almighty kneels. God imposes self-limitations of divine power so that a personal creation of relationship exists," he explained. "God's power is used redemptively. Why? Because God's task is to bring about reconciliation, redemption, love. Omnipotence then may be described as God's perfect use of loving power."

Pausing, Dr. Graves told the story of a dying friend. The friend wanted to know what God looks like. The last thing the friend told him was, "Tom, God looks like love."

GOD AS THE SUFFERING SERVANT

The Rev. Frank R. Harrison read Isaiah 52:13-53:12--the famous passage of a Messiah who would be despised of men, who would suffer, who would be persecuted. What about God as a king? What about the God of power, of control, of wealth, of miracles, of unlimited command?

Dr. Graves insisted that we shift our minds, look at God from a different angle much like the man who sat in his deck chair and had hot air balloons carry him over Los Angeles so he could get a different view of the city.

What if the model of God were not as law giver, high priest, judge, teacher, king? What if the model of God was the Suffering Servant Isaiah talks about? What then?

Dr. Graves noted the difficulty Americans have of seeing God as a suffering servant. "We live in an aggressive, self-centered culture where we want to become anything but a servant. Kierkegaard saw how hard the servant image was for his culture. Denmark's Christianity was for the cultured minority, the elite. People in such a culture are more comfortable with God as a mighty force, a king power. We want glory for ourselves, so we want a glorious God. We want power for ourselves, so we want a powerful God. We want a miracle doer. But Jesus is none of these," said Dr. Graves.

To explain what Jesus is, Dr. Graves talked about rodeo clowns. His friend, Bill Leonard, was born in Paradise, Texas, but loved to go to the rodeo in Fort Worth. What Bill liked to watch were the rodeo clowns. One day it suddenly occurred to Bill how important the rodeo clowns were. When a cowboy was thrown off a bull or horse, the rodeo clown ran to the animal to distract him from the cowboy. All those clowns went to work to protect the cowboy, to free the one in danger. The rodeo clowns put themselves at risk to protect the cowboys. The connection between the clown and the Suffering Servant clicked in Bill's mind. God's power became a power not in terms of status, wealth, authority, prestige, but instead a power of putting the self at risk for the cause of another, for love.

To clarify the temptation of power, Dr. Graves recalled Dostoevsky's chapter, "The Grand Inquisitor," in the classic, *The Brothers*

Karamazov. The Grand Inquisitor scolds Jesus and tells Jesus to assume the power of authority. If Jesus will only give the people what they want, He will have power. If Jesus will perform miracles and dazzle the people, He will have power. If Jesus will take up the sword of Caesar and force the people to follow Him, He will have power. Jesus refuses. The only way to power is by way of the Cross.

Dr. Graves then told the story of Elie Wiesel's rabbi who went to a sick old woman's house on the eve of the Sabbath. The people told a stranger that the rabbi went to Heaven on the eve of the Sabbath, but the stranger scoffed and said he would follow the rabbi and find out where he did go. The stranger followed the rabbi. He watched the rabbi go to an old cabin outside the village. The rabbi knocked on the window and asked the old woman inside if she would like to buy some wood. She had no money. The rabbi said he would like to give her some wood. Then he spent time cutting the wood, warming the cottage, gathering food for her. The rabbi left.

The next day the people asked the stranger if the rabbi went to Heaven. The stranger replied, "Your rabbi doesn't go to Heaven. He goes even higher."

Dr. Graves declared, "That's the call of Isaiah--to go higher than Heaven to those who are in the service of those in need. The call is a call of humility, a call to death on a cross. God's power is the power of humility and love," he said.

"We need to take another look at God's power and God's glory, because the call is a call by the way of the Cross. There lies the glory of God," he said.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF EVIL: Questions from Guests to Dr. Graves

Q: *How can a person shift from anger over evil? Imagine the anger of a Jew in the Holocaust or a parent who loses a child through a violent act.*

A: There is time for screaming out and anger. I would recommend reading the Psalms of Lamentation. Many Psalms speak of dislocation and misery. It's O.K. to take those realities to God. Keep talking to God.

Q: *Is there a bridge away from the anger or hurt or fear of evil to God?*

A: The problem of evil has no answer, no solutions. Only partial things can be said. Affirmations can be made and these affirmations may serve as bridges.

Q: *Is forgiveness a bridge?*

A: Yes. but the real problem is that we need to experience forgiveness within ourselves. It's important to see that evil is not a problem only out there but in here, in us too.

Q: *Is it possible to see a river named Evil, God on one side, me on the other, and a bridge with Jesus on it?*

A: Yes. We can see Jesus as Grace.

Q: *How do we deal with the evil of depression?*

A: William Styron wrote about a character going to the funeral of a friend who committed suicide. The character was depressed. He gets on this bus and sits beside an old Afro-American lady reading her Bible. He tells her about his friend's suicide. She opens her Bible to Psalm 80 and reads to him. Now this is the most depressing Psalm in the Bible. There seems to be no hope, no word of reconciliation, a complete void. The character is allowed to feel his grief. It doesn't solve the grief or anger, but the Psalm reminds us that anger, grief, even depression exist and can be understood.

Q: *Do you think unresolved griefs are a part of evil?*

A: Unresolved grief is a huge issue. We must release the grief.

Q: *Is anger evil?*

A: We must express anger. To be angry, even with God, is O.K. Keep talking with God. To be angry may give rise to an opportunity to talk, to build a relationship.

Q: *How do we resolve the anger of death? My brother died in a tractor accident that shouldn't have happened.*

A: Death is real. I remember a little girl who was late for dinner. Her parents were angry. The little girl said she had to stay with her friend because her friend's dolly broke. Her parents didn't understand. The little girl said she had to stay with her friend to help her cry.

AFFIRMATIONS EVEN IN THE FACE OF EVIL

"Let me begin by saying that the affirmations we make are not done lightly. There is the underside process of anguish, difficulty, honesty, grief. Affirmations do not dismiss this part of the conversation with God," began Dr. Graves.

Before enunciating affirmations, Dr. Graves recalled Ernest Hemingway's novel, *The Old Man and the Sea*. The old Cuban fisherman used to brag about the large fish he once caught. People did not believe his stories. Then one day he has an enormous fight with a huge fish. The struggle is gigantic until this fish is subdued and attached to the side of the old Cuban's boat. Before the old man reaches shore, the sharks have eaten his glorious catch. All that is left is a bunch of bones.

"What's said about faith in a time like that?" asked Dr. Graves. "What affirmation could this old Cuban possibly have? What affirmation can be made when tragedy is here, tragedy has happened and there is no promise of health, wealth, or happiness? What affirmation can we make when there is no protection from all evil?"

Silence swept the room. The wind outside seemed to remind us of Nature's power as the trees across campus shook with winter.

"In the midst of tragedy, the heart can affirm life as a gift," said Dr. Graves. "We may utter a word of thanksgiving for the gift of life, the preciousness of life."

I thought of Edward Taylor, the seventeenth-century Puritan poet who blessed God in spite of the death of his two children. Anne Bradstreet likewise praised God when her house was burning.

"Another affirmation is to look at the world as still a possible arena of joy. We know that a person of faith will not always experience happiness or joy. Yet even in the midst of grief, we may still find avenues of joy. The key mystery is to be able to begin again. When Adam and Eve were expelled from Eden, God whispered to them not the secret of how to begin but the secret of how to begin again," claimed Dr. Graves.

"And a third affirmation we might make is that we are living in creation's eighth day. Life isn't over. The curtain has not come down on the stage of life. We have the world before us and opportunities to express God-given hope. We are called to work in this eighth day as co-creator with God," he declared.

"A fourth affirmation is that we are not alone," he said. "We are not alone in the midst of our deepest sorrow. God is still there."

"A fifth affirmation," he declared, "is that death is not the end of life. Death does not end our relationship with God. The eternal nature of our faith must always put into perspective death. Death isn't the end of life. Eternal life is recognized."

"A sixth affirmation is to recognize that faith will not help us to escape sorrow nor outdistance death. Faith will not lift us like the wings of an eagle and mount us high above sorrow. All faith can do is to teach us to walk and not faint. All faith will do is to allow us to endure," he concluded.

Suddenly I looked out the window and noticed the thick morning fog had cleared --at least, that is, for this day.

Fog comes; fog goes. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

FOG

*Fog crept in upon turkey farms, cornfields,
rural roads, highways, forests,
leaving the sky a blaze of mystery
in a morning of hazed confusion.
Fog must have drifted across Dachau once
Waterloo too
and Gettysburg in July
before the day's fierce battle claimed souls
like railroad tickets, passengers boarding for
nowhere
death the great annihilator under a banner of
cause.*

*No matter the cause--effect is everything--
Aristotle said it so when he wrote,
"plot is character."*

*Why did the people of Dachau
know nothing?
see nothing?
hear nothing?
Why
when the smoke puffed the air with stench
bodies burning--not a thing of no smell.*

*Why did Napoleon wage all at Waterloo
and Lee at Gettysburg?
Thousands died while Evil smirked,
had its heyday--
Faith in God demands
the distant history
and current clash
to remind us of what we affirm in facing Evil--
Yes to life, the gift-borrowed for a time!
Yet to life returned--never to return!
Yet to the next chapter unwritten but ready to be
carved on life!
Yes to faith to walk and not faint, to begin again
the walk,
the talk!
Yes to others who walk with us, we are not alone!
Yes, yes, yes!*

*Come fog, come chaos, come despair, come
anger.
Yes, yes, yes!
Blessed be the name of Presence.*

--Pepper Worthington

PROFESSOR RETIRES AFTER 37 YEARS OF TEACHING MINISTERS

by Cecil Cahoon, MOC Public Information Director

A dinner will be held in Mount Olive College's Lois K. Murphy Regional Center on April 23 to honor a man well-known and highly respected by Free Will Baptist ministers and lay persons across the state. After 37 years as chairman of the College's Department of Religion, Dr. Michael R. Pelt has elected to retire.

He was still in divinity school when he visited the young Rev. Burkette Raper at the Hull Road Church parsonage, located in Arba, near Snow Hill. The date was July 31, 1954, and Raper, who pastored Hull Road Church, had only recently accepted an appointment as president of a brand-new college that would be sponsored by the North Carolina Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

On that July afternoon, Raper inquired if Pelt would consider joining the Mount Olive College faculty when the need arose for him and resources became available to accommodate his employment. Pelt answered positively, saying he would consider it when the time came.

Pelt remembers the afternoon vividly because it was during his visit with Dr. Raper that his wife, Betty, gave birth to their first son, Cary, in Durham.

Three years later, in 1957, Pelt accepted a more formal invitation and moved to Mount Olive to begin his work as department chairman and his teaching ministry with courses in Old and New Testament. As many did in those early days, Pelt held other offices, too: he served a year as acting academic dean, then three years as academic dean.

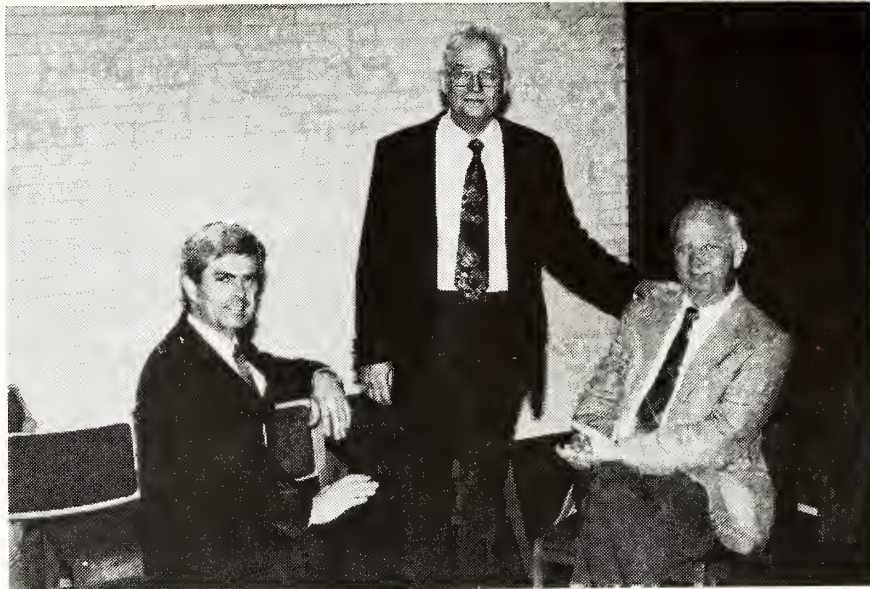
PART OF A LARGER VISION

From the beginning, those who worked at the junior college believed in the much greater vision for it.

"Everyone hoped it would be a senior college. We had very humble beginnings but we had to be very realistic at the time about what the potential was," Pelt ex-

plained. "There were such limited facilities and financial support."

To build interest in the College, Pelt,



Raper and M. L. Johnson, the College's business manager, accepted invitations to speak at churches about the goals of Christian education and the vision of the growing College, he said. "We did much more of that then than we do now," he noted.

Pelt wanted not to continue in administrative positions, but to teach full time. Above all, he desired to return to graduate school and complete doctoral studies. So in 1962, he was granted a sabbatical leave and entered a doctoral program at Duke Graduate School. He returned to Mount Olive with a clearer teaching philosophy.

"I felt that in studying the Bible, one needed to be as honest as possible. To be unwilling to examine the evidence was to be dishonest," he explained. But for his simple philosophy that emphasized personal study and understanding, Pelt was criticized.

"Dr. Pelt has had his critics," Raper noted. "Some of these were people who were unwilling to accept the disciplines of scholarship necessary for an informed and honest understanding of the Bible, and there were those who wanted to manipulate the Scriptures to support their own preconceived views rather than diligently search the Scripture with an open mind."

"Whenever these confrontations have occurred, Dr. Pelt has always responded as

a Christian gentleman who asked only that we let biblical scholarship and Christian truth speak for themselves," Raper added.

One who accepted Pelt's guidance through ministerial studies agrees that the philosophy is rewarding. Dr. David Hines, now assistant to Dr. Raper, studied under Pelt's direction from 1977 to 1979. "Or, really, from 1977 to 1994," Hines said.

"He taught me and a generation of ministers that you could love God with your heart *and* your mind," Hines explained.

In the early 1970s, Pelt won a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study at a foreign university, which proved to be "the highlight of my experience, both professionally and personally," he said. During the academic year 1973-74, he studied at England's Cambridge University, living in a village nearby. He took the opportunity to travel through Great Britain, Europe, and Rome.

Later travels took Pelt to Greece and the Middle East: Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt. Friendships he made during his travels have lasted, he said, and inspired more visits to those countries.

VISION IS STILL EXPANSIVE

Pelt's vision of tomorrow's Mount Olive College is just as expansive today as the vision he and others shared in the 1950s.

"I hope the College can build a fine arts center. The most natural thing for a liberal arts college to develop is its fine arts, but we're now limited in what we can do," he suggested. "Obviously, I would like to see the offering of degrees in music, art, and drama. I would love to see a good drama program here."

His interest in developing students' artistic endeavors stems from the interest of his oldest daughter, now deceased, Teresa, who held degrees in art education from East Carolina University and the University of

Illinois. His second daughter, Sharon, earned degrees in music from UNC-Greensboro.

"I'd like to see a teacher education program," he continued. "That's where we can serve the people of our state at a time when I think public school teaching is more demanding than ever."

"Kids today need teachers who can give instruction and moral direction, as well," he said.

"I don't have any real regrets about the way things have developed," he said. "One person can only affect an institution so much."

"It does concern me that decisions appear to be made for reasons of expediency rather than what is best in developing a strong liberal arts college, if that's what we aspire to be," he said. Colleges currently act to satisfy contemporary trends instead of keeping a focus on the larger picture of higher education.

"What the market demands is not always good," he explained.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHURCH

"The decision to invite Dr. Pelt to the faculty of Mount Olive College and to chair the Department of Religion was one of the most important I have made during my forty years as president," Raper said. "Dr. Pelt is a scholar, a gentleman, a Christian and a churchman, and we have all benefited from these strong qualities, qualities that have characterized his years of service to both the College and the Free Will Baptist church."

In the church, Pelt has been active on the Ordaining Council of the Central Conference, serving a five-year term in the Council in the 1950s and, most recently, another term of 10 years. He was secretary of the North Carolina Convention of Original Free Will Baptists when it elected to separate from the National Association. And he rose to the rank of vice president of the Convention for two years. But his most important contribution to the church, Pelt suggests, is the one made through Mount Olive College. His tenure of nearly four decades brought a measure of stability and continuity to his department.

"Dr. Pelt has developed a department of religion that is highly respected by other colleges and one that has contributed immensely to a sound foundation of leadership among Free Will Baptists," Raper ex-

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

plained. "We shall miss him, but his legacy of scholarship and Christian commitment will be a lasting light on this campus for generations to come."

"I hope I've contributed to Mount Olive College becoming a collegiate institution with emphasis on scholarship," Pelt said. "I have tried to have a reverence for the Bible and Christian truth with scholarship. And I've tried to convey this to students."

His students agree that he succeeded.

"I came to Mount Olive College not to learn, but to be ordained," Hines reported. "It took only one of Michael Pelt's exams for me to find out there was a lot about the Bible I didn't know. I'll never forget his patience. He challenged me and brought me along, and I always knew he cared."

"He took his teaching seriously," said the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, pastor of First Church, Greenville, and a student of Pelt's from 1976-78. "He was one who was concerned about the student and his knowledge."

Hobgood cited a personal example of Pelt's continuing counsel for young ministers. Before conducting his first funeral, Hobgood said, he met with Pelt "because he was willing to help me personally."

In another case, the former teacher spoke as a surprise to Hobgood when the First Church congregation celebrated Pastor Appreciation Day in September 1991. "I didn't know he was coming, and it turned out to be one of the most special times we've spent together," Hobgood explained.

Frank Harrison, now Mount Olive College's campus minister, attended Pelt's classes from 1959-61.

"Dr. Pelt was a role model for me and many others, teaching Christian character and integrity, by example, as a minister ought to be," Harrison said. Pelt's legacy to the church, he added, is "the caliber of the College's Department of Religion. He's guided it, and we now have an excellent ministerial program to help young men and women prepare for the Christian ministry and related services to the church."

Harrison noted that those left in the Department "will miss him as a full-time faculty member, will miss his presence. But he's left a great legacy for us and whoever will follow him."

Another level of admiration comes from Pelt's achievements and recognition as a Bible scholar.

"He's been a fine example of a Christian, and the denomination respects him as a professor, too," Hobgood noted.

"I was in awe of Dr. Pelt because of his knowledge," Harrison added, "particularly in biblical studies. I came to respect his scholarship and the expectations he had for his students."

In discussions, Harrison recalled, Pelt encouraged his students to read materials and do research to gain knowledge on their own. "I attribute to him the interest I have in Old Testament studies now," he said.

Hines put it plainly: "I went to two other schools after leaving Mount Olive and studied under professors I'd consider world-class. But in terms of scholarship and Christian commitment, I've never met anyone who beat Michael Pelt."

Below: Dr. Pelt, left, talks with Dr. Thomas Graves, featured speaker at the recent Vivian Harrison Lecture (photo by Wanda Oates).



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Pelt won't retire his scholarship, he said. A project he intends to finish soon is a published history of the Original Free Will Baptists.

"It's something that I've wanted to do and others have asked me to do for some time. I started a year ago and I'm making good progress—I'm up to about 1800," Pelt said. The history begins with the Early

General Baptists in England in the 1600s, he added. "I see this as a book that will inform Free Will Baptists about our heritage and our history.

"I don't intend to twiddle my thumbs," he laughed. "The book will give me enough to do for a year, at least, and I hope to do some travelling. I enjoy that a great deal, and Betty and I hope to spend time at our place near Boone."

About his influence on numbers of Free Will Baptist ministers, an influence that will last far into the next century, Pelt was unpretentious.

"I only wish I'd been able to influence more—for good. I hope my retirement will not mean the end of my work; I hope to continue to make a contribution to the College and the church it serves."

Friends and alumni

are invited to

a retirement banquet

in honor of

Dr. Michael R. Pelt

*for thirty-seven years of service as
Chairman of the Department of Religion*

*Saturday, April 23, 1994
7:00 p.m.*

*Lois K. Murphy Regional Center
Mount Olive College*

*The cost of the buffet dinner will be
\$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12.*

Reservations required by April 19

Contact Dr. K. David Hines, Mount Olive College, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365; 919-658-2502



More than 200 people attended the Sunday buffet featuring Stoney Creek Church Choir in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center recently. Directed by Jimmy Wooten, the choir attracted students, Mount Olive residents, and other church members to the event (photo by Dianne Riley).

Youth Quake

2

The Aftershock

Sponsored by
Mount Olive College
Religious Life

Saturday, April 9, 1994
Mount Olive College Campus

Featuring:

Straight Up
contemporary Christian music group

&

Open Arms Youth Celebration
an outreach of Stoney Creek Church

Schedule of Activities

Time	Adults/Leaders	Youth (13 & up)	Youth (9-12)	Youth (5-8)
4:00-4:30	Registration and Welcome: College Hall Lobby (Refreshments will be served)			
4:30-5:05	"Effective Youth Leaders: Characteristics and Attitudes" Gary Bailey	"True Love Waits" Glenn Mills	"State Your Faith" Group MOC	"Kids Praise" Renee Pittman
5:15-5:50	"Guiding Youth Through Tough Decisions" Randy Cobb	"True Love Waits" Glenn Mills	"State Your Faith" Group MOC	"Kids Praise" Renee Pittman
6:00-7:00	Dinner - Murphy Regional Center			
7:00-9:00	Open Arms Youth Celebration with Straight Up: College Hall			

For further information, contact: Dr. K. David Hines, Mount Olive College
634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365; 919-658-2502, FAX 919-658-7180

----- **Clip and Return** -----

Registration for Youth Quake

Please reply by April 5

I/We will be present by:

4:00pm _____

6:00pm _____

7:00pm _____

Dinner: \$4.00 (for those 12 & up)

\$2.00 (for those 11 & under)

and will be bringing (how many each):

Adults/Leaders _____

Youth (ages 13 & up) _____

Youth (ages 9-12) _____

Youth (ages 5-8) _____

An offering will be received

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

Please clip & return this form to: Mr. Darren Davenport, Box 6248, Mount Olive College, Mt. Olive, NC 28365

*Mount Olive College Choir
in Concert*

Tuesday, April 12th

Rodgers Chapel

7:30 p.m.

directed by Burke Raper, Jr.

Mount Olive College Singers

to perform

21st Annual Spring Fling

Thursday, April 21st

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

8:00 p.m.

directed by Irene Patten





Lee Davenport Witte

Mrs. Witte grew up in the Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church community in Washington County near Lake Phelps. Her childhood years were very difficult due to the death of her mother and, later, the death of her grandfather with whom she made her home following her mother's death.

In the late 1980s, she returned to the Mount Tabor church community for the first time in 49 years. Her poems in *Because I Love You* and *Levora*, her first collection of poetry published by the Mount Olive College Press, are for the most part autobiographical, reflecting both painful and pleasant experiences. These poems also reflect her search for her eastern North Carolina and Free Will Baptist heritage.

Her present marriage to Roland Ratcliffe "Cliff" Witte has enabled her, through poetry, to recollect memories and express emotions important to the growth of a Southern woman. Mrs. Witte's poetic style is unique. She manages with her imagery, her sense of place, and her feelings to convey personal memories and vivid thoughts.

The Mount Olive College Press and W. Burkette Raper, President cordially invite you to a dinner launching ***Because I Love You*** by Mrs. Lee Davenport Witte Thursday, April 14th at 7 o'clock in the evening Lois K. Murphy Regional Center Mount Olive, North Carolina

Remarks

The Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr. Governor of North Carolina

Poetry Reading
Mrs. Witte, Author
Los Angeles, California

Reply Card

Please Return by April 7

_____ Yes, I will attend the launching of Lee Davenport Witte's *Because I Love You* on April 14.

_____ Number in my party

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____

_____ Please send me an advance copy of *Because I Love You* (cost \$26.95, including tax, shipping and handling). My check is enclosed.



MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE: IN SERVICE TO ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**SPRING 1994****YOUTHQUAKE II: THE AFTERSHOCK**

Saturday, April 9 • College Hall, 4 p.m.

This youth program will provide workshops for youth and youth leaders, beginning at 4 p.m. and concluding with a 7 p.m. rally featuring music by "Straight Up."

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE CHOIR • SPRING CONCERT • BURKE RAPER, DIRECTOR

Tuesday, April 12 • Rodgers Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

The thirty-voice choir will have as guest vocalists Sharon Pelt Roach (Class of '78) and her husband, Hal Roach, minister of music at Knightdale Baptist Church. Accompanying the choir will be a five-member string ensemble. The concert is free and open to the public.

MOC PRESS PRESENTS BECAUSE I LOVE YOU BY MRS. LEE DAVENPORT WITTE OF LOS ANGELES

Thursday, April 14 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 7 p.m.

Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. will speak on the service of Mount Olive College to the people of North Carolina and Mrs. Witte will read selections from her new book, *Because I Love You*, published by the College Press. Mrs. Witte, born 1922 in her grandfather's log cabin near Mount Tabor FWB Church, left Creswell, North Carolina, at the age of sixteen and did not return for forty-nine years. Her book reveals her search not only for her family heritage but also for the spiritual values which sustained her through the years. There is no charge for the dinner but reservations are required by April 11.

SUNDAY BUFFET IN THE LOIS K. MURPHY REGIONAL CENTER**FEATURING MUSIC BY JACK AND JULIA BIRCHER**

Sunday, April 17, Buffet: Noon until 1:30 p.m., Program: 1:30 p.m.

Enjoy your Sunday Dinner in the Murphy Regional Center and stay for a program of inspirational music by Jack and Julia. Their arrangements of music for marimba and piano will feature traditional and contemporary Christian works. The cost of the buffet (including tax, beverage, and dessert) is \$5.95 for adults, and \$3.00 for children under 12. To make reservations for groups, contact Dr. David Hines.

21ST ANNUAL SPRING FLING • MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SINGERS • IRENE PATTEN, DIRECTOR

Thursday, April 21 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 8 p.m.

"The marvelous Mount Olive College Singers, which are my favorite singing group in the entire state, have taken a message of joy and totally positive affirmation to Free Will Baptists and others throughout this state and several other states," declares Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. Expect to be entertained! The program is free and open to the public.

RETIREMENT BANQUET FOR DR. MICHAEL R. PELT

Saturday, April 23 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 7 p.m.

Friends and alumni are invited to this event held in honor of Dr. Pelt, who has served for 37 years (1957-1994) as chairman of Mount Olive College's Department of Religion. Cost of the buffet dinner will be \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under age 12. For reservations, contact Dr. David Hines.

COMMENCEMENT WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, May 8 • Rodgers Chapel, 7 p.m.

The Reverend Willis Wilson, pastor of Reedy Branch FWB, Winterville, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon.

GRADUATION

Saturday, May 14 • College Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Commencement 1994 will be a celebration of the fortieth graduating class in the history of Mount Olive College. Delivering the graduation address will be the Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor of North Carolina. All friends of the College are cordially invited.

LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF JAMES BAXTER HUNT (SENIOR)

Saturday, May 14 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 12:15 p.m.

Following graduation, there will be a luncheon in honor of Mr. Hunt in appreciation for 30 years of service on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees. The luncheon is open to the public but reservations are required. Tickets are available at \$5.95 for adults, \$3.00 for children under 12. (Price includes tax, beverage and dessert.) For reservations, contact Dr. David Hines.

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION

Friday-Sunday, May 20-22 • Campus of Mount Olive College

For information on this program contact Mrs. Dianne Riley, Director of Admissions.



Kinfolk

a family conference

What's Kinfolk?

Kinfolk is a conference designed for the family. It will include lectures, discussion groups, and free time. We have even planned activities for the very young so that the adults will be free to participate in the lectures and discussion groups. With this conference, we hope to offer information, help, and encouragement for the problems confronting families today.

What Are the Dates?

April 3-7, 1994. We plan to have you arrive Sunday, April 3, 1994, by 8 p.m. and to begin our program at 8:30 p.m. Each morning (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), we will have our lectures and discussions. Following lunch, you are on your own to shop, sight see, and/or study as you like. Each evening, we will have a devotional activity. Thursday, following breakfast, the conference will end.

What Is the Cost?

The cost is \$65 per person. Children 5 years old and younger may attend free of charge. If you are interested, please fill out this form and return it with a \$25 family registration fee (non-returnable). Send everything to:

"Kinfolk"
c/o Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

For more information, please call (704) 669-7677
or FAX to (704) 669-1463

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONES: (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Number in Family Attending Conference _____ Children's Ages _____

Cragmont Conference Schedule for 1994

KINFOLK

(Family Week Retreat)

April 3-7

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

MORNING STAR

April 8-10

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE

June 6-11

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

June 13-16

Philip Boykin
Route 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE

June 20-25

Gary Bailey
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

YFA Week

June 27--July 2

Scott and Janie Sowers
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

AFC Week

July 4-9

Doug Skinner
817 Lynn Road
Durham, NC 27703

GENERAL YOUTH II CONFERENCE

July 11-16

Chris Singleton
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

GENERAL YOUTH I CONFERENCE

July 18-23

Bryant Hines
Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

July 25-30

Donald Mason
Box 672
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE

August 1-6

Teresa Ball
Route 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

BRANSON LIMITED EDITION

September 22-28

Cragmont Club I

October 14-16

FALL LIMITED EDITION

October 17-20

Cragmont Club II

October 21-23

CHRISTMAS LIMITED EDITION

December 1-4

(For the Above Five Contact:)

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711



It's easy to become a Lifetime Cragmont Club member! For just \$1,500--which can be paid over 3 years--you can become a Club member for life! Not only do you get to enjoy the benefits of membership, but you can have the satisfaction of investing in Cragmont's future. Just fill out the form below and mail it to:

Lifetime Club
c/o Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Lifetime Club Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

APRIL IS... HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM MONTH

"Touching Lives for a Lifetime"

Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
919-746-4963

JUNE AND AUGUST WOMEN'S TRIPS

Tuesday: Black Mountain Shopping Trip, \$2.50

Wednesday: Asheville/Farmer's Market, \$2.50

Thursday: Mountain Images of Christ, \$45.00

Mountain Images of Christ

A Bible tour of the mountains is planned for the 1994 summer camp weeks for the women. The trip will begin at 10 a.m. and will provide beautiful scenery that will be interwoven with devotions related to key events in Christ's life. Among our stops will be Lake Junaluska and the Natchala Gorge.

The trip will conclude on the lighter side in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, with some shopping time and tickets to a musical show starring Ava Barber and Dick Dale, former members of the Lawrence Welk Show.

REGISTER FOR CAMP

NOW...

There's No Need to Wait!

MORNING STAR Woman's Auxilliary Retreat

Cragmont Assembly
April 8-10

Dianne B. Riley, speaker

Send \$10 registration to:

Teresa Ball

Route 1, Box 96-B

Grifton, NC 28530

Balance due upon arrival

1994 Youth Frontier Conferences Cragmont Assembly

YFA Week

June 27-July 2

Scott and Janie Sowers

Route 1, Box 106-B

Farmville, NC 27828

\$160; \$60 registration fee

AFC Week

July 4-9

Doug Skinner

817 Lynn Road

Durham, NC 27703

\$160; \$25 registration fee

See next month's issue of

The Free Will Baptist

for more details about these conferences.

You can also contact the directors for more information.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY SUMMER WEEKS

Cragmont Assembly

June 6-11

Cynthia Craft, speaker

August 1-6

Willem and Lydia van der Plas,
speakers

Total Cost: \$120

Send \$20 registration fee to:

Teresa Ball

Route 1, Box 96-B

Grifton, NC 28530

If you have questions, contact:

Donna Holland

Route 2, Box 246

Fremont, NC 27830

BRANSON LIMITED

Cragmont is offering an exciting trip in September 1994 to Branson, Missouri. The price includes cost by motor coach, six nights lodging (one in Nashville, three in Branson, one in Jackson, TN, and one at Cragmont); two meals at Cragmont; three breakfasts and two dinners while in Branson; lunch in Springfield; four shows in Branson; a visit to the "Fantastic Caverns"; and a trip to the Bass Pro Shop in Springfield. All of this is offered for \$700 per person. This excludes personal spending money and the cost of the meals not designated.

"Branson Limited" will begin on Thursday, September 22, 1994. Transportation to Cragmont will be provided by motor coach, with several stops in eastern North Carolina. Lunch will be served at Cragmont and then we will travel to Nashville for our first night.

Friday, September 23, will be spent traveling to Branson and settling into our motel, giving you an opportunity to see some of the beauty of the central United States.

Saturday, September 24, promises to be fun, beginning with breakfast on the Lake Queen. We will cruise the river and have live entertainment while we eat breakfast. After breakfast, we will go to the Branson Mall for some shopping. While we are there, lunch will be eaten. In the afternoon, we will go to the Mel Tillis Theatre. After the matinee, we will go back to the motel and get ready for dinner at the Apple Mill Restaurant. Then we will head on to "The Shepherd of the Hills," an outdoor drama portraying a great American classic. The "Shepherd" has been filmed by Hollywood four times.

Sunday, September 25, will be another fun-filled day, with breakfast at the Bonanza Restaurant. After we have finished eating, we will have a short devotion while we are all together. There will be free time to do what you want until 11:30 a.m., when we will meet to take a ride on "The Ducks." This is a 70-minute excursion through the heart of the Ozark Mountain Country. The Ducks travel over land and water, making this a unique ride. After this adventure, we will enjoy a matinee at the Andy Williams Moon River Theatre. After the matinee, we will head back to the motel for a little rest before dinner. Dinner will be at the Roy Clark Crystal Hall before traveling to the Shoji Tabuchi Theatre.

On Monday, September 26, we will pack up and leave Branson. After the luggage is on the bus, we will have breakfast at the Dondics Riverboat Restaurant. We will then head north to Springfield and make a couple of stops. The first stop will be at the "Fantastic Caverns." Because the beauty of the Caverns is vulnerable, the Cave is toured in jeep-drawn trams (no walking). After we tour the Cave, we will travel on to the Bass Pro Shop for a visit. While there, we will enjoy lunch together. After lunch, we will head to Jackson, Tennessee, for the night, stopping along the way for dinner.

Tuesday, September 27, we will check out of the motel by 8 a.m. and stop for breakfast on the way out. We will eat lunch and dinner on the way back to Cragmont, where we will spend the night.

"Branson Limited" will come to an end on Wednesday, September 28, 1994. The bus will leave after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space, we will only be able to accept forty people. Reservations will be taken on a first-come first-accepted basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form, along with a \$100 non-returnable deposit* for each person. Payments of \$100 per person are due on January 15, 1994, February 15, 1994, March 15, 1994, May 15, 1994, June 15, 1994; and the final payment on July 15, 1994. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Branson.

If room is available, you may register anytime, but if a payment date has passed, all amounts up to that date will have to be paid.

If you are interested in taking this trip, please register. Sometimes we hear people say that they are waiting to find out if we get enough people before they will send in their registration. Please don't fear for your deposit. If you register and we do not get enough people to do the tour, please rest assured we will return your check as soon as the decision is made. Also, many people hesitate to register because they fear the tour is already full. Once again, please be assured that if you send in a deposit and we have reached the maximum number for the trip, we will return your check promptly.

Come join us for this special get-away. All arrangements are made by Cragmont, freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*We will need to have 30 people to sign up by May 15, 1994, or the trip will be canceled and all money will be refunded.

Mail to "Branson Limited," Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Night _____

Church _____

If you have a roommate preference, please list name here:

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of such as: heart condition ___ diabetes ___ hypoglycemia ___ trouble with stairs ___ other ___

Preferred Bus Stop (La Grange will not be the busline we will be using so no La Grange Bus Lot stop will be made. We will be coming as straight up Highway 70 as possible.)

Non-refundable deposit: \$100 _____ (Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.)

CAMP VANDEMERE

by the Rev. Owen Authur

The time is fast approaching for another year of camp at Camp Vandemere. The camp manager is already praying and getting excited as he makes plans for another year. The thought of our young people coming and having a time of spiritual renewal is something to get excited about.

Not only is the manager excited, but the directors of the various weeks are beginning to get busy preparing for their weeks of spiritual renewal with our young people. Some of these have been directors previously, while others will be directors for the first time. It doesn't matter whether they have directed camp before or it's their first time; they all are putting time, energy, and prayer into planning their week. The Camp is fortunate to have good, dedicated directors who are willing to give their time to help our young people have a closer walk with the Lord.

The directors and manager are not the only ones who are anticipating the arrival of the camping season. The Board of Directors have been busy doing their part to help get the Camp ready for the campers. A clean-up day is planned for Saturday, April 23, starting about 9 a.m. We would like to invite the Camp's many friends to come and join us in this clean-up day. As they say on T.V., "Come on down," bring your rakes, shovels, lawn mowers, and anything else you might need to help.

Some might want to turn it into a weekend; they might want to stay in the dorms, or bring the family and stay in our new family center. The ladies can be a big help by washing windows and doing what we men call "women's work." Another idea is for those who like to camp out to bring their work tools, along with their campers; and after the work is finished, just relax and spend the night in your camper at the camp site.

We also want you to lend us your children for a week of spiritual renewal at camp. Check the schedule and find the week best suited for them and send them to us. If you are a member of the Light House Keeper's Club, you may designate a camper to come, because you have been faithful in giving \$10 a month all year. Others might like to join our Light Home Club, so that next year you can send a child to camp. When you join, please note on your check that you want it to go to the Club.

Often times, you want to slip away for a quiet weekend. You want to forget about the business, the farm, the job, or whatever. How about considering our newly built and furnished family center at the Camp? We have two that are finished and ready for some nice people like you to spend the weekend. Pick up the phone and make your reservations by calling our manager, the Rev. Ralph Sumner, at 919-298-5885. He'll be happy to put your name down. The rates are \$30 for up to three people; \$10 for each additional person, or a maximum of \$50.

We would like to thank all our faithful supporters; without your prayers and financial support, the Camp would not be available. To those individuals, churches, and other groups who support us regularly, we want to say thank you. Our support has been good and we appreciate it very much.

Some of our churches have gotten together and had Camp Vandemere revivals. What a great way to fellowship, proclaim the name of our Lord, and raise funds for Camp Vandemere. It's the faithfulness of people like you that has been the success of the Camp, as well as those who have been faithful with smaller offerings. It takes all to keep the Camp going for the Lord.

Please pray for our camp, its manager, directors, and campers. Pray that souls will be won for the Saviour and others brought close to Him. Come visit your camp, or call and make reservations to spend a weekend.

INVITATION

Again this summer, we have a full schedule. We would like for you to take part by sending some of your youth to a week of camp; or for the ladies to spend a week or a day during Women's Week. Your youth group, Sunday School class, or men's group might think of spending a day or weekend with us.

We would like to have some Camp Vandemere Rallies in different areas or in each church. If we can be of any help in such plans contact us.

Again, we are asking individuals, classes, or families to fill bags with coins and bring them to the Eastern Conference in October.

The Eastern Conference has declared the first Sunday in July (July 3) as Camp Vandemere Day in our churches. Please encourage your people to have special prayer for the Camp and receive a special offering.

Should you want a representative to come to your church, let us know.

The week of camp begins on Monday at 10 a.m. and closes at 10 a.m. on Friday. Weekend groups are asked to come in at 4 p.m. on Friday and leave by 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Send all contributions to: Mrs. Judy Kennedy, 933 N. N. C. 41, Pink Hill, NC 28572; phone, (919) 298-4311.

CAMP VANDEMERE

1994 SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 20-24

WOMEN'S WEEK

Mrs. Judy Kennedy, Registrar

933 N. N. C. 41

Pink Hill, NC 28572

Phone 298-4311

July 4-8

Richard Holmes, Director

5701 Countryside Road

Wilson, NC 27893

Home Phone: 206-0888

Church Phone: 237-8938

Jason Modlin, Co-director

Route 1, Box 188

Pinetown, NC 27865

Phone 964-4110

JULY 11-15

Mrs. Eva Mae Clark, Director

465 Half Moon Road

New Bern, NC 28560

Phone 637-5346

JULY 18-22

Stanley Buck, Director

108 Hope Lodge Street

Tarboro, NC 27886

Phone 823-3964

JULY 25-29

Joe Radcliff, Director

Box 487

Fremont, NC 27830

Phone 242-5359

AUGUST 8-12

David Vesper, Director

1866 Highway 24-East

Newport, NC 28570

Phone 726-3051

For applications, contact the director in charge of desired week. For other information, contact the Rev. Ralph Sumner, 571 Sumner Road, Pink Hill, NC 28572; phone 298-5885.

We now have a private sleeping lodge for individuals or groups; also, we have mobile camper and tent spaces. For reservations, contact the Rev. Ralph Sumner.

For the directed weeks of camp, the rates are \$50, plus an activity fee set by each director. Overnight rates in the dorms are \$5 (no linens, towels, pillows furnished). Meals are: breakfast, \$3; lunch, \$3.50; supper, \$4.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

April 8-9, 1994
Eagles' Nest, Mount Olive, NC

Theme: "How to Walk and Talk with God"
"This I say then, walk in the Spirit..." (Galatians 5:6).

Friday, April 8

6:00 p.m. Fellowship and Sharing Time
7:30 p.m. Program, "Movin' Up Quartet,"
Dining Hall

Saturday, April 9

9:00-9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
9:30-10:15 a.m. "The Role of the Bible,"
the Rev. Jeff Daughtry
10:15-10:45 a.m. Recreation and Fellowship
10:45-11:30 a.m. "The Role of Prayer," Preston Radford
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch and Recreation
1:00-1:45 p.m. "The Role of the Christian,"
the Rev. Dean Kennedy
1:45-2:15 p.m. Recreation
2:15-2:45 p.m. Prayer and Meditation
2:45-3:30 p.m. Sharing Time
3:30 p.m. Benediction

Additional Information:

All sessions on Saturday will be at Eagles' Nest.
If you plan to stay overnight at Eagles' Nest, bring your sleeping bag and whatever else you will need to stay overnight.
Lunch on Saturday will be served by the laymen.
Bring your Bible with you. You will need it on Saturday.
Recommended reading: *Love Not the World* by Watchman Nee.
(This book may be ordered through the Free Will Baptist Press.)
For additional information, please contact *the Rev. Frank R. Harrison*, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365; office, 658-2502; home, 658-9363; or *Mr. John Newton*, 500 West Walnut Street, Tarboro, NC 27886; office, 823-7776; home, 823-3049.

About the Speakers:

The Rev. Jeff Daughtry is pastor of Westside Church, Kinston, NC.
Mr. Preston Radford is a lay leader and member of Harrell's Chapel Church, Snow Hill, NC.
The Rev. Dean Kennedy is pastor of Haymount Church, Fayetteville, NC.

Registration for Layman's League SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

Each person planning to attend the retreat is requested to complete and return this form by April 1.

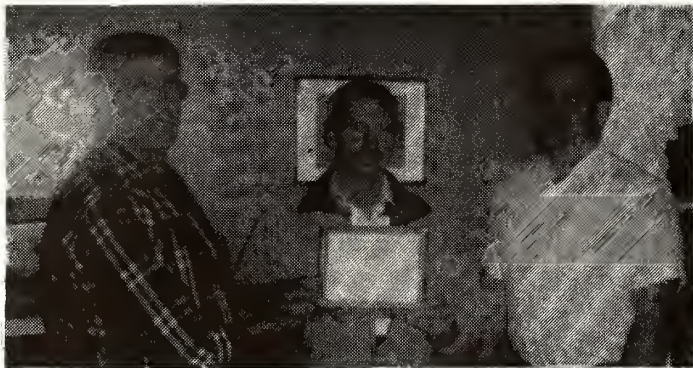
Make checks for overnight accommodations payable to State Layman's League.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Church _____
Conference _____
Home Telephone _____

(Check appropriate blanks.) I plan to attend the retreat at Eagles' Nest on April 9.
 I plan to stay at Eagles' Nest Friday night, April 8 (\$5).

Please return this form to: Mr. Roney Bunn, 7655 Leonard Road, Kenly, NC 27542-9430.

SCENES FROM RECENT LAYMAN'S LEAGUE HAPPENINGS



The laymen of Spring Branch Church, Walstonburg, were recently chartered as a Layman's League. Shown are State President Elmer Harrell, Kenneth Craft of Spring Branch Church, and the Rev. Walter R. Tyndall, pastor.



Larry Head is congratulated for being elected president of Harrell's Chapel Church's Layman's League by the pastor, the Rev. Chuck Owens.



Ronnie Manning gives last-minute instructions to the cook, the Rev. Chuck Owens, at the Prayer Breakfast at Harrell's Chapel Church, Snow Hill.



The Promotional Committee of the State Layman's League gathers for one of their meetings at Elmer Harrell's office in Snow Hill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- April 7 Promotional Board of the Layman's League, Elmer Harrell's office (Southeast Third Street), Snow Hill; 7 p.m.
April 8-9 Spiritual Life Retreat, Eagles' Nest, Mount Olive College (see related information on Page 27)
May 5 Executive Board of the Layman's League, Elmer Harrell's office, Snow Hill, NC; 7 p.m.
May 6 State Layman's League Meeting, Harrell's Chapel Church, Highway 58, near Snow Hill; supper, 7 p.m.; business, 7:45 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION GOALS

by Frank Grubbs

One of the many noteworthy points from the Sunday School Institute at Daniels Chapel Church on March 5 was brought out in a workshop conducted by the Rev. David Charles Hansley. He correctly pointed out that in the educational work of the local church, we need to know where we are going and to decide how we are going to get there. This suggests that we need to set Christian education goals. Even though it may not be common practice to formally write general educational goals, it is possible and certainly needed. The educational ministry of the local church will play a very important role in the church's overall success. If we are going to be prepared for the challenges of the future, we need some

direction. Setting and adopting goals will give the church clear direction for its educational ministry. Written goals will also make it possible for the educational leadership or Board of Christian Education (BCE) to perform needed evaluation.

Where do we begin in writing goals for the educational ministry of the church? The first step is to review or develop a statement of purpose for the church. This statement should take into consideration such things as the geographic area of ministry, those to be reached by the ministry, the activities required for ministry, the expected results of the ministry, and the biblical foundation for this ministry. Such a statement would give the BCE a starting point for the development of a definition of Christian education that will be consistent

with the overall statement of purpose (mission) for the church. This definition needs to be explained and adopted by the church.

The second step would be for the BCE to develop general educational goals from the definition. Next, from the general goals, the educational needs of the church and community should be identified. These needs should be prioritized and specific goals developed to meet these needs. Specific goals should be dated, clearly stated, and measurable so that program and plans of action can be developed and evaluated.

The church can be prepared for the challenges of the future if we are willing to do the work of "re-visioning" (a term borrowed from Mr. Hansley). The educational work of the church is as important today as it was the day Sunday School began.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman
Executive Administrator
Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

INTO THE CHURCHES

As of the time of this writing, I have been granted the opportunity and privilege to visit and speak in eighteen of our churches. In practically all instances, my visits have been on Sunday mornings; however, Sunday evenings are always open. I am deeply appreciative to the pastors and churches for the opportunity to come before them as the representative of our Convention, an opportunity that I hope to continue to take advantage of as the doors continue to open.

Occasionally, I have been a part of special services. Such was the case on February 20, when Ruby and I attended the 60th anniversary celebration at Sherron Acres Original Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, NC. A part of this celebration included the honoring of the Rev. and Mrs. Fred A. Rivenbark for their thirty-eight years of service given to the Sherron Acres Church. Bro. Rivenbark has served as pastor on three different occasions. For the last 19 years, as a retired minister, he has served as associate pastor. Of this couple, the church stated: "Even in this season of life, God is still using you. From visiting to preaching, from weddings to funerals, from counseling to taking care of each other, you have not grown weary in the work of God. May God give you many more years to keep knocking on doors and ringing door



We enjoyed our visit to Sherron Acres and pray God's continual blessings upon this Western Conference church.

WHEN THINGS DON'T WORK RIGHT

Our last ministries slide program was put together almost two years ago. Occasionally, however, we are still asked to present it. The last time was on February 21 at the Eastern District Layman's League meeting which was held at Soundview Church. Ordinarily, any problem that develops with the projector I can handle, but such was not the case that evening. As the slide program began, we noted that the slides were not synchronized with the tape. When trying to correct this, the slides jammed so that the reel would drop in its proper place to allow the reel to advance. We never were able to make the correction and finally, in frustration, gave up. Again, as we did that evening, we offer our apologies to the laymen of the Eastern District. Maybe next time....?



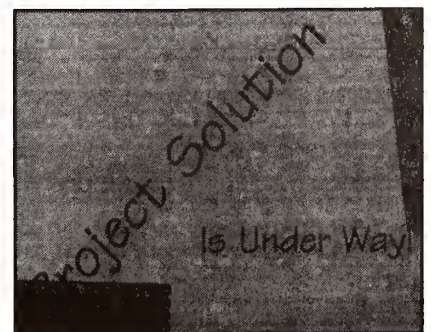
The Rev. Fred Rivenbark

bells." Family and friends honored Bro. Rivenbark for his love and concern for

others, and especially for his ability to witness to the lost.

Sherron Acres Church was organized by Mr. Quillie Hansley, a native of Onslow County. During its sixty year history, the church has undergone several building projects and now is blessed with property valued at more than \$800,000. The church membership stands at 230. An excellent choir, youth organizations, Woman's Auxiliaries, and Layman's League compliment the total ministry of the church. In addition, there is a rest home ministry and family ministry plan.

Since May of 1991, the Rev. Doug Skinner has served as pastor. His wife and family have become a vital part of the ministry of this church and are to be commended for the work they are doing.



PART II

FROM MANILA TO PALAWAN TO THE FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSIONS AT THE PALAWAN BIBLE COLLEGE IN PUERTO PRINCESA

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Resident
Mount Olive College

Harold and Sandra Jones shuffled reservations about in Manila until they located rooms for their six late arrivals from Hong Kong. Once established in the Shalom Guest House at L. M. Guerrero Street, Malate, Manila, we all began to relax, rejoice, and rejuvenate.

We slipped out to eat at the Orchid House and discovered a wonderful small green lime, calamansi, for the hot tea. I requested hot tea because I was afraid of the water. Harold encouraged us to enjoy the native foods, such as papaya and mango fruits.

My roommate, Alma Dale, was rejuvenated and told the story of a woman who asked a man to pick up her heavy suitcases and put them on the back of his truck.

The man tartly replied, "You pick them up yourself. Who do you think you are?"

The women who had done so much for the people in Japan thought silently, "Lord, after all I have done for these people and that's how I am appreciated." Then another voice answered her, "Is that what you're over here for--to be appreciated? Are you here to be appreciated or to do the Lord's work?"

Then Alma Dale burst out into song: "God is so good. He's so good to me. I love Him so...."

MIKE SCOTT'S DEVOTION

To prepare our spirits for the flight ahead to Palawan, Mike Scott, pastor of Wintergreen Church in Cove City, led a devotion. He turned to 1 Kings 18:26-30. He talked about the need of Israel for a revival. Ahab, the king, and Jezebel, the queen, were "a wicked, ungodly pair." The conflict of Baal worship drew out the Prophet Elijah. Before the Prophet offered his sacrifice, the altar of the Lord had to be repaired. It needed rebuilding, strengthening.

"Maybe our altars in the Free Will Baptist churches and missions need *using*, need *repairing*. Maybe we need to go back to our altars more, back to that place of prayer, back to that place of communion. Elijah did a wonderful thing," said Mike Scott. "He re-established worship. He knew God must be the One to rebuild the altar and that man must use the altar as a place of prayer.

Nothing significant happens separate from prayer. Moses prayed and the Red Sea opened. Daniel prayed and he was protected from the mouths of lions. Peter prayed and the prison doors were opened.

We need to pray boldly, fervently. We need a sense of urgency about prayer. We need to re-discover the simplicity of prayer, the prayer that cuts to the chase," he said as we huddled together in a small room at the Shalom Guest House in Manila. Mike Scott was preparing our spirits for the pilgrimage ahead to the Philippine mission field.

"We need a revival within ourselves," Mike declared. "We need to 'repair' the altar, pray, and give God his proper place. Elijah reminded the Israelites, 'Thou art

God in Israel and I am thy servant.' Elijah doesn't say he is a great prophet. He is not boastful or proud. Elijah is humbled before the Lord. He refers to himself as nothing more than God's servant. Paul refers to himself as the servant to Christ, as a slave to Christ. Revival takes place in us as God is given first place. The revival occurred because Elijah obeyed God's word. The heart of people chases many things," Mike continued. "The heart chases power, prestige, pleasure, money. But the heart of people must be turned back to the way of God. God must have first place or no place," he declared.

"And," he concluded, "when the power and presence of the Lord come, we'll see it, feel it, taste it. God answers by fire, and we need that revival within us now. God is Lord."

Alma Dale sang, "He is Lord. He has risen from the dead and He is Lord. Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

Cars zoomed outside the Shalom Guest House. The cottage across the street was silent. A Filipino boy played with his truck. Lib Scott said she was a Balik Bayan--a person who is returning home. The Philippines seemed like home to her.

Home is where the heart revives.

Above: Filipino Free Will Baptists came from all areas of Palawan to welcome our group to the Philippines.



PALAWAN AND THE FWB CHURCH PHILIPPINES, INC. BANNER

Renewed by Mike Scott's devotion, we flew to Palawan and found ourselves welcomed at the airport by the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines, Inc. banner waving with the people. The Filipino members had come from all areas of the island--from Canigaran, San Pedro, Puerto Princesa.

Ellen Hagedorn, wife to the mayor of Puerto Princesa, was on hand at the airport to greet the eye surgeons who had come from America to do free cataract operations. The Palawan Lions Club is world famous for its ability to get both government assistance and American eye doctors to help the vision-impaired people of Palawan.

Lion Guillermo De Venecia was in his 15th year in working with the rural free eye clinic. The "SIGHT FIRST" banner moved with the breeze just as the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines, Inc. banner. Both reflected the human urgency for vision--one physical, the other spiritual.



THE FREE WILL BAPTISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Free Will Baptist Church has appointed general supervisors on some foreign mission fields. Dr. Emmanuel Lall supervises the Free Will Baptist outreach in India and Nepal. Antonio Escobar is in Mexico. The Free Will Baptist Church Philippines is directed by a Board of Trustees with elected officers in key positions.

Waiting to take us to our lodging was Mathan, a member of the Maranatha FWB Church. To watch him sit in the center of the front seat of his jeepney was intriguing, if not alarming. However, Mathan knew what he was doing, how he could best judge traffic and maneuver his own vehicle.

Early upon arrival our group joined members of the Free Will Baptist Church at the Palawan Bible College location to worship. Harold Jones introduced Mike Scott as the guest speaker.

The electric piano livened the room and Roger Malinao welcomed us. Little lizards scurried along the roof while the child, Ira, sat in Alma Dale's lap. Children freely moved about the church as Mike Scott began his welcome message.

MIKE SCOTT'S WELCOME MESSAGE AT PALAWAN

"We serve a great God," he began with a certain edge of passion. "That God has brought us together. We serve the same God. God created the heavens, the moon, the universe, the stars. God created man from the dust of the earth and fashioned man in His likeness. God breathed the breath of life and man became a living soul. We all have a living soul. All of us tonight in the Philippines have a living soul," he said intensely.

He proceeded to emphasize three things about the soul: (a) the immortality of the soul, (b) the importance of the soul, (c) the illumination of the soul.

"Our souls need to be guarded, to be cherished," he declared. "You might get all the coins from the bank of Palawan, thousands,

but they do not come near to the value of one soul. Our soul is immortal. Our soul is important. What can we do now to free our soul, to strengthen our soul? We can worship. We can read the Word of God," he said.

"Tonight," he concluded, "we can draw strength from one another. We can strengthen our soul by Scripture, by prayer, by worship together. Our body may die if we starve ourselves to death, but so may our souls die for lack of food. The soul needs the lamp of the Bible. Our soul is strengthened as we read God's Word."

Top: The Free Will Baptist Church of Palawan is located on the Palawan Bible College campus. Bottom: Many Filipino Free Will Baptists live in nipa huts.



PALAWAN

Filipino Free Will Baptists held a welcoming banner in the Palawan airport breeze to embrace the curious travellers shuffled from across the world to join missionaries Harold and Sandra Jones. Warmth permeated the island's space as rippled Filipino smiles erupted and thin, tanned hands waved: the arrival a moment of being.

Palawan stretched ahead-- its flat rice fields, undulating round mountains, thick tropical leaves, ancient ox carts, dolled-up jeepneys, daring scooters, packed fish market, exotic island crafts awaiting visitors as if time stopped, modernity a thing of planes, Palawan a feudal footnote.

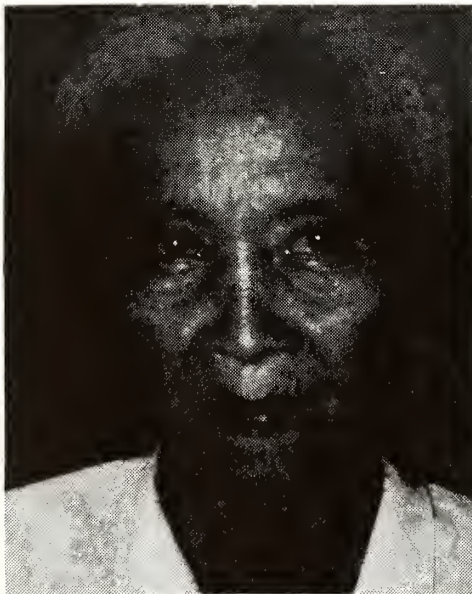
Nipa huts lined small villages while handmade fishing boats rocked in sea winds that bathed the island.

Leisurely Filipino families moved across the island to shift produce to markets, trucks, carts, wagons stacked as high as the distant mountains as if to make one cargo enough for trading.

Jeepney driver Mathan swung his crew across crumbling rocks, bridge edges, road centers to slip the startled pilgrims in and out of pristine villages in Palawan.

Planted in Puerto Princesa's space sat the Palawan Bible College-- a reminder of Free Will Baptist attempts to educate: knowledge necessary in growth, faith's roots hungry for the Scripture that reminds the weary of the Bread of Life. Palawan's island heat warmed the land, the people, the nights making time rock towards peace as if Christ might have walked the waters here today.

Pepper Worthington



Delbert Scott came forward to tell the Filipinos, "I'm glad to be here. You are such a beautiful people."

Alma Dale stood up, came forward, and declared, "We in America pray for your work here in the Philippines. The people in my church send greetings to you."

Maricar Malinao sang a solo--"And friends are friends forever

if the Lord is Lord of them...."

Top: Harold and Sandra Jones had to work for their water in the tower containers behind their house in Puerto Princesa, Palawan. Bottom: Filipino grandmothers, like Ma'am Pesing, are active in the FWB Church at Palawan.

SHHH! I AM STANDING ON HOLY GROUND

The following article was written by Mrs. Rose Bowen, the widow of the Rev. C. F. Bowen, a well-known minister of our ranks. Mrs. Bowen has been quite sick and wishes to express her heart-felt opinions and feelings with the readers of this publication.

by Rose G. Bowen

This morning I went to bed at 5 a.m. I awoke and arose at 8:30 a.m. Seems like around three or three and a half hours are my limit since I was critically ill in January and February. I had bronchial pneumonia, which I have had often in my life. I have been having visions with the Lord talking with me; and as I rest in bed, I "write" more articles and books than you can imagine.

I think that Jesus is ready for me to share some of these thoughts with my precious Free Will Baptist friends, ministers, friends from other denominations, and anyone that cares to read it.

I was so sick! Dr. Ribeiro, who is my doctor now, gave me an antibiotic, not knowing that I was allergic to it. I went back to one of the other doctors since my doctor was off. He paced the floor and said, "Since you have a history of pneumonia, I am afraid that I need to give you another antibiotic," so he did give me another new one. I took two pills and upon awaking the next morning, I was red from the top of my head to the bottom of my feet, including the inside of my ears, nose, and mouth. I called and that doctor was out but they said to get up there because I was having a reaction. He called all the nurses in and began to work on me, inserting a tube as big as my little finger with three tubes coming from that. Also, they gave me oxygen. In the meantime, they called the rescue truck. They carried, or rolled me, out to the rescue truck and connected me to that.

The doctor asked me if I wanted the truth. I, of course, said yes! He said, "I have never seen such a reaction. You could go into heart arrest before you leave my office or on the way to the hospital. I notice that you have a Living Will. Do you want to go on a respirator?" I replied, "No, because I am ready to go to be with Jesus."

I have told you all of this to go way back when Mr. Bowen died. It was ten years ago, January 22, 1984. I became so depressed because when he was home, he would go to the kitchen with me when I went. He loved to make tea and salads. When I cleaned, he cleaned right along with me. He always helped me, even in 1983

when I had gall bladder surgery and was full of gangrene. They would not tell me that I was going to die. Mr. Bowen went to church and asked any friend of mine to come to the altar and be anointed in my place. A friend said before she even knew it that she was at the altar and he anointed her for me and had prayer. I recovered even though I had to have a tube in me for a year and have surgery again, but it did not last because it rotted off.

Well, once again, I was put in surgery and they could not find the piece. It finally came up and they took it out. A nurse came each day to clean the open wound and she finally showed Mr. Bowen how to dress it. He did a better job than she so she told him to take over and he did.

Then my son was defrauded by an agent of commercials. He borrowed \$44,000 from me to clear everything. The place the agent worked went bankrupt. When I found this out, I became so depressed that my doctor in Durham worried about my safety. He called my doctor here to tell him and he called me every day to ask if I was all right. You see, I let the old devil tell me that life wasn't worth it. I went to the bank to take the borrowed money out of the vault and pay the loan off. He, of course, did not like it because Jeff would have paid over \$100,000 if it stayed there. This only left enough for my funeral.

I really became depressed then and living by myself, I get lonely and think a lot. I made up my mind to go where the medicines I take were and fill my stomach until I got enough to die. Before I got there, the doorbell rang. Upon opening the door, I found the Revs. Harold Jones and Walter Sutton. God sent them! I believe it with my whole heart! Mr. Jones brought me a paper with Scriptures on it.

The first one was "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (James 4:7). When you are tempted say, "I know who you are, I know what you are trying to do to me. I have submitted this to God, He is taking care of this. It is no longer a concern of yours."

The second one was, "The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." I believe that God let Mr. Jones bring these two Scriptures to me for a purpose and you better

believe that I have read them many times. I will always believe that God sent them to me at the right time! Also, He sent the two preachers at the right time. The second Scripture was Proverbs 18:10.

Since this last sickness, I do not know whether anyone holds something against me or not. I feel that we have a minister that does and I have written to him and asked him to come see me and get things right. I love him as I do all other Christians but I can't understand why he doesn't write to me or come by to see me and let us talk it out. I know the last time I was around him, he would not speak to me.

I also know, to use an expression that young people use some time, Jesus and I have a wonderful thing going. I was saved at nine years of age in a Missionary Baptist Church, but I moved my membership at age 17 to a Free Will Baptist Church in Durham, NC, because of the doctrine. There were over 200 persons saved and the revival ran 6 weeks. We stayed there until around 1 a.m. praying for souls to be saved. The Rev. Henry Melvin was pastor.

Since nearly dying, I have been closer to the Lord than I have ever been. At night in bed it seems that Jesus is there. I write more books and articles than you can imagine. I suppose that is why I can't sleep. Living alone I pray out loud because I seem to pray better. God is so good to me!

The oncologist which I went to one time after I had the radical mastectomy, said I would never lose weight because they went into my lymph nodes. You see, I had lost 70 pounds and everything seemed better--then cancer. I was taking Nolvaden and regained my 70 pounds on one bottle. It made my blood pressure go up and my heart acted up.

The oncologist wanted to test my liver, lungs, pancreas, bone marrow, etc. I said *no* and that I would only come back to see my surgeon and for mammograms. He said, "Do you not want to know whether you have cancer somewhere else?" I looked into his eyes and said, "No." He said, "I want to know." I answered with this, "Well, honey, you will not know that because I will not be back. You are not going to test me. You see, I love Jesus and I will count on Him."

God is going to be and is so good to me. The doctor hasn't let me go to church for several years and my church was on television, which was good. I received an invitation to a Valentine banquet for senior citizens

on Sunday, February 13, at our church and I began to pray for strength to go. God blessed me and someone came after me and helped me to get in the Fellowship Hall. It was like I was in Heaven. Then Sunday, February 20, someone came and got me, helped me in, and I was anointed and prayed for by my pastor, the Rev. Harry Jones Jr. He asked God to restore my left eye, which a surgeon did surgery on four times in 1993, used too much laser and cut the gland that feeds the fluid to the eyeball. Now, I am completely blind in the left eye and also had a cataract removed from my right eye last year. But all of this is drawing Jesus and me closer together. I will be 78 on April 8, 1994, and I am counting and expecting Jesus to answer my prayers and keep me in the retirement home in which I live; take care of myself; and if I can't cook, make me a sandwich.

Please help the elderly by sending money regularly to Retirement Homes because our homes need repairing like yours. We can't waste God's money by not doing this but you can help by giving. We appreciate what you do and a place to live.

I wish Mr. Bowen could see what is happening to our younger ministers because we believed that churches should help them own their own homes. Churches are beginning to do this and I thank God.

Please don't forget the elderly who worked so hard for you! A card, a prayer, an offering to individuals, a kind word spoken can mean so much. I am dependent on Social Security and I know.

Pray with me, for me, and all others. Pray for my left eye to be restored and my right eye to stay right.

Thank you, Lord, I am on holy ground and know that I will be kept there. Come on, Christians; stand on holy ground with me. I love you all and pray that God will bless each of you real good!

May He give us more preachers which we so badly need. May God bless every program in our denomination. Jesus is coming soon! Will you be on holy ground?

NEED ROOM FOR WA CONVENTION?

Anyone needing information about overnight accommodations for the 1994 State Woman's Auxiliary Convention is encouraged to contact Mrs. Carolyn Jernigan, 910-567-6387; or Mrs. Estelene Tart, 910-892-6668.



A CHURCH IS GROWING

by the Rev. Rodger Motsinger,
Director/Pastor

The name "Friendly Chapel" certainly fits this mission/church. That's what a lot of visitors are saying about us. It is our desire that as we grow the church, we will have a really friendly Christian atmosphere.

One can experience the friendliness and excitement in our growing, not only with people, but spiritually. There is a lot of enthusiasm as the Spirit of God continues to bless us. Everyone is working together, with an intended purpose: to build a church for the cause of the Kingdom in Greensboro, North Carolina.

God has proven that with a vision we can grow. As recorded in Luke 14:23, "And the Lord said unto the servant, go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." Through a very active weekly visitation program, God has sent many people to visit and to remain. As a result, a definite need for a van developed. Through fervent prayer, God opened out hearts and gave us the opportunity to purchase a nice van. We have truly been blessed, as the funds were raised and the van paid for. It's just wonderful to see this vehicle pulling up on Sunday, bringing people to church. To God be the glory!

Our first revival was held in April 1993, with the Rev. David Atkins of Summerfield, NC, serving as the evangelist. Bro. Atkins was richly blessed as he was led by God in directing us through an outstanding revival. Following revival, on Sunday, July 4, we held a baptismal service with two precious souls being baptized.

Much work has been done to the outside and inside of our facility, making our place of worship as nice as possible. Our people have given much time and financial support toward new carpet, furniture, pews, and a kitchen.

As the appointed director/pastor, it was my privilege to present to one of our believ-

ers, Rick Huffman, a beautiful Bible for bringing 17 new visitors during the month of April, as April was designated "Bring a Visitor Month."

Every church needs a nice sign to enhance the invitation to all who pass by, relating that this is God's house and that they are welcome. Recently, a group of our people gathered to restore our sign and to beautify our grounds.

On August 15, 1993, we celebrated our first anniversary. Many friends and relatives experienced a heart-warming fellowship as we gathered for worship, lunch, and an afternoon of special singing by the Bradleys of Winston-Salem, NC.

In less than 3 years, more than 50 people have become members of Friendly Chapel Mission/Church of 1523 Friendly Chapel Church Road, Greensboro, NC. Many persons have received food baskets, clothes, and financial help for lights, heat, and even to assist in making payments on their homes. We continue nursing home ministry and outreach programs with plans to develop more ministry as opportunity prevails.

Our dream, our goal, at Friendly Chapel is to be organized into an established Original Free Will Baptist Church; therefore, we covet your prayers as we follow our challenge and continue to "touch lives for a lifetime."

After serving as an evangelist for 11 years, God seemed to really move upon me to serve Him through this mission/church. God opened the door of opportunity and I followed. I thank God, the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, and especially all Original Free Will Baptists for entrusting me with this wonderful responsibility of serving as director/pastor of this church.

Should you be traveling through Greensboro, please come by to visit and worship with us. See His church growing!

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The Luke H. Wetherington story is a story of miracles. Born with physical and financial restraints, Luke Wetherington has risen to accomplished heights through God working in him and through him. His story is the story of the power of the Lord in a man's life. Read this one and share the spirit of the Lord in a man who is a chosen vessel.

And The Night Rumbles Past by Raymond Dotson (\$5.00)
From the coal mines of Kentucky to the nightmares of war, Raymond Dotson gives the reader a raw earthy poetry that will leave the heart touched, the mind challenged, and the ear ringing.

Blessed Assurance by Jane Register (\$12.95)
In the mood for Christian poetry? Jane Register might be called the Helen Steiner Rice of eastern North Carolina. Her poetry celebrates special occasions, provides assurance in times of trouble, and offers a beacon of hope to any reader.

Church Growth and Evangelism by Dr. K. David Hines (\$11.95)
Dr. K. David Hines is convinced that the growth of a church is linked to its evangelical spirit. In this theological and practical study, Dr. Hines gives the reader both a conceptual insight for the Christian witness and a realistic procedure for Christian communication.

Familiar Quotations: True and False by Ray K. Hodge (\$14.95)
For readers who are fascinated with familiar quotations and how they might be read in a new, somewhat shocking way, Ray K. Hodge has put together this unique interpretation of familiar quotations and left a literary and spiritual treasure with every reader.

He's My Lord by Jane Register (\$7.50)
Want to play the upbeat music of Christian faith? Jane Register's new song will provide both the rhythm and lyrics for a moment of Christian celebration.

Images in Art and Life by Pepper Worthington (\$15.00)
Interested in a psychological perspective of life and art? This little gem is a memoir of a Lucy Daniels Conference held in the Triangle Park. Featured are unique memories of discussions on graffiti, Wagnerian images, dreams, and Florence Nightingale. Witty is the gathering of psychoanalysts and writers who view one another at first as suspects, later as colleagues. After all, both seek the freedom of the creative self.

Images and Echoes: Beaufort-by-the-Sea by Carol Bessent Hayman (\$12.95)
Beaufort's poet laureate, Carol Bessent Hayman, has captured the flavor of historic Beaufort. Prepare to travel with her through time, walk the shadowed lanes, hear old-fashioned Christmas voices, rock on porches, and listen to the sea. Included in this travel gem is a walking tour of Beaufort with a fold-out map. What a bargain for every adventurer of old towns!

In the Shadow of Job by Cleve Wilkie (\$14.95)
Hold on to your seatbelt when you sit down to read this one. Get ready for a fast read with a preacher getting kidnapped, a man murdered, and a host of other plights that echo the tortured Job in the Old Testament. Cris Clayman is the preacher who has something to tell each reader, and that message becomes a gift not to forget.

Just Like Grandma Used To Make by Barbara Anderson Mapp (\$14.95)
Ever wanted to find that old recipe of your grandma's? Ever wished you could cook the way you remember in your childhood? Well, get ready and read Barbara Anderson Mapp's new cookbook and spot some of those old-fashioned recipes that your grandma used to make.

Levora by Lee Davenport Witte (\$12.95)
Want to experience the personal pilgrimage of a woman who grew up in eastern North Carolina, left home, only to return to her roots to discover the value of the land, rural people, and family ties? Read this one. You may even get to know yourself better as you get to know Levora.

Light for Living by Ray K. Hodge (\$12.95)
Need a devotional essay before you go to sleep? Why not pick up Ray K. Hodge's series of devotions and spot the story that will end your day with inspiration and joy.

1992 Mount Olive Review: Images of Women in Literature (\$ 8.50)
You won't believe the variety of articles in this exciting issue of the *Mount Olive Review*. Get ready to read short stories, poems, essays, criticism, quotations, and interviews--all with a slant on women that will wake you up, get you thinking, and send you out smiling.

Winter 1993/Spring 1994 Mount Olive Review: Myth and Literature.. (\$15.00)
For an amazing lively variety of literary articles, poems, essays and book reviews that highlight myth, you might find this issue a treat that will get you thinking about myth and send you into new imaginative connections. More than 60 writers emerge in this cutting-edge journal.

Night Walk by Eddie Williams (\$ 5.00)
Eddie Williams has a flare for rhyme and myth that will haunt your imagination. He carries us through his good ol' boy days and down memory lane until he finds myth. Then he's off with Beowulf, solid images, and fabled sirens. This chapbook is a treat.

Rights and Ethics: Individual Rights and the Common Good (Memoirs of the 1992 Phi Kappa Phi Summer Symposium) by Pepper Worthington (\$ 6.00)
Feel like too many people talk about rights while no one speaks about responsibilities? This upbeat pamphlet is a gem. Co-sponsors, The National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the MOC Press, have joined together to produce a publication that recounts lectures, dialogue, tours, and memories of the 1992 Phi Kappa Phi Summer Symposium in Charlotte which highlighted the concerns of rights and ethical responsibilities. An eyewitness account that is an eye opener!

Stand Up And Be A Voice: Eight Poetic Voice Plays by Pepper Worthington (\$14.95)
Ever read a poetic voice play? No? Then try this new book, because the poems represent voices, all knitted together to make up eight poetic plays. Perfect for a small drama performance. Each play has simple stage directions, character identification through the voice, and a title that reveals the tie that binds the voices. Perfect for student groups, evening programs, and workshop dialogue.

The Challenge of Today: Three Wishes by Dr. Penny B. Ziemer (\$ 2.00)
Wonder what three wishes you would have for today's youth? Dr. Penny B. Ziemer speaks of losing a job, never having an occupation, and hearing a calling as desirable realities for all. Her speech is the second of the MOC Press Mnemosyne Series and will wake any reader up to the concept of the personal voice.

The Scalpel and the Cross by Wilbur L. Creech (\$19.95)
Jerry Landars decides he must leave a lucrative surgery position and head for Leesboro where he will become the desperately needed general practitioner. In a time when medicine is being ferociously criticized, this book appears as a breath of fresh air to remind us of the value of a doctor who serves not only the body but also the soul.

Travels With Dr. Pepper by Pepper Worthington (\$14.95)
Ever been to England, Scotland, and Wales? Ever wanted to see literary places and haunted castles through the eyes of an English teacher? Try this humorous collection of essays that take you from the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral to the hairdresser of Dylan Thomas in Laugharne.

The Triadic Archetype in Keats' Poetry by Pepper Worthington (\$14.95)
Archetypal criticism is once again alive in this new insightful study of John Keats. Dr. Worthington insists that Keats experienced the archetypal shift from innocence to experience to a sought-for reconciliation of the two in his poetry. This one is especially for fans of the Romantic genius, John Keats.

What's 'English' In Departments of English by Pepper Worthington .. (\$15.00)
As the American classroom is becoming multicultural, what is considered 'English' in departments of English? This memoir highlights issues from the Twenty-Fourth National College English Association Conference held in Charlotte. Discussions of Stephen Crane, Edith Wharton, Chaucer, Dr. Johnson, Oscar Michaeus, Salman Rushdie, Joseph Campbell, Robert Browning, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Kipling and Yeats make this publication a special delight to lovers of literature.

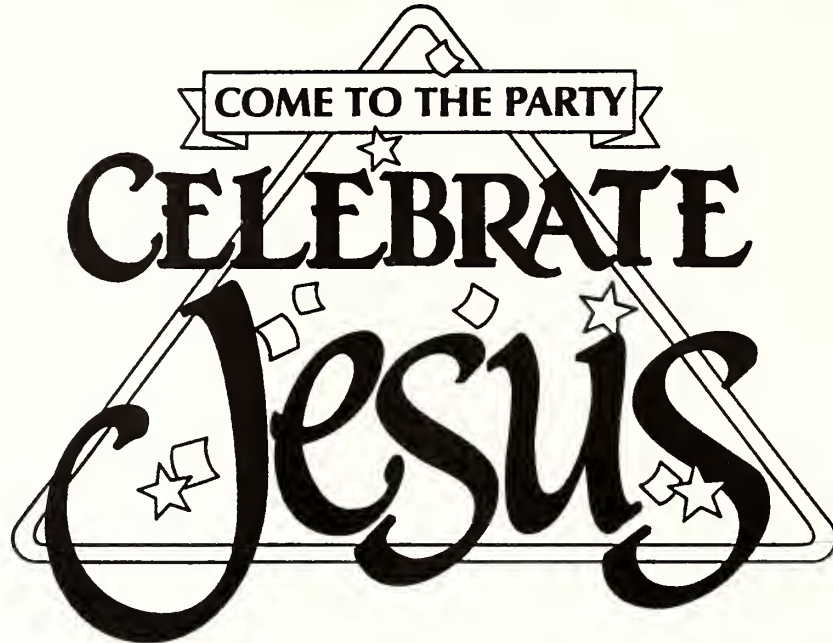
Because I Love You, the second collection of poetry by North Carolina native Lee Davenport Witte, was listed on the Mount Olive College Press publications display announcement by mistake in the February edition of *The Free Will Baptist*. **Because I Love You** will be released in a dinner event on April 14 at Mount Olive College and is not a part of promotional sales offered by the Press at this time. We regret the mistake and any inconvenience caused by it.



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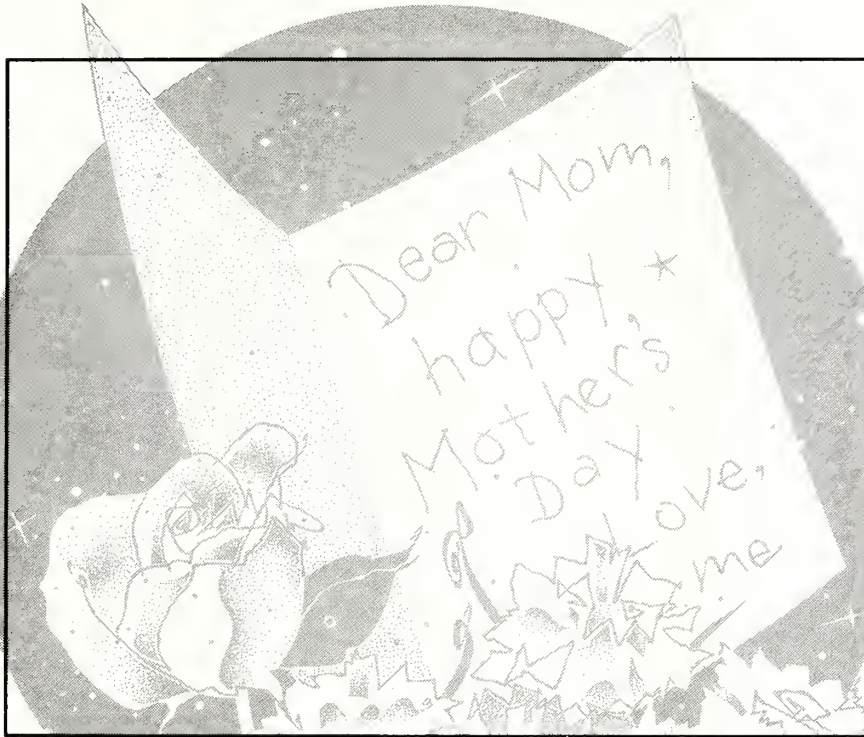
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The Free Will Baptist

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$9.01; two years, \$16.43; four years, \$31.80 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50, and \$30, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Table of Contents

3

Happenings Throughout the Church

14

Youth Frontier Conferences

16

Part III: Cowrie Island to Ramon Mitra's Puerto

Princesa Home to the Free Will Baptist Printing

Department in Dagomboy Village

20

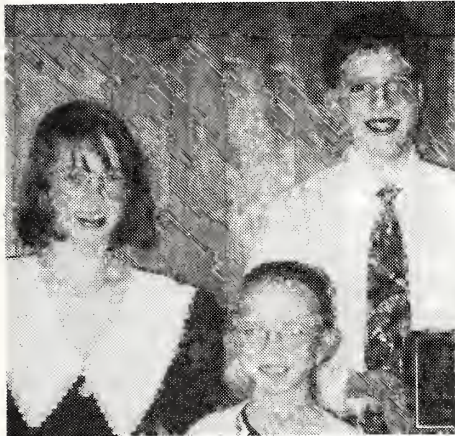
Bible Sword Drill Study Guide

22

On the Move with the Layman's League

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE CONVENTION

by Becky Jo Sumner



Sword Drill winners (left to right): Clair Taylor, first place intermediate; Heather White, first place junior; Chad Hoggard, second place intermediate.

March 12 was the date and Mount Olive College was the place for the 1994 FWB League Convention. It was a day filled with timeless League traditions and bright, new plans. The "ole time" favorites of Chorus Time, Singspiration, and Sword Drill shared the day with new ideas.

Nervous excitement was the norm for Sword Drill contestants as they vied for top honors. In the end, intermediate first place went to Clair Taylor and second place to Chad Hoggard. In the junior level, Heather White received first. The 1994 winners, who are from Hickory Chapel Church, are already making plans to enjoy their prize, a week at Cragmont.

One exciting new plan is a change in the League Convention date. In 1995, we will meet at Mount Olive College on the same Saturday as the FWB Youth Convention. It is our desire to remind others the FWB League is alive and doing exciting work for our Lord. Make plans to come visit and join the activities of the League next May at MOC.

The highlight of the Convention was "Hands for Christ," presented by Whaley's Chapel Church. This group "sang" using the hand sign language for the deaf. It was a beautiful, impressive witness of Christ's love. Their final song/pantomime, "Tomorrow," was a heart-stirring call to repentance.

The League is filled with opportunities to know and serve our Saviour. The Sword

Drill teaches Bible usage, the Singspiration encourages sharing our God-given talents, and Christian Cadet Conference leads to Christian commitment.

I would be delighted to share information with you about the League. Please contact: Becky Jo Sumner, Route 4, Box 410, Ahoskie, NC; phone, 919-332-6810.

SWEETHEART DINNER

by Ruth Springle

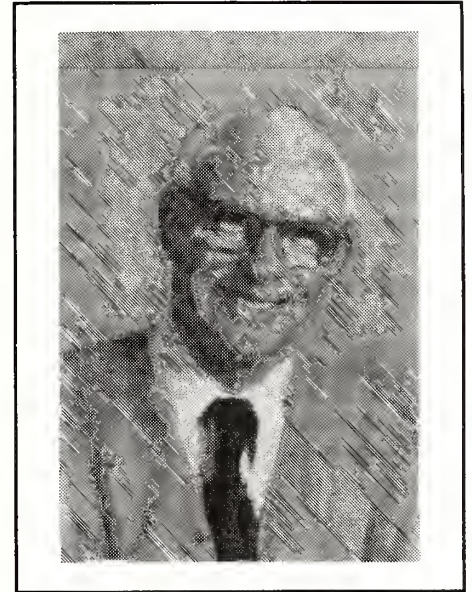
On February 13, 1994, Charles and Ruth Springle gave their eighth annual Sweetheart Dinner at Beaufort Church for the Golden Teenagers.

The pastor, the Rev. Raymond Hardison, preached on Jesus' love, using John 11 as his text. After the morning service, the Golden Teenagers went into the Fellowship Hall and were served a dinner consisting of seafood chowder, baked ham, fried chicken, sweet potatoes, rutabagas, fardhook beans, deviled eggs, pear salad, rolls, tea, and coffee. For dessert, there were banana pudding and madori cake.

Assisting with the serving were Ruth's brother, Phillip Brinson and his wife, Theresa, from Winnebow, NC; their daughter-in-law, Marilyn Springle, from Moncure, NC; their grandson, Lewis Bergeron, from Beaufort, NC; and Seavey Stevens, one of the church members.

There were twenty-five in attendance who enjoyed the food and fellowship, but some were sick and were missed.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MELVIN K. EVERINGTON 1926-1993



The Rev. Melvin Kennedy Everington

On December 25, 1993, at 3:06 a.m., God called His faithful servant, the Rev. Melvin Kennedy Everington, home to be with Him. He was pastor of Long Ridge Church in Duplin County and a retired employee of the Lenoir County Schools. He was a graduate of Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College, and received his Master's Degree from East Carolina University. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sandra E. Aldridge, and his granddaughter, Leah Kristen Aldridge.



In 1955, he was ordained as an Original Free Will Baptist minister. He served his Lord for thirty-eight years.

During his ministry, from 1955 to 1993, he served the following churches: May's Chapel, Saint Johns, Daniel's Chapel, Marsh Swamp, Deep Run, Core Creek, Friendship, White Oak Grove, and Long Ridge. Throughout these years, he touched many lives of people and he was in return touched so deeply by them. He was a good shepherd, preacher, teacher, comforter, counselor, listener, and friend to all.

Four months have come and gone since you left us. We loved you so very much. In our hearts, we will forever hold those happy, loving, beautiful, and golden memories of you. God has you in His kingdom and we hold you in our hearts. Your life will never be lost. Its influence will go on through all the lives it ever touched.

Friends, we say thank you for all of your love, support, and friendship shared with us during the past months and throughout the years.

May God bless each of you.

Wife
Daughter and Family

LILLIAN K. GRUBBS Recipient of Life Membership Award

The following was written by the Rev. Adrian Grubbs and presented by Teresa Grubbs at the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary when Mrs. Grubbs received the Life Membership Award from the District.

Lillian K. Grubbs was born on April 15, 1923, in Americus, Georgia, to Charlie and Callie Kinard, the sixth of seven children. The family moved to Tampa, Florida, in February 1926 and two years later to a farm near Plant City, Florida.

From 1929-1937, Lillian attended Cork Baptist Church where she sang in the youth choir and was active in the Training Union. Then in 1937, the family moved back to Tampa where she attended Benjamin Franklin Junior High School and Hillsboro High School. Lillian accepted the Lord and was baptized in Belmont Heights Baptist Church in August 1939.

In 1942, the Kinards moved to Dade City, Florida. On December 12, 1942, Lillian Kinard and Herman Grubbs were united in holy matrimony. For several months, the newlyweds lived in Perry, Florida, until Herman was drafted into the United States Army in the fall of 1943.



Lillian stayed with her parents in Dade City while her husband served in the infantry during World War II.

On February 14, 1944, a son was born, the first of six boys and two girls. In 1945, Herman was discharged, and the three-some made their home in Perry, among the Grubbs clan. Herman and Lillian were active in Mount Carmel Free Will Baptist Church, until he was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1946 and became pastor of Oak Hill FWB Church near Live Oak, Florida. In every church they served, Lillian took an active part in the Woman's Auxiliary, serving as secretary, vice president, and president. She was clerk of the North Florida Free Will Baptist Conference for three years.

Then in August of 1959, the Herman and Lillian Grubbs family packed all their belongings and moved some 500 miles north to Mount Olive, North Carolina. The primary reason for this monumental move was to provide the opportunity for their children to attend Mount Olive Junior College. In fact, all the family members have attended Mount Olive College, most of them graduating. After the sudden death of her husband of thirty-two years, Lillian enrolled as a full-time student of Mount Olive College in the fall of 1974 and graduated in 1975 with a One-Year Business Certificate. She began working at the College in 1978 as a secretary for the Dean and the Dean of Students; she is currently Office Machines Technician.

Since coming to North Carolina, Lillian has been involved in all phases of church work in the Original Free Will Baptist

Church--Sunday School teacher; Woman's Auxiliary president, secretary, missions chairman, and youth chairman; YFA and AFC leader; children's choir leader; Vacation Bible School director; and manager of Cragmont for three years.

Currently, Lillian is church clerk in the Snow Hill Church, located in Duplin County. She is the teacher of the Young Adult Sunday School Class and serves as youth chairman in the Woman's Auxiliary. She is also the study course chairman for the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

Five of her sons are ordained Free Will Baptist ministers--Adrian, pastor of Deep Run Church; Harry, who is a prison chaplain at Eastern Correctional Institution; Leon, pastor of Hull Road Church; Frank, pastor of Selma Church; and Paul, who is moving to Belhaven to pastor Sidney Church. Darrell is the principal at B. F. Grady Elementary School in Duplin County. One of her daughters, Muriel Overman, lives near Goldsboro and is a nurse with Home Health Care. The other, Sandy, lives in Georgia and works as a counselor.

Mrs. Lillian Kinard Grubbs has made, and continues to make, significant contributions to the Original Free Will Baptist Church in more ways than one. She is indeed worthy of this Life Membership Award from the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary.

CAPE FEAR UNION TO MEET

The Cape Fear Union will convene with Daly's Chapel Church, Route 4, La Grange, NC, Lenoir County, May 28, 1994. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00--Hymn, Congregation
 - Devotions, Claudette Lane
 - Welcome, Host Church
 - Response, First Church, Smithfield
- 10:20--Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
 - Minutes from Last Union
 - Appointment of Committees
 - Roll Call of Churches
 - Reports of Denominational Ministries
 - Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15--Hymn, Congregation
 - Offering and Offertory Prayer
 - Special Music, Host Church
 - Message, the Rev. Charles Petit; the Rev. Phillip Boykin, alternate
- 12:00--Report of Treasurer
 - Report of Committees

- Unfinished Business
- Benediction and Adjournment

WA CONVENTION SCHEDULED

The North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will convene for the sixty-seventh annual session on May 12, 1994, at Lee's Chapel Church, Dunn, NC. "Rekindling the Fire" will be the theme of the session and 2 Timothy 1:6 will serve as the Convention Scripture. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 9:30--Registration
- 10:00--Hymn, "His Way With Thee"
 - Devotions and Prayer, Judy Tucker, Program-Prayer Chairman, Piedmont Conference
- 10:15--Welcome, Frances Phillips, Program-Prayer Chairman, Cape Fear Conference
 - Response, Louise Cartrette, Program-Prayer Chairman, Pee Dee Association
 - Directions and Announcements, Esteline Hart, President, Lee's Chapel WA
 - President's Greetings, Carolyn Jernigan
 - Recognition of Delegates and Guests
- 10:35--Business Session
- 10:50--Life Membership Award, Committee
- 11:10--Hymn, "Cleanse Me"
 - Morning Offering
 - Special Music
 - Introduction of Speaker, Madge Van Horne, Program-Prayer Chairman, Albemarle Conference
- 11:25--Message, Phoebe Davenport
 - Hymn, "Jesus Is Lord of All"
- 12:00--Lunch Announcement, Esteline Hart
 - Prayer
- 1:00--Special Music
 - Scripture and Prayer, Audrey Quinn, Program-Prayer Chairman, Eastern Conference
 - Memorial Service, Ramona Norman, Program-Prayer Chairman, Central Conference
- 1:25--Denominational News, the Rev. C. H. Overman
 - Miscellaneous Business
 - Reports
 - Installation of 1994-95 Officers, Lizzie Dawson, Shady Grove Church
 - Hymn, "Send a Great Revival"

--Benediction

Music Director, Alma Dale, Program-Prayer
Chairman, Western Conference
Pianist, Alma Buck, Central Conference

HOLLY SPRINGS WA MEMBERS COMPETE



(Left to right) Gregory Noonan, Shirley Forsyth, Ida Hammett, Joyce Lane, Jamie Styron, Faye McCain, and Florine Slaughter (photo by Mr. Jackie Durham).

There is a competition among the Woman's Auxiliary at Holly Springs Church in Newport, and Camp Vandemere or the Children's Home will emerge victorious. That is because the ladies have selected those two denominational ministries to be the benefactors of their membership drive.

When a new member is enrolled in the Auxiliary, a number is drawn, either "even" or "odd." With the membership evenly divided, the race is on to see who can bring the most visitors. When the results are counted at the end of the year, if the "evens" win, the Children's Home will receive a financial contribution; and if the "odds" win, Camp Vandemere will receive a financial contribution from a special collection donated each meeting for this purpose. This friendly competition is really working. The April meeting had 13 new visitors; six of them were men! The fire is burning at Holly Springs.

At the end of the April meeting, Peggy Mason presented a beautifully wrapped ceramic bunny to Faye McCain in appreciation of her special efforts in the Auxiliary. Joyce Lane, the group's practical jokester, however, was presented with a real live bunny. It was well known within the group that Joyce, with her busy schedule and church commitments, couldn't possibly take proper care of a rabbit. So after catching her off-guard, she was relieved to learn the joke was on her and the live bunny

was returned to Kathy Gurganus Buttery safe and sound.

And by the way, the "odd" and "even"? As of this writing, the "evens" are ahead by a hare!

HOPEWELL MEMORIALIZES HER FIRST AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

submitted by Grace Barbour

During their 1994 Awards Banquet, the members of the Woman's Auxiliary of Hopewell Church, Smithfield, paused to pay tribute to the "mother" of their Auxiliary. Mrs. Nettie Wright Johnson, 94, died on January 23, 1994. Mrs. Johnson was instrumental in organizing Hopewell's first "Ladies Aid" and served as its first president over sixty years ago. She also served in the Cape Fear District as the first secretary of that convention.

In memorializing Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Grace Barbour referred to her as mentor for many, both in the local and district work. Mrs. Barbour shared memories of "Mrs. Nettie": A special Mother's Day program when Mrs. Johnson memorialized her own mother; what was believed to be the last Auxiliary Convention she attended and some of the "good laughs" she shared with others. One of those, you might know, took place in church! Mrs. Nettie was seated near the front of the church when she saw her sister, Sally, come marching in late. Sally had stopped at Nettie's to borrow a hat! Nettie was already gone but Sally got the hat anyway. She came into the church wearing it--backwards! As those of you who knew Mrs. Nettie will understand, there was a "whole lot of shaking" going on when she tried to conceal her laughter!

Mrs. Barbour remembered Mrs. Nettie when she was younger and active, and in more recent times when her physical strength was waning, but mentally she was still strong and remembering her family and church in thoughts and prayers. Referring to the several months that Mrs. Nettie spent in a nursing home, Mrs. Barbour closed with a poem by an unknown geriatric patient in Yorkshire, England, quoted in the book *Disguised* by Patricia Moore. The poem expresses what could have been the thoughts of Mrs. Nettie Johnson and many others as they spend time in nursing facilities.

What do you see, nurses, what do you see?
Are you thinking when you are looking at me,

A crabby old woman, not very wise
Uncertain of habit, with faraway eyes,
Who dribbles her food and makes no reply,
When you say in a loud voice, "I do wish
you'd try";
Who seems not to notice the things that you
do,
And forever is losing a stocking or shoe.
Who uninterested or not, lets you do as you
will
With bathing and feeding the long day to
fill?

Is that what you're thinking, is that what
you see?
Then open your eyes, nurses, you're not
looking at me.
I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I rise at your bidding, as I eat at your
will,
I'm a small child of ten with a father and
mother,
Brothers and sisters who love one another.
A young girl of sixteen with wings on her
feet,
Dreaming that soon now a lover she'll
meet;
A bride soon at twenty, my heart gives a
leap,
Remembering the vows I promised to keep.
At twenty-five now I have young of my
own
Who need me to build a secure, happy
home.
A women of thirty my young now grow
fast,
Bound to each other with ties that should
last.
At forty my young sons have grown and are
gone,
But my man's beside me to see I don't
mourn.

At fifty once more babies play at my knee,
Again we know children, my loved one and
me.
Dark days are upon me, my husband is
dead.
I look to the future--I shudder with dread.
For my young are all rearing young of their
own,
And I think of the years and the love that
I've known.

I'm an old woman now, and nature is cruel;
'Tis her jest to make old people look like a
fool.
The body it crumbles, grace and vigor de-
part,

There is now a stone where I once had a
heart,
But inside this old carcass a young girl
still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart
swells.
I remember the joys, I remember the pain,
And I'm loving and living life over again.
I think of the years all too few, gone too
fast;
And accept the stark fact that nothing can
last.
So open your eyes, nurses--open and see,
Not a crabby old woman--LOOK CLO-
SER AT ME!

Mrs. Nettie Wright Johnson is sur-
vived by two daughters, Mrs. Lucille
Coates of Smithfield and Mrs. Grace
Northern of Clemson, SC. A son, Raeford
Johnson, died in 1964. She is also sur-
vived by ten grandchildren, one of whom
is the Rev. Donald Coates, pastor of Pine
Level Church.

EASTERN WA CONVENTION HELD

by Linda Caroon

The Eastern District Auxiliary Con-
vention met March 24, 1994, at Winter-
green Church, Cove City. The theme for
the day was "Our Great God," with Scrip-
ture taken from Romans 11:33.

The welcome was given by Hazel
Avery and Margaret Banks gave the re-
sponse. Lillie Jones read the Scripture
and had prayer.

The President, Happy Taylor, gave
her remarks and appointed committees.
The reports from the denominational min-
istries were presented and the Secretary's
report was given by Linda Caroon. Velma
Morris then gave the Treasurer's report.

The Life Membership Award and
certificate were given to Lillian Grubbs.
Special music was given throughout
the Convention by Ann McCoy, Terry
Wood, and the Rev. Mark Meragino.

Julia Bircher brought the morning
message, with Scripture taken from John.
Her message was entitled, "Who's Time-
table Are We On--God's or the World's?"

Miscellaneous business was taken
care of and special reports were given.
Present were 8 district officers, 3 state
officers, 15 ministers, 29 delegates, and
80 visitors.

The benediction and blessing were given
by the Rev. Mike Scott and those present
were dismissed for a delicious lunch.

SPRING REVIVAL SCHEDULED

Revival services have been scheduled
May 16-20 at Winterville Church, Winterville,
NC. The Rev. Mike Scott, pastor of Winter-
green Church, Cove City, will be the guest
evangelist. Special music will be featured
each evening and a nursery will be available.

The Rev. David Langley, pastor, and the
church congregation cordially invite every-
one to join them in these services.

MOC COMING EVENTS COMMENCEMENT WORSHIP SERVICE, MAY 8--RODGERS CHAPEL, 7:00 P.M.

The Reverend Willis Wilson will deliver the bac-
calaureate sermon, traditionally given on the Sunday
evening preceding graduation ceremonies. Wilson has
spent more than half his life, 31 years, as pastor of Reedy
Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Winterville, home
church of 1994 Mount Olive College graduate Darren
Davenport. Born near Stokes, N.C., Wilson has served
as chairman of the state Convention of Original Free
Will Baptists, conducted youth conferences at Cragmont
Assembly, and served on the ordaining council of the
Central Conference for 20 years. In 1983, the Reedy
Branch FWB congregation named its newest church
building "Wilson Fellowship Hall" in honor of the pastor
and his wife, Jean Warren Wilson. "The Worship
Service is a distinctive part of our graduation activities.
It is one of the many ways through which we seek to
express our mission as a Christian college, and it is one
of the advantages we have as a private rather than a
public institution of high education," says President W.
Burkette Raper. "We expect that Rev. Wilson will
deliver a message of meaning to each of our graduates."

GRADUATION SATURDAY, MAY 14--COLLEGE HALL, 10:30 A.M.

Commencement 1994 will be a celebration of the
fortieth graduating class in the history of Mount Olive
College. Delivering the graduation address will be the
Honorable James B. Hunt Jr., Governor of North Caro-
lina. All friends of the College are cordially invited.

LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF JAMES BAXTER HUNT (SENIOR) SATURDAY, MAY 14--LOIS K. MURPHY REGIONAL CENTER, 12:15 P.M.

Following graduation, there will be a luncheon in
honor of Mr. Hunt in appreciation for 30 years of service
on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees. The
luncheon is open to the public but reservations are
required. Tickets are available at \$5.95 for adults, \$3.00
for children under 12. (Price includes tax, beverage and
dessert.) For reservations, contact Dr. David Hines.

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION FRIDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 20-22--CAMPUS OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

For information on this program contact Mrs.
Dianne Riley, Director of Admissions.

For additional information, please call 919-658-2502.



VISITS TO THE CHILDREN'S HOME

by Tina Allen

Director of Church and Public Relations

On the morning of Thursday, March 3, 1994, the Woman's Auxiliary of First Church, Kinston, set out for a visit to the Children's Home. Even though it was a very cool and windy day, the group walked through the buildings of our campus to see the accomplishments the Home has made over the past 74 years. The ladies responded to our Needs and Wants List in our newsletter and brought with them items from the list. After we all had a delightful lunch at the cafeteria in Wilson, I headed back to work as they went down the mall to do some shopping!



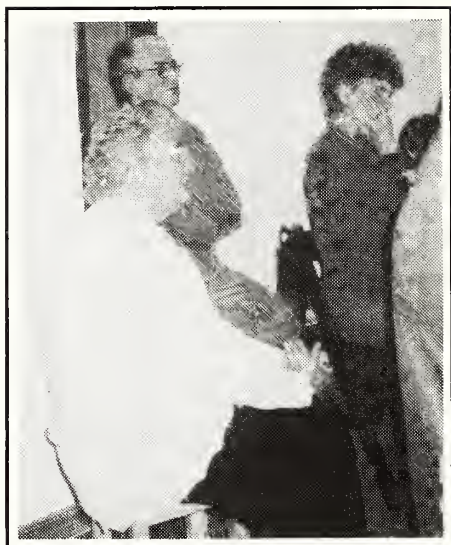
CHECK IT OUT!

MAY IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH!!!

74 YEARS OF PROVIDING A CHRISTIAN HOME FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

SINGING AND MUSIC BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER

by Willem van der Plas



In Balchik, it is impossible to evangelize in public. Person-to-person contact is the most effective way to lead people into the truth of the Bible. Our friend, Dr. Peter Vulkov, who was impressed by Lydia's collection of CDs and records advised us to invite people to come to listen to music. Bulgarians love music.

He brought us into contact with Mr. Anatolii who is a highly skilled musician. He studied at the National Moscow Conservatorium where he met his Bulgarian wife, Olga. After their studies, they both came to Balchik where Anatolii accepted the post of conductor for the Black Sea Sounds Choir.

Anatolii changed the program of the choir which sang mainly Communist Party songs. He started to practice Orthodox Christian songs and brought classic western songs into study.

Lydia and Anatolii began to organize a monthly meeting for all people who are interested in listening to music. Their program has a big variety.

On Silent Saturday, they listened to music which ranged in variety from Bach's Oratorium to the Gospel of John; and on the last Saturday before Christmas, they heard Bach's Weihnacht's Oratorium that narrates the birth of Jesus Christ. On both occasions, the people were following the text of the Oratoria in Bulgarian Bibles, which we have at home. A number of them became interested in the Bible as the message of God to mankind. To them, the Bible has become a book that reveals the truth of God and the truth for life.



Early Christmas morning, a group of ten men, choir members, came dressed like shepherds to sing carols under our bedroom window (at 4 a.m.). They went through the whole town all night. Three years ago, this was impossible and unthinkable.

Last Saturday, we had a program of Russian romantic music. Twenty people attended this live concert which was performed by five Russians in our home. We have formed a very international company.

After the program, I asked the people to sing together and everybody agreed with enthusiasm. There was a sense of oneness and those who came for the first time asked when the next meeting would take place.

More and more people have lost their reservations about us and they have begun to show interest in our ministry. First, we need to draw them to the Bible as the Word of God and from there we must lead them to Jesus Christ the Saviour. All consider themselves to be Christians, but few know the peace of Jesus because they do not recognize Him as their personal Saviour.

Please pray for all of these people; pray that they will grow in their understanding of God's provision of salvation.



CAN YOU TEACH ME ENGLISH?

by Willem van der Plas

Russian has been the second language in Bulgaria for many years and very few people were selected to study any modern western language except German because of the former DDR was part of the East Bloc. Nowadays there is a great lack of English teachers in the schools and we see a growing interest in learning the English language.

Lydia started teaching English to Rumiana, two children, and Teshdyan, who works with us. Now she is teaching 22 persons in 6 different groups, according to their level, skill, and understanding. Five of them are Moslem, 4 are Russian, and 13 are Bulgarian. Four are male and 18 are female. Among them are teenagers and adults; the oldest one is 50 years old. Some are unemployed, others are office workers, teachers, doctors, houseworkers, musicians, an air force pilot, and an airplane technician.

Lydia is teaching now at least 14 hours a week and she is pretty busy. She witnesses of her personal faith to her students. They all love her in return. It is her personal testimony that she can love others because the Lord loves her. Some students have begun to show interest in her personal faith and our ministry here in Balchik.

Lydia speaks little Bulgarian, but her students make steady progress and they enjoy being with her. The groups are growing in unity in spite of the differences that exist in traditions, culture, race, and socio-economic backgrounds. They are happy to meet one another and a strong friendship is developing. It is Lydia's goal to reach out to them in the love of Jesus Christ so that they will accept Him as their Saviour and liberator. Please pray for her and pray for the people with whom she works.

NEWS FROM INDIA AND NEPAL

by Dr. E. M. Lall

The government of Nepal is hesitant to grant us permission to launch our school program on a permanent basis for fear of mass conversion of Nepalis to Free Will Baptist beliefs. We already have four congregations in the state of Kailali, Nepal. We have already raised and trained our Nepali counterparts as ministers and deacons to carry out the work of soul winning. Also believing that evangelism by people other than pastors and deacons is not restricted in the Scriptures, we incite and persuade every member of our church in Nepal of the responsibility of soul winning. Many people in our congregations in Nepal are witnesses. The Holy Spirit convicts and regenerates.

I personally made a trip to meet the congregations in Nepal on Saturday, January 29, and prepared to send two Nepali political leaders who are greatly impressed with our school work, to Kathmandu, Nepal, to meet the minister of education and procure permission for us. We did finance the travel and stay of these leaders at Kathmandu. We hope that they will get the permission needed. These people will inform us after doing whatever is necessary.

Evangelism is the life of our church. A great deal of effort is underway in most of our congregations in India and they are growing fast. While I rejoice over the progress, I have been instructing our ministers and deacons to teach their respective congregations to give one-tenth of their income for the support of their churches. In spite of my best efforts, it is to my dismay that I report that the giving in these congregations is not up to my satisfaction. In all the meetings of our councils, I reiterate and lay more of the burden on all workers to raise congregations which are strictly adhering to the Scriptures. The giving in the urban churches is well up; they are giving for church planting but not as they should in support of the schools in the rural areas. Though there are problems at every stage in the ministerial work, we need to make adjustments and God provides. Two well educated Nepalis, a husband and wife, are being trained for the work of evangelism in Nepal. One young educated Sikh man is being prepared by the pastors of the Bareilly Church for conversion and evangelism.

Our church at Bareilly had the privilege of receiving the Executive Officer of the Cantonment Board of whose jurisdic-



tion our church is located. He recently obtained this position and was happy to visit our church. The newly appointed District Magistrate of Bareilly, who is the highest officer, also had fellowship with our church congregation and was warmly received by our people.

Our people in the churches feel proud to have been visited by our distinguished guests from North Carolina and believe that there are a lot of people there who are concerned for the cause of Christ and for us.

Every since the news reached us about the sickness of Mrs. Lib Scott and Dr. Pepper Worthington (following their trip back home from here), prayers have been offered in our churches for their immediate recovery. We thank the Rev. Harold Jones, director of Foreign Missions, for informing us of the recovery of both women. We thank the Lord for hearing our cries.

Our two ministers have been supplied with bicycles by the Board of Foreign Mis-



sions. This will help in their ministry as they have large areas to cover. Public transportation is a problem these days here in view of the huge crowds who travel. The Rev. Basant Masih, of Khaunsara circuit, and Deacon Samuel, of Sateti circuit, are grateful to the people in North Carolina for their help and they hope that they will be able to work more effectively.

All of our churches and schools are progressing. North India has a large area in need of the gospel, in need of Christ; and ours is the only denomination working in the rural villages where 80% of the total population (890 million) live (that includes the southern part of the country). The percentage of Christians living in this part of the country is very low.

We thank the Lord for using us in His service.



The Senior High Sunday School Class of Johnston Union Church came to our Home on Sunday, March 13. Over the Christmas season, the class raised money for the Home and decided to bring it in person. Brad Ward, one of the members of the class, had been here for a visit last fall and wanted his class to see the beautiful campus (and the recreation center!).

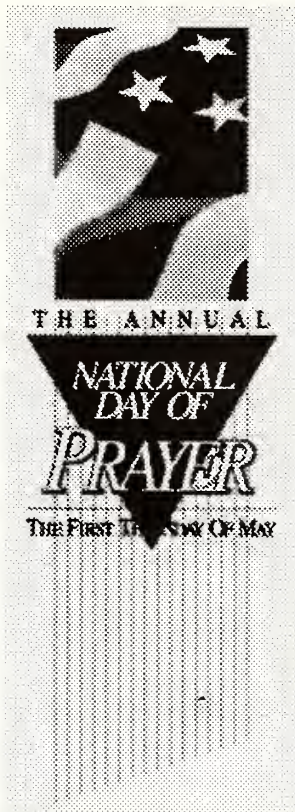
It seems good to see a youth group take such an interest in their child care ministry. Our churches should be proud of our youth for what they are doing. We welcome this group to come back again when they can enjoy our recreational facilities longer!

JUST A QUARTER

Suppose each Sunday this year every Sunday School student put just 25 cents in the offering plate. The amount collected in just one year would be enough to buy over 20 million Bibles (priced at \$25 each) for seekers around the world.

Put another way, that same quarter would be enough to support over 400,000 children for five years.

Article used with permission of David C. Cook Publishing Company.



Heal Our Land

Together we can spread the word in our community to recognize the National Day of Prayer. May 5, 1994, marks the 43rd consecutive observance of the Annual National Day of Prayer. Only through the prayer and repentance of Americans everywhere can our nation hope to be restored to the land envisioned by our forefathers. The National Day of Prayer is similar to Thanksgiving or the Fourth of July. It's a national day and a privilege to pause and ask God to Heal Our Land.

The President shall set aside and proclaim the first Thursday in May in each year as a National Day of Prayer, on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals (as amended May 5, 1988, P.L. 100-307, 102 Stat. 456).

Join with Americans throughout our nation in celebrating our fundamental religious freedom to pray. For information or materials contact: National Day of Prayer Task Force, P.O. Box 15616, Colorado Spring, CO 80935-5616; or call (719) 531-3379.

SOWERS BEGINS NEW CHAPTER

On June 1, 1978, I began my employment at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. I was newly graduated from Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) and not quite ready to tackle graduate school -- I could not make up my mind which field interested me most. Throughout the years, I talked about going back to school, I dreamed of being back in the classroom, I took part in an external degree program. Fully believing that the time has come for me to do so, I have stepped aside from my work at the Press and plan to become a student again.

I have enjoyed my years of service and express my thanks to all who have encouraged me and prayed for my success. Now I request your prayers as I begin this new chapter in my life. I also ask that you pray for the continued success of the Press and its ministry.

Janie Jones Sowers

If you are not receiving our *Children's Home Life* newsletter and would like to, please contact Tina Allen, director of Church and Public Relations:

919-235-2161; P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557. Thank you!

Cragmont Conference Schedule for 1994

KINFOLK
 (Family Week Retreat)
April 3-7
 Cragmont Assembly
 1233 North Fork Road
 Black Mountain, NC 28711

MORNING STAR
April 8-10
 Teresa Ball
 Route 1, Box 96-B
 Grifton, NC 28530

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE
June 6-11
 Teresa Ball
 Route 1, Box 96-B
 Grifton, NC 28530

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE
June 13-16
 Philip Boykin
 Route 5, Box 177
 Dunn, NC 28334

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
June 20-25
 Gary Bailey
 112 Crosswinds Drive
 Goldsboro, NC 27530

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE
YFA Week
June 27--July 2
 Scott and Janie Sowers
 Route 1, Box 106-B
 Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE
AFC Week
July 4-9
 Doug Skinner
 817 Lynn Road
 Durham, NC 27703

GENERAL YOUTH II CONFERENCE
July 11-16
 Chris Singleton
 Box 162
 Beulaville, NC 28518

GENERAL YOUTH I CONFERENCE
July 18-23
 Bryant Hines
 Box 266
 Cove City, NC 28523

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE
July 25-30
 Donald Mason
 Box 672
 Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE
August 1-6
 Teresa Ball
 Route 1, Box 96-B
 Grifton, NC 28530

BRANSON LIMITED EDITION
September 22-28

Cragmont Club I
October 14-16

FALL LIMITED EDITION
October 17-20

Cragmont Club II
October 21-23

CHRISTMAS LIMITED EDITION
December 1-4

(For the Above Five Contact:)
 Cragmont Assembly
 1233 North Fork Road
 Black Mountain, NC 28711



It's easy to become a Lifetime Cragmont Club member! For just \$1,500--which can be paid over 3 years--you can become a Club member for life! Not only do you get to enjoy the benefits of membership, but you can have the satisfaction of investing in Cragmont's future. Just fill out the form below and mail it to:

Lifetime Club
 c/o Cragmont Assembly
 1233 North Fork Road
 Black Mountain, NC 28711

Lifetime Club Application

Name _____
 Address _____

 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Church _____

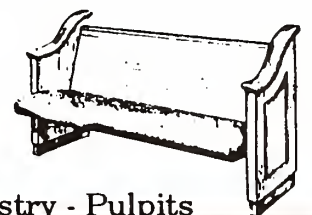
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We Specialize in Church Carpets - Mill Prices!

TO: ALL MINISTERS OF THE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Ministerial Association wishes to invite you to come be with us at Cragmont Assembly on June 13-16, 1994. This is our annual Minister's Conference and we would like for you to attend. If you plan to attend, please fill in the pre-registration form below. The cost of pre-registration will be \$25. This money will cover your membership in the Association and your picture of the week.

Make all checks payable to North Carolina Ministerial Association and mail to:

Phillip Boykin
Route 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

Please return this form by June 1, 1994.

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Zip _____

Please indicate your building preference. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Main Building _____ Motel _____ Floyd House _____
Dorm _____ I will be staying off-campus. _____

Do you have any existing health problems that would prevent you from being on the second floor? Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate those with whom you wish to room if you stay in the Main Building or in the Motel:

Please note: All ministers' wives who stay on campus will room in the dorm behind the dining hall.

_____ Check here if your wife will be with you.

If you are unable to attend our Conference this year and wish to join our Ministerial Association or renew your membership, please send \$20 membership dues to: Phillip Boykin, Route 5, Box 177, Dunn, NC 28334.

YFA Week

June 27 -- July 2

Scott and Janie Sowers, Directors

Route 1, Box 106-B

Farmville, NC 27828

(919) 753-4260

For ages 13 - 19

Theme: "Basic Training -- II"

Cost: \$170 (plus spending money)

Youth Frontier Conferences

AFC WEEK

For ages 8-12

July 4 -- 9

Theme: "Basic Training"

**Learn about: God, the Father; God, the Son; God, the Holy Spirit;
How to Pray; How to Read the Bible;**

And MORE!

Cost: \$160

(plus spending money)

To register, call or write: The Rev. Doug Skinner

817 Lynn Road

Durham, NC 27703

(919) 596-2456

We're Looking for You!

BRANSON LIMITED

Cragmont is offering an exciting trip in September 1994 to Branson, Missouri. The price includes cost by motor coach, six nights lodging (one in Nashville, three in Branson, one in Jackson, TN, and one at Cragmont); two meals at Cragmont; three breakfasts and two dinners while in Branson; lunch in Springfield; four shows in Branson; a visit to the "Fantastic Caverns"; and a trip to the Bass Pro Shop in Springfield. All of this is offered for \$700 per person. This excludes personal spending money and the cost of the meals not designated.

"Branson Limited" will begin on Thursday, September 22, 1994. Transportation to Cragmont will be provided by motor coach, with several stops in eastern North Carolina. Lunch will be served at Cragmont and then we will travel to Nashville for our first night.

Friday, September 23, will be spent traveling to Branson and settling into our motel, giving you an opportunity to see some of the beauty of the central United States.

Saturday, September 24, promises to be fun, beginning with breakfast on the Lake Queen. We will cruise the river and have live entertainment while we eat breakfast. After breakfast, we will go to the Branson Mall for some shopping. While we are there, lunch will be eaten. In the afternoon, we will go to the Mel Tillis Theatre. After the matinee, we will go back to the motel and get ready for dinner at the Apple Mill Restaurant. Then we will head on to "The Shepherd of the Hills," an outdoor drama portraying a great American classic. The "Shepherd" has been filmed by Hollywood four times.

Sunday, September 25, will be another fun-filled day, with breakfast at the Bonanza Restaurant. After we have finished eating, we will have a short devotion while we are all together. There will be free time to do what you want until 11:30 a.m., when we will meet to take a ride on "The Ducks." This is a 70-minute excursion through the heart of the Ozark Mountain Country. The Ducks travel over land and water, making this a unique ride. After this adventure, we will enjoy a matinee at the Andy Williams Moon River Theatre. After the matinee, we will head back to the motel for a little rest before dinner. Dinner will be at the Roy Clark Crystal Hall before traveling to the Shoji Tabuchi Theatre.

On Monday, September 26, we will pack up and leave Branson. After the luggage is on the bus, we will have breakfast at the Dondics Riverboat Restaurant. We will then head north to Springfield and make a couple of stops. The first stop will be at the "Fantastic Caverns." Because the beauty of the Caverns is vulnerable, the Cave is toured in jeep-drawn trams (no walking). After we tour the Cave, we will travel on to the Bass Pro Shop for a visit. While there, we will enjoy lunch together. After lunch, we will head to Jackson, Tennessee, for the night, stopping along the way for dinner.

Tuesday, September 27, we will check out of the motel by 8 a.m. and stop for breakfast on the way out. We will eat lunch and dinner on the way back to Cragmont, where we will spend the night.

"Branson Limited" will come to an end on Wednesday, September 28, 1994. The bus will leave after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space, we will only be able to accept forty people. Reservations will be taken on a first-come first-accepted basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form, along with a \$100 non-returnable deposit* for each person. Payments of \$100 per person are due on January 15, 1994, February 15, 1994, March 15, 1994, May 15, 1994, June 15, 1994; and the final payment on July 15, 1994. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Branson.

If room is available, you may register anytime, but if a payment date has passed, all amounts up to that date will have to be paid.

If you are interested in taking this trip, please register. Sometimes we hear people say that they are waiting to find out if we get enough people before they will send in their registration. Please don't fear for your deposit. If you register and we do not get enough people to do the tour, please rest assured we will return your check as soon as the decision is made. Also, many people hesitate to register because they fear the tour is already full. Once again, please be assured that if you send in a deposit and we have reached the maximum number for the trip, we will return your check promptly.

Come join us for this special get-away. All arrangements are made by Cragmont, freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*We will need to have 30 people to sign up by May 15, 1994, or the trip will be canceled and all money will be refunded.

Mail to "Branson Limited," Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Night _____

Church _____

If you have a roommate preference, please list name here:

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of such as: heart condition ___ diabetes ___ hypoglycemia ___ trouble with stairs ___ other ___

Preferred Bus Stop (La Grange will not be the busline we will be using so no La Grange Bus Lot stop will be made. We will be coming as straight up Highway 70 as possible.)

Non-refundable deposit: \$100 _____ (Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.)

PART III COWRIE ISLAND TO RAMON MITRA'S PUERTO PRINCESA HOME TO THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRINTING DEPARTMENT IN DAGOMBOY VILLAGE

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Resident
Mount Olive College

At the first worship service in Palawan, our group met numerous Filipinos: Roger Malinao and his family, Lita Maricar, Marvin; Dario Basingil and his family, little Sandra, little Harold, Joesir, Susan Basingil; 63-year-old Celistino Peralta; the current pastor, Rey Manlangit and his wife Luz; the Rev. Antonio Samones Jr., with Joan Mae, John Mark, Joy Marille, Joiada, Loida, and Ma'am Pesing.



To celebrate our arrival, Free Will Baptist church members had prepared native foods at Harold and Sandra Jones' house. We were introduced to toron (the leaf) and saba (the banana). We ate biko (rice), which is made with brown sugar, coconut, coconut milk, and sticky rice. We relished two kinds of new bananas--tondan and lakatan. We also sampled buco salad which is made of young coconut, fruit cocktail, milk, and sago.

Three ladies worked long hours to make our welcome warm: 17-year-old Marivic, 25-year-old Beth, 33-year-old Loida. They laughed like happy people--their happiness rooted in their faith, their love of Sandra and Harold Jones, their excitement in greeting visitors to their island.

COWRIE ISLAND

Teddy and Vhem were on hand as well as our driver, Mathan, and his friend, Joel, to take us to Cowrie Island. As we drove across Palawan, we laughed at the roosters crowing. Roosters on Palawan never get tired of crowing. Delbert Scott thought the resident rooster at our hotel was in his room one morning, so he jumped up, switched on the light, and looked for him. The old noisemaker was crowing just outside his window.

Rice paddies spread across Palawan with water buffalo everywhere. Add a road packed with tricycles (a seat plus a motorcycle) and jeepneys (a long jeep that holds 10 to 12

people), and you have the feudal with the modern.

Teddy and Vhem saw to it that we had plenty of sodas for our island adventure as well as breads, bananas, and sandwich mix.

We all laughed at the story of the dog asleep in the middle of the road. A jeepney rolled over him while he was asleep, only to have him pop up after the jeepney passed over him, look up and

about in startled concern, then flop down in island ease--the wonder of the jeepney no longer an immediate concern to the dog.

Two boats awaited our group--Jollibee and Maryjoy. We crossed from Palawan to Cowrie Island in less than thirty minutes.

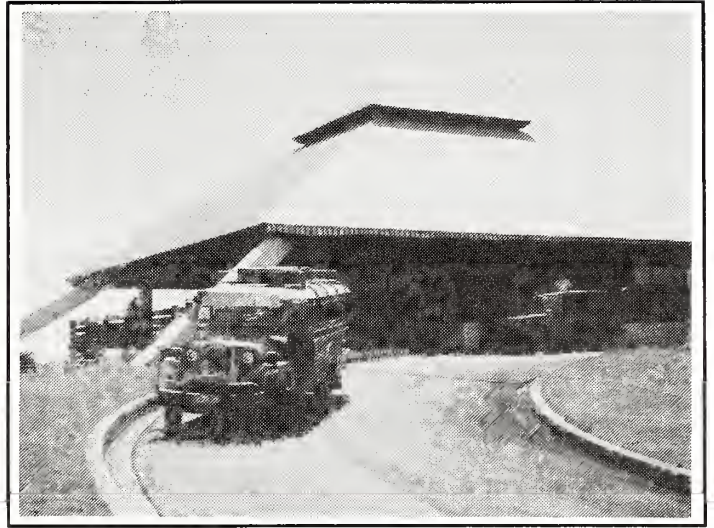
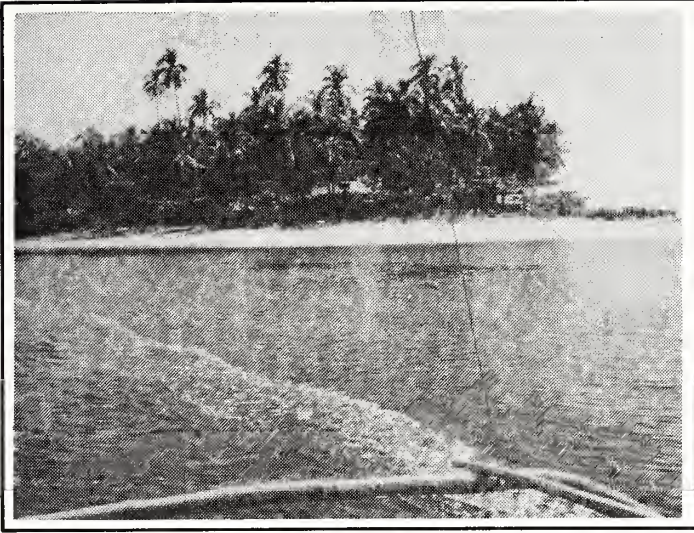
COWRIE ISLAND STROLL

Maricar Malinao strolled with our group along the sand dollar-covered Cowrie Island beach. Currently she is in the 10th grade at a Christian school. According to her, Filipino law requires children to attend school through the sixth grade. English is a required course, also.

The national language of the Philippines is Filipino, based on Tagalog. This is the language Sandra and Harold Jones are trying to perfect.

Different Christian FWB Filipino groups inhabit Palawan. Most are farmers or fishermen who live in barangays (villages). They are hospitable, warm, loving people. They speak a variety of linguistic dialects: Tagalog (most prominent), Cebuan Ilokano, Panayan Bikolan, Samaran, Pampangan, and Pangasinan.

Many of the FWB Christians live in nipa huts which are raised bamboo-palm dwellings. Modestly furnished, the nipa huts have a room with woven palm mats placed on the floor at night for sleep. Oftentimes food is cooked over a wood fire



Harold Jones read Psalm 8. He stated, "Cowrie Island is so beautiful that it reminds me of the Scripture that tells us who made this universe and the things we admire. We know God has made this world. It is not an accident. We thank God for His spirit here. We worship God. We glorify God. We don't ask anything of God. We just worship Him and glorify Him.

He then read Psalm 8:

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hand; thou hast put all things under his feet: All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas. O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Silence swept across the island as we huddled together with the words of Psalm 8 floating in the sea breeze.

RAMON MITRA'S PUERTO PRINCESA'S HOME

We left the island to head back to Puerto Princesa. En route we stopped at Ramon Mitra's rustic mansion. As the retired speaker of the House and currently a senator in Manila, his house provided a contrast to the nipa huts of many villagers. In the middle of Mitra's living room was a giant ipil tree used as a center post. The island vista from his outdoor terrace was spectacular.

Top left: We boarded the Jollibee to head towards Cowrie Island. Harold Jones made sure his wife, Delbert, Lib Scott, Alma Dale, Paul Anderson and I were safely aboard before he pushed us off. The others followed on the Maryjoy.

Top right: Mitra's Summer Home

Bottom left: Two fishermen are mending their fishing nets on Cowrie Island.

and kerosene lanterns are used for light. Many rural families obtain their drinking water from wells or springs. They eat rice, corn, salted fish, fruit, vegetables, and fresh fish.

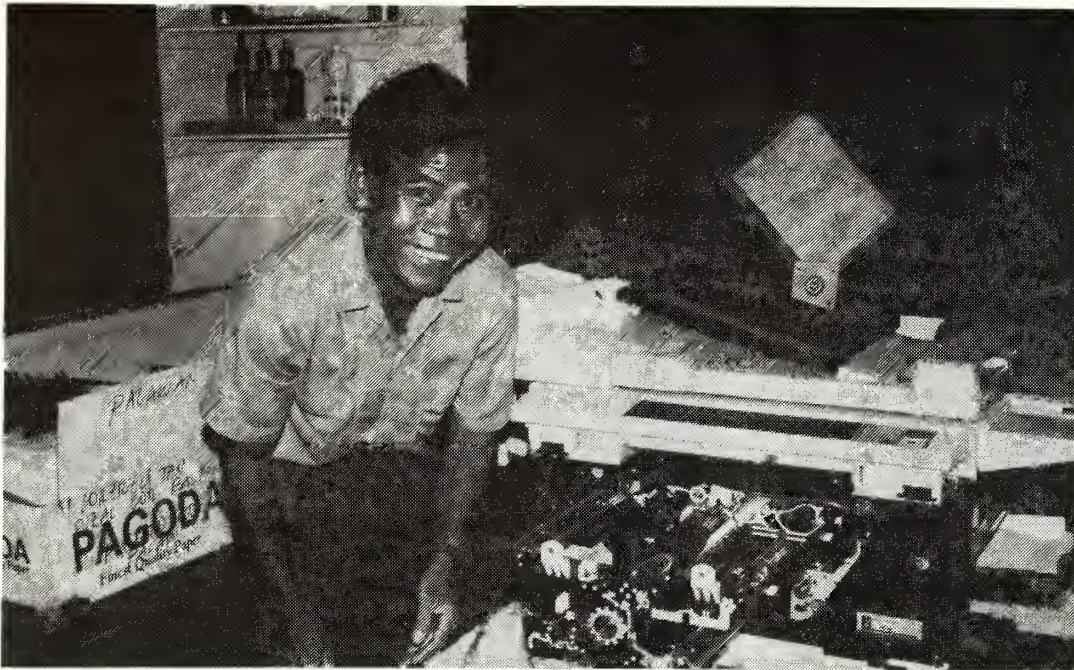
Maricar Malinao wants to do God's work through music in Puerto Princesa. As she walked with a group, she mentioned her dream of studying at Mount Olive College. Realizing she is only in the 10th grade, she also acknowledged her options of studying at a Christian college in Manila.

"Mother said wherever I shall go, it will be God's will," she said as she picked up a shell. "We've lived in Puerto Princesa from 1979 to 1989, on Cebu from 1989 to 1992, and now back here. I had dreams," she admitted with a sigh.

Cowrie Island spread before us like an unfound primitive landscape. Trees stretched toward the sea as fishermen mended nets.

LUNCH ON COWRIE ISLAND

Fresh Filipino bread, sandwich mix, sodas awaited both swimmers (Harold Jones and Mike Scott) and walkers (the rest of us). Alma Dale broke out into song to give the island breeze a ripple of beauty. She sang, "I'm so glad Jesus lifted me." A brown cat nestled up to any leg that would rub him.



Top: The Free Will Baptist Printing Department at Palawan is small but active. Bottom: Andriano Segay is happy because Harold Jones brought him the necessary part to fix his copier. Now the Free Will Baptist Press in Palawan can get back to business.

FREE WILL BAPTIST PRINTING DEPARTMENT IN DAGOMBOY VILLAGE

As Mathan moved his jeepney in a wonder-of-the-world fashion, we went to the area where Harold and Sandra Jones had worked in another decade. Jubilantly Sandra saw a neighbor, Judith Socorro, whom she had not seen in 20 years. (Also pictured is Judith's mother, Mrs. Alabado.)

Then we walked into the Free Will Baptist Printing building. Andriano Segay introduced himself as a printer at the shop. His niece Emerelda was also there. I was excited because I love a printing office with its ink, paper, clanking machines.

Andriano Segay showed our group some of the books the Free Will Baptist printing staff at Puerto Princesa had produced: *Introduction to Music Appreciation* by Lydia van der Plas, *An Introduction to Christian Ethics* by Fred and Linda Baker, *An Introduction to Biblical Family Life* by Fred and Linda Baker, a 1994 calendar with the motto "We print and copy your needs through our quality printing." The address was also printed on the calendar: P.O. Box 17, Building 1, Dagomboy Village, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. Telephone No. 20-97.

To welcome us at the FWB Missions Office were several



musicians of the mission and music department of the FWB outreach. Elmer Garcellano played the guitar for us, as did Nestor Diaz. On hand in the office were Rosanna Briones, Susan and Dario Basingil.

We left the printing office not only with books in mind but music as well. Harold Jones had successfully delivered the valuable drum for one machine so that the printing process could continue to meet the needs of people.

I thought of how much I love to work with Janie Sowers, Robert Hadden, Sheila Benson, and others at the FWB Press



in Ayden. Indeed, printing is a powerful arm of mission work!

Can not printing make an imprint? After all, language has a certain pattern of development, does it not? First, there is the spoken word. Then there is the written word. To follow these is the printed word.

We waved good-bye to all the staff at Dagomboy Village and headed back for Puerto Princesa with Mathan driving his jeepney in amazing twists, turns, tumbles.

I thought of Harold Jones' soft voice reading Psalm 8--"O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!"

COWRIE ISLAND

Gleefully our group piled into Mathan's decorated jeepney to head for the village where boats rocked in sea breezes, their handmade frames our passage to sand dollar-covered Cowrie Island.

Nipa huts stretched across the sea while Filipino families cooked over wood fires kerosene lanterns poised for light while rice and fish filled plates: hunger a thing of body and soul.

Cowrie Island was for the soul, its tropical trees, cracked driftwood, shade havens, white beaches, vacant isolation

a reminder of privacy and prayer.

Maricar Malinao sang her way around the island as we walked and talked, the sun and scattered fishing nets a graphic recollection of the fishermen Christ called at the edge of Galilee.

Cowrie Island seemed as separate from modernity as the date 1492, time but numerical fumbblings for historians: pristine island space more real in its pause from numbers.

Psalm 8 softly echoed through the thick leaves as Harold Jones read, his voice as gentle as love, his faith as sturdy as the sea.

Later images of Ramon Mitra's elegant home jostled against vistas of nipa huts and Cowrie Island, the contrast more than printer's ink, life more than image.

Pepper Worthington

STUDY GUIDE

1994-95

BIBLE SWORD DRILL

Junior and Intermediate

North Carolina State Convention of Free
Will Baptist Leagues

*Theme: Hear the Word of the Lord
Concerning Christian Ministry*

I. Scripture Searching

1. Galatians 6:10
2. 1 Peter 4:10-11
3. 1 Samuel 2:11
4. Matthew 20:26
5. Psalm 103:21
6. Romans 13:3-4
7. Isaiah 61:6
8. Ephesians 3:7
9. Daniel 1:8
10. Romans 8:28
11. 2 Corinthians 3:6
12. Exodus 28:1
13. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13
14. Numbers 27:22-23
15. Luke 17:5
16. Deuteronomy 31:23
17. Acts 1:13-14
18. Jeremiah 23:1-2
19. 1 Corinthians 2:1-2
20. Ezekiel 3:17
21. Isaiah 39:5
22. Romans 10:17
23. Luke 24:45
24. James 1:22

II. Unfinished Quotations

1. "Also I heard the voice of the LORD saying, whom shall I send, and who..." (Isaiah 6:8).
2. "But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block..." (1 Corinthians 1:23).
3. "He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonah, Lovest thou me?..." (John 21:17).
4. "Preach the word; be diligent in season, out of season..." (2 Timothy 4:2).
5. "In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, and saying, Repent..." (Matthew 3:1-2).
6. "Then Phillip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached..." (Acts 8:5).
7. "Go ye, therefore and teach all nations, baptizing..." (Matthew 28:19-20).
8. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ..." (Romans 1:16).
9. "But ye shall receive power, after the Holy Ghost is come upon you..." (Acts 1:8).
10. "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name..." (Luke 24:46-47).
11. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God..." (Romans 12:1-2).
12. "And the world passeth away, and the lust of it..." (1 John 2:17).

III. Character Drill

1. Luke (2 Timothy 4:11)
2. Jesus Christ (Revelation 22:21)
3. Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18)
4. Tychicus (Colossians 4:7)
5. Amos (Amos 1:1)
6. Peter (Acts 2:14)
7. Balaam (Numbers 22:12)
8. Paul (Acts 28:30-31)
9. Gad (1 Samuel 22:5)
10. Twelve disciples (Matthew 10:1-4)
11. Joel (Joel 1:1)
12. Ephesian elders (Acts 20:17, 28)
13. Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 19:8-9)
14. James (James 1:1)
15. Habakkuk (Habakkuk 3:1-2)
16. King David (1 Samuel 18:18)
17. Bishop (Titus 1:7)
18. Deacons (1 Timothy 3:8)
19. Christians (Acts 11:26)
20. Teachers (1 Corinthians 12:28)
21. Aaron (Exodus 7:1-2)
22. Evangelists (Ephesians 4:11)
23. Apollos (Acts 18:24-25)
24. Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:26)

IV. Book Drill

1. Exodus
2. Mark
3. Deuteronomy
4. Acts
5. Ruth
6. 2 Corinthians
7. 2 Kings
8. Colossians
9. Psalms
10. 1 Timothy
11. Solomon
12. Philemon
13. Lamentations
14. James
15. Daniel
16. 2 Peter
17. Joel
18. 2 John
19. Jonah
20. Jude
21. Habakkuk
22. Matthew
23. Job
24. Revelation

V. Topical Drill

1. Minister (Mark 10:45)
2. Lord commanded (Exodus 7:10)
3. Comforter (John 14:16)
4. Work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)
5. Priest (Hebrews 7:1)
6. Eagles (Isaiah 40:31)
7. Divers temptations (James 1:2-3)
8. Inheritance (Hebrews 11:8)
9. Fleshly lusts (1 Peter 2:11)
10. Covetousness (Luke 12:15)
11. Grace (Ephesians 2:8-9)

12. Fret not (Psalm 37:1-2)
13. Everything (Job 42:1-2)
14. Kingdom of God (Matthew 6:33)
15. Sour grape (Jeremiah 31:29-30)
16. Lord watch (Genesis 31:49)
17. Gospel (1 Thessalonians 2:4)
18. Devil (1 Peter 5:8)
19. Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
20. Trust in the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-6)
21. My people (2 Chronicles 7:14)
22. Pure religion (James 1:27)
23. Door (Revelation 3:20)
24. Work (Ecclesiastes 9:10)

VI. Doctrinal Drill

1. The Bible teaches that there is plenty to do, but very few people that will work (Matthew 9:37).
2. The Bible teaches that we must not wait to witness because the harvest (of people) is ready (John 4:35).
3. The Bible teaches that the way to be saved is to confess Jesus Christ and believe on Him (Romans 10:9-11).
4. The Bible teaches that God so loved the world, He gave His only son to save us (John 3:16).
5. The Bible teaches that someone must preach (tell) the Word so people may hear in order for them to be saved (Romans 10:14-15).
6. The Bible teaches that we as Christians must let our light shine so men may see our good works in order to glorify the Father in Heaven (Matthew 5:16).
7. The Bible teaches that we must study God's Word in order to divide (teach) its truths correctly (2 Timothy 2:15).
8. The Bible teaches that the Word of God is alive and so powerful that it can cut to the soul and spirit, the joints and marrow of man; and knows the thoughts of his heart (Hebrews 4:12).
9. The Bible teaches the Ten Commandments. (Exodus 20: read Verse 3; Deuteronomy 5: read Verse 11.)
10. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit and bride (Jesus) invite whosoever will to accept eternal life for free (Revelation 22:17).
11. The Bible teaches the Lord's Prayer in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:9-13).
12. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit and the bride (Jesus) invite whosoever will to accept eternal life for free (Revelation 22:17).

Bibles KJV00312 will be provided. Only references from this guide will be accepted. Any church or youth group may have 2 junior (ages 9-11), 2 intermediate (ages 12-15) contestants. However, at the Convention, the church must register with one \$25 fee.

God bless you!
Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
Phone: 919-332-6810

NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman
Executive Administrator
Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

1994-95 CHALLENGE

During March, letters were mailed to the Convention's pastors and church clerks concerning continual and increased support of the Convention's promotional work. For the benefit of readers of *The Free Will Baptist*, we thought it would be informative to include the letter in this issue of "Notes and Quotes." The part of the letter referring to the name of the church, the amount of the challenge, however, is blanked out.

"October 1, 1993, was an important date in the progress of our Convention. On that date, the Executive Administrator began his work on a full-time basis, as set forth by the Executive Committee and approved by the Convention in the 1993 session.

"In making this move, Original Free Will Baptists have accepted the challenges of developing a denomination that will be better prepared for the twenty-first century, as well as strengthening our cause in the advancement of His kingdom during the last few years of this century.

"During these few months, the benefits of serving full time have become more evident. The Executive Administrator is now available to visit and speak in churches, to be more involved in the various activities of the denomination, and also spend more time planning and implementing programs aimed at greater promotion and coordination of the ministry and outreach of the denomination. In the coming months, the office will be more defined in its scope and purpose.

"Last spring, in a concerted effort to advance the office to full time, challenges were presented to our churches based on the average worship attendance (\$5 per person) of each church....

"According to our records, _____ has sent _____. We realize, of course, that some churches are sending on a monthly or quarterly basis, with a balance remaining for this fiscal year. As you plan your budget for the upcoming year, we hope you will remember your Convention's promotional office and the vital part it is fulfilling for Free Will Baptists.

"Please accept our sincere thanks for your support. If your church has met its

challenge for this fiscal year, please continue it for 1994-95. If your church did not meet the challenge, we hope it will do so for 1994-95. With greater support, we will be able to serve the Lord and the Free Will Baptist cause in greater capacity.

"In His service,
"W. Scott Sowers, President."

Since the challenge letter has been mailed, we have received an increase in support, with most responses completing the challenges for fiscal 1993-94. We are deeply grateful for those who have given us this boost in support. It is our daily prayer that we, when we reach the end of June, will be able to joyfully declare that we have not found it necessary to borrow any money for operational purposes. (Remember, a credit line was approved to borrow from Church Finance, if necessary.)

Again, I am grateful for all the words of encouragement, for the prayers, and for the response to the service that we so much desire to render for the cause of Christ and for our beloved denomination.

THE FIRST PHASE OF PROJECT SOLUTION

Since its presentation and adoption by the Executive Committee in its January

meeting, Project Solution has begun. The purpose of this Project is: "To examine, scrutinize, and analyze the work of our denomination in all its facets, to determine our strengths and weaknesses, and then to implement programs and projects that will help meet the challenge of church growth in all areas."

The first phase of Project Solution is the setting up of a task force committee that will meet in brain-storming sessions to examine the progress, areas of decline, and pressing needs of our denomination. This committee has been selected and met on April 17-20 at Cragmont Assembly. The entire time at Cragmont was spent in prayer, discussion, etc., in an effort to chart the course for Project Solution. Of course, by the time this "Notes and Quotes" is read, the first meeting of the task force will be over; however, there will be others, and one of the major goals of the outcome of the Project is to involve the entire denomination, including churches, in this self-study and evaluation.

Over the months, much concern has been expressed about the future of our denomination. Please pray for this Project. As it progresses, we will try to keep Free Will Baptists informed.

HANDS FOR CHRIST



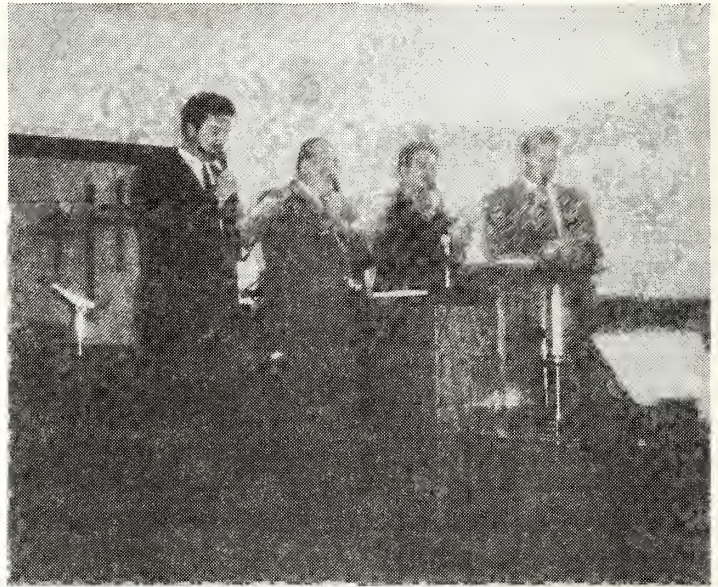
Pictured is the group "Hands for Christ," that was a part of the program of the Free Will Baptist League Convention, which met on March 12, 1994, in Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive College. The group hails from Whaley's Chapel Church. Sign language is used as the group sings and presents its skits.

Though small in number, those attending the Convention enjoyed the fellowship, the program, the Sword Drill, etc.

ON THE MOVE WITH THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE



Eastern Conference Layman's League meeting held on February 21 with Soundview Church, Newport, NC.



Central Conference Layman's League meeting held on March 7, 1994, at Friendship Church, Farmville, NC.



Scenes from the Albemarle Layman's League meeting held at Union Chapel Church on March 4, 1994. Left: Those attending the meeting. Right: Some of the men look over the food before time to eat.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- May 5 Executive Board of the Layman's League, Elmer Harrell's office (602 S.E. Third Street, Snow Hill, NC); 7 p.m.
 May 6 State Layman's League meeting, Harrell's Chapel Church, Highway 58, north of Snow Hill, NC; supper, 7 p.m.; business, 7:45 p.m. During this meeting, the election of officers will take place. Those men up for election (and their respective officers) are: Elmer Harrell, president; Stanley Jenkins, vice president; Floyd Newsome, secretary; Roney Bunn, treasurer; and Randy Tyson, song leader.
- May 23 Eastern Conference, Beulaville Church; supper, 7 p.m.; business, 7:45 p.m.
 June 7 Central Conference, Rose of Sharon Church; supper, 7 p.m.; business, 7:45 p.m.
 November 4 State Layman's League meeting, Bethany Church, Highway 903, west of Winterville; supper, 7 p.m.; business, 7:45 p.m.

WHAT MAKES A HOME "GOOD"

by Lawrence O. Richards

Each year in a Christian home course that I taught at Wheaton College (Illinois), I asked my students to isolate what they remembered about their homes as "good." What, to them spoke most clearly of unity and stability, of a healthy climate in which they could develop as persons? The answers remained the same year after year.

Unconditional Love

"My parents loved me." "I always knew they cared for me, even when I did something wrong."

They remembered unconditional love. Unconditional love is God's kind of love. It does not excuse sin, but it never rejects the one who falls short.

Respect and Trust

Successful Christian parents also showed respect for the feelings, ideas, and capabilities of their sons and daughters. "My parents always showed respect for my opinion." "From the time I was young, I was given responsibilities and helped to meet them."

Respect can be shown in a number of ways. Some parents give their children an allowance when their children are very young, and teach them to spend it wisely. As the children grow, the parents increase the allowance to include clothing and other personal items. Some parents develop a family council, where the ideas of each family member are considered in planning for the group. Still others give their children responsibilities, increasing them as they grow older--responsibilities that are not just "jobs" but meaningful contributions to the family's life together.

What counts is that young people are aware that their parents seem to trust them, and respect them as persons.

Communication

"Mom and I always talked a lot." "I felt that if I had a problem or a good time, I could share it with Dad." A sense of openness in communication is a tremendously critical factor, one on which many of the other factors hinge.

Communication takes place heart-to-heart. It is marked by openness, by eagerness for reconciliation and harmony, and by the free flow of forgiveness. There can be no communication without the awareness that each cares for the other and shares his or her real self.

Standards

"My parents had clear standards for themselves and for me." "I saw in their lives the commitment to what they said was very important."

Young people resent it when parents expect behavior and attitudes from their children that they don't expect of themselves.

Years of Change

As a child grows, the ways we communicate unconditional love, show respect, set standards, and keep open communication lines grow, too. This is why no one can say, "This is what to do to build a good family." Our practices and emphasis shift with the growth and change of our children.

Babies. To babies, love is communicated in many ways, but primarily by touch and tone of voice. Babies under six months require no discipline, no training. But they do require love: handling, cuddling, talking to, laughing with. It's easy to give time to babies; they're lovable. And it is vitally important that from a child's first days he or she sense the warmth and intensity of our love.

Toddlers. Toddlers are sometimes hard to love! Over, under, around, and into everything--exploring, often testing and retesting the limits we set for them. Toddlers also need love and attention, cuddling, sitting with, and looking at pictures while "reading" a book, or going on special walks to explore the wonders of God's world.

Toddlers also need limits. Parents must also respect their need to explore. Too often a pattern of relationship is set during these hectic days. Dad or Mom is constantly saying no to everything a child does--trying to change a child into a "little adult" long before the child is capable of behaving in a grown up way.

Elementary children. To the patterns of life you have established when your child was a preschooler, you now have much to add--listening when the child comes home from school, looking at his or her papers and projects, you care about what the child is interested in.

Adolescence. With the teen years come fresh opportunities. You can find new ways to increase your son's or daughter's freedom of choice, things the adolescent will be able to handle because you worked toward their time by giving opportunities for decision making when he or she was younger. You can do more things together. You can communicate on a deeper level. You can step up into wider adventures of living.

Good families are developed as parents successfully express unconditional love and respect for their children. There is not only a consistent parental example but also a free flow of communication. To build good families, it is vitally important that we sense our oneness, our love, and our respect for each other, and that we open up our lives and share with our children.

Lawrence O. Richards, Ph.D., is a well-known Christian educator and has authored more than 80 books. Among them is *The Successful Teaching Series* (Cook). Article provided by David C. Cook.



THE LOVING HUSBAND

1. Find special ways to treat your wife in public. Walk proudly when you are with her. Take her arm when you enter a room. Say something nice and genuine about her when you introduce her. Seat her at dinner. Smile at her. Hold her coat when you are ready to go. Tell her how much you appreciate being together.

2. Keep yourself personally attractive and healthy. Your appearance does matter to her, and you pay her a special compliment by doing what is necessary to avoid deserting her through an early death or disability.

3. Read some books related to family matters and child rearing. Read some on spiritual growth and creativity. All will make you more interesting, caring, and responsive to your wife.

4. Discover and practice the practical ways which best communicate love to your wife. Is it little things like flowers, small gifts, remembered anniversaries, etc.? Is it keeping her up-to-date with any changes in expectations? ("I'll be a half-hour late getting home tonight.") Maybe it is regular words of endearment. Whatever it is, keep pursuing her even though you won her years ago.

5. Call her during the day to tell her you can hardly wait to see her. Be willing to talk about your intimate times together. Ask her what you can do to make them better.

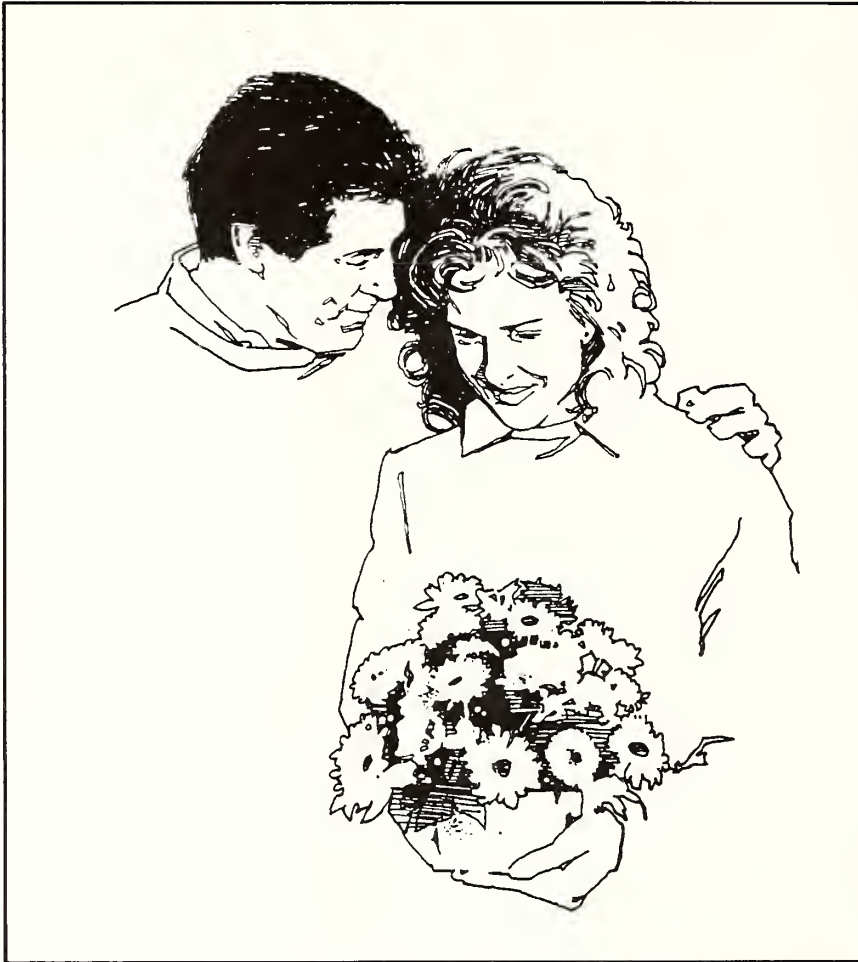
6. Volunteer to help in the work around the house. Try surprise jobs--doing things for her that she usually expects to do.

7. Never criticize her in public, point out something she cannot change, or compare her unfavorably with other women.

8. Never abuse her in any way. Remember that abuse covers much more than the physical.

9. Genuinely appreciate your wife for who she is. Don't expect or try to change her. Instead, give praise and express appreciation.

10. Make sacrifices necessary which will allow time for you and your wife to be together. Love takes time.



THE LOVING WIFE

1. Give up your dreams of a "perfect marriage" and work toward a "good marriage." There are no perfect marriages for the simple reason that there are not perfect people. Marriage is the most difficult and complex of all human relationships, and it requires practice, skill, tact, emotional and spiritual growth. You can "grow a good marriage" if you are willing to work at it.

2. Keep personal attractiveness. Keep yourself looking nice. What husbands see is extremely important.

3. Read some good books. Reading keeps you thinking, creative, and trying new things. It keeps you interesting and alive.

4. Discover your husband's personal, unique needs, and try to meet them. He is not precisely like any other person on earth. He, like you, is unique.

5. Welcome his romantic advances.

6. Become actively involved in lovemaking. Your husband's positive feelings about himself and your romance depend a lot on your active participation.

7. Be creative in initiating lovemaking. God intended for you to enjoy this aspect of marriage as much as your husband.

8. Give praise and appreciation instead of seeking it. Reassure him of his manliness. The husband's manliness is very important to him. Compliment him at every opportunity.

9. Abandon all hope of changing your husband through criticism and attack. The "now look here!" stance never works. It breeds hostility and often counterattack. We can change no other person by direct action. We can change only ourselves; and when we change, others tend to change in reaction to us. Love changes people. Hostility breeds hostility, but love begets love. Love does not demand, it gives.

10. Love cannot take distance. A husband and wife need time together enjoying life and sharing. Be a good listener, sensitive to his mood, and interested in his interests.

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WHEN PARENTS DIVORCE

by Tony Campolo and Gary Sprague

I was once a host for one of those early morning television talk shows. I was interviewing a couple who had written a book on “creative divorce.” They spent most of our hour together trying to convince me and the TV audience that they had found the secret to dissolving a marriage without acrimony or rancor.

They explained how their marriage had stifled their creativity and individuality. They made rambling speeches sprinkled with phrases that we all have learned to expect from those who are “high” on the Human Potential Movement. In the course of the interview they explained how the divorce had freed them up “to find their true selves” and “to actualize their respective personhoods.” They talked about the ways that they “realized who they really were through the painful process of self-definition that goes on during the struggles of divorce.”

My easygoing acceptance of these guests who seemed to deal with marriage and divorce in such a cavalier manner quickly ended when they happened to mention their children. When I found out that children had been caught up in the mess, I could not help but seriously zero in on them and ask, “How does all of this affect your kids?”

The two of them tried to explain that, while it was difficult at first, the children had learned to accept the divorce and were now “perfectly adjusted.” The women talked of all the “love” that her children were receiving at their day-care center. She smiled and said that it was undoubtedly more healthy for them to be spending eight hours each day with “professionals” who know how to raise children than to be “stuck” with their mother all day.

Dad tried to convince me that although he only saw the children every other weekend, he had a close and healthy relationship with them.

There was no need for me to strip bare their arguments and declarations. The phoniness of it all was too obvious to deserve comment. I just let them go on and on making their claims that “if handled properly divorce has no adverse effects on children.”

Divorce is a disaster! The research is piling in. Divorce is so disruptive in the lives of children that it is cited as a major factor leading to drug use, premarital sex, and delinquency.

Generally, church people try not to notice divorces. They practice a kind of collective repression and go on about their ecclesiastical business as though nothing really has happened. They accept the new wives and husbands, and seldom ask what might be embarrassing questions about what happened to the old ones. And the children of divorce are treated as though nothing traumatic has happened in their lives.

These children’s descriptions and explanations are meant to help others who are going through divorce or who had been through divorce. They share their experiences so that all of us can better understand what children are experiencing and how we can better participate in the healing process.

How I Felt

It feels sad because you miss the person who left, and you don’t know if you will ever see him again. I was just a baby when my dad left, and I didn’t see him until I was five years old. I don’t know if or when I will see him again and that makes me sad.--Karla, age 7

I think it is harder when your parents divorce than if one of your parents has died. If your parent dies, you can start and end the grief recovery process in a shorter amount of time. When your parents divorce, the conflict keeps going on for years, and it is hard to actually grieve over the fact that they are divorced.--Toni, age 14

I felt like it was my fault, like my parents didn’t see me and they were fighting about who would take me.--Scott, age 10

My New Life

The whole family changed and everybody’s attitude changed. We were angry at God at first for allowing this to happen to us.--Jennifer, age 17

One thing that changed is that both my parents live in different places, but I’m only able to live with one and visit the other on weekends. Another thing that changed was who would get which house and what car.--Joe, age 14

There was only one person (my dad) taking care of me. I never saw my mother again after the divorce. Not even my father knows where my mother lives.--Vicki, age 8

My New Family

New relationships were hard because of who my parents dated. The lady my dad dates is kind and sensitive and has a good sense of humor. But the guy my mom dates can be a real insensitive person who only thinks about himself and uses his humor to hurt other people, even if he thinks he’s just joking.--Joe, age 14

My mom’s boyfriend has kids who are nine and twelve years old. They go to church with us. Sometimes they go out to dinner with us during the week. Sometimes I fight with them over toys. My dad’s girlfriend is nice too. I wouldn’t mind if either of my parents got married again.--Lauren, age 10

Where Is God?

God is mostly with you, helping you through your parents’ divorce. God was near to me. God helps me feel comfortable in my situation--living in a single-parent family.--Josh, age 9

God has played a big part in all of this because I know I can talk to Him all the time about anything. It feels like I don’t have an earthly father, but I know I have a Heavenly Father who cares for me.--Amanda, age 13

He helps you deal with the divorce and gives you the strength you need to get through it. When I read the Bible, it calms me down when I am angry or cheers me up when I am depressed. God has helped heal the hurt and made me realize that it wasn’t my fault.--Anne, age 16

Excerpted from foreword by Tony Campolo and various chapters of *My Parents Got a Divorce* (David C. Cook) by Gary Sprague. Gary is director of divorce recovery programs called Fresh Start Seminars (for adults) and Kids in the Middle. Used with permission of David C. Cook.

HOW THE CHURCH CAN HELP CHILDREN OF DIVORCE

Interview with Judith Wallerstein

What prompted you as a psychologist to get interested in the subject of children of divorce?

I've always been interested in looking at situations that nobody else looked at yet. That challenges and excites me. When I first began laying the groundwork for my research, little study had been completed in this area.

It was during the early seventies, when I had just moved to California from a very stable community in the midwest. I suddenly saw a landscape full of different kinds of families where divorce, separation, and remarriage were becoming increasingly common. This was the beginning of the divorce explosion that has affected our entire society.

What should pastors and other church leaders be doing to effectively assist children of divorce?

First and foremost, they need to be available at the time the family breaks up. And they need to be able, without awkwardness and embarrassment, to say to a child, "Things are very hard right now in your family, and I know that. I hope it's going to get better. Let's talk about some of the things." By saying this, you give the child some hope, and you help him or her acknowledge that it is a very difficult experience, but that it's something that's okay to talk about.

You don't need to be a trained therapist to provide this nurturing, healing presence in a child's life. In fact, a pastor (or lay leader) can often be more acceptable and less threatening.

I don't think the church should have separate classes or groups for the children of divorced parents. It is much healthier to have all types of kids learning, playing, doing drama or art together. The primary purpose is to integrate these kids into the mainstream.

It seems that there is already a form of isolation that kids in single-parent families feel. How can that best be overcome?

What the pastor, leader, or youth worker has to know is that divorced parents, with the best of intentions, are less available to their children. They're more stressed and strained after the divorce. Someone in some way--be it through the extended family or the institution of the church, school, or community organization--has to step in to help be a parent for the child during the critical period. Otherwise, the child is alone with all these terrible anxieties, wondering what's going to happen tomorrow.

Be sure to check back. Don't assume that a one-time effort will fix the situation. There are more crises and the single-parent family has fewer resources. Develop a follow-up program that keeps in touch with children on an ongoing basis.

When the youngster reaches adolescence, I think it would be extremely helpful to be very old-fashioned about it. Have a group of adolescent kids talk about relationships and discuss what "good" means. Discussions like this can be a big help.

What is something we could do to help children of divorce survive and grow in healthy ways?

Kids need mentors. Very few kids have one today. Children from divorced homes especially need them. I'm not talking about big brothers or big sisters. I'm talking about mentors, older adults who exercise a moral, intellectual, and emotional influence, a teacher role.

Could this be like an important aunt, uncle, or grandparent?

It could be. It could also be an adult in the church or community. We found in our study that kids from divorced homes had very few mentors. They didn't have them in the church or the school. Although there were some who seemed to benefit enormously from mentoring grandparents, this was a small minority.

Mentoring can make a big difference. The kids in our study who had mentors stood out. One was a football star. His coach was his mentor. His coach loved him, the girls loved him, people came from all over to watch him play. He did very well with his supportive environment and a good coach for a mentor. Another person was a young woman who was a brilliant student in chemistry. She had key mentors all along the line. But few kids have this kind of mentoring relationship.

What is the value of a mentoring relationship?

The mentoring relationship communicates that you are loved and have something of worth. It's also intellectual, a teacher-student relationship. There's a wish that you will follow in the teacher's footsteps. I'm a chemist--you'll be a chemist. I'm a football player--you'll be a football player. Or, maybe we both do stamp collecting. It's almost like a father-child or mother-child relationship around a particular line of interest. It's not just that you are loved but that you are also in some way my heir. You are carrying on an important tradition where we are both part of the chain. This gives a child a tremendous sense of purpose, direction, and continuity.

The sky's the limit for all the various mentoring relationship possibilities. Pair up children and adults with similar interests. It can be anything from musical instruments to drawing or painting, stamp collecting, computers, or photography.

I'm not saying that the minister should take on the role of mentoring every divorced kid in the community. But it would be wonderful if the church constituency could be mobilized to have couples and singles take on a mentoring role with one or two children. It would provide stability and support for kids from divorced homes--and help reverse the destructive divorce cycle.

We have to realize that we are dealing with a new kind of family. Learning to help blended and divorced families survive and be healthy is going to be a challenge.

Judith Wallerstein is Executive Director of the Center for Family in Transition, Corte Madera, CA. This article was excerpted from *Single Adult Ministry* (David C. Cook). Article used with permission of David C. Cook Publishing Company.

HELPING SINGLE PARENTS: DON'T LET THEM SLIP THROUGH THE CRACKS

by Willard Black

Based on my experience as a pastor, a Christian leader, and a single parent for over ten years, I have developed some guidelines that will help congregations keep single parents from slipping through the cracks.

Offer help immediately. The new demands are overwhelming. Household management, income production, parenting, helping address the children's emotional needs--plus keeping up with their church and school activities--is a massive overload.

Don't wait for the single parents to seek your help. Following divorce, death of a spouse, or pregnancy outside of marriage, few men and women have the emotional energy to ask for help. Some new single parents are too hurt or humiliated to request support, even from close friends or family members. Be the initiator and make your offers of support as soon as possible.

Provide support based on specific needs. Before you meet with a single parent, imagine that you have just become one yourself. No longer do you have a spouse with whom you share household and parenting tasks, and your household income has been slashed from 30 to 40 percent.

When Virginia, who has six children, was divorced after nineteen years of marriage, it could have been the end of her world financially.

She said, "Money was a problem right away." She had not been employed since she was first married, and there were no family savings. She did, however, belong to a church where several families got together and put a large sum of money in a long-term fund for her.

Each month, for several years, the church sent her a check. This assured her of having food on the table. Her need was understood, and her friends were on target. Since needs vary considerably among single parents, individual assessments are needed to stay on target.

Specify the kind and amount of help you can give. Predictable help, either little or much, is often the best kind. Will you give emotional support or financial support? Can you visit in person or on the telephone? If caring for children, can you receive them after school or will you keep them one weekend a month? Answers to such questions will clarify the expectations of the person being helped and will not overburden the helper.



Specified and predictable help not only meets obvious needs, it helps single parents define areas of their own responsibility. This gives them a greater sense of control over their own lives.

Commit help for an extended period of time. Needs of single parents often continue much longer than anyone would like. Most responses which fulfill a need take six months or longer.

Bill needed an extended commitment of time to help him recover emotionally from his loss. He felt totally rejected when his wife left him. Four years later, I asked him what helped him most. He said, "Jim and Mary invited me over every Wednesday night for dinner and a Bible study. I was welcome to stay after that and watch television as long as I wanted to. They just asked me to lock the door as I left."

For nearly two years, Wednesday night was Bill's night at Jim and Mary's. This extended commitment of time, love, and hospitality helped him regain his self-worth.

Terminate help at the appropriate time. One message I repeat frequently to single parents in conferences is: "It's okay to be a consumer." Most of us would prefer not to be in a dependent position. It's important to know when to reduce or end your support so that it is not awkward for either the giver or the receiver. Monitor the needs as they change, and keep communications open.

In congregations where appropriate care is extended to single parents, a particular leader--or team of leaders--accepts the responsibility to see that care is given. An organizational structure and process is put in place to see that people are not overlooked.

Some needs are met spontaneously, but this occurs only for people who are well established in their congregations. Marginal church members and those completely outside the church have their needs addressed only when formal attention is directed their way.

By following the above suggestions, single parents will find much of the support and encouragement they so desperately need. The church can, and must, perform an adequate ministry to single parents.

Willard Black is founder and director of the Institute for Christian Resources, San Jose, CA. Article excerpted from *Single Adult Ministries* (David C. Cook). Used with permission of David C. Cook Publishing Company.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY TO SINGLE PARENTS

by Sandi Harding

The single parent carries tremendous emotional concerns and questions, "Are my kids and I still a family?" he or she asks. "If so, can we make this family work?"

Generally speaking, the church, while acknowledging these concerns, has been ineffective in providing the strong support system needed. The single-parent families' needs will not be met until the entire congregation is challenged to be involved.

The church often attempts to meet this need by building large singles "programs." The assumption that "single families will be cared for by the singles community" is an uninformed one. More critical to single families is an integration into the church-at-large, giving them a wider system of support and stability and a wider circle for their own unique gifts of ministry. I believe the church must do five things to begin truly meeting the needs of today's single parents.

Educate the Congregation

Singles leaders can do this by sharing and discussing the following key concerns and needs of the single parent.

Feelings of isolation. The number one problem for single parents is a feeling of not belonging. As families disintegrate, a loss of close relationships with other families will usually occur. Prior support systems are fractured and questions of self-esteem and self-worth arise: "Am I needed? Does anyone care?" Additionally, the still potent stigma of the "broken family" serves to increase feelings of isolation.

Children are isolated, especially, if a move has occurred. They leave familiar places and friends behind. New and strange responsibilities, coupled with feelings of loss, anger, and depression, further separate them from their peers.

Against these emotions, single parents strive to prove their family is nevertheless okay. Often they will turn down offers of help--at least initially--due to pride or fear. No parent wants to admit that "I can't handle things on my own."

Role identity. The single parent is faced with a new challenge--playing the role of both parents. The mother who previously served as caretaker and source of affection must now be the breadwinner and disciplinarian, too.

Fathers generally have an easier time, as full-time child care often allows their daily routines to be less interrupted. However, they too discover new roles--shopper, launderer, and cook.

Children also demonstrate confusion over their identity. If allowed, they will attempt to take the place of the missing parent. Sadly, the remaining parent frequently encourages this reversal due to his or her own emotional needs.

Financial pressures. After a separation or divorce, financial pressures confront both women and men. Studies show that men have more earning power and regain their financial loss more quickly. Women have a harder adjustment for several reasons. They may not have been working and now must seek employment or the embarrassment of government assistance. Approximately 90 percent of them make less than \$15,000 a year; from this they must deduct the high cost of day care. Statistically, the level of income for women decreases 76 percent after a divorce, while the level for men actually increases 24 percent.

As the congregation begins to fully understand these needs and concerns, they are better able to provide practical, valuable help for the single parent. Such help does not necessarily require expensive programs, but simply practicing Christ's commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

Provide Pastoral Support and Up-Front Teaching

People take their cues from the person in charge. If the pastor verbally recognizes the needs of single parents, the congregation is encouraged to show a more active concern as well. Sensitive presentation of the general and specific needs of single-parent families promotes this concern. Sermons can make use of single-parent illustrations, both biblical and modern.

Specific needs for clothing, appliances, housing, and other basics can be announced or printed for the church service sheet, newsletter, or bulletin board.

It is helpful to remember single parents on Mother's Day and Father's Day. Special prayers might be offered for them. Also, they should be seen and heard; sharing the love of Christ with the congregation and telling how certain needs are being answered. In this the pastor takes the lead; if he or she accepts single parents, then others will follow.

Make Church Functions and Retreats Affordable

Single parents desperately need involvement with the church family. Continually remind them that they are welcome at all church activities. This may necessitate providing them with scholarship money so limited funds don't keep them from attending badly needed Christian fellowship activities.

Encourage People to "Adopt" a Single-Parent Family

Children of single parents need to be exposed to complete families in order to understand the relationship between a husband, wife, and children. Families can "adopt" single-parent families, including them in family outings or vacations, and frequently having brunch together after church.

These traditional family times are generally lonely times for single-parents families. They will appreciate the love and concern that comes with such fellowship.

Meet Needs Through a "Practical Advisor's Workshop"

Practical knowledge is hard to obtain for the parent struggling with learning a second role in a family. A system of advisors could be of great help in many areas. Financial advisors could help single parents set up a budget or apply for low-rate loans.

Counselor advisors could assist with individual and family counseling as well as with questions involving children. Job networking (how to write a resume or apply for a job) and home repairs (what to fix and how to do it) are other areas ripe for practical advice. Most churches have such expertise within their membership. Group classes or individual consultation could be arranged.

The challenge to minister with single-parent families will not get easier. Sadly, the vast majority of these families have little or no involvement in the life of the church. Now is the time to reevaluate our ministry to single-parent families and to provide them with the spiritual support and healing environment of Christ.

Sandi Harding is a lay leader at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, Sewickley, PA. The article was excerpted from *Single Adult Ministry* (David C. Cook). Used with permission of David C. Cook Publishing Company.

THE SINGLE-PARENT FAMILY

Practical Ways to Provide a Ministry

by Doug Morphis

There was a period in my life when I was a single parent. I have also been involved in singles ministry for several years. Based on both my personal and professional experience, I offer some suggestions I believe will be helpful to the church in ministry with the single-parent family.

Affirm Single Parents

The church needs to affirm single parents by acknowledging that children can receive nurturing, love, and Christian values in single-parent homes as well as in two-parent homes. One way to communicate your acceptance of single parents is to encourage them to seek leadership roles in the church that will allow them to serve on decision-making bodies such as education committees, administrative bodies, and in planning family ministries. This ensures that single parents not only sing in the church and teach Sunday School, but they also have significant input and leadership roles in the church at large.



the children's teachers to become familiar with each family situation and make decisions pertaining to attendance expectations based on each particular family situation.

Sometimes different parents may pick up the children after activities. It is important that the church set a policy about who can pick up the children and what should be done if the other parents comes by to pick them up.

Holiday activities such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter, and Christmas may have to

be adjusted for the special needs of the single-parent family, particularly when giving gifts is involved.

Child care should be provided for all events that the church sponsors for adults (board meetings, choir practice, seminars, retreats, and dinners), if you want single parents to participate.

Make scholarships available for all events that cost money. This consideration will give single parents with limited finances the opportunity to participate.

Support Single Parents in the Traumas and Transitions of Their Lives

There are times when single parents need extra attention--a lot of TLC, prayer, spiritual exhortation, and even financial help. To meet these special needs, churches should offer divorce- and grief-recovery groups, support groups for children of divorce and death, and even workshops for new parents, including single parents who have adopted or are unmarried parents.

Be Sensitive to the Difficult Issues in Single-Parents Families

Some particular issues need to be addressed by the whole church if it is going to minister to the needs of single-parent families.

The other family. Since many single-parent families are the product of divorce, there is usually another family in which the children spend time. The church needs to be sensitive to the fact that children from single-parent families cannot always participate in all church activities.

For instance, children may want to join the church through confirmation class that requires attendance, but they spend every other weekend in the other home and are unable to attend all the confirmation classes. The church must have a structure that allows

Reexamine Sexual Role Expectations

During my seven years of single parenting (before I remarried), most people in the church felt sorry for me. I was asked such things as: "How do you relate to your teenage girls?" "Can I sew that button on your coat for you?" "Would you like me to fix a dish for you for the upcoming covered-dish dinner?"

These questions reflect a mindset that says men can't do certain tasks as well as women. But in reality, I know single women who are very adept at discipline and house or car maintenance. At the same time, many single fathers are excellent cooks and housemakers.

Maybe single parents can teach the church that God makes us human beings with the capacity to learn new tasks and that both sexes can be effective parents when given the opportunity and encouragement.

Doug Morphis is a counselor at First United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kansas. The article is excerpted from *Single Adult Ministry* (David C. Cook). Used with permission of David C. Cook.

QUARTERLY YOKE LETTER

Dear Friends:

Having long contemplated a Yoke Letter on the subject of prayer, this seems a good time to try to produce it. Part of the reason for this decision is that, as I advance in years, prayer plays an increasingly important part in my spiritual life. As I grow older, I pray more.

In thinking of prayer, I turn often to the fifth chapter of 1 Thessalonians, concentrating on the seventeenth verse. Here I find a short sentence which answers many questions, with vivid expressions in translation of the Greek text. In the Authorized Version we say "pray without ceasing," while in the Revised Standard Version the words are "pray constantly." The translation of the New English Bible is "pray continually." The well-known translation of James Moffatt is "never give up prayer." Whichever words we employ, the idea is abundantly clear. Prayer is something in which our involvement never ends.

Prayer, rightly understood, is not an occasional effort, but a constant experience, day and night. It is reasonable, to waken from sleep in the night, and start praying. This is because there is always much for which we can pray and ought to pray. Whatever we do, or fail to do, the need is never exhausted.

Most prayer is personal. I find myself praying, "O Lord, help Mary", "O Lord, help John." The verb "help" is, almost always, central to the prayer experience, because help is what we desperately need. We pray sometimes, for ourselves but, far more often we pray for others. There is strong reason to engage in intercession in that we know that it was part of the prayer life of Christ himself. In a memorable encounter we read:

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:
But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not (Luke 22:31-32).

One of the most important of all prayers is prayer for healing. I find, when I visit hospital patients, that vocal prayer is expected. Insofar as we take the gospel seriously, we are bound to combine prayer with healing. There is no part of the New Testament more clear and unequivocal than that which records the stories of healing. The blind did receive their sight, the lame did walk, the dumb did speak. Much for which Christ prayed actually occurred.

The enormous success of Alcoholics Anonymous is an important evidence of the effectiveness of prayer. Whatever they call their faith, the AA members all engage in prayer. Whether alone or with other needy persons, each AA person prays for freedom from the use of alcohol, and the results are phenomenal.

Any thoughtful consideration of prayer is bound to include some reference to miracle. This is because most petitions make sense only if miracles actually occur. A miracle is not an event for which there is no cause, but one in which the will of God is clearly part of the causal sequence. In any sound philosophy, there is room for both natural law and the supernatural. God, if He exists, is the author of natural law and consequently, superior to it. Natural law, as in the case of gravitation, is God's way of producing order in the physical universe. Normally this order prevails, but it can, for an adequate reason, be transcended.

The order of the universe includes moral judgment. We are part of a world which includes not only what is, but also what ought to be. Fifty-one years ago I wrote about this in a book called *The Logic of Belief*. At one point I wrote, "Good men in all ages have interpreted their moral decisions, not in terms of something they have made, but in terms of something to which they have become sensitive."

The Resurrection of Christ may be seen as an event which actually occurred, in which the moral order transcended the physical or natural order. Every prayer, in which the order of events is changed is an illustration of the supremacy of the divine will. If we realize that, in humble prayer, we are asking for the miraculous, we may have a new sense of a life of prayer.

Again, in *The Logic of Belief*, I wrote, "If the world is really the medium of God's personal action, miracle is wholly normal. What we call a miracle is a situation in which consistency of purpose makes necessary a conspicuous adjustment of means...a miracle is an event, far from being a mysterious event, as is popularly supposed, is really an occurrence which can be understood."

When the ordinary humble person engages in prayer, he is participating in a series of events which involve grandeur. He claims to be in contact, not merely with other finite persons, but with the person who is at the center of the universe. He is trying to understand the purpose which is at the heart of all reality and to share in events which otherwise would not have occurred. Accordingly, the life of prayer is truly astounding.

Faithfully,

Elton Trueblood

The above was submitted by the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, chaplain of Mount Olive College.

ONE IN FOUR AMERICANS HAS LEFT CHILDHOOD FAITH: GALLUP POLL

Nearly one-fourth of American adults have left the church of their childhood for another denomination or faith, the Gallup Organization reports.

Overall, denomination-switching appears to benefit Protestant churches more than Catholic churches. While 81 percent of converts landed in Protestant churches, only 9 percent moved into Roman Catholic churches.

Also, 45 percent of those who have switched said they left a Protestant denomination, while 18 percent said they left the Roman Catholic church.

Among Protestants, smaller denominations as a whole are most likely to get switchers, followed by Methodists, Presbyterians, and Southern Baptists.

Methodists also are the most likely to lose members who change faiths, the poll found. A total of 15 percent of those who said that they had left the faith of their childhood exited the Methodist church, compared to 6 percent who said they used to be Presbyterians;

3 percent, Lutherans; 5 percent, Southern Baptists; 6 percent, another type of Baptist.

The most common reason for changing denominations is marriage, accounting for 26 percent of switches.

Other top reasons are:

- A preference for the religious beliefs of the new church, 14 percent.

- Moving or finding a more conveniently located church, 11 percent.

- Influence of friends, relatives, or children, 10 percent.

- Dislike of the religious beliefs of the former church, 7 percent.

- A religious experience with God, 5 percent.

The Gallup poll also found that Americans who have changed faiths or denominations are more likely to say religion is "very important" in their lives (71 percent) than people who have not changed faiths (58 percent).

Adapted from *Biblical Recorder*, July 18, 1992.

WHAT THIS COUNTRY LACKS IS OLD FASHIONED VIRTUE

by Mona Charen

A judge in Shreveport, LA, has ruled that teaching abstinence cannot be part of a sex education program for high school students. Abstinence, said the judge, is a religion-based virtue. To teach it in public schools is to violate the separation of church and state.

Have we reached the point in America where virtue is considered contaminated because it has been known to keep company with religion?

In truth, the whole concept of virtue is out of fashion in modern society. Or at least, the traditional virtues--self-control, honor, fortitude, frugality, fidelity, and duty--are held in low esteem. We have replaced them with what could be called "easy virtues" such as tolerance, non-discrimination (in every sense of the word), and egalitarianism.

And what have we wrought by jettisoning traditional standards of virtue? We have a decaying social fabric in which criminal behavior is rampant, family structure is fragmented, drug abuse, and sexually transmitted disease are epidemic.

William Bennett has made a critical contribution to our understanding of the importance of these issues by compiling a list of "Leading Cultural Indicators."

Examining trends from 1960 to 1990, Mr. Bennett finds that the U.S. population increased 41 percent, and the gross domestic product nearly tripled. At the same time, violent crime increased 560 percent, illegitimate births increased more than 400 percent, the divorce rate quadrupled, the teen suicide rate increased by 200 percent, and SAT scores dropped by 80 points.

Liberals believe that these trends represent the failure of



government to do more to help people. Conservatives believe that some of these trends were exacerbated by misguided government attempts to help and that most of the problems we label "social" or "economic" are really moral.

National Review has published a new book called *The Loss of Virtue*. This collection of essays by British scholars probes the discarded virtues--probity, honor, self-sacrifice, diligence. Even to list those traditional virtues is a rebuke to our soft, petulant culture.

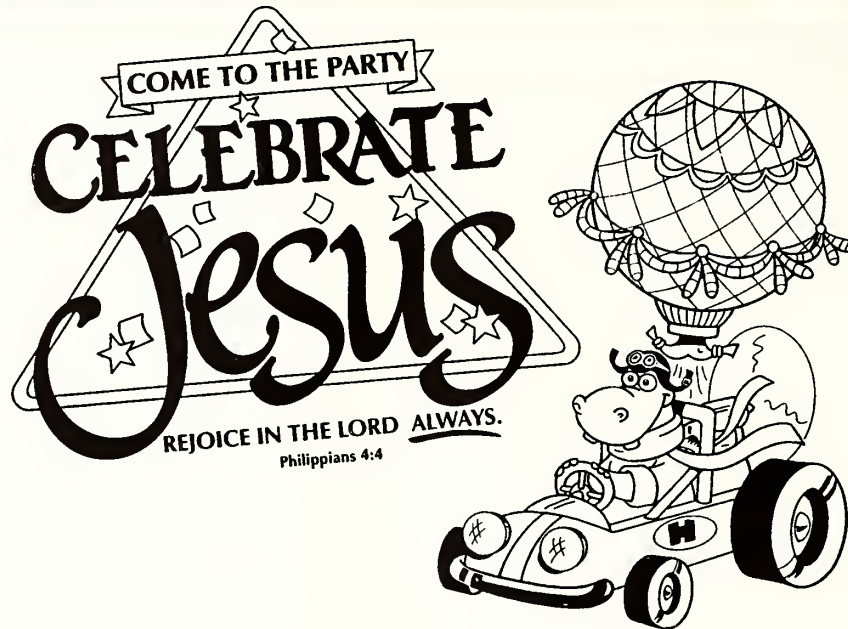
Christie Davies offers a fascinating historical survey of crime and disorder in Great Britain. The first half of the 19th century was marked by high levels of public drunkenness, theft, violence, and illegitimacy, all of which dropped to remarkably low levels in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

George Orwell, writing in 1944, noted that England was renowned for "gentleness." But "it is not much more than a hundred years since the distinguishing mark of English life was its brutality."

What changed an entire nation's national character? Sunday School, suggests Mr. Davies. Attendance at Sunday Schools rose steadily throughout the latter half of the 19th century. When attendance fell off in the 20th century, crime and disorder increased dramatically.

Our great-grandparents understood that you cannot expect virtue if you don't teach it. They didn't attempt to instill self-esteem, they instilled fortitude and self-control. We've fallen so far that we do not even agree on what virtue is.

Reprinted from *Sunday*, Summer 1993.



EVERYONE LOVES A PARTY!

Birthdays. Weddings. Anniversaries. Promotions. We're always ready to gather our family and friends together to celebrate the joyful events of our lives, just as Jesus did.

Jesus went to parties. He hosted picnics. Jesus drew people to Himself through the magnetic warmth of His personality.

Come to the Party...Celebrate Jesus is a party to end all parties! It's a brand new Vacation Bible School program from Standard Publishing.

Celebrate Jesus will draw kids to your VBS like a magnet. It's a way to share the love of Jesus with the kids in your church--your community--as never before, doing something everyone loves. Celebrating!

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JUNE 1994

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

June 1994

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$9.01; two years, \$16.43; four years, \$31.80 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50, and \$30, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Table of Contents

3	Happenings Throughout the Church
7	Cragmont Assembly
9	Summer Camp: YFA Registration Form
12	Foreign Missions
14	Mount Olive College
23	Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference
24	Children's Home
25	Part IV: From the FWB Palawan Bible College to Puerto Princesa to Farewell
30	Silver Creek OFWB Mission/Church
31	Notes and Quotes

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

A TRIBUTE TO MY MOTHER AVA KEECH POOLE

I grew up on a farm near Belhaven, NC where we attended Sidney Free Will Baptist Church. My mother had all four of her children attend church from infancy through our growing up years. We all have precious memories of our involvement in church.

Mother was our source of strength; her tenderness, caring, plus hours of comfort she showed will never be forgotten. It has been a testimony that helped each of us in raising our children. Mom, your wonderful love has made our house a home where we gather in unity and where the spirit of love is always shown. Your faith in God has always lifted our spirits and filled us with joy. I remember bringing home friends from college and it was thrilling how they were drawn to you and to hear them call you "Mom." You have many adopted sons and daughters all over the world who love you as a second mother. My childhood memories include you spending many hours mending socks, clothes and of course our broken hearts using words of kindness and acts of love. Many memories come to my mind of your love; like sewing a new outfit for us for a birthday or special occasion late into the night. I can still hear the click of that old pedal sewing machine as you labored in love. I remember all the times you combed my curly hair and the patience that it took: making popcorn as we gathered as a family to watch TV: the hours ironing and preparing lunches for school: the times you endured our practicing the piano and trumpet: but my very best memory was listening to your sweet voice sing "Amazing Grace," "What A Day That Will Be," or "Uncloudy Day" as you went about your household duties.

I remember that day in March 1973 when God called Daddy home to Heaven at age 45 and one month later your Dad, my Grandfather, Charlie J. Keech. Through this crisis you kept your faith in God and it grew even stronger as you held us together and worked hard while making sacrifices to see two of your daughters go through college. As you would finally have time for yourself you did not know that ten years later you would be battling for your own life with cancer. The prognosis was not good but praise God you have beat the odds

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

and outlasted man's wisdom. It has been a hard struggle for you and God has held you in His care. You are a survivor and a living witness to others. The strength that comes from within you has helped those around you in dealing with similar problems. You have been so instrumental in getting them through their dark hours.

You have spent your adult life serving faithfully at Sidney F.W.B. Church highlighted by your serving as a Sunday School teacher for 40 years and leading to the development of a separate service for children teaching and reaching them for Christ at their level of understanding.

Our family ties are woven from a special love that cannot be broken that has created precious memories to keep in our hearts forever. This love is a love that only God can give through a mother. Steve, Linda, Wendy, and Janet are so blessed that we have you for our mother. We have learned to be creative, resourceful, and most importantly you have taught all of us a love for Jesus Christ. We learned about God at an early age and from that the acts of sacrificing, giving, and genuine love. "A mother is the one through who God whispers love to His little children." Mom, you have always been at the heart of our home; you are a miracle, our very special miracle. Our family has grown in number and its new members have experienced a taste of unconditional love. Thank you for always seeing the best in us when it was at times hard to see.

Steve and Lucinda, Linda and George, Wendy and Skip, Janet and Jesse plus your adoring grandchildren; George Jr., Keith, Steven, Chad, Christopher and Jessica honor you for your devotion to God and the devotion and love you have for us.

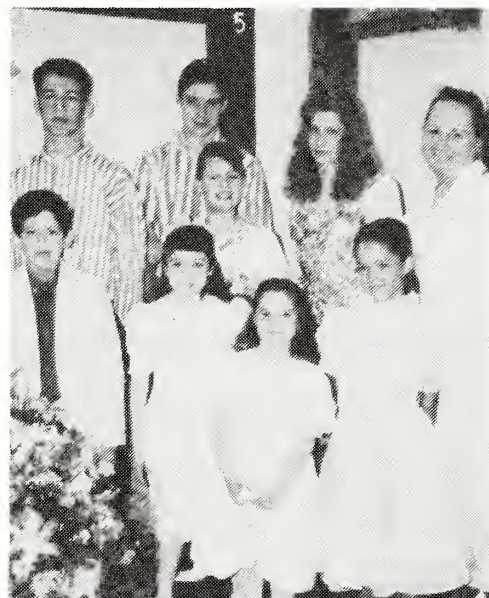
Mom, you are more than a Mom--you are my best friend. I honor you, my Mother.

"Her children arise up, and call her blessed." (Proverbs 31:28)

I LOVE YOU,
Wendy

Wendy P. Coates is married with one child and resides in Plymouth, Pa.

ROCKING FOR THE LORD



Pictured left to right: (back row): Jarod Williamson, Shane Thompson, Nanda Leary, Betty Stephenson; (front row): Bryan Leary, Ashley Leary, London Williamson, Autumn Leary, Crystal Bennett

The youth of Warden's Grove F.W. B. Church in Lowland, NC held a Rock-A-Thon on March 4, 1994 to raise money to replace the church's hymnals with new ones. Through the generosity of all their sponsors and a lot of rocking, enough money was raised to purchase 100 new hymnals and 20 new Bibles for the church. A dedication service was held on Sunday, March 27, 1994 with the Rev. Swade Benson directing the service. Congratulations Rockers and keep up the good work!

June
is
Cragmont
Assembly
Month

LEAH MCGLOHON HONORED



Leah McGlohon and Sandra Jones.

On April 24, 1994, following "Fourth Sunday Night Sing," the Winterville church choir honored Leah McGlohon for her many faithful years as choir director. (Even Leah is not sure how many years. It would probably be close to 40 years. We at Winterville church don't remember anyone else, except for a few pastors along the way.) Leah is always ready to serve the Lord. She was given a plaque and a brass music stand was presented to the church in her honor.

Everyone then gathered in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and a time of sharing. Thank you, Leah for your faithfulness over the years.

OUR THANKS TO JANIE

On behalf of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and especially the Headquarters personnel, we express our thanks and appreciation to Janie Sowers, former editor of the Free Will Baptist Press, for her years of faithful service rendered to the cause of Christ and to the Free Will Baptist denomination.

We are grateful for the assistance and advice often given to us concerning our writings, our plans, etc. The impact of her work will live on in the lives of those she has touched.

We know our Lord will continue to guide her footsteps and bless her efforts in her new field of endeavor.

BAPTISMAL SERVICE HELD AT MACEDONIA FWB CHURCH



Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Route 2, Aurora, North Carolina held its Spring revival on March 14-16 with the Rev. Raymond Lagcher of Pinetown as evangelist. Wednesday was designated as Youth Night. There were twenty-one children and youths present. The children's choir of the church and Timothy Lagcher gave the special music that night accompanied by Beverly Thornton and led by Tommy Cavanaugh, the children's church leader.

The Rev. Lagcher's message was especially for the youths. When the invitation was given, thirteen youths went to kneel at the altar and individually made their confession of faith and gave their lives to Jesus Christ.

On April 17 at 7:30 p.m. a baptismal service for the thirteen youths was held at Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church at Ernul, North Carolina.

The baptismal service was part of the Macedonia regular Sunday night service with the Rev. Grady Simpson holding the opening service and welcoming the Dublin Grove Church. He then turned the service over to the Rev. Edward Thornton, pastor of Dublin Grove, for the baptismal service.

To begin his message, the Rev. Thornton read Ephesians 4:5 and explained the four "P's":

Purpose--identify with God's purpose, not ashamed to be recognized as a Christian.

Passion--choose the living way.

Power--placing themselves in God's love, recognize the bond between the candidates and Jesus.

People--challenged all church members, especially the parents to encourage the converts.

While the candidates were preparing for their baptism, the congregation had a testimony time and sang "Trust and Obey."

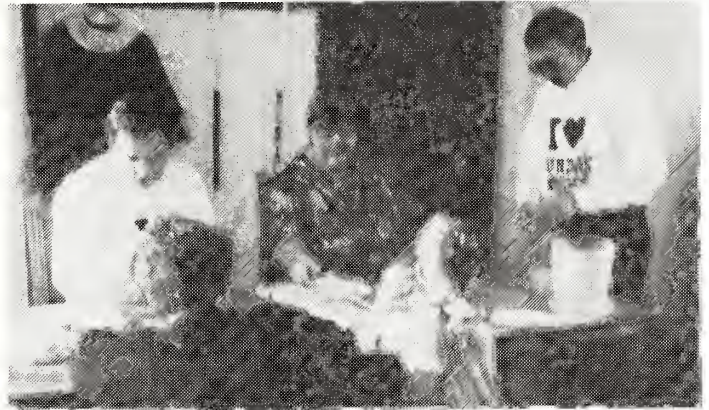
The Rev. Thornton baptized the following: (Pictured Above) (left to right, first row): Jaime Peele, Scott Harris, Mallory Groome, Jennifer Foreman, Tom Bonner, Kevin VanZandt, Beau Brothers; (second row): DeeDee VanZandt, Jessica Johnson, Genny Groome, Shelby Brothers, Jason Foreman. The Rev. Lagcher baptized his son Timothy (first row on the extreme right).

At the close of the impressive service, the Rev. Thornton presented the candidates their baptismal certificates and the Rev. Lagcher closed with prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTE REFLECTIONS



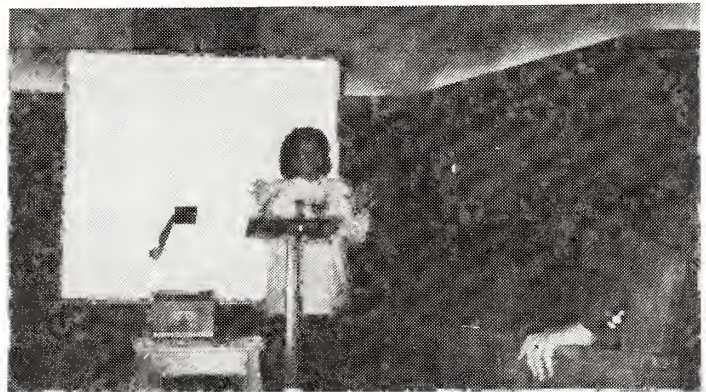
Sunday School Institute at Daniel's Chapel.



The Rev. Frank Grubbs and Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Foy man the registration table.



Elwood Hill registers the "furry" visitor.



Mrs. Dianne Riley delivered the message.



The Rev. Frank Grubbs presented a certificate to Mrs. Sandy Ellis.



Mrs. Mary Dudley with the "curious" visitor.

Saturday, March 5, 1994 was an exciting day at Daniel's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. Over one hundred fifty people gathered amidst the balloons and celebrated an awareness of the importance of Christian nurture in today's society. After registration, which included a "furry feline" who was very curious, Mrs. Dianne Riley captured the moment by sharing her passion for Christian Education. She discussed reasons why we should stop "playing church" and seriously look at where we have been, and where do we want to go, and how are we going to reach our goal. She suggested we may have to change some of those "traditions" we hold so dear.

After the keynote message, everyone chose a workshop from among seven topics. They were Faithfully Teaching the Word led by the Rev. De W. Eakes; Discipline in Sunday School led by the Rev. Donald Coates; Reaching the Single Parent Families led by the Rev. Craig Simmons; Ideas for Future Growth led by the Rev. and Mrs. Terry Ellis; Evangelism in the 90's led by the Rev. David C. Hansley; Parenting/Teaching Skills for Pre-Schools led by Mary Dudley; and Relating Free Will Baptist Doctrine to the Sunday School Lesson led by the Rev. C. H. Overman. Everyone was given the opportunity to attend two workshops with some people asking for more.

The church served delicious refreshments for a rest break. While the participants were being refreshed, much conversation was overheard concerning ideas which had been introduced.

As the Institute came to a close, certificates were presented to the workshop leaders. Many people went away with smiles on their faces because they won door prizes. Everyone who gathered on that Sunday morning left with many memories including the "furry feline" who just came to visit.

SCOUTING AND FREE WILL BAPTISTS

by Elwood Hill

Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church has been involved in the scouting program of this community for the past 30 plus years. Cub Pack 447 has been active for all of those years but one. Boy Scout Troop 447 has been active for over 25 years. Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church has been partners with scouting for over 25 continuous years.

I have been involved, personally, in the scouting program at Deep Run Church for a lot of those 25 years plus I was a boy scout in the Deep Run community in my youth, and today I am serving as the Cubmaster at Deep Run Church, I have seen firsthand the advantages of scouting on the youth of a community.

The Cub Scout Promise states: *I, (Cub repeats his first name) promise to do my best to do my duty to God and to my country, to help other people, and to obey the law of the pack.*

The Boy Scout Oath states: *On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and to my country, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.*

Scouting is accepted and chartered each year by the Congress of the United States . . . The Congress is very supportive of the scouting program, much because so many members of the Congress were themselves scouts in their youth. Scouting has been to court many times but scouting has always emerged victorious. The court system has favored scouting in the past . . . however, we know that the same court system has not been so sympathetic to other things like prayer in school . . . scouting is an acceptable part of the work of our youth.

Now, read carefully the first lines in both the Cub Scout Promise and the Boy Scout Oath:

I, (Cub repeats his own name) promise to do my duty to God . . . and on my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God . . .

First, on the list of promises is one's duty to God.

Scouting is an accepted national organization that involves boys (sorry, no girls) from all faiths and whose initial promise is to do duty to God. Free Will Baptists . . . should we not be more aggressively working towards sponsoring a scouting program in each and every Free Will Baptist church in our state. Our schools accept the scouting program with open arms. Schools allow the recruiting of boys for Cub Scouts in our local elementary schools. As a church, we cannot go to the local school to recruit

members for Sunday School, but we can participate in a national program that allows the recruiting of boys for your scouting program in a great number of ways and one of those ways is even in the local school system.

The boy scout laws are . . . A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, clean, brave, reverent. Are these not the same principles that are taught in Sunday Schools on Sunday morning? The scouting program teaches a boy about his duty to God, first. Then, his duty to his country. The scouting program can teach acceptable moral behavior as well as teaching the traditional outdoors theme of the national scouting program. Duty to God as well as duty to country. I would like to propose this question to Free Will Baptists, "Would not this be a great time to form a new working partnership with the scouting program of America?"

With the recent years, having shown us a decline in Sunday School attendance, scouting offers another way to develop the youth of our community and to get them in church on Sunday morning and then to keep them in church for the rest of their lives.



Trey Sloan, Frederick Smith--First Pre-Camporee



Frederick Smith, Trey Sloan--Arrow of Light Award presented at Deep Run Free Will Baptist.



Matthew Humphrey, Jeremy Canady, Natalio Bautista, David Heath, Javier Bautista, William Heath, Trey Sloan, Matthew Hill, Zack Hill



Cub Scouts doing program at the Blue and Gold Banquet held at the Fellowship Building of Deep Run Church.

BEYOND JUBILEE

by John R. Williams

I was sitting at my desk for more than an hour trying to come up with an article to put in the Free Will Baptist for June, Cragmont month. Having become weary from all the "brain" work, I decided to take a break and read an article in the *Pulpit Digest*. After reading a sermon, by Clyde E. Fant, an advisory editor to the *Digest*, my mind focused on his ideas and resulted in what you are reading.

The title of the sermon is "The Moses Moments." Fant talks about Moses' death and stresses how God used Moses greatly in the task of leading the people of Israel out of Egypt and around the wilderness. A strong, powerful leader was needed and God provided His leadership through Moses.

More than likely, the Israelites had a lot of trouble accepting Moses' death. They probably wondered how they would get through the next years without him. Of course, God provided leadership again in Joshua ("God Saves"). And He was ready, willing and able to use Joshua in mighty and powerful ways . . . just as he used Moses. Even though Moses was dead, God still provided a strong and powerful reminder of His presence in the new leader of Israel.

Thinking along these lines, we may tend to turn our attention to the individual involved, that is, the one God is using. However, our focus should be on the fact that it is God who, by His very nature, is faithfully and consistently providing for our needs. This does not, in any way, dismiss the accomplishments of the people faithfully following God, but their lives should show us that God is unailing. And I believe Cragmont is a good example of this.

I think about all those who were involved in the early years establishing a place called Cragmont, a conference center for our denomination. This is a great accomplishment and they should be recognized accordingly. Cragmont's ministry did not end with them. Over the years and under several different leaders, God continued and still continues to use Cragmont to bring people into His Kingdom. Fant said it best in his sermon:

Joshua was not Moses but God was still God, and God will never leave us alone. It is only God who holds the world together--not our wits or strength, or the wits or strength of anyone else.

Often, when a minister uses the story of Moses handing over his roll as leader of the Children of Israel to Joshua, people often conclude that the minister is resigning. Well, resigning is not my intention. It is my goal, however, to draw your attention to the transition that Cragmont is entering.

In 1995, Cragmont will celebrate fifty years as a ministry of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. We also plan to celebrate the fact that we will be debt-free. Birthdays and being debt-free are transitions anyone would celebrate. But we are also celebrating the opportunity to expand Cragmont's ministry, both in scope and purpose.

As Cragmont approaches an era "Beyond Jubilee," your ministry's need for support will be as strong as ever. We're launching new conferences to serve the denomination. We're also looking to improve the grounds at the campus as well as improve the buildings. Keep in mind that with your present, your talents, your financial help and prayers, Cragmont will be able to pursue these and other goals. I believe that, as in the past, God will honor the vision He has given His leaders and provide the means to make the vision a reality through us. Only our following the faithfulness of God has brought us to this point. The same will carry us "Beyond Jubilee."



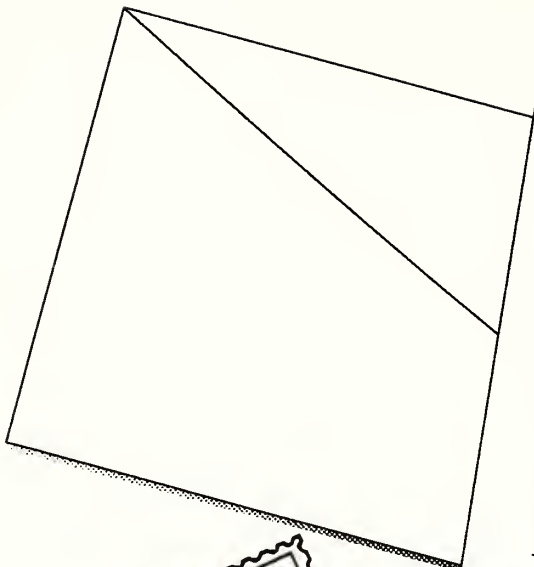
We are expecting good attendance in our weeks of Camp. This week was *Christian Cadet*.



All ages enjoy the front porch steps.



Maybe you meant to get something from the store. We can mail your shorts, shirt, etc.--price plus postage and handling.



Dear Carol,
 I just had to send this letter when I found out about Cragmont's Fall Limited Edition for this year! Starting Monday, October 17 and ending Thursday October 20, they've got a touring package that starts with historic Jonesborough, TN! You know, the township whose county tried to become the state of Franklin? I just found out the TENNESSEE State Seal was made there! Anyway, they're talking about a tour through some homes and other landmarks, the museum and lunch at the Parson's Table, an old (and I mean old!) converted church building. That's Tuesday. Wednesday they're going to Mount Pisgah and Pisgah Inn, the Farmer's Market and, your favorite, Asheville Mall. But there's more! And since I'm running out of room here's the scoop on their price. It's \$175.00 per person. That includes your travel by bus, lodging, and some meals. Can you believe it? But you better hurry. Your \$15 per person deposit and completed registration form has got to get to Cragmont before they can reserve your spot. The other \$100 isn't due 'til September 24. Well, I've got to go. My bread's burning! Hope to see you there!

Love,
 Susan

Cragmont Assembly's

Fall
LIMITED EDITION

1 9 9 4



YES! Save my space on Fall Limited!

No. I do not wish to sign up at this time, but I would like more information on future *Limited Editions!*

Name _____

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of? If so please describe:

Address _____

Church _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Roomate(s) _____

Mail to: "Fall Limited", c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Bus Stop Preference _____

Summer **CAMP**

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE/YFA WEEK
Cragmont Assembly
June 27 -- July 2
For Those Ages 13 and Up

There will be:

1. Lots of young people!
2. Counselors who care.
3. Bible studies, dorm devotions, vespers.
4. Trips, fun times, "happening" events, and lots of excitement.
5. Music, new friends, and more than we have room to describe!

YFAers will soon be traveling to Cragmont Assembly to attend the 1994 Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week. YFA Week is unique because it is the only encampment at Cragmont planned for just teenagers. This encampment is a time of fun and fellowship, a time of soul-searching and inspiration. This year's encampment is scheduled for June 27 -- July 2. Activities planned include a trip tubing down a mountain river.

Our program will feature concentrated Bible study and an emphasis on discipleship, recreation, missions/evangelism, and much more. The week will be a discipleship event with the purpose of beginning or continuing the process of discipleship development in the lives of youth. Special attention will be given to knowing the will of God.

To make sure that you are among those who attend YFA Week, please mail the application below soon! Send the application with the \$70 registration fee. Letters explaining what you need to carry to camp will be sent when your registration fee is received. The total cost of camp is \$170. Checks should be made payable to Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week.

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Church _____ Birthdate _____

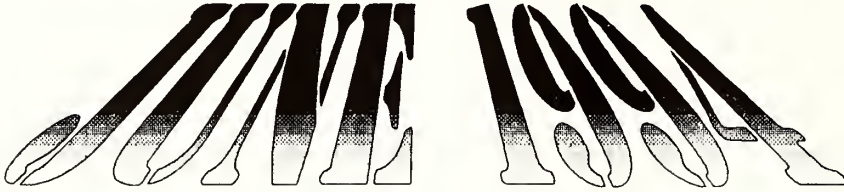
Send registration form and fee to: Scott and Janie Sowers, Route 1, Box 106-B, Farmville, NC 27828; phone, 919-753-4260.

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH FOR MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The Presidential Search Committee of Mount Olive College requests that nominations and applications for Presidential Candidates be mailed to Chairman of Presidential Search Committee, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365.

Qualifications: The President shall be a person who gives unqualified evidence of his/her Christian faith and commitment to the mission and purpose of the College as stated in its Charter and as interpreted by the Board of Trustees. In addition, he/she shall possess and maintain those academic, professional, personal, and moral qualities necessary for the Presidency of an institution of Christian higher education.

**Cragmont Assembly's
Calendar of Events**



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
20	30	31	1	2	3 June 3-5 Pleasant Grove Pikeville Union Grove Fremont	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1994 June Women's Auxiliary Conference Donna Holland, director Teresa Ball, registrar						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1994 Minister's Conference Ray Wells, president, FWB Ministerial Association Phillip Boykin, registrar						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Christian Cadets Conference Gary Bailey, director/registrar						
26	27	28	29	30	1 JULY	2
Youth Frontier Conference (YFA) Scott & Janie Sowers, directors/registrars						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Youth Frontier Conference (AFC) Doug Skinner, director/registrar						

**DR. K. DAVID HINES NAMED
CHAIR OF MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE RELIGION
DEPARTMENT
HINES SUCCEEDS
DR. MICHAEL R. PELT,
37-YEAR CHAIRMAN**

MOUNT OLIVE--President W. Burkette Raper has announced the appointment of Dr. K. David Hines as chairman of the department of religion at Mount Olive College.

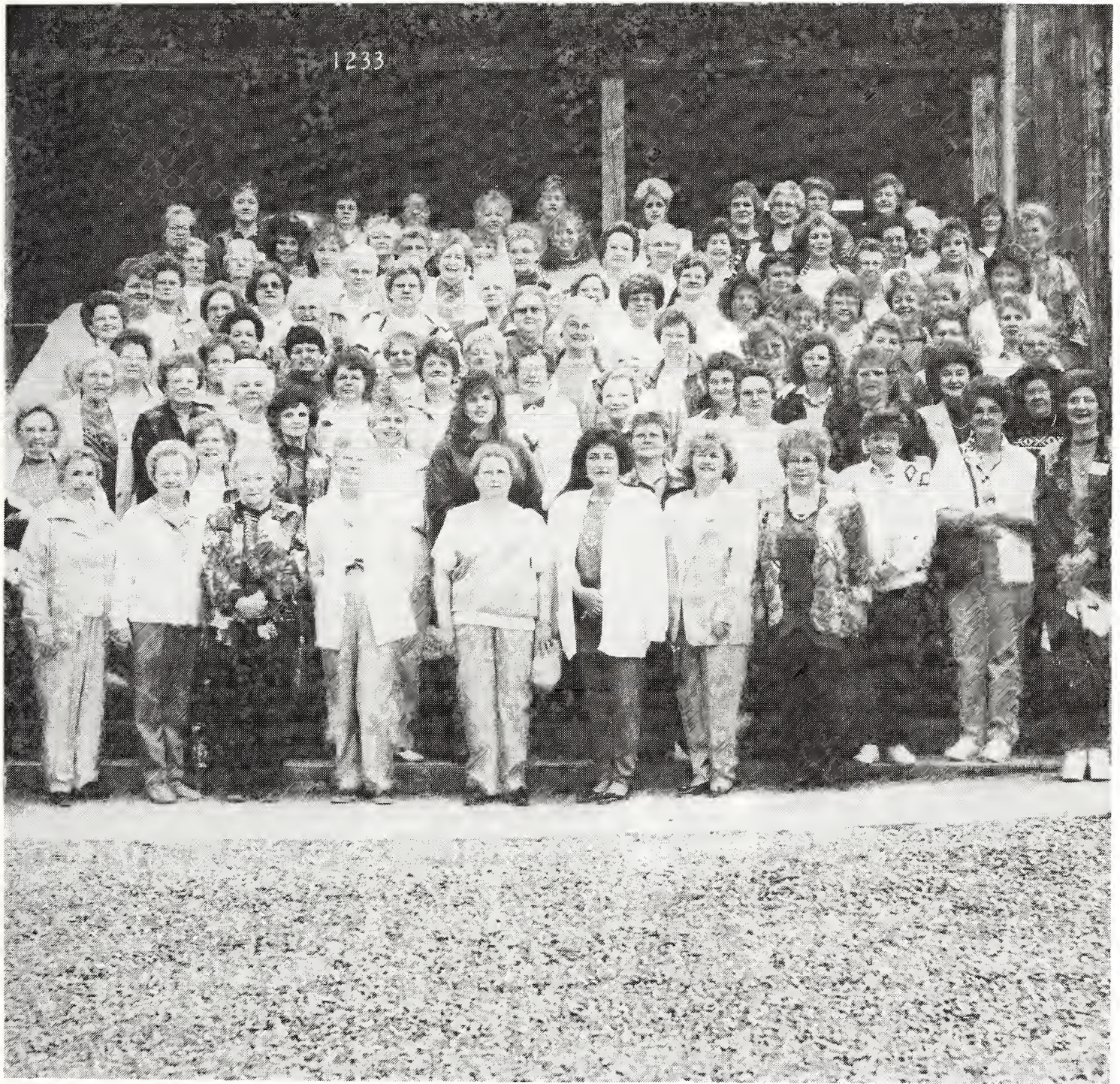
Hines, an ordained Free Will Baptist minister, succeeds Dr. Michael R. Pelt, who has retired after 37 years in the post.

Hines joined the faculty in 1988 as professor of religion and director of ministerial studies. In 1991, he assumed duties as assistant to the president.

A 1979 graduate of Mount Olive College, Hines earned a bachelor's degree at Barton College. He received master's and doctoral degrees in divinity and ministry from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"The appointment of Dr. Hines as chairman of our religion department assures the continuation of a long legacy of quality in that department. A responsibility for leadership among our denomination's ministers has passed from a master teacher, Dr. Pelt, to one of his most qualified former pupils," Raper said.

Pelt announced his retirement earlier in the spring semester. A retirement event, attended by more than 250 ministers and Free Will Baptist leaders, was held in April on the College campus.



MORNING STAR WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

April 8-10, 1994

The theme, *Christian Women - Where Are We Going?* was very well expounded upon by Dianne Riley in Bible Study, Linda Baker in Devotions, Becky Jo Sumner in Vespers, and Debbie Gray in the Sunday School Lesson.

Pam Kennedy directed the music and Virginia Skinner was pianist. Several people rendered special music; it was a joy. The Rev. John Williams, Director of Cragmont, closed the services on Sunday morning with a message, *Friendship with God*. Truly we felt a closer friendship with God and the 103 campers registered for the Conference.

Thanks to Donna Holland, director, and Teresa Ball, registrar, for great planning.

Ruth L. Warrick,
Corresponding Secretary
North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Conference

THE 7TH NORTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

by
Pastor Elmer Garcellano



On January 14-15, 1994, the North District conducted its 7th Annual Conference at the Charity Free Will Baptist Church, Dumarán, Palawan. The Conference started with thirty nine registered members and having required each church to send three representatives to vote during election of the officers.

The North District Conference comprises of the following churches who actively attended and participated in the two day activities:

1. Hope Free Will Baptist Church--at Crossing Bato, Taytay, Palawan, under the Rev. Leonardo Buison.

2. Malinao Free Will Baptist Church--at Malinao, Taytay, Palawan, under Deacon Ruben Solomon.

3. El Shaddai Free Will Baptist Church --at Nagkawat, Taytay, Palawan, under Sister Helen Galfo. (Biblewoman).

4. Bethel Free Will Baptist Church--at Calawag, Taytay, Palawan, under Pastor Ernesto Tabanao.

5. Charity Free Will Baptist Church--at Itangel, Dumarán, Palawan, under Pastor Arturo Aspa (Host Church).

6. Spring of Life Free Will Baptist Church--at Caruroy, Taytay, Palawan, under Pastor Alex Lahao-lahae.

7. Patmos Free Will Baptist Church--at Icadambanua Is., Taytay, Palawan, under Pastor Juanito Dulce.

8. San Jose Free Will Baptist Church --at San Jose, Dumarán, Palawan, under Brother Ludivico Atanozo.

9. Roxas Centro Free Will Baptist Church--at Roxas, Palawan, under Pastor Lunie Lahao-lahao.

The first session was convened at 8:00 in the morning. The program started with singing led by Pastor Elmer Garcellano through the accompaniment of the Musical Crusaders for Christ (MCC) Band. The members of the Band are:

Brother Joseph de la Rosa--Team Leader

Brother Nestor Diaz--Drummer

Pastor Nolberto Amoto--Soloist (substitute for Pastor Fernando Erum)

Brother David de la Rosa--Guitarist (volunteer, son of the Rev. Lorenzo de la Rosa).

Our morning devotional speaker was the Rev. Lorenzo dela Rosa, who spoke about the beauty of the Church which is committed, united to the ministry and love of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Rev. Dario Basingil, the mission director of the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines gave the first lecture on Luke 9:57-62. Truly he was inspired to share about the main purpose of God in calling and sending workers on mission fields.

Through the Mission department he emphasized that working in the church is not for personal business or an activity that could make conflicts in the church, but it is for the Lord, the King's business. Three things he shared about the purpose of God and that is to evangelize the world, to teach the word, and to disciple every person, for without this we cannot bring people to church, to Christ, to worship the true and the living God.

The Rev. Pio de la Rosa, administrator of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines was the second lecturer on "The Right Character of a Minister in the Mission Field" based on Titus 3.

According to him it is very important to know the Word of God and put it into action. For sometimes people are not encouraged but are discouraged through bad characters. For our stand as a minister or co-laborer with Christ, we should represent God to the world by our character. There is a saying, "tell me who your friends are and I'll tell you who you are," so we must let the world know that our friend is not the world, but the Saviour of this world.

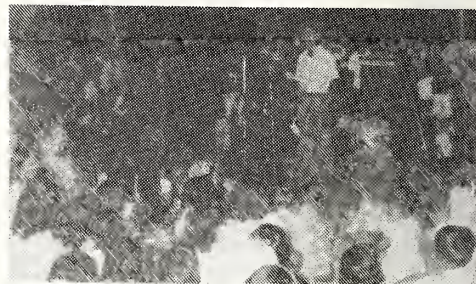
The last lecture was given by the Rev. Joel dela Rosa, the acting chairman of the board of trustees, Philippines based on Genesis chapter one and John 1:12. He talked about our relationship to each other in the Lord. He demonstrated that every pastor or worker has a genuine relationship to each other because we are called children of God through Jesus Christ. At this point what should be our response as a minister to our Heavenly Father? Do we need to quarrel? No. What we need is to be united in God's ministry and bear in mind what Apostle Paul is saying "that we should do one thing, forgetting those things which are behind, and reach forth unto those things which are before", Phillipians 3:13-14 and press on toward the goal for the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Praise be to God for the speakers who shared very interesting messages that

opened hearts and minds of every representative, member and worker of the North District of Palawan.

REVIVAL AND CRUSADE

by Susan Basingil



The Northern District had a Conference last January 14-15, 1994. It was held in Charity Free Will Baptist Church, Intangil, Dumarán Palawan.

The Evangelism Team conducted a Revival and Crusade on the first night. There were more than a thousand people who attended the said occasion. The Rev. Lorenzo dela Rosa was the speaker and the text was taken from John chapter 3, about "New Life in Christ".

In James 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." This is necessary for spiritual growth.

We ask you to pray for the people here in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan and we give our time in prayer also.

ARE YOU LIVING A LIFE OF GOOD QUALITY?

by the Rev. Zacarias Perocillo



In the Christian perspective, a life of good quality is not so much the act of possessing a lot of money and what money can buy, but more on what money cannot buy, like honesty and integrity of character.

Jesus Christ was financially poor, that is why He was born in a manger, but He lived a disciplined life even until death; thus He became rich beyond comparison because He even owns your life and mine, and determines our respective destinies.

The quality of life is like a true Christian, it naturally leads to prosperity because righteousness exalts any person or nation, but vices and foolishness always put down any person or nation.

A MYSTERY

by Dr. E. M. Lall

In the New Testament the Word refers to divine truth which is now revealed after being hidden from men in Old Testament days. It appears 27 times.

For several months I had a vision that my house would be in flames of fire. I did foresee it in my dreams and warned my daughter who had been living with us for several months with her twins (daughter and son) about using several electrical equipments on one extension plate. The entire wiring in our house was old and we could not afford to replace it. Earlier fire had broke out from the wire in the pipe when the eight guests from North Carolina were staying with us. Mr. Delbert Scott and Mr. Paul Anderson woke up and managed to separate the wires with a wooden stick.

On January 29, I made a trip to Nepal by road and returned the same day. It was foggy and slippery due to slow rain, and we reached home late in the evening, had little food and went to bed completely fatigued. It was Sunday, January 30th that flames were seen in our bedroom around 4:30 a.m. Mrs. Alma Dale and Dr. Pepper Worthington had stayed in this room while they were visiting us. We saw that the bedroom of our daughter was burning and was so full of carbon smoke that nothing could be seen. Inez and myself rushed to her room which was bolted from the inside. I managed to break open the door but the flames were so high that I could not enter the room. In the meantime, however, Inez cried out to my son-in-law from the other gate and he got up as his bedding had also caught fire and took my daughter and the children out of the room.

In minutes our neighbors rushed to help and started pouring water on the fire. My younger son removed all main electrical connections and the gas cylinders from the kitchen where the fire had already spread. The police and fire brigade reached our place within half an hour and took two hours to put the fire out. There was no loss of life but our entire belongings were lost to the fire and turned into ashes and coal. Nothing was spared. There was a press news in very bold words that almost half of the citizens came to sympathize with us. It

was subsequently known that the fire had an intensity of 26 thousand K.V.

THE CURSE

I hardly bothered about the loss and rejoiced in the Lord for our lives that were saved, but I was very confused, thinking it to be a curse upon us and kept on praying and searching as to where I had erred and defiled my Lord. However, there was no response to my prayers and my suspense continued, until later on detection of the fact that our death could have been caused at any time due to other circumstances became clear to me.

We firmly believe if we rely on the Lord, He will redeem us from all curses, because He took our curses to the Cross in our place.

WILL OF GOD

We are incapable of planning our own lives, only He knows the future. He directs the paths of believers whose trust in Him is sincere, exclusive and complete.

It was recently detected that the entire old portion of our house annexing the kitchen was in a most dilapidated condition as it was made of mud and third class bricks in 1947, with just a foundation of one feet underneath the ground. The walls around those rooms were leaning about four inches on the road sides and would have collapsed any time during tremor or rain. It is customary in India that Christians keep their houses well maintained and cleaned so we do the same. However, these facts could hardly be detected in a well maintained house that we had. Our son-in-law in the country of Kuwait had given us an air conditioner which was put in the big room so that each one of us had access to it to escape the prickly heat during the summer. When we ponder over this state, we feel sure that the Lord saved us from the hidden danger which would have been the worst being on the first floor. I tell my family that we are road dwellers as when we step out it goes on the road and as such as we were miraculously saved from a disastrous calamity.

We highly praise and thank Him for all that He did for us and submit ourselves to His Divine Will!



Lee Witte, *Because I Love You*
Mount Olive: Mount Olive
College Press \$26.95

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College



Lee Davenport Witte is a poet whose voice reflects her love of eastern North Carolina: its people, its places, its memories. Her voice is soft, sensitive, soaring. She brings to her new poetry in her beautiful book, *Because I Love You*, an added dimension of outreach. More than in her early volume, *Levora* (1990), she attaches herself to specific people who have been a life force to her at specific crossroads in her experiences. Some of these people are a part of her journey now; some were there for her in her childhood. No matter when these people were a part of Mrs. Witte's destiny, they made a difference. And it is this difference that she captures in her poetic voice.

SPECIAL LIMITED EDITION

Because I Love You is a volume dedicated to Roland Ratcliff Witte, her husband. She describes him as "my beloved husband, my editor, my typist, and my very best friend."

Because I Love You is a special limited edition from the Mount Olive College Press. The silver cover gives the reader a glimpse of Mrs. Witte as she stands by her magnolia tree in her Los Angeles garden. The cover shimmers with light and provides an elegant look perfect for the coffee table.

FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO BOOK

Mrs. Witte's poetic voice has received accolades from Rose Dosti of *The Los*

Angeles Times. Ms. Dosti notes, "I applaud you and your stunning achievements. Keep this up and you'll become the female Mark Twain."

Rosemary and John Raitt of Los Angeles declare, "Once again, you have shown such a depth of understanding and a keen perception of life's experiences. You have a rare talent in your ability to put down on paper what is in your mind and heart."

The world-renowned sculptress Pascal states, "Your work exposes your innermost self. Your words brought to light in my mind the absolute *truth* of your work -- words you do not sculpture from the work of others, but solely from your innermost being. You took your heart and carved it with words for all the world to see."

Shirleyan Beacham Phelps, a freelance writer for *This Week Magazine*, insists, "Only those of us who've experienced life from the lowest valley to the highest mountain peak can truly identify with your poetry. And isn't that all of mankind? Your remembrances of life in the backwoods cause a tug at the heart strings, making us long for those gentler days."

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Among the people Mrs. Witte recalls from her childhood are *Henrietta*, a black midwife who was the only 'mother' Mrs. Witte knew because her own mother died before Mrs. Witte was two; *Papa*, the man who played the harmonica and worked hard for the family in the depression years; *Uncle Jurd*, a man who loved the backwoods, snuff, the fiddle, and trapping muskrats.

As Mrs. Witte writes about these three people of her childhood, she reconstructs her own eastern North Carolina roots and gives the reader a sense of place and time. She stands in "the shadows of memories" (13) and imagines the look of the back room of the cabin where she was born on May 9, 1922. This cabin was her grandfather's Mount Tabor log cabin on his farm in Creswell, North Carolina. Her mother, Alice Phelps, shortly became terminally ill with malaria and died when Mrs. Witte was two. She imagines in her first poem, "Aunt Henrietta," that the room of her birth was "dark, musty and small," with only the "flickering" light of a "kerosene lamp on the side table." Her mother lay in a "hand-hewn bed" on a "mattress stuffed with corn shucks" while a "black iron kettle" made its own noises with the "water steaming" (13).

No cradle was there for the newborn child, so the baby slept in her "grandpa's bed." Because the mother was ill, the black midwife nurse, Aunt Henrietta, "stayed to nurse the mother and suckle the baby" (14). Not only did Aunt Henrietta freely give the child her milk, but she also treated the children to the "succulent treat" of the scuppernong grape. She fed the children "collards," "sweet potatoes," "pickled pigs' feet" (15).

Strong was Aunt Henrietta. She not only nursed children, she also boiled clothes "in the big black pot," danced, told "tall tales," "shucked the corn down in the barn," helped with the "hog killings" (16). Such a woman provided Mrs. Witte the strength of love which made her feel safe as a child. Aunt Henrietta became her "black mama," her net of security, her haven of rest where she could feel "safe again" wrapped in the arms of a strong black woman.

Faulkner understood this strength.

So did Margaret Mitchell.

Mrs. Witte's poem, "Papa," captures the nostalgic memories of those moments when her Papa played the harmonica. Old favorites, "Amazing Grace," "The Bob Tail Race," "Red River Valley," and "Yankee Doodle Dandy" race through Mrs. Witte's memory, haunting her with a certain image of her Papa's "roughened workman's hands," his "blue eyes twinkling" (50), and his mischievous moments of "winking / with that slow sly grin" (50). Papa emerges as Mrs. Witte's childhood hero, just as Aunt Henrietta rises in her recollection as her childhood heroine. The power of the extended family pervades these portraits of a black midwife and a backwoods grandfather. In the midst of the portraits is the sound of music, of the harmonica, a sound made sweet to memory because the poet as a child felt safe, secure, serene. Mrs. Witte notes, "I heard the harmonica, / Papa, / Listened to the refrain / of those soft and haunting melodies / And / Suddenly, Dear Papa, / I was the child again" (50).

Mrs. Witte's poem, "Uncle Jurd," brings into play the comic element of a childhood mentor. Uncle Jurd provided Mrs. Witte that element of mischievous rebellion, because this rascal laughed at the preacher, spit out snuff, sat in his overalls in his wheelbarrow, sang songs, played the fiddle, and refused to wear his false teeth. He lived defiant until he was eighty-nine, and then he died.

PORTRAITS OF PEOPLE TODAY

Other people permeate Mrs. Witte's poetry in her second book, *Because I Love You*. She creates five poems about her husband, Roland Ratcliff Witte. These poems, "To My Darling Husband On His 73rd Birthday," "My Husband," "Cliff," "To My Husband On My Birthday," and "My Darling Cliff," reveal the heightened sense of life her husband has given to her. In a sense, her husband has awakened her, taught her both how to walk, live, and love a new way. He is "the solace" (42) of her soul, her "beloved" who makes her "whole" (43). He is the World War II fighter pilot who knows how to guide a plane "over the dark and treacherous sea" (75) as well as greet people today with kindness, integrity, honesty. He is the man she wants to be with on the dance floor, at Smoke Tree under a full moon, and at Delfern when "the dew is on the rose" (95). She thanks him for the "wonderful things" (102) that he does to make her life rich with love. Her husband is the person in her life now who gives to her at this juncture of her life perhaps the greatest blessings. Together they share with each other, care for each other, walk together, talk as friends so that the life they have together is one of "learning the true meaning / of love" (116).

Other people in Mrs. Lee Witte's life appear in this new volume of her poetry. She gives us a portrait of "Alan", a professional capital growth manager on the west coast; "Harry" a renowned authority on Family Law in the United States; "Homer", a former senior executor of the Peter Kiewit Company and a member of its Board since his retirement; "Pascal", an artist in slag-glass sculpturing.

What influence do these people have in Mrs. Witte's journey? We learn in her poem, "Alan," that this capital growth manager has a "razor keen" mind which knows how to use logic, facts, and figures" in the "scheme of things." (113) However, what Mrs. Witte perceives as significant in her friend Alan is not only his business acumen but also his human compassion. He is the "good friend / who stayed close / by his friend's side" (114).

Harry, the authority on Family Law, is a person of significance to Mrs. Witte because he was there for her when "sorrow enveloped" (111) her life. Harry's wisdom extends beyond legal assistance as he reminds the poet of the "light that shines / from within" (112).

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Homer, a former senior executive of the Peter Kiewit Company, emerges as the man who provides counsel, leadership, and friendship. Aiding the poet in economic and personal growth, Homer emerges as the man at the crossroads of adulthood, the man whose leadership in Los Angeles is well known, especially with the Music Center development. Homer's love of ranch life, the big Montana sky, church, bowling, hunting, and fishing give us a rounded portrait of a significant influence in the poet's life.

Pascal, the world-renowned sculptress, appears in all her international fame in the poem, "Pascal." Mrs. Witte sees Pascal's art work as a reflection "of beauty / emanating / like a sunray / from her soul" (86). She describes Pascal's labor of pounding mounds of glass in order to mould figures. She gives us the sounds of "chisels chiseling" and "hammers hammering" (86). She describes the glass pulled "from the fiery furnace" with its "shades of blue / and / sea foam green / tearing / ripping / moulding / forming" (87). The poet informs us that Pascal's sculpture stands "high / at the United Nations Mission" (89) in Geneva.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PLACE

Not only people but also place pervades Mrs. Witte's new book, *Because I Love You*. In such poems as "Somerset Place At Phelps Lake," "Rain Forest," "Walking the Scuppernong Road," "The Backwoods of Mount Tabor," and "Smoke Tree" Mrs. Witte creates a sense of place as essential in the psyche of poetry. Past places as well as present places nourish the poetic spirit. In "Somerset Place at Phelps Lake," the poet carries us back to a "lonely dirt road / from where / the ferns grow wild" (20). She recalls how she and her friend Britches used to play on the grounds of the plantation. Today the old house of her childhood memories has decayed, "weathered" and turned "gray" (21).

In "Walking the Scuppernong Road," Mrs. Witte thinks of her childhood memories walking from the Scuppernong station to Mount Tabor. Now the station's "dark red paint" has faded and in her memory she waits for "the mule and cart / and the wagons filled with hay" (62) to take her to live with Papa. As Mrs. Witte reconstructs the time in her past after her grandmother died, she shows us how a young girl feels walking down "to the edge of the woods / down

past the barn / and the apple trees." She shows us a young girl looking at her mother's grave, a grave that other people "have forgotten." (63). As the child hastens down the road, she walks close to the swamp, smells "the marshes / that's where the pussy willows / and cattails grow" (65). The Dismal Swamp is where the "bobwhites and the whippoorwills sing," where the "mockingbirds mock everything" (65). As the poem swings toward its conclusion, the reader is aware of the loneliness of the child, of the grief the child feels at the death of both her mother and grandfather. All that awaits the child is a strange future "with Papa's new wife . . ." (66).

In "The Backwoods of Mount Tabor," Mrs. Witte wafts us into the place "where the wild birds fly free / the hoot owls hoot / the mockingbirds / and the whippoorwills sing" (115). We enter the magic of her poetic Mount Tabor, a magic born from memories, music, and moods. She remembers the "cotton patch," the "tender green" vegetable garden near the "Old Log Cabin in Creswell. She hears the "choir singing" and the preacher preaching. In the midst of her memories and music, she builds her moods. Friendship and love touch her soul, create happiness develop a mood of nostalgia for the "backwoods wilderness" (115).

SMOKE TREE RANCH

Mrs. Witte departs from eastern North Carolina to carry us to Palm Springs, California. In her poem, "Smoke Tree," she introduces the reader to Smoke Tree Ranch, the "Colonists" there, the parties, ranch house, and moonlight rides. The place becomes an "idyllic paradise" (120), almost an echo of the backwoods of Mount Tabor. It is as if Mrs. Witte has found in Smoke Tree Ranch the haven she found in the backwoods of Mount Tabor. Place is more than place; it becomes a poetic representation of the poet's longing. And what Mrs. Witte longs for is beauty, safety, and love. Though rainstorms, rabbits, quails, roadrunners, mountains, and coyotes permeate the place, what Mrs. Witte celebrates is the peace of mind that comes to her in Smoke Tree's security. At Smoke Tree She can "leave far behind" the "worries of the mind" and concentrate on experiencing "nature's grand performance" (122).

SURPRISES, SEARCHES, AND SERENITY

Of note in Mrs. Witte's popular book, *Because I Love You*, is her ability to surprise the reader. In her poem, "Sometime," she draws us into her dream world where her sleep is disturbed by some secret, a "Soul's secret" (69). She tries to see to the bottom of the sea, but what she discovers is quicksand. The voice hungers for "a place / to quiet / this hurt / called Mine." Maybe "Sometime / Sometime" the place will emerge.

Indeed, such a place does emerge at Smoke Tree and the backwoods of Mount Tabor. Sometimes such a place for inner peace comes with the warmth of a friend, the love of a husband, the memory of a childhood moment of serenity.

What Mrs. Witte's poetry is all about is the search for the whole self, the search for a haven in a world of pain, the search for love in a lonely, long road of living. In creating poetry that evokes the power of people, place, and memories, Mrs. Witte is digging from within her inner self to find what the soul hungers for.

And what does the soul hunger for? Mrs. Witte answers this best in her last poem, "A Prayer." She turns not to her husband nor her past nor her friends but to "Love Divine" (143). She seeks the presents of God to walk with her, give her strength, heal her ache, teach her wisdom, cleanse her soul. She concludes:

Let my life
reflect Your joy
teach me how
to make Amends
of the hurtful things
I have said to friends.
I fall down
on bended knees
to ask forgiveness
from Thee,
Open my heart
My Mind
My Soul.
Help me to stand
straight and tall
to tell the world
Your forgiving love
has made me
whole.
(143-144)

HINNANT FAMILY DONATES KAWAI CLASSIC GRAND PIANO TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Cecil Cahoon, MOC Public Information Director



C. B. Hinnant of Micro and his sons, Bryant and Charles, have donated a Kawai Classic Grand piano to the Mount Olive College Department of Fine Arts in memory of their wife and mother, the late Margenette Asbell Hinnant. The piano was dedicated in April in the college's Music Suite.

Mrs. Hinnant, a native of Gates County, was the daughter of the late Laura Hollowell and George P. Asbell of Gates County. A graduate of East Carolina University, she retired from the Johnston County Schools system after teaching for 30 years. She was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma and past chairman of the Johnston County Democratic Party.

An active member of Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Mrs. Hinnant was past president of the women's auxiliary and with her husband, served as co-chairman of the Mount Olive College annual gift support dinners in Johnston County. In 1984, Mr. and Mrs. Hinnant established the "Charles B. and Margenette A. Hinnant Endowment" to provide perpetual support for the work of Mount Olive College.

"The classic grand piano is fitting memorial to one who loved the good and beautiful things of life," said Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president. "Margenette not only lived a beautiful life herself but also inspired all whose lives were touched by hers to seek the highest and best life has to offer."

The Kawai Classic Grand piano is the number-one selling piano in the world. Measuring five feet, 10 inches from front to back, it has the world's best scale design for its class and has earned the respect of artists, piano technicians, piano teachers and others.

CHESTER E. JOHNSON BEQUEST BENEFITS MOYE LIBRARY

by Cecil Cahoon, MOC Public Information Director

A bequest from a friend of Mount Olive College will benefit Moye Library with several new reference books, according to Librarian Gary Barefoot.

The late Chester E. Johnson, a longtime member of Union Grove FWB, bequeathed a gift to the college that will be used to purchase four sets of reference books, Barefoot said. The sets, which have been ordered, are the 16-volume Encyclopedia of Religion, the four-volume Encyclopedia of Psychology, five additional volumes of Short Story Criticism and a new collection of the Americana Encyclopedia.

"We are very grateful for the gift made by Mr. Johnson and we believe that these new reference sets will make a meaningful and lasting memorial to him," Barefoot added.

The new books will be affixed with bookplates noting that they were made possible through Mr. Johnson's bequest, he said.

**GOVERNOR SALUTES THE
MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE PRESS AND
POET LEE WITTE**

by Winkie Lee, Courtesy
of the *Goldsboro News-Argus*



An audience of nearly 300 people gathered at Mount Olive College's Lois K. Murphy Regional Center in April to hear a reading by poet Lee Witte and to see Governor Jim Hunt.

The occasion was the celebration of *Because I Love You*, Mrs. Witte's second book published by the Mount Olive College Press.

In remarks preceding her presentation, Hunt praised Mrs. Witte and her work.

"We're here tonight to hear a wonderful lady read poetry that is Lee's and ours," he said. "We are here to celebrate the literature and culture of eastern North Carolina, our home."

Hunt said the evening also celebrated "a special vehicle for that culture: the Mount Olive College Press. Established in 1990, it is quickly becoming a cultural jewel in eastern North Carolina."

The press doesn't "put out anything we wouldn't be proud for our children and grandchildren to read," Hunt pointed out. "It was born to give a voice to eastern North Carolina--to enable people to write and read about what makes us different and special."

Hunt said the press will bring the flavor of the eastern part of this state to more readers, the thrill of publication to more area writers and encourage more people to write. "Thanks to the Mount Olive College Press, more eastern North Carolina writers and artists will commit their thoughts to the page and enrich the culture of our region."

Hunt praised the work of Dr. Pepper

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Worthington and told the audience there is no finer college president than Burkette Raper.

"In Pepper Worthington, we have a good soul mate for Burkette Raper," he said. "She is deep, wise and sees the big world. She appreciates the finest things in art and literature, but she hasn't forgotten who she is and where she comes from. She appreciates us."

Hunt said that through Mrs. Witte's poetry people can hear the voice of eastern North Carolina, a voice that has been broadened by life, travel and experiences. He said that when he reads her work, he thinks of his own past.

**MICHAEL PELT HONORED
FOR 37 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE AND
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

by Ron Bittner, Courtesy
of the *Mount Olive Tribune*



For 37 years, Dr. Michael Pelt has chaired the Department of Religion at Mount Olive College--a time his wife, Betty, recalls as "the first semester" of his life. In April some 260 friends, including about 50 former students, gathered at the college's Lois K. Murphy Regional Center to thank him and to help him begin the "second semester."

The retirement banquet for Pelt, who also served as the college's academic dean for four years early in his tenure, feature tributes from former and present students from each of the five decades in which he has taught at Mount Olive College. Frank Harrison, now campus minister, recalled that Pelt "not only held to the highest standards of academics, but expected us to as well. His wealth of knowledge never ceases to amaze me."

"He could see the possibilities in students," Harrison added. "He always chal-

lenged us to dig deeper into the well of knowledge. His standards of excellence and wisdom will be a benchmark for the future."

E. Ray Wells recalled Pelt as a stern but fair taskmaster. "I saw him as the great intimidator," Wells said. "No one else could put the fear of God into me like Dr. Michael Pelt. In one year he taught me more about St. Paul than St. Paul knew about himself."

"He has taught me, more than anything else, about Christian living and being a Christian gentleman . . . he has been an inspiration to me," Well said.

Ashley Summerlin, noting Pelt's long tenure, said "The most convincing evidence of the presence of Christ in one's life is the mark of endurance."

Mrs. Pelt, in a surprise appearance, read a poem tracing Pelt's early years in North Florida through their marriage and his career at Mount Olive College.

College President Dr. W. Burkette Raper said that choosing Pelt to head the school's religion department was "one of the easiest decisions I've ever had, because Mike stood head and shoulders above anyone else who could have been considered for the position."

"He saw the dangers of fundamentalism and pointed these out at a time when this was not a popular thing to do," Raper noted. "He brought integrity to the Department of Religion at Mount Olive College. He has helped to bring the college credibility in the academic community in all the places where Mount Olive College is known."

Raper announced that an exact reproduction of one of the 20 existing Gutenberg Bibles has been purchased for the college's Moye Library in Pelt's name.

Current Academic Dean Dorothy Whitley said "It has been an unique honor to know this man, a very sincere, dedicated man--very intelligent, but able to relate as a human being." On behalf of the faculty, she presented Pelt with a cherry wood rocking chair embossed with the Mount Olive College seal.

Pelt said, "This has been a special occasion--one I shall never forget. Looking back on my life, I can't help but believe in divine providence. The misfortunes I have had cannot compare with the evidence of God's goodness in my life."

Pelt told the *Tribune* after the banquet that he is retiring because "I think it's a good time, so I can enjoy my later years. I want to be physically strong and able during that time."

He stressed, however, that he intends

(Turn the page)

to remain a familiar face at the college. "I will be around to do some teaching if called upon," he said. "And I'll be at the library often."

He said the greatest change he has witnessed in his 37 years at the college is "We have more to work with now than we did in 1957. We have a stronger faculty, and better resources. Of course, we'd like to have more."

He said the highlight of his years at the college was "Tonight--just seeing the level of appreciation on the part of students and faculty. This night has been more than I ever could have imagined."

SOUTHERN NATIONAL CORPORATION ANNOUNCES SPONSORSHIP OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SINGERS

by Cecil Cahoon, MOC Public Information Director



Southern National Corporation announced today that it is contributing \$25,000 to the Mount Olive College Singers for the upcoming 1994-95 academic year. The gift, which will go to fund scholarships for the group, represents the first corporate sponsorship of any kind for the college.

"We are deeply impressed with the Mount Olive College Singers," said Rudy Oates, director of marketing for Southern National. "The Singers represent and personify excellence in young people, and the bank considers it a privilege to associate with such a professional group."

Southern National will host the Singers in a variety of programs during the academic year. The bank, which operate 232 offices in North and South Carolina, will be recognized as the Singers' corporate sponsor in printed promotional materials and at public events.

The relationship was initiated by Nido R. Qubein, a distinguished alumnus of Mount Olive College who serves on both the college's board of trustees and the corporation's board of directors.

In announcing the corporate sponsorship, Oates notes the Singers' performance record at venues throughout the southeastern United States. The Singers performed in May 1993, on Walt Disney World's Fantasy Fair Stage, then in November in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Among more than 50 performances given in the academic year 1993-94, the group conducted choral workshops in high schools across eastern North Carolina and was featured in an open house at the Governor's Mansion.

In recent years, the Singers have performed at the 50th Presidential Inauguration, the 75th National Boy Scout Jamboree, the 91st annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and last year's American Task Force for Lebanon gala honoring 11 Americans formerly held hostage in the Middle East.

"We are proud of this group not only because of the quality of its performance, but also because of the kind of young men and women they are," said Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College. "These students represent the best resource of our

state--the talents and potential of our young people.

"Through their programs, the Singers seek to advance those values which have helped to make America a great nation."

The 1993-94 Singers are Bobby Boyd, Michelle Troutman and Jared Young, all of Mount Olive; Dewayne Bevell, Clifton Cuddington, Sharon Hinnant and Lorie Pittman, all of Goldsboro; Beth Crawford of Faison, Philip Crawley Jr. of Swansboro, Cynthia Kennedy of Wilson, Lynn Lawhorn of Four Oaks, Kevin Nowell of Smithfield and Christopher Tatro of Cedar Island.

ANNOUNCING THE ELDER P. T. LUCAS PASTOR'S AWARD



In recognition of the outstanding service rendered by many Free Will Baptist pastors, Dr. Thomas R. Morris of Wilmington, North Carolina, has established the Elder P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award through Mount Olive College. Originally from the Union Grove Church near Nahunta, Dr. Morris is providing a \$1,000 award as a memorial to the late Elder P. T. Lucas, Dr. Morris' great-grandfather.

The purpose of the award is to recognize a Free Will Baptist pastor for extraordinary leadership and service to his church, community and denomination. Emphasis is to be upon pastoral services and may include bi-vocational pastors who serve small churches. The award is to be used by the recipient to strengthen and enrich his pastoral ministry. The recipient is to provide a written report within one year of being recognized of how the funds were used and how they benefited his pastoral ministry.

The recipient of this award will be selected from those nominated by their churches according to the following criteria: **denominational service**, including service to our convention, the conference, and to our denominational ministries; **community service**, including services such as participation in local community ministries, service as a volunteer chaplain, and participation in civic organizations; and **pastoral leadership and service**. The last category, which will receive the greatest weighting in the evaluation, includes effective preaching, pastoral care, and church leadership.

If you feel that your pastor has excelled in these areas, your church is encouraged to nominate him for this award. You can do this by completing the information sheet on the next page and attaching a letter of recommendation. Both the information sheet and the letter must be signed by the clerk of your church and the deacon chairman. To be considered for the 1994 award, nominations must be received by July 15. The recipient will be announced at a banquet during the Pastor's Conference on August 8 at Mount Olive College. (This Pastor's Conference is replacing the Ministers' Institute which has been held each August.)

The selection committee for this award includes the Reverends Ray Wells, Doug Skinner, C. H. Overman, Frank Harrison, and David Hines (chair). Please address all nominations or questions to: The Elder P.T. Lucas Pastor's Award Selection Committee, Mount Olive College, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365; or call Dr. David Hines at the College (919-658-2502).

**THE ELDER P. T. LUCAS PASTOR'S AWARD
Nomination Form**

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Current Pastorate: _____ Beginning Date: _____

Conference Membership: _____ Date Ordained: _____

1. **Denominational Service.** In the space below note services to our convention, the conference, and to our denominational ministries. Include offices held, board memberships, and involvement in special projects. Give the dates when appropriate.

2. **Community Service.** Note participation in local community ministries, service as a volunteer chaplain, and participation in civic organizations. List offices held and give the dates when appropriate.

3. **Pastoral Leadership and Service.** In the space below or in a letter of recommendation describe your pastor's effectiveness as a preacher and teacher of God's Word, a faithful pastor, and leader for church growth and development. Give specific examples.

Signature: _____
Deacon Chairman _____ Date _____ Church Clerk _____ Date _____

**STUDENTS HONORED DURING
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
AWARDS DAY**

by Cecil Cahoon,

MOC Public Information Director

Several Free Will Baptists and other students were honored for academic and leadership achievements in Mount Olive College's annual Awards Day ceremonies.

Janet Corbett, daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. James Corbett of Pinetown, received the President's Citizenship Award. The award is a scholarship presented to a returning student who has made the greatest contribution to the college during the academic year. The award is sponsored by Dr. W. Burkette Raper and Rose M. Raper and the recipient is chosen by a ballot of the student body.

Jeff Celeste, son of Ronald and Lisa Celeste of Goldsboro, received the first-ever David W. Hansley Leadership Award, given in honor and memory of the Rev. David W. Hansley, first chairman of the Board of Trustees at Mount Olive College.

The scholarship is given to the rising senior who has distinguished himself as an individual of character and initiative, and who has demonstrated strong leadership skills at the college. The Hansley Award was presented by the Reverend David Charles Hansley, son of the award's namesake.

Beverly Thornton, daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. Ed Thornton of Snow Hill, was one recipient of the M. L. Johnson Business Award. The award is a scholarship named in memory of M. L. Johnson, the first business manager and treasurer of Mount Olive College.

Bryan Hardy, son of John F. Hardy of Seven Springs, received two awards, the Sophia H. Potts English Award and the Department of Religion Award. The English Award is a scholarship established in 1983 by James Alton Cowan in memory of his teacher, Sophia H. Potts, who taught English and speech at Mount Olive College from 1956 to 1959. The award is given to a rising sophomore selected by the English faculty for excellence in writing.

The Department of Religion Award is given in honor of the Rev. James A. Evans, the first full-time employee of Mount Olive College and a pastor active in every Free Will Baptist field during his 69 years of ordination.

Bobby Johnston of Mount Olive was the recipient of the Free Will Baptist Min-



Janet Corbett, President's Citizenship Award

isterial Award, a scholarship given by the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists. The scholarship is given to the returning Free Will Baptist student who has demonstrated the potential for excellence in the Christian ministry.

The recipient is selected by a committee designated by the Ministerial Association. The award was presented by the Rev. Ray Wells, president of the N. C. Ministerial Association.

Two Free Will Baptists were honored with Recreation and Leisure Studies Department Awards, **Dwayne Bailey**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Bailey of Stoney Creek FWB in Goldsboro; and **Scott Bircher**, son of Jack and Julia Bircher of Core Creek FWB in Cove City. **Bailey** received the department's Outstanding Achievement Award for academic excellence and **Bircher** received the Distinguished Service Award for leadership in service activities.

Christian Waters, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Waters of St. Mary's FWB in New Bern, received two awards, the Lorelle F. Martin Science Award and the Faculty Award for Student Excellence. The Martin Award is a scholarship given in honor of Mrs. Martin, professor of science emerita, who taught science at Mount Olive College from 1957 to 1987. The Faculty Award is a scholarship given for academic excellence and superior extracurricular activity and/or service to the college.

Congratulating students on their awards and achievements, President W. Burkette Raper noted the college's mission to maintain an emphasis on scholarship and Christian living in an academic community.

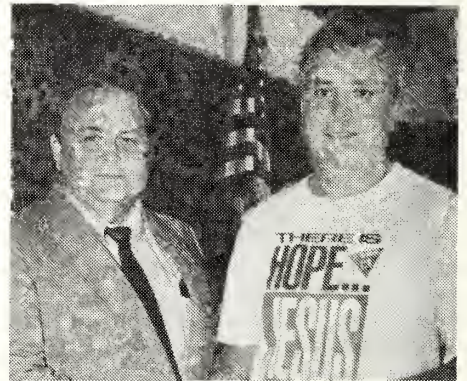
"The measure of a college must always be in the contributions it makes in the lives of its students," he said.



Jeff Celeste, David W. Hansley Leadership Award



Bryan Hardy, Sophia H. Potts English Award and the Department of Religion Award.



Bobby Johnston, Free Will Baptist Ministerial Award



Christian Waters, the Lorelle F. Martin Science Award and the Faculty Award for Student Excellence.

**A Triadic Triumph on May 14, 1994,
at Mount Olive College:
Governor James B. Hunt Jr.'s Address at the
Fortieth Commencement Graduation Exercises,
the Award of the Honorary Doctor of Divinity to
James Alphonso Evans, the Dedication of the
James Baxter Hunt Student Lounge**

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College



President Raper unveils plaque and picture during dedication service to James Hunt Student Lounge.

**THE HONORABLE JAMES B. HUNT JR.'S ADDRESS:
What Are You Going To Do With That Shine?**

"I'm here on your graduation day to tell you how very proud we are of you," said Governor James B. Hunt Jr. as he addressed the Mount Olive College graduates at the Fortieth Commencement Graduation Exercises on May 14, 1994, in College Hall. "I see a glow not only on your faces but also on the faces of dozens of people who have loved you enough to help you reach this day."

Governor Hunt stressed the importance of values, love, and sacrifice of families. "I want to say to the parents and guardians of these graduates that you are the real force in helping these young people become who they are today. Will the parents, guardians, and spouses who helped the students graduate please stand so that we may applaud them?" he asked.

People stood from all corners of College Hall. The applause was thunderous.

Governor Hunt noted the glow on faces--friends, counselors, students, parents, spouses. He reminded the graduates of the support they received from so many who laughed with them, stood by them when they had to study all night to pass a difficult exam, helped them with finances, tutored them.

"Mount Olive College is one of the most wonderful, caring, loving academic colleges in this country," said Governor Hunt. "This faculty has challenged your assumptions, polished and refined your rough ideas. Now is the time to make your ideas shine. You have that glow today, that shine on your face. What are you going to do with that shine?"

Governor Hunt turned to the graduating class of 1994 and asked, "Where do you go from here? How long will your shine

last?" Pausing, he advised them, "don't let that shine get dull. You can't let that happen. Keep your positive attitude. That shine can be lost or you can keep it fresh. Do you want to know how to keep that shine alive?"

Not only did the graduates *want* to know how to *keep that shine alive*, so did other members of the audience. Governor Hunt noted specific traits of successful people.

TRAITS OF SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE

First, successful people have *principles* in their lives. "You need to know what you believe in, what really matters," said Governor Hunt. "Identify what is truly important. Keep the important things in mind so you will have a good compass."

Second, successful people often belong to a church. A good church member may seek to keep a positive course in life. Membership in a church offers time to think and formulate principles. Membership may increase an individual's understanding of personal talents, of what one can do well. Membership in a church increases a love for being around people, for organizing priorities.

Another trait of successful people is the ability to set goals. Governor Hunt recalled a statement Martin Luther King Jr. made: "You ought to believe in that thing so fervently that you will stand up with it to the end of your days."

Governor Hunt asked, "What are those things you will stand up for the rest of your life?"

"Don't think small," he declared. "Don't think inside little boundaries. Dream. Remember," he said with a shine on his face, "today is a day of dreams--big dreams, big thoughts, keep your shine."

THE IMPORTANCE OF LOVING CHILDREN

Governor Hunt pragmatically stressed that much needs to be done in this world. But people can change the world. In ordering his own priorities, he confessed that his wife spent more time with his children than he did, but he listed family, a job, and volunteer work as three top possible priorities.

"Figure out a way to help change the future by helping change a child of the future," he suggested. He noted organizations from Boy Scouts to the SOS group as possible volunteer groups.

"But I urge you," declared Governor Hunt with an edge of intensity, *love your children*. Parents aren't loving their children enough. Parents need to help their children become the right kind of people."

Suddenly the audience applauded. Governor Hunt waited for the applause to subside, then added, "I remember my own father saying to me when I was going out for an evening, 'Son, be careful. We've got a lot of love interested in you.' I've always known that," admitted Governor Hunt.

"Remember," he added, "Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands on earth but yours, no feet on earth but yours. Look out in compassion. Mount Olive College has helped you to develop a life of service. Today is a commencement, a beginning. Today is a day of big dreams, big thoughts. I want you to come to my office, say to my staff that you are a Mount Olive College graduate and come in, see my mission statement in my office," he said.

"And," he concluded, "I'm very proud of you. I believe the future is going to be won. I want all of us to live our lives in hope

(Continued on next page)

of that belief. I wish for all of you good luck and God's richest blessings."

THE AWARD OF THE HONORARY DOCTOR OF DIVINITY TO JAMES ALPHONSO EVANS

Mount Olive College's first honorary degree was given to The Rev. James Alphonson Evans on May 14, 1994, at the Fortieth Commencement Graduation Exercises. The Rev. Evans, a native of Lucama, has been a person who has made a difference in the lives of more than 3,000 students at Mount Olive College. His exemplary service to the Free Will Baptist Church and his personal impact on the lives of young people reveal him to be a man of vision, a man of wisdom, and a man of God.

BACKGROUND OF THE REV. JAMES EVANS

Born November 10, 1905, Evans was educated at Ayden (Free Will Baptist) Seminary and Eureka College in Ayden. Later Evans attended the Rural Church Institute at Duke University. By January 16, 1925, he was ordained by Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church in Lucama.

The Rev. Evans married the former Ethel Fay Andrew of Jacksonville, Florida, now deceased. They had four daughters, Mrs. Haddock, of Chesapeake, Virginia; Nettie Elizabeth, now deceased; Lorraine Evans Bass of Elm City, Kay Evans Griffin of Richmond, Virginia, and one son, J. Arthur Evans of Midolthian, Virginia.

The Rev. Evans recruited the first class of 22 students at Mount Olive College. In 1954, he became MOC's first full-time employee as director of public relations.

DR. W. BURKETTE RAPER'S TRIBUTE

"Some 50 years ago I got on a school bus to Middlesex High School. I had no assurance I would have the opportunity to go to college, but James Evans later gave me a name to contact at Duke University," explained Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of MOC.

"Exactly 40 years ago I came to Mount Olive College to begin my work as president. And James Evans taught me some important realities," Dr. Raper said. "He taught me that the secret of a man's being is not only to live but to have something to live for. He taught many young people that their life would be as big as what they lived for. Why live for something that will perish when you can live for something big and great? He taught us that we have an opportunity to give ourselves to the best and highest that is. He stressed that education is more than a diploma; it is a vision of what a life can be," said Dr. Raper.

DAUGHTER ANN EVANS HADDOCK ON HER FATHER

In an interview with Cecil Cahoon II, Ann Evans Haddock declared that whatever her father did, wherever he traveled, he promoted Mount Olive College, praised its Christian program and able leadership of Dr. W. Burkette Raper. Mrs. Haddock indicated that her father worked for the College in quiet, diplomatic ways so that the full force of his contribution was cumulative.

REV. JAMES A. EVANS' ACCEPTANCE OF THE HONORARY DOCTOR OF DIVINITY

Before receiving the Honorary Doctor of Divinity, the Rev. Evans said in his interview with Mr. Cahoon that he thought it would take 50 years for Mount Olive College to get to the point where it is today. Amazed he was that the College would be in a position to offer him a distinguished honorary degree in 1994.

The Rev. Evans' contribution to the Original Free Will Baptist denomination makes him the first person to receive an honorary doctorate from Mount Olive College. The Rev. Evans established the Church Finance Association. He helped in the acquisition of the denomination's mountain retreat, Cragmont Assembly. He participated in establishing Mount Olive College for the Free Will Baptist Church after its predecessor institution, Eureka College, burned.

When the Rev. Evans accepted the Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Mount Olive College's Board of Trustees, he said with great emotion, "I wish I had the words. I ask you to remember the ONE who led me along this pathway and pray that HE will lead you and bless you. To God be the glory."

DEDICATION OF THE JAMES BAXTER HUNT STUDENT LOUNGE

On May 14, 1994, Mount Olive College honored James Baxter Hunt for his thirty years of extraordinary leadership. Mr. Hunt has been a member of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees since 1964. He served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1974 to 1989.

BACKGROUND OF JAMES BAXTER HUNT

Mr. Hunt, a Guilford County native, earned a bachelor of science degree at North Carolina State University. He prepared for his career in forestry and soil conservation where he worked for 32 years in Wilson County. He planted more than 100,000 trees on his own properties during those years.

From 1848 to 1972, Mr. Hunt served as Sunday School Superintendent at his home church, Marsh Swamp Original Free Will Baptist Church. In 1953 at Marsh Swamp, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists voted to purchase property in Mount Olive as a home for Mount Olive College.

During Mr. Hunt's tenure on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, he provided leadership for the growth of new buildings, an increased enrollment of students, the program at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, and the development of the College from a two-year to four-year institution.

Mr. Hunt and his wife, the late Mrs. Elsie Brame Hunt of Rock Ridge, were recognized during 1989 commencement exercises as "Distinguished Friends of Mount Olive College." The Hunts have two sons, Robert Brame Hunt of Clayton and Governor James Baxter Hunt Jr. of Lucama. Mr. Hunt is now married to the former Pearl Reardon Johnson.

THE REVEREND E. RAY WELLS TRIBUTE TO JAMES BAXTER HUNT

"James Baxter Hunt is a member of my church. At Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church he does not just *talk* about his faith, he *lives* it and shares it."

The Rev. Wells spoke of Mr. Hunt's yearning to see young people come to Jesus. He told me, "If I have to take them out to pizza, that's what I'll do. If I have to take them to a baseball game, that's what I'll do." Mr. Hunt lives his faith. God bless you, Mr. Hunt. I love you," said the Rev. Wells.

**MR. WILLIAM H. FARMER'S TRIBUTE
TO JAMES BAXTER HUNT**

"You only have to know James Hunt for a few minutes to know that he loves God," said Mr. Farmer. "He has three strong loves," he continued. "He loves God; he loves young people; he loves our natural resources. James Hunt is a true conservationist. He is an environmentalist from way back," declared Mr. Farmer.

Mr. Hunt's love of conservation is evident in his purchase of a rundown farm which he nurtured and brought back to life.

His love for Mount Olive College is evident in his continued efforts to recruit someone for Mount Olive College.

"Mr. Hunt, I truly believe God has smiled upon His children," concluded Mr. Farmer.

MR. L. EDWARDS' TRIBUTE TO JAMES HUNT

"As a token of our appreciation, we present to you, Mr. Hunt, a rocking chair," said Mr. L. Marvin Edwards, chairman of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

"As you rock with your thoughts of Mount Olive College, remember we love you," concluded Mr. Edwards.

Another rocking chair for James Evans was presented as a personal gift from Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper to the Rev. Evans.

DR. K. DAVID HINES' TRIBUTE TO JAMES HUNT

Dr. K. David Hines led the dedication of the new student lounge to be henceforth the James Baxter Hunt Lounge. More than 200 people gathered to dedicate the Hunt Student Lounge noting that James Baxter Hunt understands that the education of students involves their total development, that the student lounge serves as a place to give students the opportunity to nurture friendship and fellowship.

A NEW EMPLOYEE

Ms. Tracy A. McCoy, a 1994 Mount Olive College graduate has recently been employed by the Free Will Baptist Press. She will be assuming the position of Editor.

She attended Mount Olive College for four years and was active in English Society, Student Government Association and served as a College Ambassador. Her degree is in English with a minor in Church Ministries.

She attends Core Creek F.W.B. Church in Cove City. Ms. McCoy is the daughter of Scottie and Shearin McCoy and the granddaughter of Mrs. Edith McCoy and the late Mr. Woodrow McCoy.

She welcomes any comments, suggestions, or ideas as she enters this position.

**CAMP VANDEMERE
WOMAN'S CONFERENCE**

**THEME: Step Up
Scripture: Philippians 3:13**

**June 20-24, 1994
Monday, June 20--Arrival: 10:00 a.m.
Friday, June 24--Checkout: 10:00 a.m.**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Church and Conference _____

Phone _____

Day-Campers Only

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Lunch	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Dinner	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner

PLEASE CIRCLE days you plan to attend and meals you desire. (Day-Camper fees are Breakfast \$3, Lunch \$3.50, Dinner \$4.00; and overnight \$10.)

Camp Fees are \$65 for the week. Registration fee is \$10 with the balance due upon arrival. Send registration forms and fees to:

Betty Wood
120 Darrel Wood Road
Cove City, North Carolina 28523
Telephone: 919-638-5342

NOTE: Please call and let us know if you have a group coming in for the day, so we can prepare extra meals.

Co-Directors:
Audrey Quinn
461 Wintergreen Road
Cove City, NC 28523
Telephone: 919-638-6406

Betty Jo Wood
120 Darrel Wood Road
Cove City, NC 28523
919-638-5342

CHILDREN'S HOME PRESENTS
FOC AWARD

by Tina Allen
Director of Church and Public Relations



Tina Allen presents award to Mrs. Margaret Moseley.

The morning of Sunday, April 17, 1994, took Mrs. Margaret Mosley by surprise. During the worship hour, I had the honor of presenting Mrs. Margaret with her Friends of Children Award. Mrs. Margarete had responded to a letter asking her to join the Friends of Children Program. In February, a letter was sent to all of those on our mailing list to become a participant in our Friends of Children program. I have been overjoyed with the response that we have received as a result of this letter and I hope that we will continue to have more Friends join the program which invests in a child's life.

Other than my family, Mrs. Margaret is the first member of the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church to become a member of the program. I am real proud of Mrs. Margaret and I hope that others in my own church as well as yours will find it in their hearts to reach out to a child who needs you.

Below is the letter that was sent in February. I hope that you will read it and realize that this program helps to carry out the Mission Statement of your Free Will Baptist Children's Home:

"Children are our most valued resource. Our home is dedicated to the ministry of returning children to a family by providing for children's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. This is accomplished in a nurturing environment with professional care. Since 1920 the Children's Home has been a ministry for children."

Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.

— A CHRISTIAN HOME FOR BOYS AND GIRLS —

P.O. Box 249

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA 27557

(919) 235-2161

Re: *FRIENDS OF CHILDREN'S PROGRAM*

Dear Friends:

The Friends of Children's program is a special program of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. To identify the program we looked to the meaning of friend; we found this meaning in the Random House Dictionary: "A person attached to another by feelings of affection or personal regard; a patron or supporter."

You can help provide a future for children who without you might never achieve a fraction of his or her potential. Participants in our Friends of Children (FOC) program are making a difference. Many have shared in this program for over seven years; and we are blessed to have new friends join every year. Because of these friends we have been able to offer more designated services for over 400 children. I have seen first hand how FOC works. And I've been impressed by the positive effect it has on the lives of the children we serve.

We need for you to be a part. With your contribution of \$20 a month - that's just 66 cents a day you can become a partner in our daily ministry to children. We won't ask you for less because we are committed to a program designed to give each child the best possible start in life.

You'll receive our Friends of Children Award, a monthly News Note, and be our guest for our annual Friends of Children Appreciation Day (November 19, 1994).

Thank you for your prayers and support - for they sustain us. With my best regards, I remain.....

Yours, For His Children,

Bobby R. Taylor, D. Min.
Executive Director

BRT/ta

Part IV

From the FWB Palawan Bible College and Kindergarten to the Maranatha Free Will Baptist Church to Iwahig Penal colony to the Crocodile Farming Institute to Mayor Edward Hagedorn's Office in Puerto Princesa to Farewell

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

In 1988, Antonio Samones Jr. was appointed Dean of Students for the Palawan Bible College. In 1978, the Free Will Baptist Churches of the Philippines and the Board of Foreign Missions of

the Original Free Will Baptist of North Carolina signed at the Philippine Annual Convention a working agreement to begin a Bible College. Named Palawan Bible Institute, the college had the Reverend G. Wayne King as its first president. In 1985, the name was changed from Palawan Bible Institute to Palawan Bible College. Today the administration and staff are 100 percent Filipino. Twenty-one students now attend the College--seven men and fourteen women.

As our group toured the college, we saw toothbrushes set in side wall straw. A tire had been turned inside out and painted, fixed up as a water storage vessel for showers (use a cup of water over the head).

The current president of the Palawan Bible College is Luz dela Rosa whose daughter Ira attracted the attention of Alma Dale and others.

Currently there are 11 faculty members at Palawan Bible College, all Filipinos. Some 21 children participate in Kindergarten I and II.

President Luz dela Rosa showed us around the college and kindergarten classes. "The Board of Trustees of the Bible College appointed me president. All eight members of the Board are Filipino. I rely on God. If the board appoints me, I am willing to serve," she said as she ushered us into the Palawan Bible College library. Her eyes were bright; her English polished; her manner gracious. She introduced us to the librarian, Mrs. Cerelina Presto. Attentively Mrs. Presto showed us the library, noted the collection

totalled 4,254 books all classified with the Dewey Decimal system. "We really need updated encyclopedias," said Mrs. Presto as she noted the Britannica volumes dated back to 1959, while the

Americana volumes dated back to 1978.

"We could also use English grammar books," said President Luz dela Rosa.

In browsing through the stacks, Mike Scott and I noticed numerous theological books from Bonhoeffer to the Interpreter's Bible.

Outside the library was the school bell, an old bomb shell casing that didn't explode in World War II no less.

Entering the courtyard, English teacher Marilou Diaz approached us, welcomed us, and noted that she had been teaching English since 1988. She identified six dominant island dialects--Cuyunin, Cebuano, Ilonggo, Palawan, Tagalog, Ilocano.

"I used to teach in a Catholic school," explained Marilou Diaz, "but I resigned because I didn't feel free as a Catholic. I feel free here and I teach five to seven hours a week. I teach English, but I also teach Philipino," she exclaimed.

"What we really need are grammar books. We need five copies of one book for the students," she stressed as she wrote down on a piece of paper where to send the books: Palawan Bible College, Pardeco, Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines.

Four of the men currently attending the college peeped through a door. President Luz dela Rosa introduced all four: Bernabe Bungalso, Alvin Dagot, Joel Paelma, Paul Pusong.

Above: The Free Will Baptist Palawan Bible College in Puerto Princesa was begun in 1978 with the Rev. Wayne King as its first president.

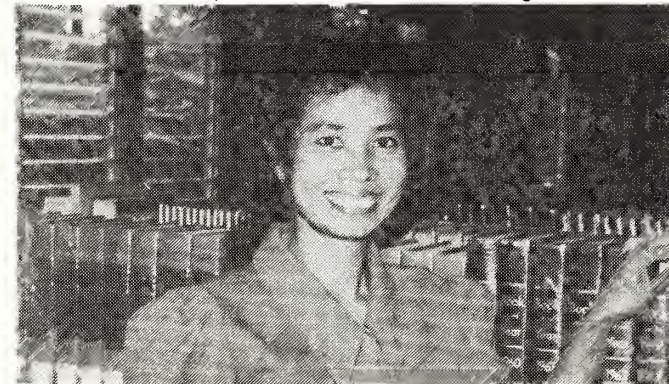




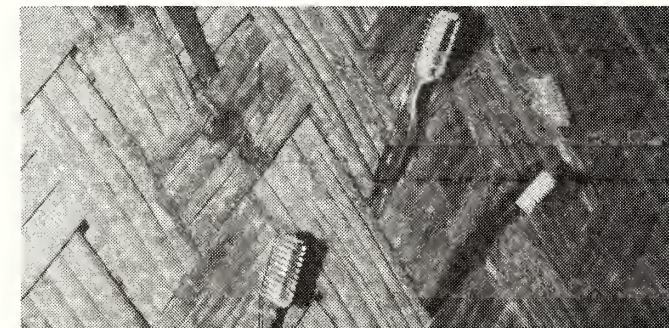
Luz dela Rosa is the current president of Palawan Bible College.



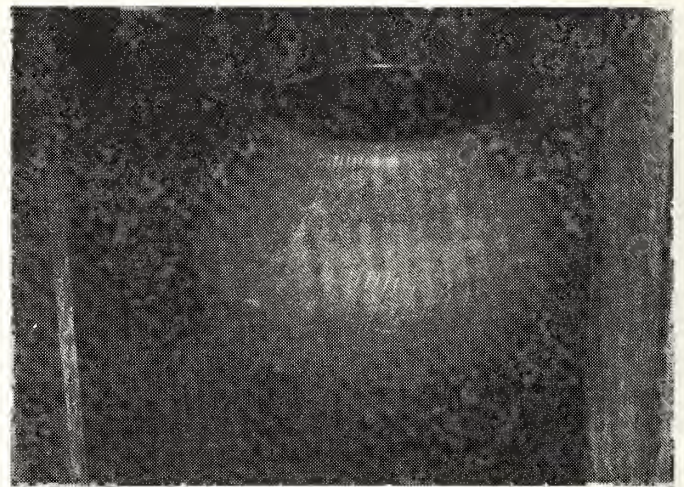
Ira dela Rosa is a member of the Palawan Kindergarten class. Her mother, Luz dela Rosa, is the president of Palawan Bible College.



Mrs. Carolina Presto showed us the Palawan Bible College library. Currently the collection contains 4,254 books.



Toothbrushes of students at Palawan Bible College are placed in the walls.



A tire is turned inside out and painted. It is used as a storage vessel of water for showers.

Palawan Bible College is recognized as the official training center for the Free Will Baptist Churches of the Philippines. Located on Rizal Avenue Extension in Barangay Bancao Bancao, it is owned and operated by the FWB Churches of the Philippines. Other support comes from students, the garden, FWB churches of the Philippines, and the Board of Foreign Missions.

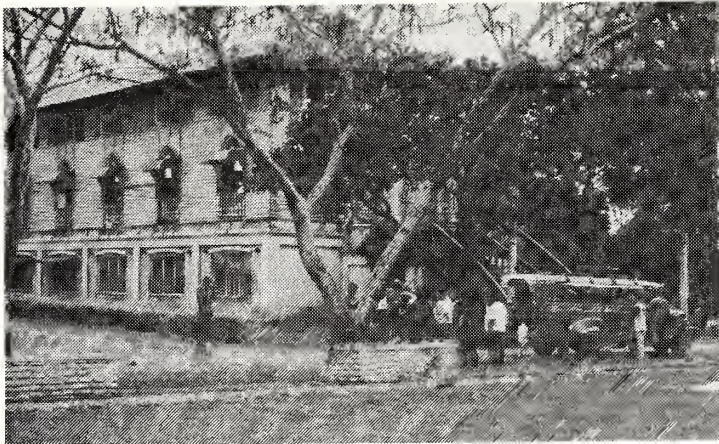
Maranatha FWB Church

Pastor Jaapal Ongtong greeted us at the Maranatha FWB Church, the church our wonder of wonders driver Mathan belongs to. We paused for a moment there, noted Isaiah 40:31 and Proverbs 4:20-23.

As we left, Mathan drove us around the island where we spotted white cows, goats, dogs, roosters, lizards. We noted the rice crop and were told rice is harvested three times a year in the Philippines. The Filipinos don't plant rice in April, May, or June, because it is so dry.



Pastor Jaapal Ongtong serves at the Free Will Baptist Church in Maranatha. Our driver Mathan attends church there.



The Iwahig Penal Colony permits visitors. Criminals try to sell their wares in order to buy soap.

Iwahig Penal Colony

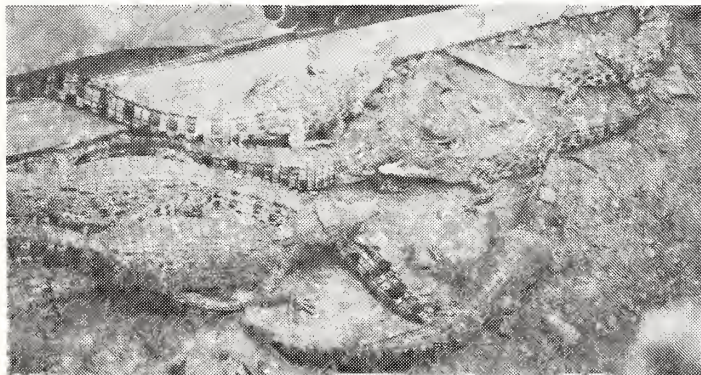
Serious criminal offenders often work in rice fields near the Iwahig River.

Wearing green, the prisoners can be spotted from the dusty road.

As we drove towards the prison site, we saw the police giving out tickets for overloaded vehicles. Everytime we passed a truck or wagon packed sky high, we sighed and shouted, "A ticket ahead!"

We passed a mango tree nursery and a cracked bridge en route to Iwahig Penal Colony. We stopped at FWB churches along the way, met several pastors. Bernabe Escolar and his wife Eufracia Escolar greeted us at their church of 14 families. At Luziminda, pastor Marcos Taladro greeted us and noted his church had 14 members. Suddenly a jeepney passed a Filipino who was waiting for a ride. A loud laughing machine was turned on, so that the Filipino knew there was no room in the jeepney as it flew by with a riproaring laugh.

When we arrived at Iwahig Penal Colony, we saw buildings and met prisoners who had articles to sell: straw boxes, walking canes, carved with mother of pearl, necklaces, Kamagong wood carvings (dark hardwood).



Crocodile Farming Institute

In 1987 the Crocodile Farming Institute was donated to the Philippines by the government of Japan. It was completed during the administration of President Corazon C. Aquino and Minister Carlos G. Dominguez.

As we strolled across bridges and around concrete walls, we spotted a variety of crocodiles stretched luxuriously in a habitat created just for them.

We also saw some pink-faced monkeys, a bear, lizards, and had a look at native birds such as the Palawan hornbill and the eagle.

We learned that the island Palawan was probably named from the ninth-century Chines "Pa-lao-yu" or land of beautiful state harbor.

Palawan with its native animals is the second largest province in the Philippines. It is bounded on the east by the Sulu Sea, northeast by Mindoro Pass, west by China Sea, south by Borneo Island.



Teddy and Vhem Martinez with their daughter, Love=Love, stand in front of their Free Will Baptist Church in the Philippines.



Teddy Martinez showed us his Nipa hut where he and his family live.



Vhem's daughter, Love-Love, and Vhem Martinez laugh with Sandra Jones.

Meeting in the Mayor of Puerto Princesa's Office

Edward Hagedorn, mayor of Puerto Princesa, was scheduled to meet with our party of eight, but he was absent. Staff covered for him graciously by saying that he expected us the previous day. Nonetheless, the mayor's administrative assistant ordered soft drinks and crackers for us, sat with us and talked about Puerto Princesa. He noted that Fidel V. Ramos was the current president of the Republic of the Philippines and that Puerto Princesa was the second largest city in the Philippines in land area. Davao City, being the first.

In the information sheet prepared by the office of city planning, we learned several significant facts about Puerto Princesa from the mayor's research department.

First, though Puerto Princesa has a population of more than 115,000 people, with 31.91 percent engaged in agriculture and fishing. Puerto Princesa is a city wherein settlement areas are highly dispersed, composed of 66 barangays (villages): 24 of the villages as urban, 42 as rural. Thus the city limits of Puerto Princesa represents 17.05 percent of the total land area of the Province of Palawan.

Problems do exist for Puerto Princesa, according to the research. An infrastructure of roads, basic facilities, and services is needed. Two barangays are not yet linked to the City's road network system because both mountains and forests hinder the connection.

Problematic also is the City's economic dependence upon imports such as poultry and the lack of expanding cottage industries.

What gives Puerto Princesa its strength is its combined rich fishing grounds (fish, shrimps, prawns, crabs, lobsters), and white sand beaches. Likewise, the mayor's assistant told us that Puerto Princesa has no cocaine, no rebels, no stinking garbage, and no broccoli. He mentioned current projects that include satellite hospitals in rural areas and attention to school buildings. He also stressed the reputation of Puerto Princesa as the clean and green haven of the Philippines.



Our group visited the mayor's office in Puerto Princesa, and though we missed seeing Mayor Edward Hagedoran, we were welcomed by his assistant and staff.

As we left the mayor's assistant, we drove out to the Nipa hut of Antonio Samones Sr., one of the first converts, and his wife Pesing. We drank coconut milk, ate coconuts and celebrated with the elderly couple.

Farewell to the Filipinos

Time edged us towards the hour to say farewell to our Filipino brothers and sisters. Gifts were showered upon all of us from bamboo fans to peacock wooden carvings.

Harold Jones stood to give his farewell. "I always leave my heart in the Philippines," he said. "It has been a joy for Sandra and me this month and a half. God bless you. Thank you for your gifts and love. And little Harold has finally come to me," he added with a laugh.

Sandra Jones stood to speak her farewell. "It has been a blessing for me to be here. I came this time during Thanksgiving and Christmas. I did not mind leaving my family, because of family here. God will continue to bless us as He leads us. Whatever plan God has, I am willing to do. I want to be used by God. I pray that we might be used for God, whatever God chooses for us to do, whether to be a witness for Him right here or wherever we are. I leave with you my heart and I will come back," she said as she held tears back.

Mike Scott came forward to speak his farewell. "There are two things Christianity is," he said. "Love and humility. These are two things I have found here for the past few days. I appreciate your hospitality, welcome, openness. I pray God will continue to bless and honor the work done here day after day."

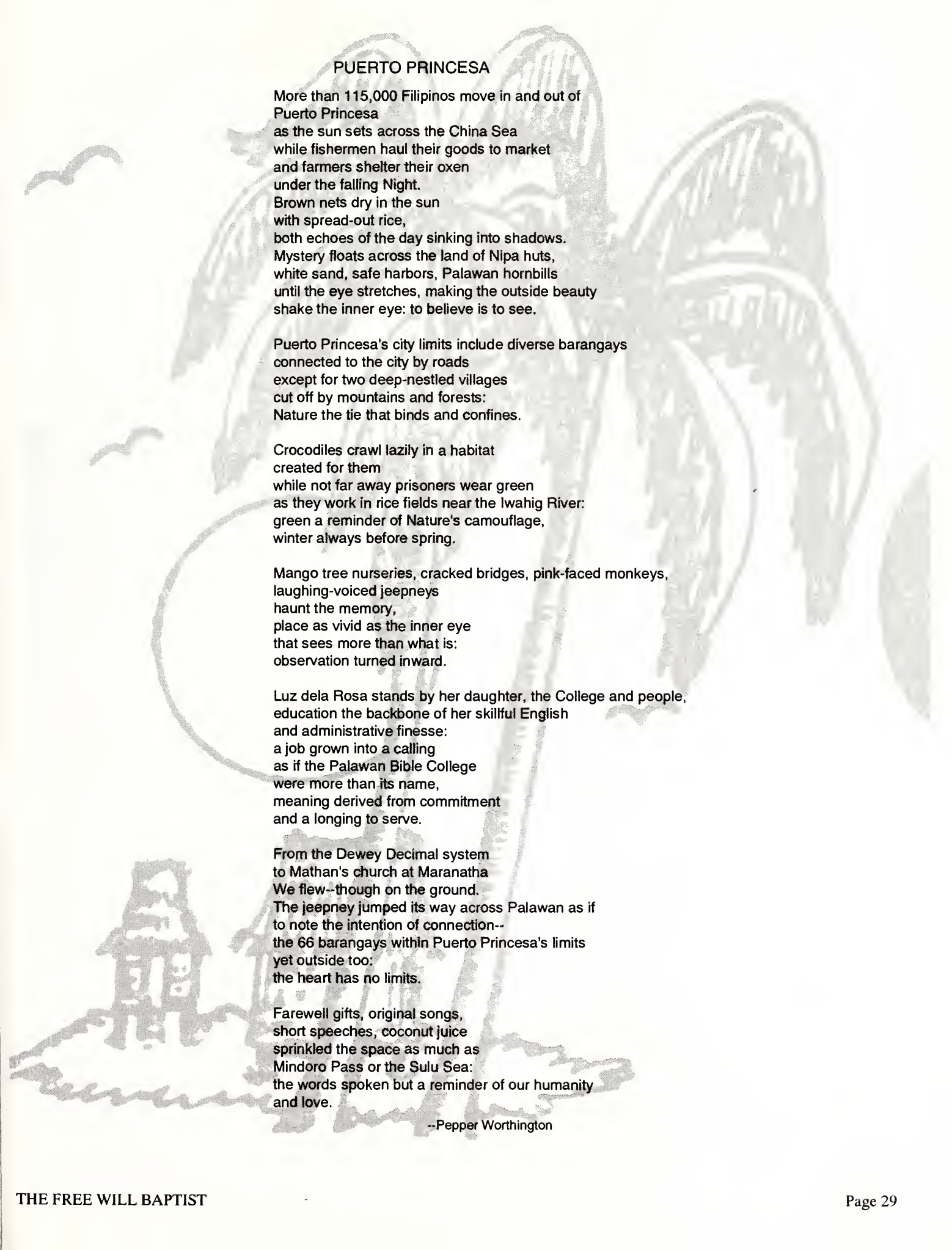
Delbert Scott said his farewell as he wept. "I got a bad case of come back, come back syndrome," he said. "I have never seen a people who show a greater love. I have never been anywhere that I felt so welcome. You people give. You people are my family. Pray for us as we return to our home in the states."

Alma Dale came forward with her farewell. "I'm so glad tonight I'm not ashamed to shed a tear. I love each one of you tonight. God is so good to all of us. Let's sing."

And so Alma Dale lead the song, "God Is So Good." She ended with a jubilant charge, "Keep loving Jesus and when you love him, you'll love everybody else."

The next day more than 50 FWB Filipinos crowded around us in the airport. They hugged us, wrote down addresses, sang, touched us, waited, waved. Teddy and Vhem Martinez wrote their address on a piece of paper. P.O. Box 17, Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines. "Write us!" pleaded Vhem as she hugged us. Then they all waited until our plane was on the runway. Suddenly they moved from inside to outside to show their physical presence in sending us their blessing as we left the ground for Manila.

Who can forget such a farewell?



PUERTO PRINCESA

More than 115,000 Filipinos move in and out of
Puerto Princesa

as the sun sets across the China Sea
while fishermen haul their goods to market
and farmers shelter their oxen
under the falling Night.

Brown nets dry in the sun
with spread-out rice,
both echoes of the day sinking into shadows.
Mystery floats across the land of Nipa huts,
white sand, safe harbors, Palawan hornbills
until the eye stretches, making the outside beauty
shake the inner eye: to believe is to see.

Puerto Princesa's city limits include diverse barangays
connected to the city by roads
except for two deep-nestled villages
cut off by mountains and forests:
Nature the tie that binds and confines.

Crocodiles crawl lazily in a habitat
created for them
while not far away prisoners wear green
as they work in rice fields near the Iwahig River:
green a reminder of Nature's camouflage,
winter always before spring.

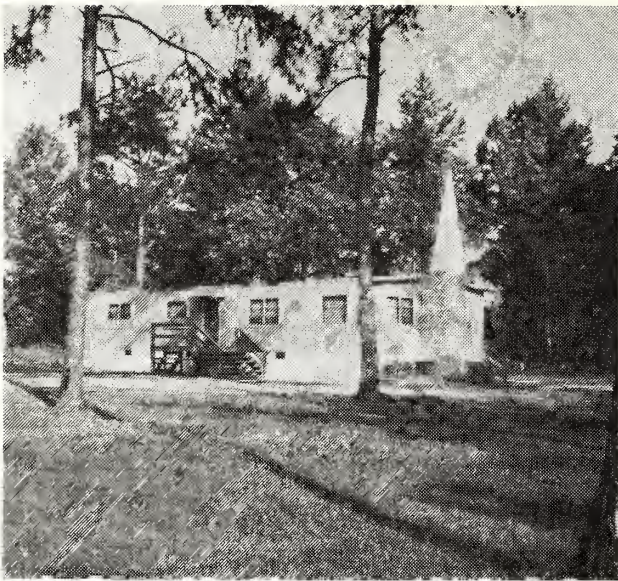
Mango tree nurseries, cracked bridges, pink-faced monkeys,
laughing-voiced jeepneys
haunt the memory,
place as vivid as the inner eye
that sees more than what is:
observation turned inward.

Luz dela Rosa stands by her daughter, the College and people,
education the backbone of her skillful English
and administrative finesse:
a job grown into a calling
as if the Palawan Bible College
were more than its name,
meaning derived from commitment
and a longing to serve.

From the Dewey Decimal system
to Mathan's church at Maranatha
We flew--though on the ground.
The jeepney jumped its way across Palawan as if
to note the intention of connection--
the 66 barangays within Puerto Princesa's limits
yet outside too:
the heart has no limits.

Farewell gifts, original songs,
short speeches, coconut juice
sprinkled the space as much as
Mindoro Pass or the Sulu Sea:
the words spoken but a reminder of our humanity
and love.

--Pepper Worthington



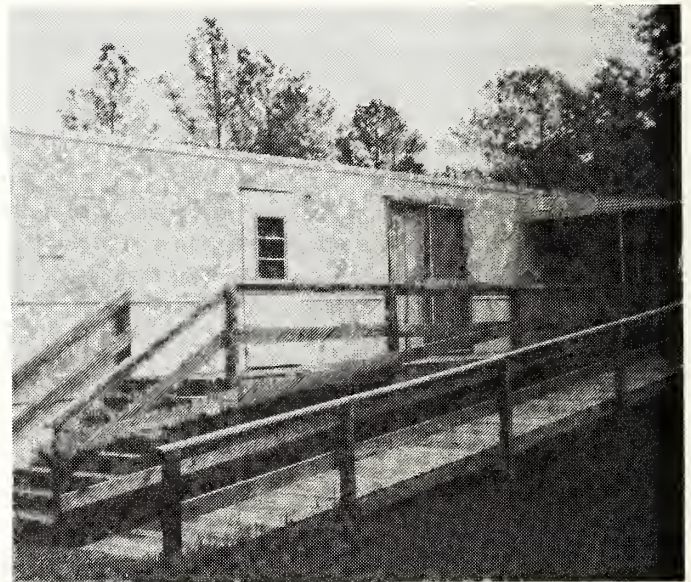
Silver Creek Original Free Will Baptist Mission/Church

**Pelletier Loop Road
Cape Carteret, North Carolina**

There is hope...

...for an improving ministry at **Silver Creek Mission**. Recently the Board of **Home Missions and Evangelism** and the Executive Committee of the **Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists** completed an evaluation of the Mission and as a result several actions are being planned.

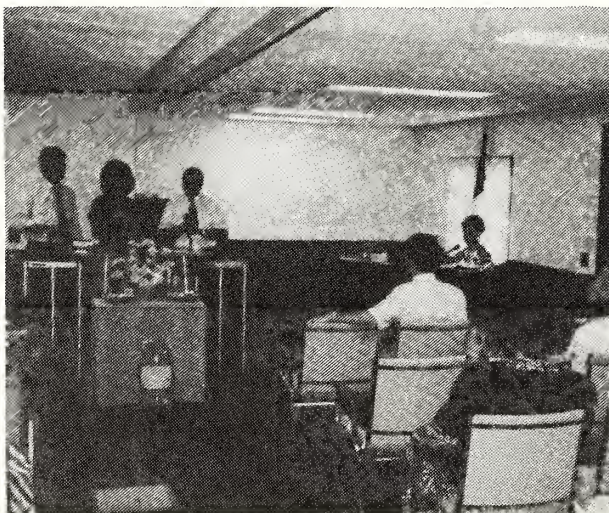
One project is a cooperative effort by the **Mission**, the **Eastern Conference Executive Committee**, the department of **Home Missions and Evangelism** of our **Original Free Will Baptist Convention** and additional volunteers to carry out a community-wide visitation program. Such a program will help to reach the un-churched in the community and also help in further evaluation. Another project is to arrange for the Director/ Pastor, the Reverend Harry A. Jones, Sr., to be resident on week-ends during the summer tourist season.



Also, we want everyone to know that **Silver Creek** is offering a non-traditional schedule of services.

Our Sunday schedule begins at 9:45 a.m. with "Meeting and Greeting" and worship follows at 10:00 a.m. We certainly invite our Original Free Will Baptists to join us when they are in the "Crystal Coast" area. (On your way east on Hwy. N.C. 58 turn on the second paved road on the right after you pass the famous T & W Oyster Bar Restaurant)

Please remember to keep us in your prayers and your thoughts and if you know of someone in the area who might be interested in a church home please let us know: **Home Missions and Evangelism**, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.



NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman
Executive Administrator
**Convention of Original Free Will
Baptists**
Project Solution Update

The first phase of Project Solution is now past. In last month's "Notes and Quotes," we referred to the first meeting of the Task Force Committee on April 17-20 at Cragmont Assembly. This committee met as scheduled. Originally the committee was to consist of ten members: the Convention officers and myself, and five others. As it turned out, two of the Convention officers were unable to attend. Vice-President Ray Wells had spent most of the previous week in the hospital and Treasurer Ronnie Hobgood was unable to attend due to critical illness of one of his church members. Thus, at the last hour we found it necessary to do some substituting with two other of our ministers--Frank Grubbs and Fred Baker. Other committee members were President Scott Sowers, Secretary Bruce Dudley, myself, the Revs. Al Markuson, Garland Suggs, Mike Scott, and Philip Boykin.

Many hours were spent during the two and one-half days in discussion about our denomination. Never was there any misunderstanding between any committee members. There was a spirit of love and true fellowship throughout the sessions. Everyone agreed that the meeting was beneficial, that there was a spirit of harmony, and that this was just the beginning point for what was hoped to be for the ultimate good of our denomination. It was indeed the most unique experience that I have personally had with a group of fellow ministers.

Other meetings will be held, of course. Other evaluations will be carried out. As (Note: We want to thank Cragmont for the hospitality and provisions which we enjoyed. Also our thanks to First Church of Greenville for the use of the church van.)

THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST DENOMINATION

by the Rev. Mike Scott

First and foremost, the Free Will Baptist Church is among the most Biblical in the world today. We have traditionally held the Scriptures in high regard, and have sought to be true and faithful to the New Testament concept of presenting Christ to others. Our doctrine, Statement of Faith and Discipline, literature and Church Covenant all reflect the truth of God's Word and seek to spread that Word to a lost humanity.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

If we ever lose our love, insight, commitment, regard, respect and esteem for the Bible as God's infallible and inerrant Word, we shall also lose any influence or impact that we may have in our communities.

Secondly, over the years we have been blessed with bold and dynamic clergy and laity, who have sought to be faithful to God and to His Kingdom. These have been men and women with a sense of mission and purpose, people who have felt the divine call of God upon their lives, and who have served and sacrificed to the best of their ability. God chooses the weak things of this earth to confound the wisdom of men, and He places His treasures in human vessels. The Free Will Baptist Church is, and always has been, the men and women God has placed His hand upon and has used for the greater purpose of establishing His Kingdom here on earth.

Today, our denomination seems to lack the zest and zeal of days gone by. We still hold the Scriptures in high regard, and our clergy and laity is among the brightest and most educated of our history, but much of the passion is missing from our service. Conventions and other meetings are poorly attended, and are so routine that they border on sheer boredom.

True worship is an event, a happening, but it seems to have been reduced to sixty (60) of the most planned, programmed and organized minutes of the week. Even when

an occasional soul makes a first time decision for Christ the rejoicing of the angels in glory fails to carry over into the hearts of our people. Where's the emotion? Where's the excitement? Where's the "joy unspeakable and full of glory" that God has placed in the heart and soul of all of the born again.

Our problem is not one of plans and programs, for we have many. Ours is not a problem with implementation, for anything that is brought up at a convention is routinely and unemotionally passed. Ours is a problem of the spirit and of the heart. Our need is to recapture the evangelistic fervour of a day gone by. Once again we need to seek to serve the Lord with gladness. Once again we need to enter into His courts with praise. Like David of old, we should be glad when they say unto us, "Let us enter into the house of the Lord!"

The Free Will Baptist Church, as any New Testament Church, has one goal that Christ has set--to go into all the world and preach the Gospel. God is our Father, Christ is our ever constant companion, His Spirit is our power, His Word is our guide; souls are our gain, God's glory is our desire, and the building of His Kingdom is the greatest work in the world. "Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?" (Psalm 85:6)

(Note: Rev. Mike Scott is pastor of the Wintergreen Original Free Will Baptist church.)



The Task Force Committee consisted of (left to right): Revs. C. H. Overman, Frank Grubbs, Fred Baker, Al Markuson, Scott Sowers, Bruce Dudley, Garland Suggs, Philip Boykin, Mike Scott.



Members of the Task Force Committee About to Depart Cragmont



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JULY 1994

CONTENTS

July 1994 • Volume 109 • Number 7

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE	3
CHILDREN'S HOME	8
HOME MISSIONS	9
CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY	10
FOREIGN MISSIONS	14

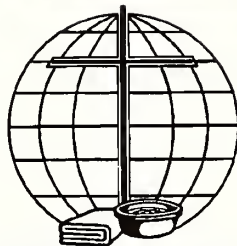
FEATURES

DR. RAPER TO RETIRE AFTER 40 YEARS	15
PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE NAMED	16
AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?	17
PART V: ON THE NEW DELHI ROAD TO AGRA	20
WHAT MY PARENTS DID RIGHT	23
CAROLINA BIBLE INSTITUTE	24

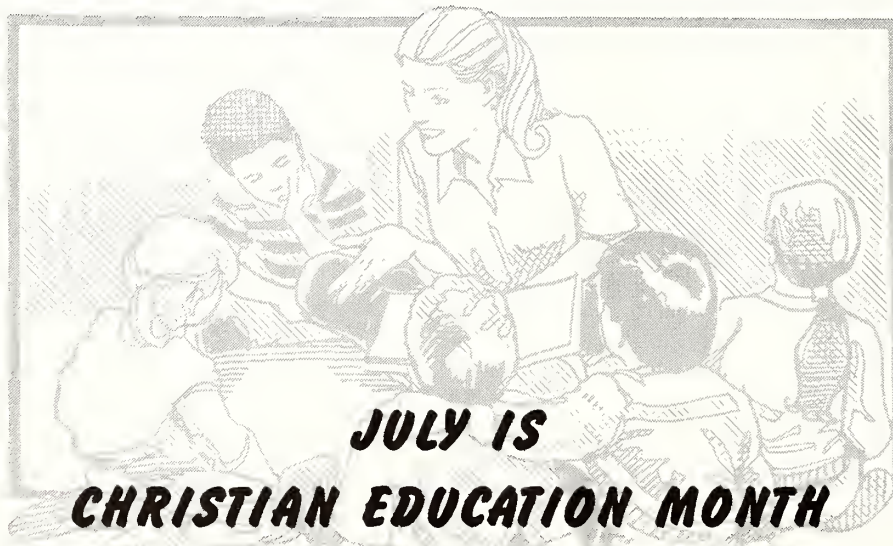
DEPARTMENTS

THE MONTHLY CALENDAR	18
PEOPLE & EVENTS	25
FYI	32
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS	33
NOTES & QUOTES	34
EDITOR'S NOTE	35

NEXT MONTH



CONVENTION NEWS



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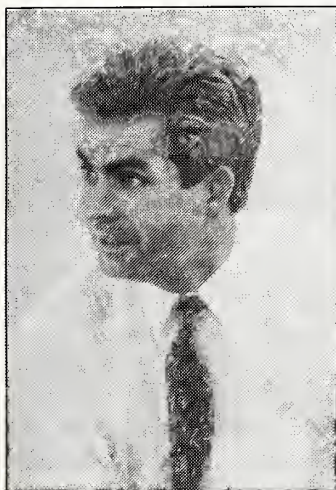
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MY VISION, MY COMMITMENT. . .
EDUCATION FOR THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY
AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

K. David Hines, Chair
Department of Religion



Dr. K. David Hines

Jesus answered, *The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. . .* (Mark 12:29-30).

One of the most valuable lessons that I learned prior to attending college was the value of a balanced love for God. Loving God involves all that one is. It involves loving with all one's heart, that is, with emotion. Our emotions are an important part of

who we are, but loving God does not stop here. It also involves our souls (our essential selves), our strength, and *our minds*. Yes, you read that correctly, we are called to love God with our minds—our ability to think, reason, and decide. Unfortunately, far too many allow their relationship with God to stop after point one, after loving with their hearts. These people never get closer to God than their last emotional experience. A strong, mature relationship with God requires that we also love God with our minds. Without an understanding of one's faith, it is easy to be knocked down by any wind of doctrine or by one of life's inevitable crises.

At one point in my faith journey, I felt that loving God with my mind was the only appropriate way to express my faith. I measured my faith by the last "significant" book that I had read, or the latest complex theory that I had wrestled. Fortunately, I had good teachers and developed a much richer understanding of the Bible and my faith. Through these studies, I developed a strong intellectual armor to house my convictions. After some time, I discovered a chink in my armor. A faith that is based solely on knowledge lacks passion and excitement. It lacks the power to move men and women.

I have realized that one can love God with both the heart and the mind, the emotions and intellect. This attitude provides the perspective I bring to my work in the Religion Department at Mount Olive College. It is our job to do all that we can to stretch and sharpen the minds of our students. Pastors do need specific skills to preach, teach, and lead. If these students are to be equipped for effective service in the Kingdom of God, we must do much, much more. I will seek to assure that our program of ministerial education takes the next necessary step by fostering the development of the heart. Knowledge of God is a wonderful thing, but it can never replace a heart full of love for God.

With this perspective as a starting point, allow me to share what I am seeking to accomplish in ministerial education at Mount Olive College.

1. I will encourage a deep appreciation for the authority of the Scriptures and the development of a responsible theology. It is imperative that those who seek to preach the Gospel know the Bible and have a solid understanding of Christian doctrine. Original Free Will Baptist doctrine has stood the test of time. I am committed to assuring that Mount Olive College ministerial students both understand and respect our doctrine.

Some question the importance of doctrine. They ask, "Does it really matter what one believes?" Yes, it does! Our beliefs will be reflected in our actions, in other words, to know my real theology, watch me. Through my decisions and my actions I will show you what I believe.

2. I will foster the development of communication skills. The effective minister must be able to communicate with people from diverse backgrounds. Not only do ministers need to understand the Gospel, they need the skills to share that message with others. In other words, ministers must be able to speak and write clearly. On a theology exam I once asked students how they would explain a particular doctrine to a new church member. One student was confused by the question. "Can't I just tell you what I believe?" he asked. I responded, "No! When you finish school you won't be explaining yourself to professors. I want to make sure you are ready to explain your ideas to church members."

3. I will try to instill a desire for life-long learning and spiritual growth. There is no way that a minister can be adequately prepared to serve a church simply by completing college. We have not done our job if we only convey information to students. We have the greater challenge of whetting their desire for continued growth. College is not so much about passing on facts as it is about teaching students how to learn. Almost every day ministers will face situations never discussed in the classroom. If we have done our job, our graduates will have the skills to think through these situations and study to find solutions.

I trust that my students will also long to grow spiritually. I have told students before, "While you are here learning about Jesus, take the time to fall in love with him." Ministerial students invest so much time studying for tests and preparing sermons that sometimes they forget their own spiritual development.

4. I will seek to nurture the formation of a "pastor's heart." Look over your experience in the church. Who were those pastors that left the greatest impact on you? Who do you remember most fondly? If you are like me, you remember those pastors who cared and loved the most—the pastor who was there when you faced major surgery, when you lost a loved one, when you were troubled. This quality is what I call the "pastor's heart." I have never forgotten the pastor who stopped to help me fly a kite when I was in the third grade. He rode by, saw that I was having some problems and stopped to help. I will take that memory with me to my grave.

This quality is not developed through curriculum. It can be instilled in our students through example. If I am going to be effective in preparing students for the ministry I must ask myself, "Am I caring for these students in the same way that I trust that they will care for their future parishioners?" To this end I feel that it is important for me to pray for and with my students and for me to be there for them at their time of need.

5. I will work to help students develop their leadership skills. Our churches are crying for strong leadership—for ministers with vision. Effective leaders know how to ask, "What does God want

(Continued on next page)

done?" and then "How will we get the job done?" We have not done our job in ministerial education until the student is prepared to make a difference.

What's in the Future?

I have been asked if I would be making any changes in the Religion Department at the College. Yes and no. I do not want to see any change in the basic academic quality of our program. Graduate schools in our region have grown to respect our department, and I do not want that to change. Still, our department must change to reflect changes in the needs of our churches and our potential students.

One program that is in the dream stage right now is a degree completion program in Church Ministries that is similar to the program that we are currently offering in New Bern. Students who have completed at least two years of college and who have significant work learning experience can complete their college degree in "Management and Organizational Development" in fifty-five weeks. These students meet one night each week but complete most of their assignments outside of the classroom. A program like this for adult ministerial students would meet the needs for many students who need to work to support their families.

Mount Olive College is *your* college. We are the extended arm of our church in Christian higher education. If you have ideas on how we can expand our services to our church, please feel free to tell me. Chairing the Department of Religion is the largest professional and ministerial challenge of my career. With your prayerful support, I will work to make our College and our church stronger.

FWBS NAMED TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S, DEAN'S LIST

MOUNT OLIVE—Several Free Will Baptist students attending Mount Olive College were named to the college's President's List and Dean's List for academic achievement during the spring semester.

Those named to the President's List included Audrey A. Davis of Deep Run FWB in Deep Run; Deborah J. Gray of Westside FWB in Kinston, and Etheridge T. (Tommy) Davis, son of Travis and Susan Davis, of Holly Springs FWB in Newport. Davis, whose name was inadvertently deleted from previous announcements, was named to the President's List for the fall semester also.

Dwayne S. Bailey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Bailey of Goldsboro, and Michael W. Wiggs, son of William and Joy Wiggs of Pikeville, both of Stoney Creek FWB in Goldsboro, were named to the list, as were Kathryn C. Fariior, daughter of Herman and Leigh Croom, and Elton F. Gooding, son of Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Gooding, both of Pleasant Grove FWB in Pikeville.

Free Will Baptist students named to the Dean's List included the following: Melanie G. Swinson, daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. Harold Swinson, of Free Union FWB in Pinetown; Rhonda D. Mills, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Mills, of Holly Springs FWB in Newport; Velvet D. Reynolds, daughter of Royce and Fleddie Reynolds, of Sound Side FWB in Columbia; Lori L. Coates, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everette Coates, of May's Chapel FWB in Mount Olive; Martha A. Peacock of Pleasant Grove FWB

in Pikeville; and Cynthia A. Kennedy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Kennedy, of St. Mary's FWB in Kenly.

The lists are published to honor students who attain high scholastic standing. To qualify, a student must be attending Mount Olive College on a full-time basis (12 semester hours or more) and must achieve a quality grade point average of 4.0 for the President's List, or 3.5 with no grade lower than a "C" for the Dean's List, for the semester just ended.

ENROLLMENT, SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES STILL AVAILABLE FOR FALL SEMESTER

New freshmen and transfers still have time to apply and register for classes in Mount Olive College's fall semester, says Dianne Riley, Director of Admissions. A limited number of scholarships are still available for those who call early and are eligible.

The college's next "Orientation Day" is July 18, when incoming students will meet their academic advisors, register for classes and get a "technical introduction" to the college. "They'll find out what makes Mount Olive College tick for them," Mrs. Riley said.

She added that the day may also give those planning to live on campus an opportunity to meet their prospective roommates.

"There are still spaces open in the residence halls and still openings for commuting students, those who live within driving distance," she said.

Transfer students, students who have completed work at local community colleges, are welcome, as there are also programs available for their entry into Mount Olive College.

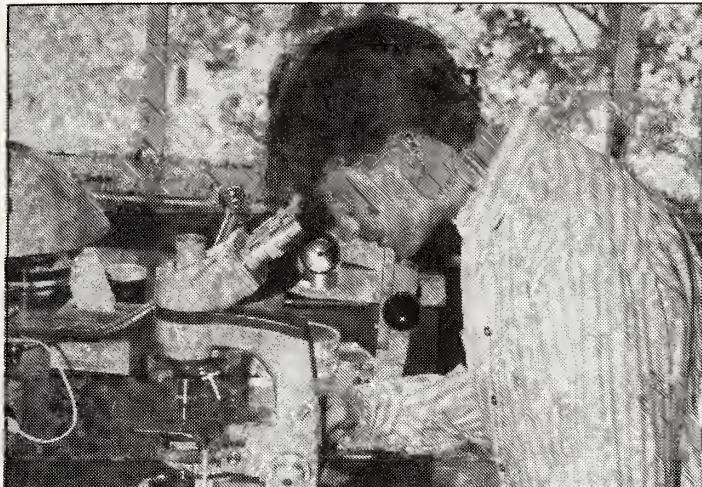
Because the remaining available scholarships are limited, students interested in applying for scholarships should call and talk with an admissions counselor soon, Mrs. Riley said.

The college's fall semester begins Sunday, August 21, when students are scheduled to arrive on campus and settle into residence halls. Classes begin August 25.

For information on Orientation Day activities, scholarships or registering for classes, call an admissions counselor at 919-658-2502.

July
is
Christian
Education
Month

**CHRISTIAN WATERS NAMED
OUTSTANDING YOUNG BOTANIST
THE SECOND STUDENT FROM MOC AND
ST. MARY'S FWB TO WIN AWARD**



Christian Waters, Young Botanist

Christian Waters of St. Mary's FWB Church of New Bern, son of Warren and Frances Waters, has been named a Botanical Society of America Young Botanist for 1994. Christian, a rising senior majoring biology with a minor in mathematics, was nominated to receive the award by his botany instructor, Dr. Richard Bounds.

Christian is the second Mount Olive College student to receive the award. In 1992, Lenwood E. Smith II, also of St. Mary's FWB in New Bern, received the honor.

The award, conferred to Christian by Dr. Bounds in May, honors "excellence and outstanding promise as a contributor to the advancement of knowledge in the botanical sciences."

Several are given annually to recognize performance by undergraduate students in course work and independent study in plant biology.

In his nomination letter, Dr. Bounds noted Christian's outstanding grade point average and academic reputation, as well as his successful participation in extracurricular activities.

Christian is an Honors student, a member of the Alpha Chi Honors Society, president of the Henderson Science Club and student trainer to the college's basketball team.

"Mr. Waters is a leader among his peers in both academics and student life activities and possesses a character of high moral standards and high academic goals," Dr. Bounds wrote.

The basis of the nomination, Dr. Bounds said, was the research work performed by Christian in the summer and fall, 1993, when he conducted two experiments on the effects of fertilizers on tomato fruit and collard leaf production.

Christian presented the results of the tomato experiment at the North Carolina Fall Conference on Undergraduate Research at Winston-Salem State University in November, 1993. He reported the results of the collard experiment to the Collegiate Academy of the North Carolina Academy of Science at Davidson College in March.

Dr. Bounds added that Christian has performed well in class, having studied general botany and plant anatomy under Dr. Bounds' guidance. Christian will continue studies in plant morphology and plant taxonomy with Dr. Bounds next year.

Upon graduation from Mount Olive College in the spring of 1995, Christian plans to pursue graduate degrees in environmental engineering.

"I have personally worked with Christian over the last year and can say he is one of the best students that we have," Dr. Bounds said.

TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND



Dr. Michael Pelt

By De Wayne Eakes

It is a pleasure to write this article in tribute to a person whom I respect and admire and have since I first met him in the 1966-67 academic year at Mount Olive College. I first met him in a student-teacher relationship and today I count it a privilege to have him as a friend. The person of whom I speak is Dr. Michael Pelt, who, for thirty-seven years has chaired the Department of Religion at Mount Olive College. He has positively im-

acted many lives and has left a lasting imprint and high standard of scholarship for a legacy for those who follow.

My first contact with Mike Pelt was a sophomore ministerial student at Mount Olive College. This happened to be Dr. Pelt's first year back in the classroom following his sabbatical in which he completed his doctorate at Duke University. My first course under him was entitled, *The Life and Letters of Paul*. It was a small class and as I recall there was only one "A" in the course—it wasn't mine. We all joked that Dr. Pelt expected us to know as much as he did about the Apostle Paul and the Pauline writings and we were to accomplish that feat in one semester. We all did learn a great deal about the man, Paul and the Pauline Epistles. We also came to appreciate the calibre of person instructing us. The next semester many of the same people were back in another course, *Christian Beliefs*, under Dr. Pelt. I continue to draw from the foundations laid in those two courses.

I was then greatly impressed by his scholarship and that estimation of the man has never diminished. Another lesson learned was that while he was a demanding teacher, he was very fair and tremendously patient with his young theologians. His willingness to deal with our questions seriously regardless of how appropriate or inappropriate they were, stands out in my memory twenty-seven years later. I never knew him to in any manner publicly demean a student. He took his calling seriously and exercised it as a stewardship trust.

Dr. Pelt is well known for the high scholastic standards he held to personally and those to which he expected his students to attain. Through the years I have had several occasions to hear him preach. At first in chapel services at Mount Olive College and then at a community Lenten service in Lucama. Dr. Pelt was invited to preach a communion message, a message which I have always remembered as one of the very best on the topic of the Lord's Supper that I have ever heard. The last time I heard him preach was

(Continued on next page)

at the Cragmont Minister's Conference in 1992. As I have heard him proclaim the Good News I have come to appreciate him more fully as a person of great personal faith. I have seen him and his family drawing on their faith resources in dealing with personal tragedy. This man lives by the faith he professes.

Somewhere along the way my relationship changed from student-teacher to that of a colleague in ministry and a friend. Mike Pelt has never had an arrogant attitude about him but rather an accepting spirit implying respect for the other person. Being around Mike at the Cragmont Minister's Conference, the Ministers' Institute at Mount Olive College, and at our annual Convention of Original Free Will Baptists' has facilitate this transition. During and because of these shared experiences I began to feel comfortable addressing him as "Mike" instead of the more formal "Dr. Pelt."

Some of our ministers and their families began to do some vacationing at a family campground in the Foscoe community near Boone, North Carolina. This campground had a view of Grandfather Mountain in the background. We began to go with this group of happy campers. There I saw Mike as a family man, fun-loving, appreciating nature, and in a more relaxed and less academic atmosphere. We enjoyed many excellent discussions during those weeks and especially in the evenings when the campfire felt good, even in the summer. During these times of fellowship and sharing lasting friendship and comradery developed.

Mike Pelt is a scholar, he is a Christian gentleman, a colleague in ministry, and he is a valued friend. It is good to have studied under him, to have worked under his supervision, and to count him among my friends. In his retirement, I am certain that he will continue to contribute to the life of the Original Free Will Baptist Church which he loves and whose history he knows so well, and to Mount Olive College where he has spent most of his professional life and where he has exercised his *gift of teaching* to the enrichment of all of his students who would accept his challenge. Happy retirement, Mike!



Dr. Michael Pelt and Tracy McCoy

Choir News



FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

OF

GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

IS

LOOKING FOR

AN ADULT CHOIR DIRECTOR

AND A

CONGREGATIONAL MUSICAL DIRECTOR

CONTACT:

RONNIE HOBGOOD, PASTOR

756-6600

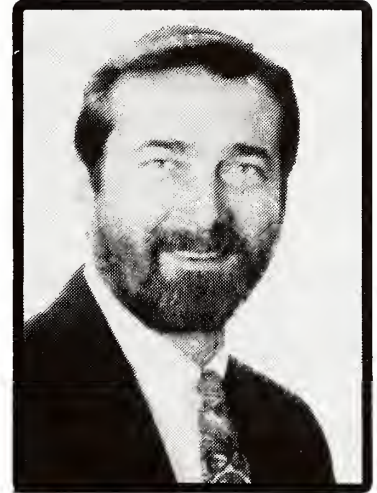


The First Annual
James A. Evans Lecture

Theme: Church Conflict and Resolution

Guest Lecturer: Dr. Harold "Mac" Wallace
North Carolina Baptist Counseling Center at Wilmington

Monday • August 8 • 9:30 a.m.
Lois K. Murphy Regional Center
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina



Schedule of Events:

Registration (\$10.00, includes lunch)	9:00 a.m.
Lecture One:	9:30 a.m.
Break	10:45 a.m.
Worship Service in Rodgers Chapel	11:00 a.m.
P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award Luncheon In the Hennessee Room of the Murphy Regional Center	12:00 noon
Lecture Two:	1:30 p.m.
Break	2:30 p.m.
Lecture Three and Group Interaction	2:45 p.m.

About the lecturer . . .

Dr. Harold "Mac" Wallace is Director of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital Counseling Center at Wilmington, a position he has held since the facility opened in 1991. His work with the center involves providing individual, marriage and family, and group psychotherapy and community and clergy education and consultation. Prior to beginning this work, Dr. Wallace was the Chaplain Supervisor with the School of Pastoral Care at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. He received his Doctor of Ministry and Master of Divinity degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts from Duke University and an Associate of Science from Mount Olive College. An ordained minister, Dr. Wallace has served churches across North Carolina.

Dr. Wallace's credentials in the area of pastoral counseling are well established. He holds membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and in the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy. He is also a member of the Regional Certification Committee for the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

About the James A. Evans Lecture . . .

For a number of years, Mount Olive College has hosted a Ministers Institute each August. The format of this program is now being updated with the inauguration of the James A. Evans Lecture. This lecture is sponsored by Dr. Thomas R. Morris of Wilmington, North Carolina. Through sponsoring this program, Dr. Morris is seeking to foster the pastoral qualities he observed in the Reverend Evans when he served his home church, Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church in the Nahunta community of Wayne County. Each August the Evans Lecture will bring a significant speaker to address issues related to pastoral ministry.

The program for the day will also feature the P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award which is sponsored by Dr. Morris in memory of his great-grandfather. This award will be presented during the noon luncheon.

**SMITH COTTAGE:
THE WAIT IS OVER**

by Tina Allen

Director of Church and Public Relations

The long awaited move into Smith Cottage finally came for the children in our Preparation for Adult Living Program (PAL) at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. From the moment we all received word that the cottage was ready to be occupied to the moment the children actually began moving their belongings inside, the time was filled with much excitement and anxiety.



PAL student begins to move his belongings into Smith Cottage.

The dream to re-open Smith Cottage became a reality the first weekend of May. The project began in April of 1993 with letters to our churches announcing the launch of Project Outreach. This \$70,000 project was established to renovate Smith Cottage which had been closed for over ten years. For years, the Board of Directors and staff envisioned the day when this cottage would be filled with the laughter and sound of children's voices; alive with activity and providing a warm and secure environment for children.

Because of your prayers, faith, commitment, and action, our dream came alive. Now, Smith Cottage provides a warm and loving environment for our Junior and Senior High School students participating in the Preparation for Adult Living Program. PAL is a nine month program designed to prepare these students to be successful in life after their stay at the Free Will Baptist

Children's Home. Our staff will help prepare these young people in specific areas such as relationships, marriage and family, budgeting and finance, and home and car maintenance. The PAL program will also provide training skills for college and career advancement including better study habits, time management, job hunting, and interview performance.

The PAL students are enjoying their "new" home according to some of their comments:

"We have more activities such as working outside of the Home and cooking our own meals."

"We are encouraged to get a job and build an outside life for ourselves."

"The program helps us get another step closer to dealing with the real world."

"The rooms are nicer and it is quieter than the other cottages."



Ronald and Barbara Probst, houseparents for Smith Cottage.

Ron and Barbara Probst, the new houseparents who are helping train these students for life outside of the Home are faced with many challenges. "Our goal is to send these residents out with as much knowledge as they can have for the real world," states Mrs. Probst. They have observed a sense of pride of the "new" cottage by the students. Mrs. Probst said that one of the students vacuums his room at least twice a day.

We are proud of these residents and also proud of the progress they have made since they have been in care at the Children's Home. We know that they will take extra special care of the cottage.

The Children's Home would like to extend a special thanks to all of you who supported us either through prayers or contributions which enabled us to meet the challenge of opening Smith Cottage. Together, we are accomplishing the goals the Lord has set before us. **THANK YOU!**

**CHILDREN'S HOME
SPONSORS TALENT**



Pictured here is 1994 Talent winners and Ms. Tina Allen, Children's Home Representative.

The 1994 State Youth Convention, held on May 13-15, was a special time for those participating in the talent competition on Friday evening. After months of practice, participants won first place in their districts and continued to compete at state level at Mount Olive College.

For seven years, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home has sponsored the talent competition and has proudly presented awards to winners for their hard work and commitment of presenting their talents for the Lord.

We congratulate all of those who participated. You all did a fantastic job!

**Mark Your
Calendar!
The Free Will Baptist
Children's Home
Alumni
Homecoming
will be
held on
July 10, 1994!
Registration
at 9 A.M.**

Home Missions Names Assistant



The **Board of Home Missions and Evangelism** has selected the Rev. Bruce Dudley as an assistant to Executive Director Hansley.

In its session on May 31, 1994, the **Board of Home Missions and Evangelism** approved a proposal which created the position of assistant to the Executive Director. At the same meeting, they named Brother Dudley to fill the position. Both actions met with the unanimous approval of the directors.

Brother Dudley is a native of Beaufort, North Carolina and a graduate of the former Beaufort High School. He attended *Mount Olive College* where he received the Associate in Arts Diploma and *Atlantic Christian College* (now *Barton*), graduating with the Bachelor of Arts Degree. He further prepared for ministry at the *School of Pastoral Care of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital* and the *Bowman Gray School of Medicine*, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Brother Dudley earned his Master of Divinity degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, a member of the school's first class to be awarded that degree.

On October 19, 1960, at Saints' Delight Original Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, North Carolina, he was ordained an Original Free Will Baptist minister by the Eastern Conference. Since ordination, Brother Dudley has pastored 14 churches and served as interim pastor or pulpit supply at several others. In addition, he has worked for two of our Original Free Will Baptist institutions: Cragmont Assembly and Camp Vandemere.

Following a vital and active interest in the Original Free Will Baptist Denomination, Brother Dudley has served in several denomination offices, including:

North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues; vice-president, 1963-65; president 1965-66. Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists; Board of Ministerial Character 1965-67. North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Churches, assistant secretary 1978-80. Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists; Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere, Chairman and President 1968-69; Ministerial Examining Board 1969-79, and 1990 to the present, Conference Clerk 1979-81 and 1989-90; Assistant Moderator 1977-79; Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Churches, Board of Publications 1990-91, **Board of Home Missions and Evangelism** 1990-91, Recording Secretary 1991-present.

Throughout his ministry Brother Dudley has been a member of several organizations in the community and church including various Volunteer Fire Departments and one Rescue Squad. He has maintained a conviction that the minister is also a member of the community where he lives and should contribute to it.

His wife, Mary, is a Johnston County native and for thirty years served as an elementary school teacher and now is employed by Duplin County Schools as a Field Based Teacher/Evaluator. They have one daughter, Michelle Fordham, who is administrative assistant to the Rev. C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Brother Dudley, who has been working with **Home Missions and Evangelism** since January 1, 1994, as Interim Director of Deaf Ministry and Director/Pastor of Victory First Deaf Mission/Church, will assume the new position on July 1, 1994. Two areas will be his special responsibilities: Special Ministries and Publications. Additionally he will assist the Executive Director as needed and will be available to come to your Church to share the needs of **Home Missions and Evangelism**.

"The potential for growth with the Harvest 2000 program is limited only by our commitment and involvement," says Brother Dudley, "I am looking forward to working with Brother Hansley and **Home Missions and Evangelism** to help our Church to meet its challenge for the 21st century."

Please, continue to pray and support **Home Missions and Evangelism** financially so that we can reach out to "Touch Lives for a Lifetime." The need to expand our present program and to develop new ones increases daily. Everywhere you look you can see people who need Jesus Christ and the direction and purpose to which the Church is supposed to bear witness. We must not fail those who are depending on us. You must not fail the One who is depending on you.



To Celebrate.

To Remember.

To Dream Again.

To Plan for the Future.

JU **BUILD**

It's Coming...

Thank You!

One of the most powerful forces on earth is the Church at work. God uses all kinds of people to perform His work and see to the needs of His missions. The Original Free Will Baptist denomination has once again seen to a major need at one of her ministries: Cragmont. That we needed a new stove only created another opportunity for God to show His faithfulness and timeliness: Cragmont's new stove was in use before the start of the summer conferences!

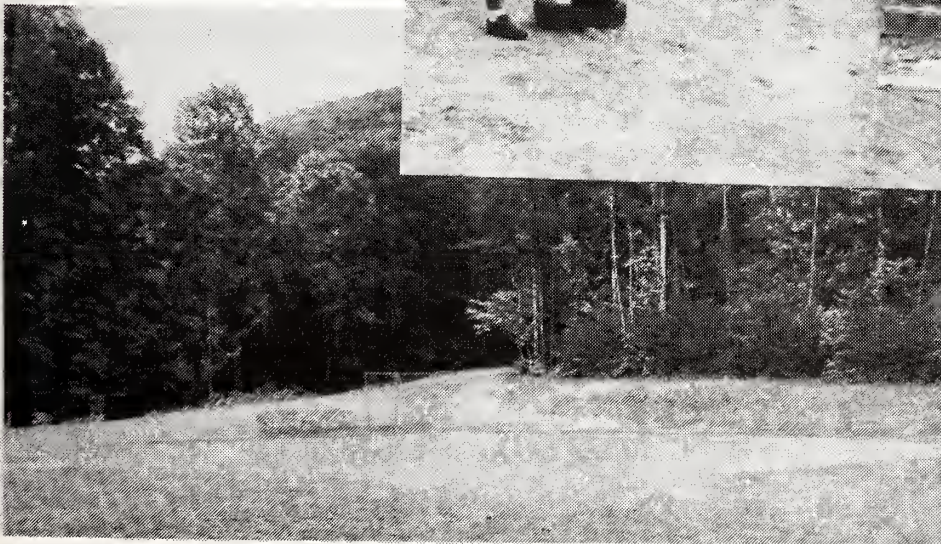
*I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,
always in every prayer of mine for you all
making my prayer with joy,
thankful for your partnership in the gospel
from the first day until now.
Philippians 1:3-5(RSV)*

Gearing-up for the Summer!

Gollie and Greg give the steps a face-lift!

*The Volleyball
court gets
new sand!*

*The ball field
has some
landscaping
done!*



Dear Susan,
 Thanks for the information on Fall limited! Since you didn't mention it, my guess is you haven't heard about Cragmont's Christmas limited! You can tour for four days and three nights (starting December 1st and ending December 4th) for only \$200 if you choose Option Package One. The price covers travel, lodging and certain meals. And because I know you're always looking for a bargain, you can tour with Option Package Two for only \$175. The only difference is with Option One, you get to tour the Biltmore House (It is absolutely GORGEOUS!). Otherwise, the packages are the same including a trip to Dollywood (you know, one million lights), a visit to the Folk Art Center in Asheville, the Grove Park Inn, the Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace and more! But don't mess around! If you want Option One, you've got to send your registration form and \$100 deposit by September 23. But if want Option Two, then you just have to send \$75 (But that doesn't have to be in by then). Oh, and the rest of the money is due November 11. From what I understand, they've already taken reservations so you better get cracking! Well, I hope you understood all that. If not just call Cragmont. Their number is 1-704-669-7677. Call me if you decide to go and I'll tell them to make us roommates! Well, I'll see you later.

Love,
 Carol



Cragmont Assembly's
CHRISTMAS
Limited Edition 1994



YES! Save my space on Christmas Limited!

No.

I do not wish to sign up at this time, but I would like more information on future *Limited Editions!*

Name _____

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of? If so please describe:

Address _____

Church _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Roomate(s) _____

Mail to: "Christmas Limited",
 c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North
 Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Bus Stop Preference _____



Dear Carol,
 Phyllis was telling me that she hasn't heard from you yet about Fall Limited Edition! Here's the scoop again in case my letter didnt get to you. Starting Monday, October 17, and ending Thursday, October 20, they've got a touring package that starts with historic Jonesborough, TN! You know, the township whose county tried to become the state of Franklin? I just found out the ~~TENNESSEE~~ State Seal was made there! Anyway, they're talking about a tour through some homes and other landmarks, the museum and lunch at the Parson's Table, an old (and I mean old!) converted church building. That's Tuesday. Wednesday they're going to Mount Pisgah and Pisgah Inn, the Farmer's Market and, your favorite, Asheville Mall. But there's more! And since I'm running out of room here's the scoop on their price. It's \$175.00 per person. That includes your travel by bus, lodging, and some meals. Can you believe it? But you better hurry. Your \$75 per person deposit and completed registration form has got to get to Cragmont before they can reserve your spot. The other \$100 isn't due 'til September 24. Well, I've got to go. Hope to see you there!

Love,
 Susan

Cragmont Assembly's
Fall
LIMITED
EDITION

1 9 9 4



YES! Save my space on Fall Limited!

No. I do not wish to sign up at this time, but I would like more information on future Limited Editions!

Name _____

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of? If so please describe:

Address _____

Church _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Roomate(s) _____

Mail to: "Fall Limited", c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Bus Stop Preference _____

INDUCTION OF THE OFFICERS

by Rosana R. Briones



The North District conducted its Conference on January 14–15, 1994. It was held at Charity Free Will Baptist Church, Itangil Dumarang Palawan.

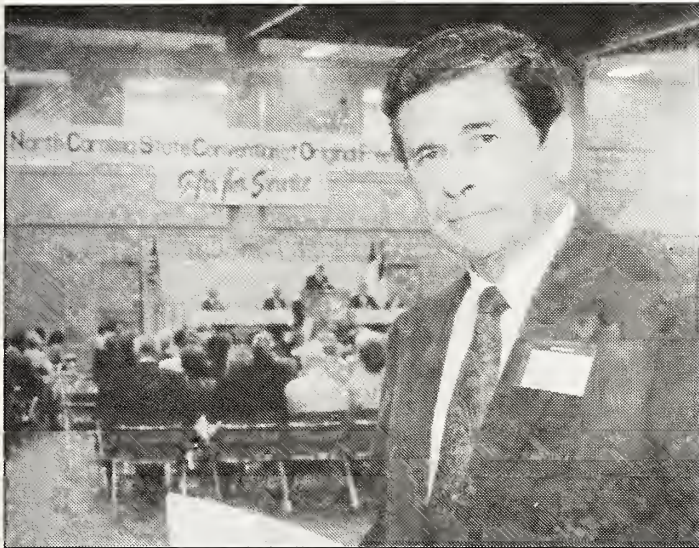
The Rev. Pio dela Rosa inducted all the Officers of the North District. They are:

- 1) Pastor Silverio Erandio—Chairman
- 2) Pastor Arturo Aspa—Vice Chairman
- 3) Sister Jocelyn Lahao-Lahao—Secretary
- 4) Pastor Lunie Lahao-Lahao—Treasurer
- 5) Sister Maria Luz Aspa—Auditor
- 6) Pastor Ernesto Tabanao—Christian Relations
- 7) Brother Reuben Solomon—Officer

The Officer in Charge of the Board of Trustees led the prayer. All Reverends and Pastors laid their hands on our new workers or officers of the North District as prayer was given.

We hope and pray that our brethren will commit themselves to doing their work through the help of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The churches of Patmos, Bethel, Spring of Life, San Jose, Charity, Taytay Centro, and Roxas joined the North District Conference. To all workers and brethren, please pray for all the Free Will Baptists and, most of all, our workers in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, Philippines.

**DR. RAPER TO RETIRE
PRESIDENCY OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
AFTER 40 YEARS
TRUSTEES BEGIN SEARCH FOR SUCCESSOR**
by Cecil Cahoon
Director of Public Information



Dr. W. Burkette Raper

MOUNT OLIVE—Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College since August 1954, said Tuesday that he has asked the College's Board of Trustees to begin the process of choosing his successor.

Raper announced his decision to the College family in his annual end of the year address. He said he has agreed to continue in the office until the next president is available.

At the request of the Board, he will remain with the college under the title of "President Emeritus" with an emphasis on major gift support, including estate planning, establishing scholarships, special projects and building the college's endowment.

Raper, a 26-year-old graduate of Duke Divinity School when he was appointed to lead the College founded by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, was the nation's youngest college president. His 40-year tenure is the nation's longest among current college and university presidents.

"I am not resigning; I am retiring from the office of president," he told faculty and staff.

Raper made the same announcement to trustees in the board's regular meeting on Saturday. "It is not my intention to enter into an inactive retirement, but rather to use my remaining time and energy in the most creative and useful ways possible," he said.

"Within the parameters of age and health, I wish to pursue with steadfast purpose establishing a significant endowment for Mount Olive College."

Trustee Chairman L. Marvin Edwards said he will appoint a search committee promptly with the goal of having a new president in office by the end of the year.

"To attempt to fill Dr. Raper's shoes is a daunting prospect," Edwards said. "We are thankful that Dr. Raper has consented to remain with the college and continue his services in the area of institutional advancement. We think this will strengthen the college in areas that he has not had the time for previously."

Raper added that no single item led to his decision.

"After 40 years, I believe it is 'the counsel of the years' to open the office of president to younger leadership," he said. "I believe that the course of wisdom is to prepare and plan for change in an orderly manner rather than to wait until age and health force change upon us at a time when we might not be prepared for it."

Raper's linkage to the history and development of Mount Olive College is a life-long relationship.

At age eight, following the death of his father, Raper was admitted to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home near Middlesex, where he lived until age 16, when he graduated from Middlesex High School. The superintendent of the Home, the Rev. James A. Evans, was instrumental in guiding Raper to continue his education at Duke University and Duke Divinity School.

Raper graduated from divinity school in 1951, the same year that the North Carolina Convention of Original Free Will Baptists voted to establish a college in North Carolina. The Rev. David W. Hansley was elected chairman of its first board of trustees.

In July 1954, Raper was pastor of Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church in Snow Hill when Hansley, representing the trustees, asked Raper to accept the presidency. The offer was accepted and Raper assumed the post on August 2. Students attended the College's first classes in Mount Olive in September.

"I came to Mount Olive College because I believe the values of Christian education are inestimable to the individual, to the church and to society. I also came because I wanted people with a vision of a good life and a desire to serve humanity to have the opportunity of an education regardless of their financial circumstances.

"The privilege of helping to build a college founded on the Christian faith and rooted in Christian values has provided me a means for paying, in part, a debt I owed to my church and to humanity. This debt was for eight years of care at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, and for the opportunity of an education at Duke University and the Duke Divinity School.

"I have always believed that there was a high destiny for which this institution was called into being. Through the years, I have been sustained not by what Mount Olive College was but by the vision of what I believed it could become. That vision has not been abated. My belief in the mission of the College and my commitment to its future remain as strong as ever," he explained.

Because he has been the only president to serve in the College's 40-year history in Mount Olive, a reading of its development is synonymous with a reading of his leadership.

The President and the College began with one dilapidated building in downtown Mount Olive, 22 students enrolled and a two-year collegiate program that focused on business, liberal arts and opportunities in religious study.

Mount Olive College is now a fully-accredited baccalaureate liberal arts institution located on a 110-acre campus with physical facilities valued at \$15 million. It offers degrees in 18 major fields and includes programming for internships and co-operative work experience.

The college has developed and maintains a record of bringing cultural events to the area through its various lecture programs, as well as leaders in state government, business and industry and the arts.

It now serves approximately 1,000 students, including those on its main campus, in extension at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and at the New Bern Center.

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE NAMED

A search committee assigned to recommend candidates for the presidency of Mount Olive College was appointed by Board of Trustees Chairman Marvin Edwards in June. The committee was appointed following President W. Burkette Raper's announcement that he would retire the office and assume other responsibilities when a successor is named.

The committee membership represents all facets of the college family: the board of trustees; faculty, staff and administration; the current student body and alumni; representatives from the Mount Olive and Wayne County community; and representatives from the regional academic community and the College's sponsoring body, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The membership includes the following:

–Dr. Eugene Sumner of Raleigh, Chair. Dr. Sumner is an alumnus of the College and is now Chair of the Department of Social Work at Meredith College. He also chairs the Academic Affairs Committee of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

–Dr. De Wayne Eakes of Lucama, Vice Chair. Dr. Eakes is an alumnus of the College and currently pastors Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church in Lucama. He also chairs the Student Development Committee of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

–William L. Hennessee Jr. of Faison. Mr. Hennessee is president of Chas. F. Cates and Sons, Inc. and serves on the Business Affairs Committee of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

–Wendell H. Murphy of Rose Hill. Mr. Murphy is chairman and chief executive officer for Murphy Farms, Inc. and serves on the Institutional Advancement Committee of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

–Nido R. Qubein of High Point. Mr. Qubein is an alumnus of the College and is now president of Creative Services, Inc. of High Point. He also chairs the Institutional Advancement Committee of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

–Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss of Goldsboro. Mrs. Ackiss is an alumna of the College and is now its Director of Church Support.

–Dr. James A. Coats of Goldsboro. Dr. Coats is chair of the College's Department of Business.

–Dr. Opey D. Jeanes of Mount Olive. Dr. Jeanes is director of the College's extension program on Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and also serves as the College's Vice President for Special Services.

–Ms. Janet Corbett of Pinetown. Ms. Corbett is president of the Mount Olive College Student Government Association, 1994-'95.

–Ms. Lorelle F. Martin of Mount Olive. Ms. Martin is professor emeritus of science at Mount Olive College, having served 30 years as chair of the Department of Science (1957-'87).

–Eugene Price of Goldsboro. Mr. Price is the former editor of the Goldsboro News-Argus.

–Dr. James W. Batten of Greenville. Dr. Batten is a retired professor and chair of the East Carolina University Department of Secondary Education.

–The Rev. C. H. Overman of Ayden. Mr. Overman is the executive administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

–L. Marvin Edwards Jr. of Wilson, member ex officio. Mr. Edwards is president of Edwards Electric, Inc. of Wilson.

–The committee is assigned to submit to the Board of Trustees' Executive Committee the names, credentials and other appropriate

information on the three candidates it considers most qualified for the Office of the President. The Executive Committee will then submit its recommendation to the full Board, which will make the final decision.

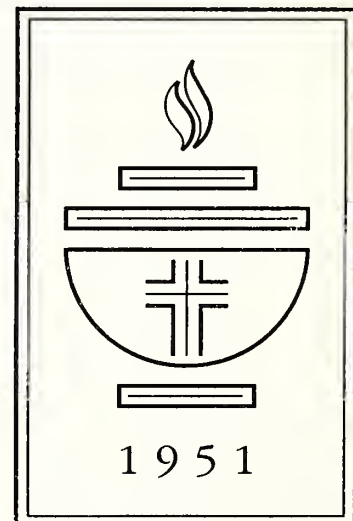
The committee requests that all nominations for and applications from candidates for the presidency be mailed to Dr. Eugene Sumner, Search Committee Chair, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365.

Qualifications for the presidency are taken from the by-laws of the College and are noted as follows: The President shall be a person who gives unqualified evidence of his/her Christian faith and commitment to the mission and purpose of the College as stated in its charter and as interpreted by the Board of Trustees. In addition, he/she shall possess and maintain those academic, professional, personal and moral qualities necessary for the Presidency of an institution of Christian higher education.

The Presidential Search Committee of Mount Olive College requests that nominations and applications for Presidential Candidates be mailed to:

Chairman of Presidential Search Committee
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365

Qualifications: The President shall be a person who gives unqualified evidence of his/her Christian faith and commitment to the mission and purpose of the College as stated in its Charter and as interpreted by the Board of Trustees. In addition, he/she shall possess and maintain those academic, professional, personal, and moral qualities necessary for the Presidency of an institution of Christian higher education.



"AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?"

by David Ealy and John Williams

I.

Me.

Mine.

"Look out for number one."

"If I want it done right, I'll have to do it myself."

"It's all up to me."

We live in a time in the United States when Individualism is the ideal. People no longer say, "No man is an island." Instead, the common thought seems to be "every man (or woman) for himself (herself)." Here in America, we pride ourselves in our laws that emphasize individual freedom and privacy; freedom of individual expression; self-reliance; and self-determination. We are free to live as we choose. We can follow our own agenda. No one can tell us what to do with our lives. Personal responsibility and individual choice are the ideas driving many of the social forces in our country, including politics, the media and especially our schools. Individualism has almost become (and *is* for some) a moral code or ideal.

"She made the decision for herself, so it was *right* for her."

"I may not like it, but if that's what he wants for himself, then he has a *right* to it.

In many ways these are all good things. We all need to take responsibility for our own actions and decisions. We are all individuals, self-contained in many ways. No one is quite like anyone else. We all have similarities, yet we are not duplicates of one another, not even when we try to be. But as long as we live around others, Individualism as an exclusive moral code will not work. It is not enough.

It is impossible to live around others and not affect each other by our "individual" choices. So often we are told to make our own decisions, do what we feel is right for us, make up our own mind. And we should. But we should also keep in mind that our choices not only affect our future but everyone else's whose lives we touch in different ways.

Think of your body. Imagine your arms moving independently of your thoughts and control. Imagine your feet wanting to walk in different directions. Imagine your heart wanting to keep the blood all to itself. Imagine your ears refusing to listen anymore because they feel they should have been eyes. Imagine your skin wanting to trade jobs with your muscles. Imagine a point where the differences in the Body justify no longer calling one another sister, brother. That is where the by-product of Individualism, *selfishness* is taking us. It is taking us into chaos, destruction and death.

But God has shown us a better way.

In Philippians 2:3-5, Paul writes:

Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others (RSV).

This statement suggests a difference between Individualism and the way God wants us to live. Individualism, the idea that self-interest is the proper goal of all human actions (*Webster's Dictionary*), is opposed to God, who said, "Do nothing from selfishness or conceit . . ." I do not believe that God wants us to forget that we have our own needs and wants and feelings. But we must look towards the needs of others *as though they were our own*. The world says we should have the freedom to individually find what makes us happy. God in Philippians says counting "others better than [ourselves]" is the way to do just that. Perhaps it is no accident that variations of the word *xapa* (cha rá, meaning *joy*) appear seven times throughout the letter.

But we live in a time when selfishness rules the day. We find it everywhere, even in the church. We see it in the person who goes to church, not for what he/she can give to God, but for what they can "get out of the service." We see it in the church that would close its doors to someone in need. We see it in the church more concerned with numbers than with making disciples. We see it in the Christian more concerned with his/her reputation or political position than in helping someone start their life over in Christ . . . and the consequences are awesome, especilaly on our teens.

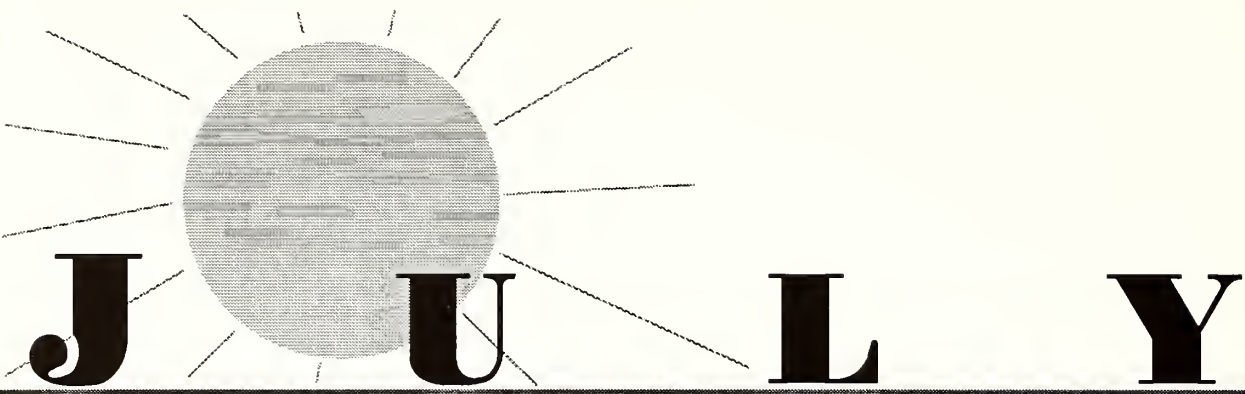
According to statistics taken from the *Witness Wear Taking Back Our Schools for Christ* campaign:

- 1,370 youth will taken an illegal drug in the next hour.
- 57% of all illicit drugs are sold on school campuses.
- In America, a teenage girl gets pregnant every 31 seconds; of these, 80% drop out of school and 70% go on welfare.
- In the past 30 years, teenage suicide has quadrupled.
- More than 60,000 young people died by suicide in the past decade; that's more than the number of Americans killed in Vietnam.

According to Philippians, we are all responsible for these numbers: both as causes and as solutions under God. In God, "Am I my brother's keeper?" takes on a different answer for a follower of Christ than a follower of individualism: the answer is *yes*. We are all responsible for keeping our youth and each other and ourselves.

We are not islands.

We are a Body.



JULY

L
30
30

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
26	27	28	29
	▲ (27-2) YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE		
3	4	5	6
	Independence Day		
	▲ (4-9) YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE		
	■ (4-8) RICHARD HOLMES, DIRECTOR		
10	11	12	13
	(11-17) Paul Palmer Conference, Georgia	Sunday School Board Headquarters, 7 PM	
	✦ FWB Materials		
	▲ (11-16) GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE		
	■ (11-15) EVA MAE		
17	18	19	20
	✦ Freshman Class Registration/Orientation		
	▲ (18-23) GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE		
	■ (18-22) STANLEY		
24	25	26	27
	Wayne County Sunday School Fellowship, May's Chapel		
	▲ (25-30) YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE		
	■ (25-29) JOE RAD		
31			

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRES

E N D

us/following month
t month

- ◇ Children's Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- ✚ FWB Convention News
- ✚ FWB Press Deadline
- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- ✻ Mount Olive College
- ★ Union Meeting
- Vandemere
- ✻ Woman's Auxiliary

THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2
A) — SCOTT & JANIE SOWERS, DIRECTORS/REGISTRARS		
7	8	9
◆ Executive Board Meeting Elmer Harrell's Office, Snow Hill, 7 PM		
E (AFC) — DOUG SKINNER, DIRECTOR/REGISTRAR MASON MODLIN, CO-DIRECTOR		
14	15	16
CE II — CHRIS SINGLETON, DIRECTOR/REGISTRAR ARK, DIRECTOR		
21	22	23
★ 2nd Western, Rock Springs		
INCE I — BRYANT HINES, DIRECTOR/REGISTRAR CK, DIRECTOR		
28	29	30
★ 5th Eastern, Juniper Chapel, 10 AM ★ 2nd Pee Dee ★ 1st Western, Pleasant Plain		
ERENCE — DONALD MASON, DIRECTOR/REGISTRAR IF, DIRECTOR		

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

Designed By: J. David Ealy, Tracy A. McCoy, & Darren E. Davenport

Part V

On the New Delhi Road to Agra, Ghandi's Memorial, the Red Fort, First Glimpse of Complex, Elusive India

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

Harold and Sandra Jones managed to get Alma Dale, Mike Scott, Paul Anderson, Delbert and Lib Scott as well as me on the Thai flight from Manila to New Delhi. Providence would have it, however, for fog to cover the Delhi airport so that we were diverted to Muscat, Oman. By the time we managed to reach Delhi and unload, we were six hours late.

Undaunted, Dr. Emmanuel Lall, the Founder and Moderator of the Free Will Baptist church in India and Nepal, was waiting for us with a bus and fresh flowers. Guards in green uniforms flooded the airport as did turban-wearing Sikhs (their hair is often not cut and is stuck up under the turban). Sikhs are followers of Sikhism, a Hindu sect founded by Guru Nanak about A.D. 1500 in the Punjab.

Flies seemed to be all over the place, especially in corners of the bus windows. Black cabs with yellow tops riproared through airport lanes while people swarmed everywhere—India is a land of 900 million people.

“Welcome to India!” cried Dr. Lall as he got us comfortably situated on the bus. No one had any idea he had waited for us from nine until three, left and then came back six hours later. He knew the flight had been diverted because thick fog swallowed the airport.

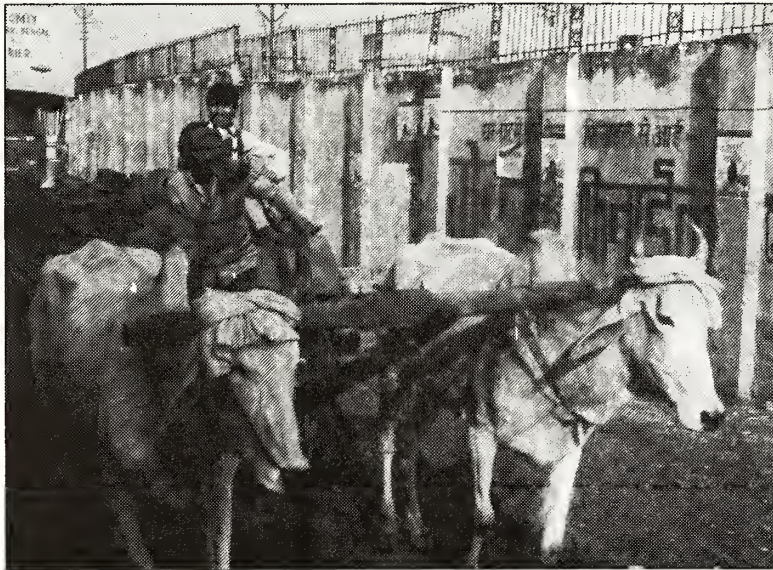
As we began to move through New Delhi, the diversity of India haphazardly emerged. Motorcycles zoomed past us while women washed clothes in tubs outside their cement dwellings. A billboard—ENJOY CAMPA-COLA—alerted us to the presence of not Coca-Cola but an imitation soft drink the Indians were trying to promote.

Tricycles appeared—small vehicles with one front wheel and two wheels in the back. Another billboard drew attention to India's emancipation from British rule—GRADUATE TO THE TIMES—THE TIMES OF INDIA.

Scoters mingled with buses, trucks, cabs, bicycles, tricycles. The road seemed a universe of activity, nothing forbidden.

Dr. Lall tried to introduce us to some facts about India. He indicated that Delhi is the capital of the Republic of India and has

a population from 15 to 16 million people. He noted that India has approximately 14 million slum dwellers—a terrifying figure of poverty.



The sacred Shiva bull often demands the right-of-way on streets.

The principal languages of India are Hindi and English, both of which Dr. Lall speaks fluently. Politically, India is divided into 25 states and seven union territories. Dr. Lall is from the state of Uttar Pradesh whose capital is Lucknow. Dr. Lall's home is in Bareilly where we stayed for three nights.

Proud of Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Lall noted, “My state is the biggest state of all the states! My state is a history-making state. We produce prime ministers except for the present one who is from the south. My state has the majority of parliamentary members in the

government of India,” he declared.

During the drive from New Delhi to Agra, activity boomed. People sat in small store-like booths as well as outside. Everything was for sale: peanuts, bananas, apples, candy, beetle nuts, cauliflower, cabbage, tea.

On the road were farmers, driving their oxen with goods, cows, goats, dogs. Everybody and everything felt the freedom of the road, as if the one space that was negotiable was the dusty avenue. As the bus slowed from time to time, people would come to the windows to peddle wares. Once a beggar woman stepped inside, and Dr. Lall gave her some rupees, but what he gave her was not enough. She complained vehemently.

Heavy trucks were everywhere, and our driver dared them to refuse to let him maneuver. I kept moving around the bus to try to find a safer place. I mumbled that I would say nothing and wear a crash helmet the next day.

“You see more people doing more things than any other people in the world,” said Harold Jones.

A woman passed us with a basket of rice on her head. Animals moved in the mud outside adobe homes as if to claim as much importance to the household as human life.

(Continued on next page)

Oxen appeared again on the road. Dr. Lall laughed, "The basic road in our country is one in which everything goes."

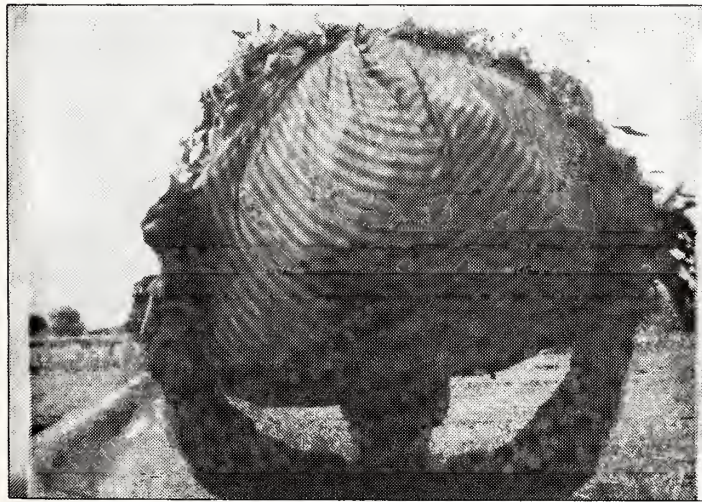
At a checkpoint between New Delhi and Agra, an Indian boy paraded a python around his neck. A wagon packed with wood pulled up beside us while a lady beggar continued to make her stops along the checkpoint route. Cow dung covered the land.

Dr. Lall continued to talk about Uttar Pradesh which received its name in 1950. In 1946, after Britain agreed to give India its independence, a constituent assembly elected by the provincial assemblies framed a constitution, which came into force on January 26, 1950. Power was divided with a central parliamentary system as well as central and state governments. Of the current states, Uttar Pradesh boasts more than 138 million people.

Poverty is rampant in India. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi promised to remove poverty in a bid for popular support, but the economic situation in the 1960s deteriorated with unemployment, rising prices, shortages. She was assassinated in October 1984. Her son, Rajiv Gandhi, was appointed Prime Minister, but he himself was assassinated in May 1991. Congress then chose an elderly southerner, N.V. Narasimha Rao, to become prime minister.

As we moved on the road from Delhi to Agra, huge oil trucks were everywhere, as well as straying cows, sheep, goats. Once I thought our bus was going to hit an oil rig head on. Harold Jones told us all to relax, that a Guardian Angel was with us. All I could think was that I hoped the Guardian Angel was rested and awake, and that this appointed Guardian Angel would get a good night's sleep for tomorrow.

As night edged its way into time, lights glowed from little roadside stores. Drivers honked horns perpetually as they passed one another in absolute defiance of a two-lane major road. Mud was everywhere as well as people.



Men carrying heavy loads of crops on their heads were often seen from New Delhi to Agra.

NEW DELHI

Mention of New Delhi is important, because Dr. Lall stressed its crucial role as the capital of the Republic of India. New Delhi is famous now for its political center, the embassies and High Commission offices, handicrafts and underground market (which was a packed-people walk that made it difficult for our group to find one another). Delhi is also famous for its gold and silver ornaments and jewelry as well as brass carvings and embroidery.

Dr. E. M. Lall escorted us through New Delhi to Agra.



Mrs. E. M. Lall welcomes us to India with warmth, graciousness, and generosity.



Dehi is the site of a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi who was assassinated by a Hindu fanatic in Delhi on January 30, 1948. Gandhi had campaigned for persecuted Muslims, and a Hindu fanatic shot him while Gandhi was on his way to daily prayer in a garden. Mahatma (Great Soul) Gandhi had been a controversial figure from the day he returned to India from South Africa in 1915. He waged a moral protest against British Rule, using Thoreau's technique of civil disobedience—a procedure of peacefully defying existing laws and willingly going to jail.

In 1930 Gandhi launched a 155 mile Salt March to protest the British monopoly on salt production. By 1947 partition and independence came to India but not without violence. Mahatma Gandhi wept in Calcutta over the violence and loss of human compassion. He wept over the tensions among Hindus and Muslims. Though assassinated in Delhi in 1947, he was cremated on the banks of the Yamuna.

As the eight of us stood before Mahatma Gandhi's memorial in Delhi, we felt his presence—the presence of a Great Soul in a city teeming with traffic, trade, and tribulations.

RED FORT (LAL QILA)

The Red Fort (Lal Qila) is reputed to be the most magnificent, even dazzling of all Indian royal palaces because of its red sandstone, impressive walls, exquisite towers.

Begun in A.D. 1639 by the famous Mogul Emperor Shah Jehan at the right bank of the Yamuna River, it took more than nine years to complete it. The famous architect Mukarrrmat Khan was in charge.

Our group spent a morning at the Red Fort. We tried to imagine the glory of its beauty in the seventeenth century when Shah Jehan

covered the floors with silk carpets and the ceilings with velvet. Beautiful marble gave the fort a level of grandeur.

The main entrance to the Red Fort is the Lahore Gate—a feast of crowned towers, marble domes. This gate leads into Chatta Chawk, a covered bazaar for the elite. We found ourselves facing a world of carved stone, painted boxes, silk, carpets, jewels. The vaulted hall of unique shops was 268 feet of elusive crafts. Harold Jones had to drag us through the bazaar to get us deeper into the Red Fort.

Numerous red stone buildings comprise the Red Fort. Arcaded cloisters as well as the Emperor's seat can be seen.

The Emperor would sit on his seat, hear applications, dispense justice.

In the building called the Rang Mahal is a water route where lotus flowers used to float.

The marble pavilion, Diwan-i-Khas, was built with carved pillars inlaid with precious jewels. Here Shah Jehan sat on his Peacock Throne. The silver ceiling was jeweled so that candlelight created special effects.

Though the Red Fort epitomizes the splendor of seventeenth-century royal life, Shah Jehan's bliss faced the reality of disease. In 1657, Shah Jehn became ill. His four sons plotted against him to get the throne. The third son, Aurangzeb, defeated the heir apparent, imprisoned his father, murdered his youngest brother, Murad Bakhsh, and his oldest brother, Dara Shukoh. Shah Jehan was deposed in 1658 and died in 1666.

So much for the glory, power, and permanence of Shah Jehan and his Red Fort.



The main entrance to the Red Fort is the Lahore Gate. This gate leads into Chatta Chawk, a covered bazaar.



The Red Fort (Lal Qila) is reputed to be the most magnificent, even dazzling of all Indian royal palaces because of its red sandstone.

INDIA GATE, NEW DELHI

From the Red Fort to the India Gate we went under the leadership of Dr. Lall. The India Gate is an Indian War Monument to World War I (1914-18) veterans who died in combat. The inscription on the gate reads: "To the dead of the Indian armies who fell honored in France and Flanders, Mesopotamia and Persia East Africa, Gallipoli and elsewhere in the near and the far-east and in sacred memory also of those whose names are recorded and who fell in India on the north-west frontier and during the Third World War" (their war for independence).

ELUSIVE INDIA

Flies covered the landscape as people flooded the New Delhi streets, swarming more a feeling with tricycles, scooters, buses, cabs competing for space while billboards with CAMP-COLA sought the eye, the sky forbidden in the land of Uttar Pradesh. Dialects flourished like coins words thick as rice fields to feed the millions. From New Delhi to Agra one road stretched, people selling everything from peanuts to bananas, apples, candy, beetle nut, cauliflower, cabbage, tea. Merchandise a thing of needs as if people might pay for something, however small. Buses lined the road to Agra until traffic tightened; wheels locked in mud to give the boy with a python a chance to sell his snake for a moment around a stranger's neck. Beggars banged doors of cars and asked for more, something never enough, needs magnified to nourish the undernourished or the grand performer on the road's stage. Ghandi's soft spirit seemed a thing left behind, scattered as ashes across the Yamuna River, his presence lost in a nation teeming with traffic, trade, tribulations. Gone too was the grandeur of Shah Jehan, his silk carpets and velvet ceilings a record rather than reality: grandeur now a tourist trap to show marble, gates, and a covered bazaar where pagan beauty reigned amidst the land of cow dung and red sandstone. India swelled in the heat of numbers, the majestic gate of New Delhi a reminder of lost lives in France, Flanders, Gallipoli and lost lives now in the land of independence and poverty.

—Pepper Worthington



WHAT MY PARENTS DID RIGHT

The following article is one in a series of three entitled "What My Parents Did Right" which was a Youth Sunday project sponsored by Sidney Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School. Over the next few months, we will hear from three college students who attend Sidney and are able to validate just how important Christian parenting is.

These days it seems that all you hear on TV and read in the papers is about crime and immorality. Many of the people who do these things blame their actions on their parents and on their environment. I believe that many times a child's upbringing can influence the way that he will live his life in the years to come, whether it be for the good or the bad.

God gives parents the command in Proverbs 22:6 to "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." My parents obeyed this command in rearing me. They were firm believers in Hebrews 10:25 which says: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together . . ." They took me to church every time anything was happening. If church was cancelled because of bad weather, our living room became the church.

I'm sure that all of you have heard the saying "The family that prays together stays together." Through the good times and the hard times our family has found this to be true.

Another thing that my parents did right was to sacrifice their time and money to do what they thought the Lord would have them do for me. An example of this is that they sacrificed their money to send me to a Christian school my whole life to get a well-rounded

Christian education. Being in a Christian school not only gave me a good education, but also helped to train me spiritually on how to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord.

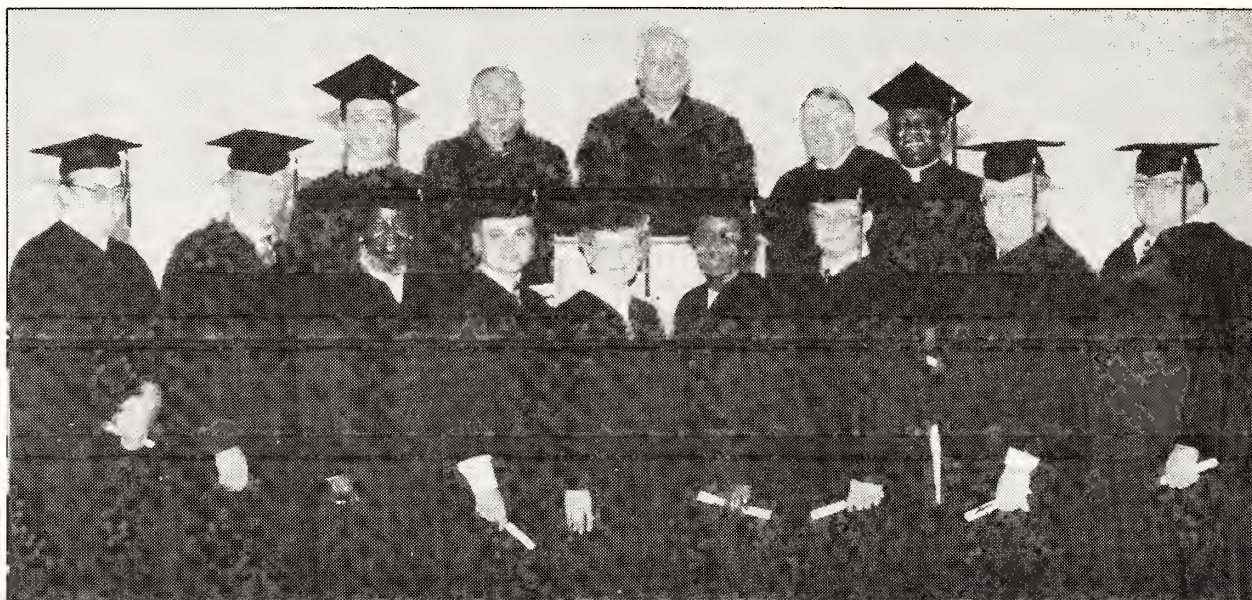
My parents did a lot of other things for me. When I had doubts in myself and in my abilities, they always encouraged me and helped build up my self-confidence. They trained me that "honesty is the best policy." They taught me that money and popularity are not the most important things in life. They taught me the scripture: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you." They also taught me that the Golden Rule really is true: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

I believe that if more parents were like mine and would follow the instructions that God gave us in His Word, we would find our world a much more Godly and better place to live.



Amanda Jones is a junior at Mount Olive College pursuing a degree in Business Management. She along with her parents Don and Zinkie Jones attend Sidney Free Will Baptist Church.

CAROLINA BIBLE INSTITUTE



Pictured (L-R, Front Row : James Summerlin, Jerry Stephenson, Gwyndoln Earp, Charles Norris Jr., Lucy Copeland, Nancy Speight, Scotty Casey, Allen Stanley, Charlie Carroll. (Back Row): Joseph (Joey) Williams, Dr. Floyd Cherry, Dr. Joseph Ingram, Dr. Cedric Pierce, Lacy Cochrane

May 20, 1994 was Graduation Day at Carolina Bible Institute and Seminary in Pine Level, North Carolina. It was an exciting time for us here at the school and those students that have worked hard to meet the requirements for participation in this exercise. We congratulate those that were included. We had a total of 14 to receive Certificates of Completion and Diplomas during this occasion. They were in the following categories:

HOME STUDY BIBLE PROGRAM

Donald Ray Cherry, Phoenix City, AL
 Lucy Copeland, Bethel, NC
 William Davis, Clayton, NC
 Charles Norris Jr., Benson, NC
 Nancy Speight, Snow Hill, NC

BIBLE INSTITUTE PROGRAM

Charlie C. Carroll, Clayton, NC
 Eric Henry Hurst, Durham, NC

ASSOCIATE OF MINISTRIES

Scotty William Casey, Clayton, NC
 Gwendolyn S. Earp, Selma, NC
 Allen Wayne Stanley, Selma, NC
 Jerry V. Stephenson, Pikeville, NC
 James M. Summerlin, Wilson, NC
 Joseph (Joey) Williams, Greenville, NC

SEMINARY (THG) DEGREE

Gwendolyn S. Earp, Selma, NC
 Lacy Cochrane, Augusta, GA
 Jerry V. Stephenson, Pikeville, NC

Our speaker for the occasion was Dr. Floyd Cherry, founder and Chancellor of the school.

The graduates were joined by about 200 friends and relatives for this occasion. This was one of the largest graduations in the history of Carolina Bible Institute and Seminary.

We request that you continue to pray for the Students, Faculty and Staff of this institution.

Since the day of Graduation, two of those listed above, Scotty Casey and Charlie Carroll, have passed the examination of the Ordination Board of the Western Conference and both are taking their places in the pastoring of churches. Both of these are now actively pastoring churches. Our congratulations to each of these.

SUMMER SCHOOL

July 11-22, 1994 will be the second session of Summer School at Carolina Bible Institute and Seminary. Classes will begin at 7:00 p.m. each night on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week. The class to be taught this session will be on "Methods of Teaching." This subject should be of interest to many of our church Sunday School teachers and will be taught with the Sunday School teacher in mind. For further information or to register for Summer School, call or write the Carolina Bible Institute. Telephone (919) 965-6364 or (919) 284-6106. Mailing address: Carolina Bible Institute and Seminary, P.O. Box 280, Pine Level, NC 27568.

1994 LIFE

MEMBERSHIP AWARD

by Leah McGlohon and Sarah W. Parker



Becky Jo receives Life Membership Award from Leah McGlohon.

The woman whom we are honoring today could not be honored as a mother last Sunday because she is a single lady; but there are a lot of young people who probably think of her as a second mother because as a friend put it: "Her main thrust has always been the children."

Listed below are some of the things she has worked with many years, according to this friend:

"She accepted Christ at an early age and serves Him faithfully at home, in the district, and in the state level of work with the children and with women. Her main thrust has always been the children.

She has directed our church Christmas plays for many years.

She has written Christmas plays, pre-Christmas, pre-Thanksgiving, and pre-Easter programs for our church.

She has been in charge of our church Christmas float in the Ahoskie Christmas parade for many years. She works with our youth in all their local, district, and state competitions.

She has taught study courses in various districts in the state.

She was a member of the Woman's Auxiliary Executive Committee when she served as State Youth Chairman. During this time she visited all the districts in

the state and attended Youth Conventions in all the conferences.

She has taught many times at the Women's Conferences at Cragmont."

By this time, I feel sure that you recognize that the lady we are honoring today is Becky Jo Sumner.

Becky Jo was born and grew up near Ahoskie, North Carolina. After graduating from Ahoskie High School, she began her college education at Mount Olive College. While there, she was on the dean's list and visited many churches as spokesperson for the College. She was also selected as "Outstanding Young Woman of America" while she was there.

Since Mount Olive College was not a four-year college at that time, she completed her education at Campbell College where she graduated with honors. After graduating, she returned to Hertford County and began her teaching career. She has taught in the public school system for 24 years. "Becky Jo has devoted her life to the teaching of young people, not only to the youth of our church, but to the youth of her school and the youth from all over the state of North Carolina," wrote a friend.

Becky Jo has also served our denomination very well. For four years she served our Convention as State Youth Chairman. During the time that she served, the Youth Convention grew from a one-day Convention to a weekend Convention. She has also served in the Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention as president, youth chairman, and missions chairman. She has also written programs and installations for our program book, *Devotion*. She was named recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for her service in professional, church, and civic activities from Mount Olive College.

Cragmont Assembly is dear to her heart. She spends her summers working at Cragmont. She doesn't feel that she gives up anything because Cragmont is her pride

and joy. For several years she also served our Convention as co-director of the Cragmont Woman's Conferences in the summer, as well as the Morning Star Conference in the spring and Cornerstone in the fall. Although she is no longer a co-director, she still can be counted on to work in the conferences.

"Summer camp for the youth at Hickory Chapel would not be the same without Becky Jo, for we know when we put our children on that bus, when they get there, they have a second 'parent' looking after them during their week at camp. She takes care of all their needs, whether it be emotional, spiritual or financial. She makes sure their week at camp is a joyful one," wrote Marilyn Carter in *The Free Will Baptist* when Hickory Chapel honored her with a Life Membership Award in February 1991 after she resigned as Youth Chairman at Hickory Chapel. However, she still works with some of the youth for the State Youth Conventions.

Presently Becky Jo is serving as Promotional Secretary of the N.C. State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues, a part of which is to direct the Bible Sword drills. She was instrumental in getting the League Convention, which is small, to meet at Mount Olive College at the same time as the State Youth Convention in 1995.

She still works with the youth, teaches a League class, and teaches the Young Adult Sunday School Class at Hickory Chapel Church.

For all the things Becky Jo has done through the years for the youth, our denomination, and especially our Woman's Auxiliary convention, it is with great pleasure that we give to her this Life Membership Award representing the Albemarle District.

(Presented at the N.C. Woman's Auxiliary Convention, which met at Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Dunn on May 12, 1994.)

ANNUAL CONVENTION HELD AT LEE'S CHAPEL



The North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention held the Sixty-seventh Annual Session at Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in the Cape Fear District on May 12, 1994. There were 214 in attendance.

The theme was "Rekindling The Fire." The theme Scripture was taken from II Timothy 1:6, "... stir up the gift of God, which is in thee ..."

Judy Tucker, Program-Prayer Chairman of the Piedmont District, gave the devotion using the theme Scripture. The welcome was given by Frances Phillips, Program-Prayer Chairman of the Cape Fear District, and the response was given by Louise Cartrette, Program-Prayer Chairman of the Pee Dee District. Esteline Tart, President of the Lee's Chapel Auxiliary, gave directions and announcements.

Carolyn Jernigan, President, brought greetings and challenged us concerning the 1994 theme, "Stepping Up To Jesus." She then recognized local, district and state officers, delegates, visitors, ministers and ministry representatives.

Mr. Cliff Gray, of the Free Will Baptist Press, introduced Ms. Tracy McCoy, the new editor. She is a recent graduate of Mount Olive College.

The Rev. Harold Jones represented Foreign Missions. He announced that Willem and Lydia van der Plas will be arriving in North Carolina July 19 for a three month furlough. They will be speaking at the Cragmont Woman's Conference August 1-5, 1994.

Leah McGlohon of the Life Membership Committee presented the award to Becky Jo Sumner of the Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie. She is a very worthy and dedicated worker of the Lord.

The worship service began with the hymn, "Cleanse Me." The Rev. Phillip Boykin, pastor of Lee's Chapel Church, prayed the offertory, followed by Alma Dale who sang "My Desire" as special music. Madge Van Horne, Program-Prayer Chairman of the Albemarle District, presented Phoebe Davenport who brought the message. Her subject was "Falling Walls." She said that we should use our talents to win souls. The congregation joined in singing "Praise Him, Praise Him" and "Jesus Is Lord Of All."

The Rev. C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator, represented the Denominational Ministries whose directors were absent. Tina Allen talked about the Children's Home, the Rev. Bruce Dudley spoke for Home Missions, Becky Jo Sumner represented Cragmont, Dianne Riley reported for Mount Olive College.

The Rev. Mike Ledbetter asked God's blessings on the lunch.

The afternoon session opened with the congregation singing "Rejoice in the Lord Always," followed by "Touch Me Again Lord" sung by Alma Dale and Jean Ackiss.

Audrey Quinn, Program-Prayer Chairman of the Eastern District, read Scripture and prayed. The Memorial Service was conducted by Ramona Norman, Program-Prayer Chairman of the Central District.

The business session opened with reports from the various committees.

Lizzie Dawson installed the officers for 1994-96. She used various parts of a car and its function to describe the duties of each officer.

It was a truly a great day in the Lord. Alma Buck at the piano and Alma Dale as song leader were truly a blessing.

Ruth L. Warrick
Corresponding Secretary

DEEP RUN CHURCH RECOGNIZES WOMAN



Shirley Griffin—Deep Run Church

The Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary honored Shirley Williams Griffin as 1994 "Woman of the Year" during the morning worship service on Sunday, May 8. Mrs. Griffin is the wife of Odell "Dick" Griffin. They reside at Route 1, Deep Run, NC. Mr. and Mrs. Griffin have been blessed with four children and five grandchildren.

Mrs. Griffin was born and grew up in a farmhouse down the road from Deep Run Church. As a young girl, she wanted so much to go to church, that she would walk down the long dirt path from her home to the dirt road that led to Deep Run Church. Through the years, Mrs. Griffin has continued to set wonderful examples for many through her ever willingness to reach out a helping hand and to hug someone that needed it. She has led many to the Lord and to the House of the Lord.

Mrs. Griffin has been very active in the church and community. Some of these activities include Church YFA, Sunday School teacher, Woman's Auxiliary officer, temporary Mom to children from the Middlesex Orphanage, officer and member of the Deep Run Fire Department Auxiliary, helped out with community fundraisers, Deep Run Cub Scouts Den Mother, church choir member for more than 30 years, church clerk for 20 years, Vacation Bible School teacher, and many more. Deep Run Church is very fortunate to have such a special lady.

The Woman's Auxiliary presented Mrs. Griffin with an engraved silver tray and corsage. She was also given a cross stitch "Mother's Day" poem by her family.

Phyllis Connor Stone



Phyllis Connor Stone

Phyllis was born October 4, 1950 in McDowell County, North Carolina. She has three children: Gollie, 25; Teela, 22; and Lora, 19. Her hobbies include cross stitch, crafts, baking, and reading.

Phyllis is an active person at Cragmont and in the Black Mountain community. Memorial Day (May 28, 1994) saw her tenth anniversary as the secretary at Cragmont. "I can't believe I've survived John all these years!," she says smiling. "Of course, John's had to survive me too!" Not only does she enjoy planning and co-hosting the *Limited Edition* trips with Arlinda, but she also volunteers with the *Girl Scouts* (now going on fifteen years). She also attends Mountain View Baptist Church (she has been there 23 years) where she is the Assistant Sunday School Director.

Life can be hard sometimes, she says solemnly. In the past several years, Phyllis has seen many trials and tribulations in her life, including the passing of her father, Dewey Connor, and her husband, Sid Stone. But "my Cragmont family and friends helped me through these times and many others."

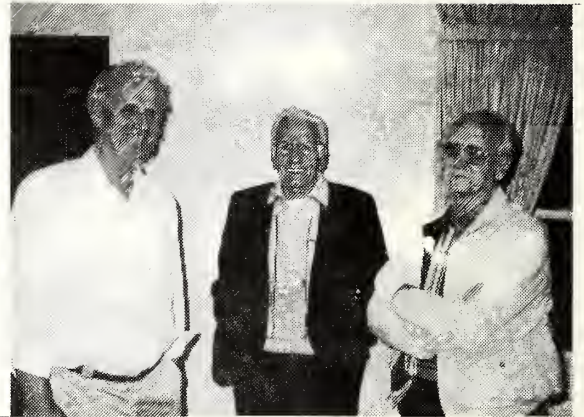
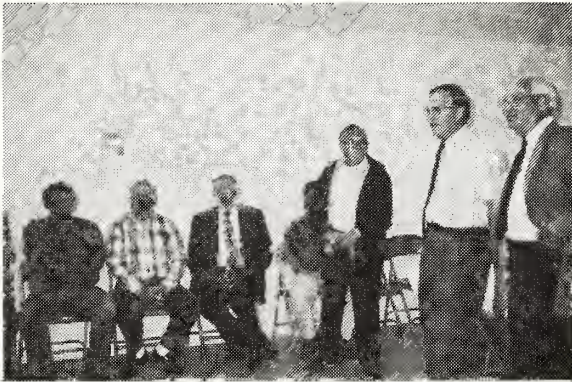
In her short term future, Phyllis looks forward to "surviving more years with John and David" as well as "watching Arlinda and John handle Alison's start at driving and dating." Further in the future, she looks to retire in possibly 20 years, enjoying her future grandchildren and having an empty house (Her daughter, Teela, was married in June)!

Phyllis sees a debt free Cragmont in the near future. With this burden gone, she also expects more programs to be offered and several renovations to occur.

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

On the Move with the Layman's League



PRESIDENT MEETS WITH CAPE FEAR LAYMEN

On Friday evening, March 25, 1994, laymen from the Cape Fear churches were invited to Lee's Chapel Church to discuss being organized by the State Layman's League.

Approximately 34 laymen and 6 preachers enjoyed a fellowship meal.

Pastors and laymen from Lee's Chapel, Haymount, Smyrna, Powhatan, and Genesis were presented a program about the Original Free Will Baptist Layman's League Program by Brother Elmer Harrell, State Layman's League President. A discussion period followed, with much interest being shown by all present.

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

On the Move With the Layman's League



LAYMAN'S LEAGUE MEET AT HARRELL'S CHAPEL

On May 6, 1994, the State Layman's League of the Original Free Will Baptist met at Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Snow Hill. At the meeting the Layman's League honored a special friend who has supported us from our very beginning. That man is the Rev. C. L. Patrick. Members of his family were in attendance as we honored him. Words of encouragement and praise were offered by State President Elmer Harrell, J. M. Langley, Paul Beaman and Randy Beaman. Larry Head dedicated a solo to Mr. Patrick, Rex Wainwright sent him a rose, Randy Beaman presented him with a picture scrapbook of the Layman's League. President Harrell, on behalf of the State Layman's League, presented Mr. Patrick with a special plaque. For all his wisdom and support as our advisor and now honorary advisor, we say thank you and we love you Preacher Patrick!

ATTENTION ALL LAYMEN!

If you need information on the Layman's League, please contact Elmer Harrell at (919) 747-2894 or John Newton at (919) 823-3049.

If you have information on happenings of your Layman's League for *The Free Will Baptist*, please send to Randy Beaman, 1105 Grovemont Drive, C-3, Greenville, NC 27834 or call (919) 830-5592.

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If you should desire to eat at the camp during a week of camp activities: Breakfast is \$3.00; Lunch is \$3.50; and Supper is \$4.00.

We now have a Family Sleeping Lodge which can accommodate up to 6 people in each apartment. The rates are \$30.00 for up to three people or \$50.00 for six people.

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Each camper is responsible for his own linens, towels, and personal toilet articles.

A week of camp begins at 10 a.m. on Monday and closes by 10 a.m. on Friday.

Some directors may wish to have off-campus trips. The camp will not be responsible for off-campus meals.

Your prayerful and financial support is encouraged. Send donations to: Mrs. Judy Kennedy, 933 N. N.C. 41, Pink Hill, NC 28572.

NEW CHURCH TO ORGANIZE IN ROANOKE RAPIDS

On Wednesday night, October 20, 1993, ten adult people met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Howard to pray and make plans to begin a new Free Will Baptist work in Roanoke Rapids, NC. This new endeavor was launched with the Rev. Larry W. Barbour as pastor and the name Roanoke Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church was chosen.

During the next several months the Lord blessed this new work and it grew slowly but steady. With the new people coming in along with the original people, the church decided it was time to become full church status. On Wednesday night, April 20, 1994, exactly six months after its beginning, the people voted 100% to petition the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists to become organized into a church and become a member of the Conference. A letter of this decision was sent to the Rev. Ray Wells, moderator of the Western Conference on April 26, 1994.

On Monday night, June 6, 1994, the Western Conference Executive Committee including the Revs. Ray Wells, Joe Ingram, Charles Renfrow, and Mr. Cliff Gray met with seventeen adults of the Roanoke Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church in the First Citizens Bank main building on Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids. We discussed and investigated the soon reality of becoming an organized church. After about an hour and a half of questions and discussions the committee dismissed themselves and came back with the following decision: "To grant the establishment of a new work of the Original Free Will Baptist Church at Roanoke Rapids known as the Roanoke Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church and suggesting that the Rev. Joe Ingram be made liaison for the Western Conference to give guidance to the Rev. Larry Barbour and the brethren." The motion was made by Brother Renfrow with a second by Brother Ingram and was passed by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

The date set for the special organizational service is Sunday, July 17, 1994 at 3 p.m. at the Seventh Day Adventist Church located on Smith Church Road in Roanoke Rapids. All ministers and friends of this new work are invited to attend including any and all of those in the denominational ministries. If you are unable to attend, please pray for us and come visit us at anytime.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

"... God Is Able ... (2 Corinthians 9:8)

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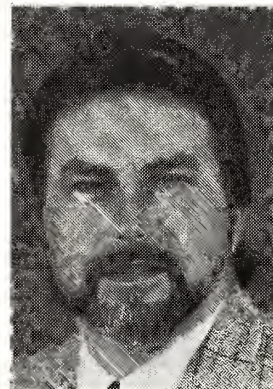
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Rev. Martin Ray McWilliams

NEW PASTOR

The Rev. Martin Ray McWilliams will begin pastorate of the First Free Will Baptist Church, 314 West Lenoir Street, Kinston, North Carolina on June 19, 1994.

The Rev. McWilliams, his wife, Joellen, and daughters, Abby and Grace are coming to this area from Zion Church in Blakely, Georgia.

The church will be hosting a "get acquainted" reception for the McWilliams' family later in July.

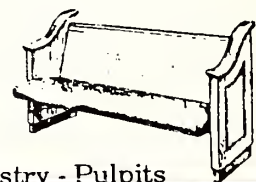
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SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

Sunday School Charms



DEAR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

by Arelene Creswell

You probably don't remember me. I was one of many little kids who graced your Sunday School class. I came to you dressed up looking my best in my Sunday clothes, looking like somebody's darling, but sincerely wishing I was somewhere else. I squirmed and fidgeted during your story of Noah, and said I didn't care why God sent the flood; I wanted my daddy.

In junior high I was the one who passed notes to Tommy; the one who tricked Paula into reading the seventh chapter of Solomon's Song for a Sunday School devotional; the one who insisted you explain (in front of the whole class) who Jesus would decide to save if two people were drowning.

I was the one in the college class (just before I "dropped out" entirely) who asked you, as you spoke of God's unconditional love, if it really mattered anyway, since rumor had it God was dead.

But one dreadful night, dear teachers, my world crashed in around me. Fear, and bitterness, and depression threatened to push me across that fine line that separates the rational from the

otherwise. In my utter desperation I cried out to the God you had assured me existed. I begged Him to rescue me from myself, to save me, to show me the way to Him. Jesus responded to me, dear teachers, through a verse you patiently prodded me to memorize one Sunday as I squirmed and fidgeted in my Sunday best. "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father, except by me." He comforted me during that long, lonely night as I repeated those precious verses you taught me year after year. The truth and strength of those passages provided a lifeline at the end of my rope, a footbridge across that terrifying chasm between darkness and light.

You probably don't remember me, dear Sunday School teachers, but I remember you. How eternally grateful I will be for your patience, your persistence, and your love. How sorry I am that I have lost track of you, and can't come to you and hug you, and share with you my glorious (though belated) discovery that He lives and He loves me just like you said all along.





PROJECT SOLUTION UPDATE

In the June issue of "Notes and Quotes" we gave brief comments and information relative to the first phase of "Project Solution," the meeting of the Task Force Committee at Cragmont Assembly on April 17-20, 1994.

The original projection of Project Solution was to continue it for several years relative to the completion of the self study and evaluation of our denomination. From the beginning, however, we knew that the Project would have to be developed and adjustments made as we moved along. Those involved have now concluded that to move too slowly might harm the purpose of the overall project which is to "meet the challenge of church growth in all areas." It may be that all the self-study and evaluations can be completed by the 1995 Convention meeting. Thus, any proposed "solutions" can be incorporated into the new five-year theme for 1995-2000.

The first two phases of Project Solution have been initiated; the task-force committee has met and the research committee has begun its work. There will be other meetings of the task-force as necessitated by other phases of the Project.

Phase three is next. This will be a joint meeting of the task-force committee, the research committee and the ministry directors. This meeting is scheduled for July 12, 1994, in the Fellowship Hall of First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, beginning at 10 a.m. Other phases of Project Solution are being planned and will be implemented throughout our next fiscal year. In perhaps the last phase of the Project, pastors will be asked to carry out a self-study of their churches and set forth their major concerns and needs regarding our denomination.

We realize that this project will require the cooperation of all—churches, ministries, and ministers. In the interest of the advancement of His Kingdom and in regards to the future of Free Will Baptists, we must work together in unity and purpose in the accomplishment of His purpose.

THE POSITIVE SIDE

In my visits to the various churches, I have observed many good things taking place. There is concern about the denomination, its growth, future, etc. Concern leads to decision and action, challenges that will be accepted and met. Overall, however, we have

noted a wonderful fellowship, and an interest in ministering to all. We thank the pastors for the work they are doing, and for the support of their church families. We are in this work together and our endeavors must be sought together.

A TRIBUTE

Among the ministers who were instrument in my early months and years as a young minister was the Rev. James A. Evans, now Dr. James A. Evans. The awarding of the first honorary degree to Brother Evans by Mount Olive College was a fitting honor to one of our outstanding ministers. We congratulate Brother Evans and commend Mount Olive College for its awarding of the Doctor of Divinity upon such a worthy recipient.

There is much that we could write about "Uncle Jim," but we'll do it later.



The Rev. C. H. Overman, Dr. James Evans, The Rev. J. B. Narron (Photo by Cecil Cahoon)

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family:

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. There come times when decisions are made that affect many people. By now most of you know that Mrs. Janie Sowers has left The Free Will Baptist Press in order to further her education. We, at the Press, wish her God's blessing.

Now the editorial responsibility has been given to me. I look forward to the challenge and responsibility that lies ahead. One of my main responsibilities is working on *The Free Will Baptist*. This monthly magazine serves as the voice of our denomination. It cannot be part in our publication. This is where the Church plays a vital part in our publication.

I invite each of you to send any news stories, announcements, or upcoming events that would be of concern to our denomination. In order to serve you better and more efficiently, we request that anything you want published, arrive in our office no later than the 10th of the month prior to the issue you wish for it to be published.

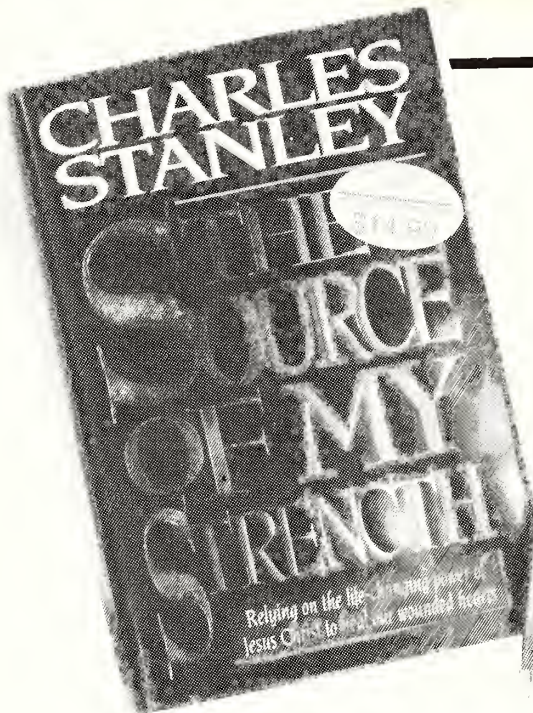
Also, regarding *The Free Will Baptist*, I openly invite anyone that has new ideas, comments, or suggestions to contact me. We are here to serve you, but we need to know how we can best do that. We, at the Press, appreciate all your support and loyalty to our denomination. We look forward to hearing from you and serving you in any way possible.

In His service,

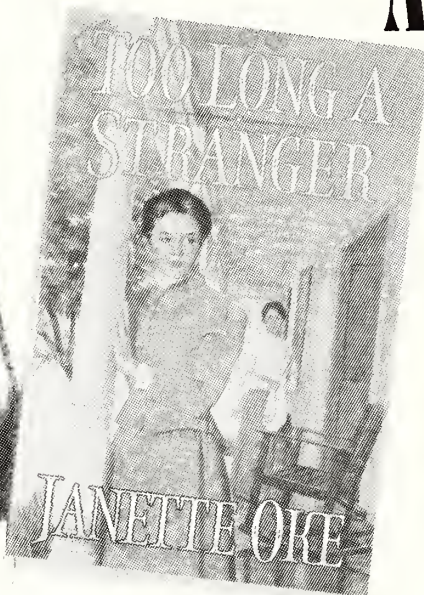
Tracy A. McCoy

Tracy A. McCoy, Editor

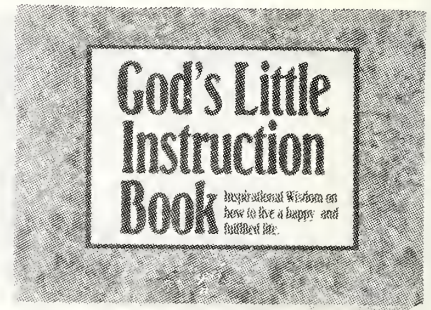
A Summer Treat



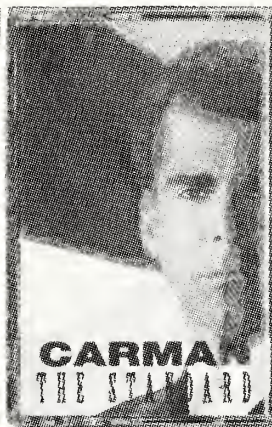
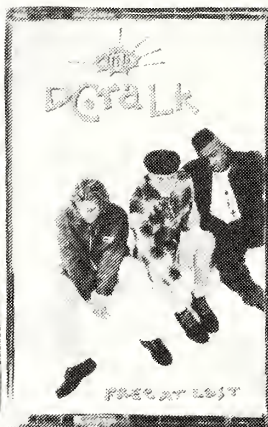
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Convention of Original Free Will Baptists



Our Convention's Five-Year Theme
Hear the Word of the Lord

HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

August 1994

CONTENTS

August 1994 • Volume 109 • Number 8

FEATURES

CONVENTION MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS	3
W. BURKETTE RAPER: RETIREMENT AFTER 40 YEARS	7
GOOD FRIDAY	12
WHAT MY PARENTS DID RIGHT	14
PART VI: AGRA AND THE TAJ MAHAL-COMPLEX	15
JUNIOR ANSWERS CALL TO MISSIONS FIELD	18

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY	19
HOME MISSIONS	21
FOREIGN MISSIONS	22
CHILDREN'S HOME	28
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE	30

DEPARTMENTS

THE MONTHLY CALENDAR	24
PEOPLE & EVENTS	33
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS	43
FYI	44
NOTES & QUOTES	45
EDITOR'S NOTE	46

NEXT MONTH

*Home Missions
and
Evangelism*



**AUGUST IS
CONVENTION
PROMOTION
MONTH**

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and co-operation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Features

CONVENTION MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS

This fiscal year (1994-1995) completes the Convention's five-year theme, "Hear the Word of the Lord," with this year's theme of Christian Ministry.

This feature article provides a brief look at each of the ministries of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, and provides a basic background of each ministry's history and purpose.

Information for this article was gleaned from several sources: Convention minutes; *An Introduction to Original Free Will Baptists*, written by the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry; *Faith of Our Fathers*, YFA program book (1976), written by the Rev. David W. Hansley; and ministry sources.

The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is more than an organization of churches and conferences. It is an organization with various ministries and programs which encompasses all facets of human needs. Through the different ministries and programs, the churches are fulfilling the call of God to service.

Just as the history of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has been one of change and progress, so have our outreach efforts. From that of the printed page to child care, from home and foreign missions to the support of our minister's retirement, from the education of our youth in college and camp to financial aid for Free Will Baptist churches, from the training of Sunday School teachers to the teaching of the Word to all ages—Free Will Baptists are ministering.

Ministries Defined

The work of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is departmentalized, as set forth in its Constitution and By-laws. In order to define "ministries," the Constitution states in Article

II, Section 3: "A Denominational ministry of the Original Free Will Baptist Church is an institution or enterprise that provides Christian ministry on behalf of and at the direction of the Convention and the governing body is elected directly or indirectly by the Convention of its member churches. These denominational ministries being: (1) Free Will Baptist Children's Home, (2) Free Will Baptist Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, (3) Free Will Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, (4) Free Will Baptist Minister's Program, (5) Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc., (6) Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., (7) Church Finance Association, (8) Cragmont Assembly, Inc., (9) Mount Olive College.

"Additional denominational ministries may be created by a 2/3 vote of the Convention in regular session, upon meeting the preceding requirements."

Ministries Described

Cragmont Assembly

The idea for a denominational camping program had its inception as early as 1936 when the Free Will Baptist League began a young people's camp which was held in several different locations. Some years later, in 1945, the YMCA Camp, Blue Ridge Assembly, located near Black Mountain, North Carolina, was rented by a group of 125 campers. Through this focus on the mountain region of North Carolina, Cragmont was discovered. The site, known as "Craigmont," had previously served as a private sanatorium. The property consisted of 112 acres and contained a main three-story building, as well as several other small buildings.

The purchase price was \$10,000. A very successful six-months fund-raising campaign was conducted, and Free Will Baptists became the owners of a camping facility.

The purpose of Cragmont is set forth in its motto: "Instruction, Inspiration, and Recreation." Cragmont serves people of all ages. During the summer months, there are six weeks of youth camps, two Woman's Auxiliary weeks, and a Minister's Conference. In addition, there are several weekend retreats for church groups, which are usually planned for spring and fall. During the winter months, there are several retreats with skiing as the main recreation. Vacationers also come to Cragmont to spend a night or two and to enjoy the mountain air and the beautiful scenery.

Cragmont Assembly is governed by elected representatives from the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the Convention's Sunday School Board, the Woman's Auxiliary Convention, and the State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues. Each of these elects three representatives to the Cragmont Board. This Board is given the responsibility of governing Cragmont.

Church Finance Association

The Church Finance Association exists for the purpose of providing financial assistance to churches and institutions within the Original Free Will Baptist denomination. This assistance is in the form of loans. For over fifty years, Church finance Association has been able to assist many Free Will Baptist churches and institutions that otherwise may not have been able to build or expand.

The Church Finance Association became a reality on April 29, 1940, when a committee that had met three weeks earlier to study the matter of financial aid, concluded that such aid was needed. The committee had done its work in drawing up all the legal papers. The legal documents were adopted as a Certificate of Incorporation, along with governing by-laws. The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention endorsed the Church Finance Association, Inc. Thus, when the Convention convened in September 1940, the Association was recognized by the Convention as the sole agency to offer financial assistance to the Free Will Baptist denomination.

Membership in Church Finance Association is available to individuals and organizations by purchasing membership certificates which cost \$25 each. A membership certificate gives the owner the right to vote in the Association's annual meeting.

In addition to financial support through the purchasing of certificates of memberships, deposits of monies can be made to the Association, as can simple contributions, or the establishment of an endowment. Additional funds are generated by the Association by interest that is charged on the loans.

Growth of the Association is evidenced in the increase of loans over the years: from \$5,130.60 in 1940 to over \$1,900,000 in 1993.

Retirement Homes

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes is the youngest of the denomination's ministries, having its beginnings in 1974. It was during the Sixty-second Annual Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists that a recommendation was adopted authorizing that a corporation known as Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes be established. The next step was ratification by member conferences. All the conferences meeting after the recommendation was adopted, ratified the

decision of the Convention. The Retirement Homes ministry was officially established on January 1, 1975. In February, a charter was issued by the State of North Carolina.

The Retirement Homes had its beginning at the Children's Home. It was governed by a board of directors which was composed of the Children's Home Board and the Superannuation Board. Later a Retirement Homes Board was established under the Convention, which presently consists of ten members elected by the Convention.

Original plans called for apartment-type living located adjacent to the Children's Home property; however, a change in policy allowed for community-based homes or apartments.

Known as "A Caring Ministry for the Retired," the Retirement Homes offers community-based homes or apartments, placement services for retired families who need supervision, and cash payments for those who continue to live at their own location. Support for the ministry is based on two main sources: residents of the homes, and Free Will Baptist churches and related organizations.

Free Will Baptist Children's Home

The first application for admission of children to the Free Will Baptist Orphanage (as it was first named) were received in May of 1920. Since then, it has cared for more than 1,000 children, covering a period of almost three quarters of a century.

It was during the Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, meeting in 1914, that a resolution was passed that called for the location and building of a home for orphaned children. In the following years (1914-1920), steps were taken to make the Home a reality, which included the acceptance of a gift of fifty acres of land donated by the Rev. B. B. Deans of Middlesex. Later, other land was purchased, making a total of more than three hundred acres.

Over the years, the Home has experienced major changes in the physical structures to the extent that little remains of the original.

As important as land, buildings, and property are, they are not the major concern of the Home. It is the training and caring for the lives of the children that really matters.

All cottages are operated on a family-style basis and are staffed by a team of child care workers, social workers, and a unit coordinator. The children and youth attend Nash County Public Schools with on-campus tutorial programs provided by certified teachers. In addition, psychiatric services are offered on campus to all residents upon request of the legal guardian. In addition, the Home provides excellent recreational resources and also various community services.

Today, the Home is "reaching out to today's children for tomorrow's world." The Home is a community-centered ministry which provides a caring residential program for abused, neglected, and abandoned children. It is dedicated to the ministry of returning children to a family by providing for children's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. This is accomplished in a nurturing environment with professional care. Since 1920, the Children's Home has been a ministry for children.

The Minister's Program

The Free Will Baptist Minister's Program (formally known as the Board of Superannuation) was established by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists "to provide for our aged, retired, and infirm ministers in some form of superannuation program, also seek to offer to our active ministers some program whereby they may help to provide for their future security and retirement."

The Minister's Program Board realized that future security is the result of planning, preparation, and execution. The Minister's Program serves the ministers of our denomination by helping

them plan for the financial contingencies that may arise during their life. To help the minister prepare for retirement, the Minister's Program has designated and implemented a Tax Sheltered Annuity Plan for ministers and church workers, which allows one to make tax-free contributions into a plan and then these funds will grow tax sheltered until retirement age. At the age of 59 1/2, one can begin to withdraw these funds.

The Minister's Program has also developed the Minister's Widows Fund. When a participant in the Fund dies, his widow receives the contributions. Each minister can participate. Also offered is a program in which the minister belonging to the program whose wife dies will also receive funds.

The Minister's Program also offers a Post-Graduate Loan and Hardship Grants. The Post-Graduate Loan funds are used to help finance the continuing education on the Minister when he enrolls in a post-graduate course of study. The Hardship Grant is a relief program to assist needy ministers within our denomination.

Finally, the Minister's Program sponsors seminars that deal with information on taxes, retirement, and financial planning or investments. A Basic Compensation Package has been developed as a guide for ministers and churches as they make decisions that affect the Minister's compensation.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation had its beginnings in 1873. In its meeting at Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County, the General Conference passed a resolution which called for the beginning of a "church organ." Mr. E. R. Ellis accepted the responsibility and *The Free Will Baptist* paper had its beginning. The first office was located in the town of Fremont and the publication was called *The Free Will Baptist Advocate*. After moving to Toisnot, about ten miles

north of Wilson, the name was changed to *Toisnot Transcript*, a title that was unacceptable to many subscribers. The publication was suspended for a time. A move was made back to Fremont and was once again given its original title. After several other moves, the printing establishment settled in the town of Ayden in 1895, its present location. Over the years, however, it has moved several times within the town. In January of 1968, "the Press" moved to its present location on Highway 11 north of Ayden.

Ownership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation belongs to the Free Will Baptist organizations, churches, and church groups that hold "certificates of membership." At its annual meeting, members elect the board of directors and they in turn are responsible for the employment of the Foundation's Executive Director.

Since its early beginning, the Free Will Baptist Press has played a vital part in the total outreach and ministry of the Free Will Baptist denomination. It has been charged with the responsibility of writing, editing, publishing, and distributing educational literature. Materials for Sunday School, the Woman's Auxiliary, and youth are published on a regular basis. In addition to the scheduled publications, the Foundation also publishes tracts, pamphlets, and books when such are needed.

The Foundation operates four bookstores, one in each of the following locations: Ayden, New Bern, Kinston, and Wilson. These stores serve as a source for "everything in religious merchandise."

The printing experience and capabilities of the Foundation make commercial job work another area of service. Quality work is offered at reasonable prices by capable craftsmen.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation stands today as a "symbol of dedicated labor and Christian service." Dedicated to serving Christ in every area, the Foundation endeavors to promote unity for a singular cause. This it

does by spreading the gospel, the story of God's love, through the printed page.

Home Missions and Evangelism

This Free Will Baptist ministry has its distinct beginning in 1972 when the Convention made the decision to divide the combined mission program into separate ministries—The Board of Foreign Missions and The Board of Church Extension and Home Missions. In the 1985 session of the Convention, a constitutional change was approved. The words "Church Extension" were deleted and the word "Evangelism" was added. Thus, the title, "Board of Home Missions and Evangelism" became a reality.

The responsibility of Home Missions and Evangelism, as stated in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, is as follows: "The Board of Home Missions and Evangelism shall supervise all missionary and church extension work within the United States. They shall also oversee the formulation and promotion of church sponsored scouting programs and the God and Country Award of Original Free Will Baptists.

"The Board of Home Missions and Evangelism shall have the right and responsibility to promote evangelism and home missions and oversee the scouting programs, raise funds and supervise the disbursements of these funds of home missions and evangelism and scouting programs."

The theme of Home Missions and Evangelism is "Touching Lives for a Lifetime." This theme is realized week after week in ministry to the deaf, summer youth camps for the hearing, migrant ministries, ethnic ministries (especially among the H'mong) the establishing and support of Home Mission churches, training programs relating to church growth and evangelism, and the overseeing of scouting programs among Free Will Baptists.

The Board of Home Missions and Evangelism is committed to church

planting and church growth. Its purpose is to bring glory to Jesus Christ in winning the lost.

Foreign Missions

From its early years, the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (now the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists) has believed in and supported the cause of missions. Upon its organization in 1913, interest in missions was evident in its setting up of a Board of Home Missions. After the first couple (Brother and Sister McAdams) were endorsed as foreign missionaries, the word "home" was dropped from the Constitution and the designation "Mission Board" was adopted, which included both home and foreign missions.

In the early thirties, no activities of the Missions Board are recorded, but there is evidence that the Convention did cooperate with the foreign missions efforts of the General Conference. From the time of the organization of the National Association of Free Will Baptists until the withdrawal of the North Carolina State Convention from the National Association, the Convention's Mission Board supported the missions work of the National Association. In 1962, the Board of Missions presented its goals for the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptists.

Over the years, the Convention-supported missions work has undergone various changes and has shown considerable growth. With the setting up of the Board of Foreign Missions in 1972, support for foreign missions has become a vital part of ministry for Free Will Baptists.

The Board of Foreign Missions is a ministry to the world outside the United States. Foreign mission work is carried out in the following countries: India, Nepal, Bulgaria, Philippines, and Mexico.

In 1990, the Board of Foreign Missions adopted the theme, "Pressing Toward the Year 2000," based on

Philippians 3:14, a ten-year concerted missions effort to reach the world for Christ. The chief aim of this emphasis will be to evangelize the lost, start new churches, open new fields, and move all work toward self-government, self-propagation, and self-support.

Mount Olive College

From the time of the closing of Eureka College (located in Ayden, NC) in the early 1930s, until the establishment of Mount Allen College, at Black Mountain, North Carolina, Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina had no institution of higher education.

In the 1951 Session of the North Carolina State Convention, a resolution was adopted that called for the establishment of "a Junior College, during the winter months at Cragmont Assembly." Thus, on September 22, 1952, the College opened at Cragmont Assembly and was given the name Mount Allen College.

In 1953, the Convention authorized the purchase of property in Mount Olive and approved that Mount Allen College relocate. It was a year later, in 1954, that the College opened. Twenty-two students enrolled. In 1954, the name was changed to "Mount Olive Junior College." At the request of the Convention in 1977, the College began working toward becoming a four-year institution. The first Bachelor's degrees were awarded in 1986.

The College offers programs of study leading to baccalaureate degrees in the following majors: Biology; Business Administration (Accounting, Business Management, and Industrial Management); Church Ministries; English; Fine Arts; History; General Studies; Psychology; Recreation/Leisure Studies; Religion; and Visual Communications.

In addition to the Main Campus, the College also operates a center at New Bern, North Carolina, and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, North Carolina, with a total enrollment of 1000 students.

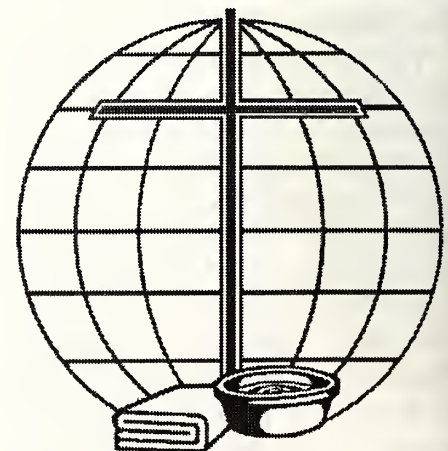
Located on a beautiful one hundred acre campus, with modern facilities, Mount Olive College is constantly expanding its services to its students, the community, and to the Free Will Baptist church.

Other Boards and Commissions

In addition to the ministries of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, there are other boards and commissions that play a vital part in the outreach of the denomination. These include: Sunday School Board, Layman's League Board, Board of Trustees, Board of Publications, Commission of Free Will Baptist Fellowships, Historical Commission, and Chaplain's Commission. The Convention also elects representatives to the Cragmont Board of Directors, the Church Finance Association, and The Free Will Baptist Press.

Convention Headquarters

In 1982, the Convention established its Headquarters in Ayden, North Carolina, which is located in the Free Will Baptist Press building. The Headquarters contains the offices for the directors of these ministries: Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Retirement Homes, Church Finance Association, and the Minister's Program. In addition, the office of the Convention's Executive Administrator is located at the Headquarters.



W. BURKETTE RAPER: RETIREMENT AFTER 40 YEARS' "REPAYMENT OF DEBT"

by Cecil Cahoon, Mount Olive College Public Information Office



W. Burkette Raper, today

W. Burkette Raper began his end-of-the-year luncheon address to the faculty and staff of Mount Olive College in May with telling humor. Since most members of the audience would be relieved of duty for the summer, President Raper compared himself to the teacher whose class comes late on the last day of school. He'd make this brief, he promised.

What followed represented a historic moment in the life of the college. Raper announced that he would retire from the office of president, effective with the name of his successor by the college's board of trustees. His announcement explained the move, that it was wiser to prepare and plan for the change than to be unprepared for change later. When he finished, Raper appeared to have shaken a long-weighty burden from his shoulders. He looked relieved.

The announcement marked an end to a forty-year presidency that began with the opening of Mount Olive College in Mount Olive in 1954.



W. Burkette Raper was the youngest college president when he was called in 1954.

Assuming the post at age 26, Raper was the youngest college president in the state and the nation. Currently, he is America's longest-tenured active college president.

Raper accepted the presidency, he told the faculty, because he deeply believed the value of Christian education to be inestimable to

the individual, church and society.

"I also came because I wanted people with the vision of a good life and desire to serve humanity to have the opportunity of an education regardless of their financial circumstances."

Raper said he considered his work in building the college the repayment of "a debt I owed to my church and to humanity." The debt was for his eight years of care at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex and for the opportunity of an education at Duke University and Duke Divinity School.

The oldest of four children of Mr. and Mrs. William Cecil Raper, Wilson County tenant farmers, Raper was born in 1927 in an old school building converted to a farm dwelling near Black Creek. When his father died of pneumonia in 1936, Burkette, his brother James Earl and his sister Mary Lou were admitted to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex and the youngest child, Catherine, went to live with their grandmother, Mrs. Maddie David Langston of Goldsboro.

During his senior year at Middlesex High School, Raper played first base and was captain of the baseball team. He dreamed of becoming a professional baseball player, but by graduation he had answered a call to the Christian ministry.



In the early days, W. Burkette Raper served as chaplain, teacher, dean of business manager, among other things.

Raper earned bachelor of arts and bachelor of divinity degrees at Duke, working in the cafeteria for his meals. He used income from preaching on weekends to buy clothes and books and to pay room rent and student fees. While at Duke,

he was ordained a minister and began a pastorate at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Newton Grove.



W. Burkette Raper speaks in the center of Mount Olive College campus, Rodgers Chapel.

In July 1954, Raper was the young pastor of Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church in the Greene County community of Arba. He was smart and polished speaker, popular among the congregation and in the community. His abundant energy was contagious. The church's first full-time pastor, he saw a new parsonage built and the church rolls swell by some 75 new members.

On a hot afternoon that month, Raper was visited by the Rev. David W. Hansley. Hansley was chairman of the board of trustees of the denomination's fledgling college, which had recently purchased an abandoned elementary school building with the view of beginning classes in September. The Rev. James A. Evans, former superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home where Raper had lived for eight years, had recently become the college's first full-time employee: Public relations director.



James B. Hunt, recently honored for his work on the Board of Trustees, talks with W. Burkette Raper in front of Rodgers Chapel.

Meanwhile, the college needed a president—someone to spearhead the church's effort and, more importantly, lead the church toward emphasis on educating its people. Hansley asked Raper to take the presidency. The board had met and discussed the offer, Hansley said. In the board's estimates, Raper possessed the desired personal qualities and educational qualifications.

Two weeks later, after much prayer, Raper accepted Hansley's offer.

"The scene my wife and I saw as we walked through the building is still vivid in my mind," Raper wrote of his impressions at the time, "fallen plaster, sagging floors, debris everywhere, cracked blackboards, broken windows, evidence of a leaking roof, the old table in the 'soup kitchen,' an empty boiler room and unkept grounds."

In those early years of struggle, Raper's job was an amalgam of chores, some less than presidential. He served as business manager, teacher, dean, registrar, assistant to the janitor, publicity director, chaplain and chief fund raiser.

In addition, he spoke to high school audiences, churches, civic groups and colleges on tours through Tennessee, Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.

"If I had fully known all the problems, difficulties and responsibilities involved in organizing and administering a new college," he said in 1964, ten years after accepting its leadership, "I doubt that I could have accepted this work. But now that both the college and I have survived, I would not take anything for the experience."

"Except that he graduated from Duke, he was about what one might expect to head a 'Bible school,'—a young country preacher willing to take the vows of poverty and work hard for what he envisioned as a high calling," recalled Eugene Price, longtime editor of the Goldsboro *News-Argus*. Price wrote that when it was announced that the college would open, he was among "the silently unimpressed."

But during a tour of the dilapidated downtown campus building, Raper articulated his vision for the college to Price.

"These were not wool-gathering dreams of naiveté," Price recalled. "They were, in fact, more than dreams. Here was a man who had planned his work and was working his plan—and as we made our way through the drab halls and cracked-wall classrooms, I knew the plan would work."

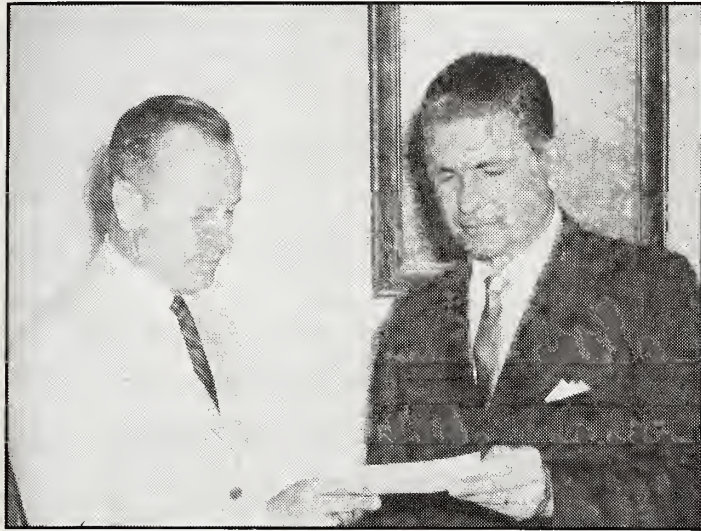
"He made believers of us all," Price said.

"We had to have vision," wrote Blanche Hargrove Jarrett, Raper's first secretary. "We had little else to go on. The salary wasn't great enough to entice anyone, and the physical plant certainly wasn't a showcase, so a vision is what we worked with."

"When you walk into an office with one file cabinet, one typewriter and furniture that Dr. Raper described as 'one

notch above orange crates,' and someone tells you this is the beginning of a college, you work with a vision," Jarrett said.

At the end of the first year, Raper wrote in *The Free Will Baptist* magazine. "The work has been hard, the hours long, the problems numerous, but in the midst of it all, God has been with us. What was a dream one year ago is now a living reality in the lives of dozens of young men and women.



Johnny Walker, president of Mount Olive Pickles, has led community-wide efforts in support of Mount Olive College.

"I came (to the College) because I thought God wanted me here. I am now fully convinced that here is where God would have me serve Him. Every man must choose how he will spend his life, and I am thankful for God's guiding hand.

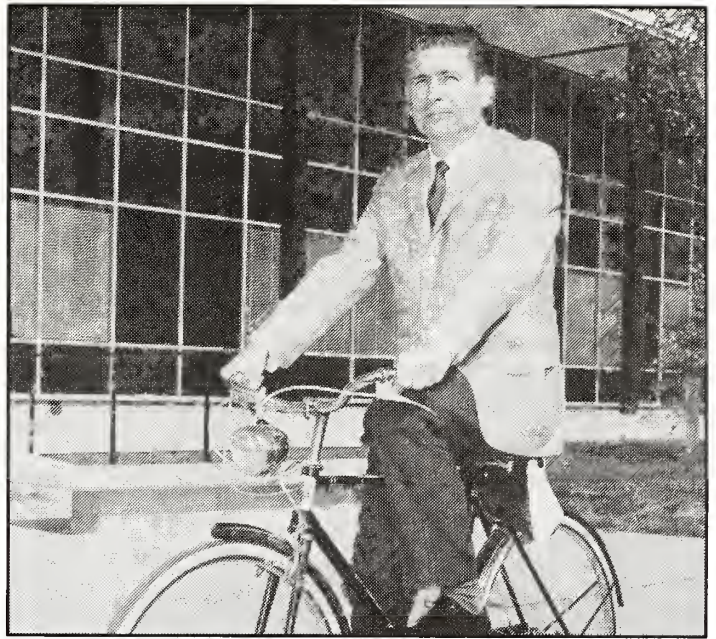
"The thing that has done a great deal to encourage us this year has been the feeling that we were fighting for the very survival of the Free Will Baptist denomination. I do not believe that we can long continue without Christian colleges.

"Now that school is out, there is still no time for relaxation. We need to make further improvements in our building. Financially, the College is broke, but our faculty left paid."

Challenges threatened to derail the college's progress, however. Covert opposition by many alumni of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, became vocal and aggressive. Further, an apathy among Free Will Baptists toward education and the question of the denomination's supply of leadership and resources cast shadows on the college's future.

In March, 1956, Raper's schedule of teaching, fund-raising and administrative tasks was interrupted when he suffered a heart attack. At age 28, he was incapacitated for the remainder of the academic year.

"It changed my life and my whole mode of work," Raper said. He learned "instead of doing your work through sheer physical force, you do it through leadership and long-range planning."



W. Burkette Raper cycled to and from work for years before health-consciousness was popular.

Steps in the college's progress became a constant struggle with a fundamentalist group that sought to steer Free Will Baptists toward becoming a narrow sect. Financial support from non-Free Will Baptist sources was questioned, as was Raper's promotion of a liberal arts rather than a Bible college curriculum.

Animosity toward the college and Raper was openly manifested from 1958-62. One pastor published tracts describing "questionable standards of Christian character" he claimed were espoused at the College. Another pastor, an alumnus of the Nashville Institution, wrote to Raper, "your philosophy . . . produces what is called the thinking mind and I believe in Indoctrination which produced what is called the indoctrinated mind. I have already told my folks what I think about Christian education and I do not want any confusion among my members. I have enough confusion of other natures."

Raper answered, "As we vindicated ourselves, our critics will become fewer, but more vocal. We shall be guided by truth, not sound and fury."

He continued his own education, earning a master's degree in higher education from Florida State University. In 1960, Barton (then Atlantic Christian) College conferred upon him an honorary doctor of laws degree for his outstanding leadership in Christian higher education.

Also in 1960, the College won accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in December. Six months later, Governor Terry Sanford appeared on the campus and praised Raper and the College's success.

"It is a tribute to President Raper and members of the faculty," he said. Sanford noted that with accreditation the College had won "also the commendation of all of us interested in providing better education opportunities for our sons and daughters.

In 1962, the North Carolina Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, which sponsors Mount Olive College, voted to separate from the National Association of Free Will Baptists, the sponsor of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville. Severing ties to the national body, the State Convention and Burkette Raper began moving their liberal arts college in a new uncharted direction.



W. Burkette Raper moves into his office in Henderson Building, the first building built on the "new" campus.

Construction of several facilities was initiated in the 1960s and '70s and a new, 110-acre campus located one mile from the original downtown campus. A classroom building was built, followed by men's and women's residence halls, a library, a chapel and a student center.

In 1975, Raper summarized his work and the college's progress in its first two decades with a quote from Oliver Wendell Holmes. "I find the great thing in this world is not



The Rev. M. L. Johnson, left, served as Mount Olive College's first business manager.

so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving. We must sail sometimes with the winds and sometimes against it, but we must sail—not drift, nor lie at anchor."

The State Convention agreed, and in 1977, it instructed Dr. Raper to begin developing a four-year collegiate program. It was like beginning all over again, he said.

The task of converting Mount Olive from a junior to a senior college would require "as much time and energy as did the establishing of the College," he explained in 1984 when the first junior class was registered. "It is an awesome responsibility."

Raper led an institutional self-study and development of new degree programs. While faculty members pursued advanced degrees, additional faculty were brought to the College. Computer labs were equipped and most administrative areas of the institution became computerized. College Hall, a \$3.5 million athletic and convention center was opened in 1984 and two apartment complexes were built to accommodate upperclassmen.

In 1993, Raper presided at a dinner that marked the closing of the downtown campus building, the building that at one time housed Mount Olive College—student dormitory rooms, classrooms and faculty and administration offices. The closing of the building coincided with the opening of the new Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, a spacious student center and cafeteria on the main campus.

In an editorial on Raper's retirement, Eugene Price of the *Goldboro News-Argus* wrote that "the showcase campus" has, in many respects, "become the cultural center of this part of the state and a forum for discussion and ideas on the future of our area and its people.

"Of even greater significance, it has graduates throughout the world . . . whose lives have been enriched by what they experienced at Mount Olive College. That, after all, is what an institution for higher education should be about."



Rose Raper, right, greets students with Dr. Burkette Raper, center, at their home in Mount Olive. Of Mrs. Raper's work during their service to the College, Dr. Raper said, "She has worked as hard as I."



W. Burkette Raper talks with the ladies of the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, which opened last year. (Photo Nelson Bland, *Mount Olive Tribune*.)

Today, Raper is respected as a modern pioneer whose 40 years of steadfast work and vision resulted in a burgeoning liberal arts college. When visiting the campus recently, Governor Jim Hunt noted that his admiration of Raper began more than three decades ago when his father, James B. Hunt Sr., became a college trustee.

"Burkette Raper has built an academic college whose priorities are an honest and objective education with a social environment where students are taught love and caring for each other and their fellow man," Hunt said.

"When I have been in this man's presence, I have said time and time again he could have been the head of any college or university in our state. Conversely, he could have risen to the highest heights as a businessman, making several hundred thousand dollars a year."

"I rejoice that this man has come along at this time in history and been such a great force in the area that has been my home," Hunt said.

Others who have been a part of Raper's work and the college's growth call him an American original, applying the principles of the American dream to the building of a college.

"The full story of Mount Olive College could not be told without recounting the part which hundreds of persons have played as contributors, administrators, staff, and students," said Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the college's Department of Religion from 1957 to 1994.

"But without leadership to inspire and to give a sense of direction to all that effort, the College would not have been able to serve the need and purposes of the church which founded it nor the region where it is located," Pelt said. "Dr. Raper has provided that kind of leadership."

"In doing so, he risked his professional standing and his health, and he faced the potential of personal and professional failure," added Jimmy Williams, longtime leader in Wayne County education and Mount Olive College vice president of

development for 1984 to 1993. "He has earned the respect of the denomination, the people of the state of North Carolina and the entire community of higher education."

"Mount Olive College is a miracle which never would have happened had it not been for the unsurpassed focus and intensity of Burkette Raper," Gene Price said.

"The foundation he built, the ongoing momentum the College now enjoys and the continuing presence of Dr. Raper as a valuable resource person for the next president—bode well for the future of this truly remarkable institution."

Raper's relationship with the College will not end with his retirement from office. At the request of the College's Board of Trustees, he has accepted the title of president emeritus. When his successor has taken office, Raper will continue his service to the College with a focus on major gifts, special projects, and building of an endowment.

Concluding his announcement to faculty and staff, Raper said that instead of making an ending, his retirement opens passage into a new frontier for the College. It has never inaugurated a president, he noted.

Raper smiled when he read a quote from the well-known "Desiderata" text: "Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth."

"We pause only long enough to check our moorings," he said, "before we pick up the gauntlet and gird ourselves for the next phase of our journey."

The Presidential Search Committee of Mount Olive College requests that nominations and applications for Presidential Candidates be mailed to:

Chairman of Presidential Search Committee
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365

Qualifications: The President shall be a person who gives unqualified evidence of his/her Christian faith and commitment to the mission and purpose of the College as stated in its Charter and as interpreted by the Board of Trustees. In addition, he/she shall possess and maintain those academic, professional, personal, and moral qualities necessary for the Presidency of an institution of Christian higher education.

GOOD FRIDAY

by Willem van der Plas

This is the first in a series of articles from Willem van der Plas, one of our foreign missionaries.

On April 29, we celebrated Good Friday, because the East European Orthodox churches decided to have Easter on May 1.

We meditated about the death of Jesus Christ with the view on the atonement of sins and the provision of life through the death of our Saviour. With ten believers we celebrated the Lord's Supper, confessing our sins in Holy Communion with the Lord and one another, giving thanks and praises to God.



Some of the brothers and sisters witnessed to receive a great inner PEACE which they could not describe. John 14:23 is not a theory. "The greatest love comes from him who lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

Good Friday was a worthy day of celebration in the presence of our Saviour. Our home was a house of God. On Easter we celebrated the Lord's Supper with six other believers at Varna. Praises be to our Lord for ever and ever.



We viewed that the death sentence was demanded by the Jews and that unrighteous decision of Jesus' execution was made by the Roman Governor Pilate. That Jesus was mocked and crucified by the soldiers of the international Roman empire.

In the Catholic tradition the Jews are still seen as the murders of God. However, we have to learn that He died in our place. Then we could understand that He died in free will to obey the wish of God the Father. It is an amazing fact that he even prayed for those who crucified Him.

After the meditation we broke and ate the bread and we drank from the cup; fully aware that Jesus died in our place.

Four of the participants grew up as Moslems, the others are Bulgarians and now they all are one in the same faith. We are joined together in the love of the Lord.





THANKS

to all our churches for their support of our Convention and especially its promotional work through the office of the Executive Administrator.

You have responded to the challenge and made the first year on a full-time basis a success.

Please continue your prayers and support.



C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator
Michelle Fordham, Administrative Assistant

“KNOWING OF WHOM THOU HAST LEARNED THEM”

by John Brinn, senior at N.C. State University

*The following article is the second in a series of three entitled **What My Parents Did Right!** The project was sponsored by the Sidney Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School and serves to validate just how important Christian parenting is.*

I once read a true story about a preacher who returned to his home church for a reunion. The day was cold, and the roads were icy, but he had promised to be the guest speaker, so he made the effort anyway. He didn't expect to find many people in the church on such an awful day, and the attendance was not large. The preacher was especially impressed to see a very old and feeble man in attendance for the Sunday School hour. He made an opportunity to speak to this man because he wondered if it was someone he should remember. When he began speaking to the older man, he soon realized that they had grown up half a country and a generation apart, but they were both brothers in the Lord and in memories. The preacher asked this man, "Why, after seventy years of being in this Sunday School, have you chosen to risk life and limb to come out on a treacherous morning like this? Surely you have heard all the lessons by now, and you don't expect to learn anything new."

The old man smiled and responded, "Paul told me to come."

The preacher searched his memory to try to think of someone named Paul who would have dared recommend him so highly as to bring such an old man out from his safe home.

"Paul?" he asked.

Then the old man took out his Bible and read the following passage of Scripture, taken from 2 Timothy 3:14-15:

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

The old man closed his Bible, looked at me and said, "My Sunday School teacher taught me that before I even learned to read. That's why I am here today. I am continuing in the things which I have learned which have made me wise unto salvation in Christ Jesus."

The Scripture text from 2 Timothy was written by Paul, one of the greatest of all Christian teachers. Paul told his spiritual son, Timothy to continue in the truths about Jesus which he had learned as a child, and to know from whom he had learned them. When I think about the source of my knowledge of salvation and the source of my learning about living in Jesus, I realize that there are three ways that I have learned. First, I learned from my parents, then from my Sunday School

teachers, and then from the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ.

The first persons to introduce me to the Word of God were my parents. It was suggested that I tell a few things that my parents have done right. I would prefer to tell you a few things that my parents have done wrong according to the general opinion of today's society.

1. First, my parents did not allow me to learn what faith I should choose; rather, they had me in church and Sunday School before I could even walk on my own. They filled my mind with Jesus Christ and the Holy Bible. Isn't it wrong to coerce an innocent child, and persuade him into what to think? My parents only did what the Bible told them in Ephesians 6:4, "Ye fathers . . . bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

2. The second thing that my parents taught me is also in conflict with the views of the world. The world teaches that everyone has a right to expect wealth and material blessings. But my parents taught me to understand that all blessings come from God. Nothing in life is assured to us as a right, but are the gifts of God's mercy, love, and grace.

3. The third lesson that my parents taught me that I would like to mention briefly is to recognize the real hero in my life. The world tells me that I should set up athletes, movie stars, and even my parents as role models. But my parents have always told me that I should not look upon any person as the perfect hero. No matter how hard they try, humans will always fail to reach expectations. There is a song which says, "The greatest hero didn't lead an army. He didn't fight or kill any other man. He took the cross with his head bowed low, so we don't have to go. The greatest hero is my king of kings.

More than anything else I have learned from my parents and Sunday School teachers is that Jesus is my greatest hero. I continue to walk according to God's ways because of the things I learned in Sunday School, but now I walk according to the teachings of the Spirit. As long as I follow this source of knowledge, I will be true to both my parents and my Sunday School teachers.



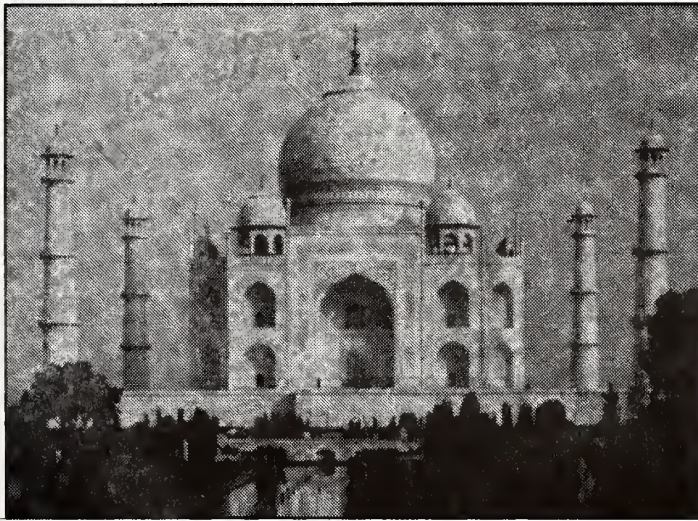
John Brinn is a senior at N.C. State University majoring in animal science. He and his parents, Jimmy and Kathy Brinn attend Sidney Church.

PART VI

AGRA AND THE TAJ MAHAL-COMPLEX, ELUSIVE INDIA AT ITS MYSTERIOUS PEAK

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

Dr. Emmanuel Lall, director of the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions in India and Nepal, arranged for the eight of us—Harold and Sandra Jones, Paul Anderson, Mike Scott, Delbert and Lib Scott, Alma Dale, and me—to stay at the Hotel Amar in Agra, the city famous for the Taj Mahal.



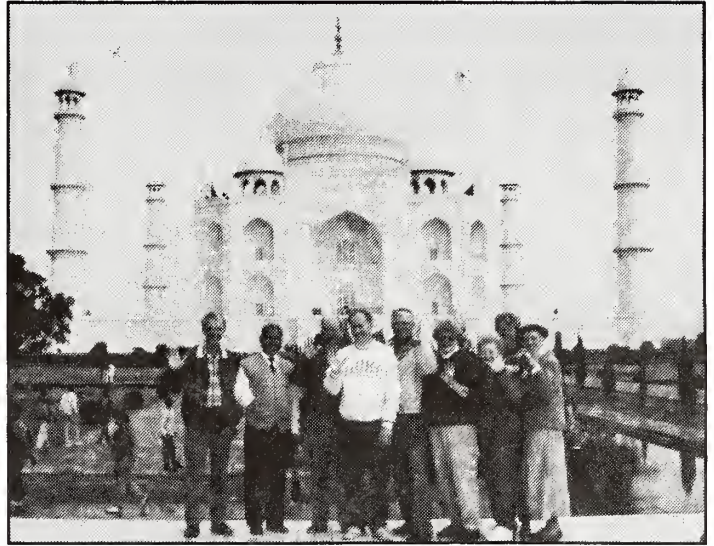
The Taj Mahal

Our guide for the day noted that the name Taj referred to “crown” while Mahal meant “palace.” The color white is a symbol of peace; black, a symbol of sorrow. The white marble responds to outside weather, making it appear different from dawn to the late sun.

The Taj Mahal was built as a mausoleum for Shah Jahan’s beloved Mumtaz Mahal who died in 1631. The Emperor shifted his despair into creating this magnificent mausoleum in tribute to her. The task called for approximately 20,000 craftsmen who worked more than 22 years (1631–1653) to build the tomb. The four minarets lean outside so that in case an earthquake hits, the minarets will fall away from the main structure.

What is unique and famous about the Taj Mahal is that it is white marble, not sandstone. The mausoleum glistens against the Agra sky and receives nuances of light from the Yamuna waters behind.

Three gates awaited us. We went through the west gate where the ticket office is. The inscription on the great gate is from Chapter 89 of the Koran: “O Soul thou art at rest. Return to the Lord, at peace with Him, And He at peace with you. So enter as one of His servants. And enter into His garden.”



Our group at the Taj Mahal in Agra. From left to right: Harold Jones, Dr. E. Lall, Paul Anderson, Mike Scott, Delbert Scott, Lib Scott, Alma Dale, Sandra Jones, and Pepper Worthington.

The first full glimpse of the Taj Mahal was across the wet garden divided by water and surrounded by trees. The perfect reflection of the mausoleum in the water was not as clear for us, because the light rain clouded the water. The emphasis on water is religious in that water is where man and God meet.

The real tombs of Mumtaz and Shah Jahan lie below the displayed tombs on the outside platform. To see the real tombs, our group took off our shoes, descended the steps and looked with a flashlight.

To the left of the platform is the mosque. Once again we removed our shoes to go inside. To the right of the platform is the Mehman Khana (guest house).



We took our shoes off to enter the sacred tomb area of Shah Jahan and his beloved Mumtaz Mahal.



Blankets and clothes were everywhere behind the Taj Mahal near the Yamuna waters.

While we strolled through the gardens, we saw an elderly man using two white bullocks to cut the grass. Our guide told us to look around and note the variety of domes. Astonished, Mike Scott remarked, "Now *this* is a serious piece of work." The stones shimmered in a transparent glow. When we walked over to look at the Yamuna River, we saw spreads and cloths which the people had washed in the river, drying on the banks. A Hindu saint was making his rounds in the garden. Our guide called the Hindu saint, Shiri Sita Ram (Great Lord).



A Hindu saint making his rounds at the Taj Mahal.

FWB Church at Agra

We left the Taj Mahal and made our way to the Free Will Baptist Church at Agra. Dr. Lall introduced the minister, Jyodibrakash and his wife, Shobha. This India church boasts 82 members.

"All are very active," said the minister.

The little school was empty, because it was raining. The principal of the school, Mrs. Hakeem, showed us the small schoolroom where 24 pupils from ages three to five study.

This FWB school in Agra has several specific needs, according to Mrs. Hakeem. The school needs more space, more playground equipment, puzzles, toys. "Especially plastic toys," she stressed.

The FWB school in Agra is not growing because of space. Some pupils have already been lost to other schools. For more information, write to Board of Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.



Our group stands with the staff of the Free Will Baptist Nursery School in Agra.

Carpet Industry in Agra

Off we went to a carpet company in Agra. Before we were ushered into a room where carpets were for sale, our guide took us over to watch two men making a carpet so we would appreciate the enormous labor in a rug.

As the guide talked about the vertical designs of the loom, the front row and back row of strings in the warp, we believed him when he said a rug took two to four months to complete.

Inside we went to taste Kashmir tea. An array of gorgeous silk pile carpets were displayed across the floor. Mention of 40% unemployment among men and 70% domestic women who don't work was made.

None of us purchased a carpet there. Too expensive!

Yet this fact is not to say that we had no interest in pile carpet weaving. The Hindu word for flat-weave rug is the "flat dhurrie." Many such dhurrie weavers are in Agra, and most of them are Muslim. Rugs in the past furnished the maharaja's many palaces, but today they are sold in local bazaars.

Traffic in Agra

Agra is more than the Taj Mahal, though the Taj is the magnet which draws people to its center. Yet the great Mughal emperors, Akbar, Jahangir, and Shah Jahan, made the city a wonder. The famous Hindu epic, the *Mahabharata* called the city Agrabana, meaning paradise. Agra reached its peak of beauty in the 16th and 17th centuries. These centuries reflect the scent of rose petals, clothes decorated with pearls, jewels, gold, silver were seen. These Mughal rulers gave the

West the term “mogul” to describe those robber barons of business and movie producers in Hollywood.

Today Agra is congested—a modern city rather than a Mughal paradise. Three lanes of traffic nudge into one lane with scooters, buses, oil trucks, cows, rickshaws. Harold Jones mentioned the words of one who had a broken heart when in India and who hoped he would not grow callous when he left.

The sounds of horns, people trading, traffic merging, cows shuffling heavily in the mud, children bartering, scooters slipping in and out of corners made India elusive and mysterious.

“Look at them talking to each other and laughing in this traffic,” said Paul Anderson.

The Indians looked at us. We looked at them. When we smiled, they smiled back. Their faces often lay against the windows of the buses. Traffic congestion obviously was not the exception but the rule.

The Indians laughed, their white teeth glistening in the afternoon sun. Movement in traffic was an art, a dare, a thing of maneuver par excellence. To get in and out was the name of the game, and our driver was the best, the most daring, the most outrageous.

I hoped our Guardian Angel had had a good night’s rest.

THE TAJ MAHAL

Water reflected the wondrous marble
mausoleum
man and God meeting
somewhere
between image and form
the Taj Mahal but a reminder
of elusiveness
and the inescapable urge
for immortality.

Beloved Mumtaz Mahal was no more
nor was 1631,
the Shah Jahan
or the 20,000 craftsmen
who chisled beauty
until death—
water but a reflection
of the real.

The Koran speaks of rest,
of return,
of peace,
of the garden of paradise
while the white marble
shimmered in the afternoon sun
to remind us
of settings,

darkness
with the moon ahead.

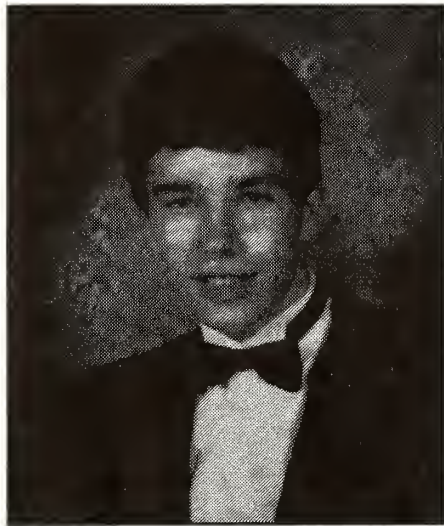
Tombs below, tombs above
what does it matter to the great Yamuna
River
that flows beyond the centuries
from the past
into the future?

Agra has its magnet mausoleum
to distract the eye
just as the silk rug
seems to be a thing of beauty
though made by tired hands
over months
for the profit of a few.

Mughal glory once made Agra
a paradise,
a place of rose petals, pearls,
jewels, gold, silver
for a few,
the man left alone
to be absorbed
by elusive India.

—Pepper Worthington

JUNIOR ANSWERS CALL TO MISSION FIELD



David Gilmore from Trinity Free Will Baptist Church is a rising Junior at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. During the past two years, he has been very active at Watanga Christian Center. For sometime he has felt that the Lord was calling him into the mission field.

In April, he attended a

conference at Chapel Hill with the Campus Harvest Missions. He again felt even stronger the call to go into mission work for the summer.

God gave him that opportunity. David was one of three young men from Appalachian who left for the Ukraine on May 25 and will return on July 18. Their tour started in Eastern Europe including three cities in the Ukraine. The team will be traveling to three cities in Romania. In each of these cities, the team will be working with the local churches as well as moving out into the surrounding areas. They also hope to lead several Crusades during their stay in Europe. The team's vision is threefold: (1) Serve the local people and cooperating missionaries by building and repairing churches and other necessary facilities, (2) minister the gospel to the people through dramas, music, and one-on-one communication, and (3) street evangelism and cultivating friendships.

In order to go on this mission trip, the team had to raise enough money to cover their expenses. These funds were provided by local churches from Clayton and Boone, businessmen from Clayton and Boone, family members and many, many friends. David would like to express to all of you his appreciation for your generosity in supporting him financially. It is his desire that you also remember him daily in your prayers. Pray that the Lord will give them protection as they travel and that many souls will be added to God's kingdom.

1994 Convention Information

Dates: September 13-15, 1994

Place: Mount Olive College

Events

September 13, 7:30 p.m., Night of Evangelism, Rodgers Chapel

September 14, 7:30 a.m., Convention Prayer Breakfast, Murphy Center

September 14-15, Convention Sessions, College Hall

September 15, Dinner and Fellowship with Fraternal Delegates, 5:30 p.m., (place to be announced)

Speakers

Night of Evangelism, The Rev. Joe Ard, pastor of Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church

Convention Introductory Message, Bishop L. N. Forbes, Original Free Will Baptists of America

Mission Rally, Willem van der Plas, missionary to Bulgaria

Convention Message, The Rev. Scott Sowers, president; pastor of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church

(Note: The complete Convention program will be featured in the September issue of *The Free Will Baptist*, and also profiles of the Convention personalities.)

Denominational Ministries

Cool Summer Nights!

Rain made for a "cooler" summer and indoor training for Cragmont's 1994 Summer Camp Season.



Christian Cadet Conference, Gary Bailey—Director, Ronnie Hobgood—Assistant, June 20–25, 1994



Minister's Conference, June 13–16, 1994



Cragmont Woman's Conference in June. The theme was "God's Small Instruments"

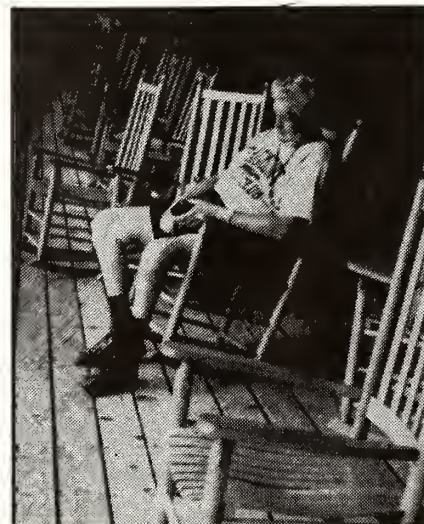
With the start of the June Woman's Conference, we expected another hot and dry season at Cragmont. But the cool summer rains came, reminding us that things don't always go the way you expect and that everything, at some point, changes.

With fewer housecleaning staff this year, there was a sense that there would be more strain and stress on the staff to keep everything running. But so far, everything has gone relatively smoothly. For example, thanks to Greg Harris and Gollie Stone, Cragmont has seen some of the best landscaping it has had in several years. Even the State of North Carolina agrees: Cragmont received a "Grade A" from its annual health inspection. And the rains brought out the creativity in the directors and counselors as outdoor activities had to be changed to work inside. Even when plans for a campfire didn't always pan out, God did, so the dorms, hallways and porches served as a place of devotion and reflection, singing, and praising.

And as the rains brought changes in the weather, so change has come to some of the camp weeks. So far, the counseling staffs for the youth camps have been somewhat different. Some, like Christian Cadets and YFA, have added new faces to an experienced crew of caretakers. Others, like AFC and Young People's Bible Conference (YPBC) have changed directors. This is the final year for Doug Skinner as director of the AFC camp week with Frankie Baggett as his successor; and Donald Mason will begin his tenure as director of the YPBC toward the end of July.



John shows off new stove.



Hulon Whitehead loves to come to camp. Now we know why, Hulon is from Westside Free Will Baptist Church.

DON'T FORGET!
FALL LIMITED EDITION
AND CHRISTMAS LIMITED EDITION
CONTACT: CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Home Missions

—A New Direction

—A New Attitude

—A New Missionary

Harvest 2000 is a program launched at last year's *Convention of Original Free Will Baptists*. In addition to the goal of 20 new churches by the end of the year 2000, it proposes a new direction and a new attitude for Free Will Baptists. A very vital aspect of this program is people and now we announce the appointment of a new missionary.

The Rev. J. Terry Ellis is the latest of God's servants to join the Home Missions team. Brother Ellis and his wife Sandy officially began working with the department of Home Missions and Evangelism July 1, 1994.

A native of Clayton, North Carolina, he is a graduate of Clayton High School and has earned the Associate of Applied Science Degree at *Wake Technical College*. Mrs. Ellis is also from Clayton and a graduate of Clayton High School. Terry and Sandy were childhood friends and childhood sweethearts who joined in marriage in 1974.

The Ellises were charter members of Trinity Original Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton and served well in several capacities there. Terry served as a youth leader, Sunday School Superintendent and a Deacon. They were also members of the singing group *Damascus Way*, and it was out of these experiences in the community of God's people that Terry recognized and accepted God's call to Christian Ministry. November 1987, saw Brother Ellis ordained to the Gospel Ministry by the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists and for about seven years he served Rock Springs Church, Bailey, North Carolina.

While in high school, Terry lettered in sports, served on the Student Council as Senior Class President, and was honored as Student of the Year. This kind of involvement he has continued as an adult citizen, serving five years on the City Council of his home town. Both he and Sandy are sports fans with particular interest in Stock Car racing and fishing. He is employed by Johnston County as Director of Geographic Information Services and Sandy serves in a similar capacity, as Director of the Geographic Information System for Wake County Schools.

The combination of experiences, both secular and church-related, have offered opportunity for creative service and function which will be of great value in the planting and leading of new churches. Terry and Sandy will begin their ministry with the department of Home Missions and Evangelism in a temporary appointment at Silver Creek Mission/Church near Cape Carteret. During this time the plans for a new field, in the Cary-Apex area, will be finalized.



The excitement and enthusiasm which the Ellises have demonstrated about their new work is both refreshing and encouraging. In a time when many people are apathetic about the Church and its role in society, Terry and Sandy clearly show a concern for and a commitment to the Church and its ministry. In a recent interview Brother Ellis said, "It's been my desire for some time to look at being more active in our denominational efforts to evangelize and to start new works. I feel very strongly that the Church is at a crossroads where we need to encourage new and younger couples to get involved in our denomination so our denomination can grow.

"I believe we have the right message, and I believe we have the opportunity now to reach out and share with those who need Jesus Christ more than ever. It's a joy for Sandy and me to have been accepted for working with the Board of Home Missions and we look forward to our assignments with them.

Sandy and Terry clearly believe in sharing the exciting time that the Church has to offer as well as teaching the truths of the Scriptures for today's needs and they look forward to the challenges of home mission work.

As Original Free Will Baptists, we need to catch the enthusiasm and make the commitment to reach out as Terry and Sandy have done. We must understand that the Home Missions phrase *to touch lives for a lifetime* also applies to the life eternal which our Lord promised. The ministry and purpose for which He died, Jesus left to the Church. Currently, one of the fastest growing areas of the country is the Raleigh metropolitan area. We have a unique and challenging opportunity to reach the people in that area for our Lord. If we cannot go into the vineyard ourselves to work for the harvest, at least we can support the team effort. Your prayers and financial support are absolutely essential for God's work to be done in this or any area of missionary enterprise. Moreover, your moral support can make a difference in the lives of our missionaries. Write them and let them know you are praying for them. Send your letters of support and your contributions to Home Missions and Evangelism, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513-0039. The letters will encourage God's servants and the gifts will help pay the bills.

You Are Invited To Attend
The Annual Convention Missions Rally
September 14, 1994
7:30 P.M.
College Hall, Mount Olive College

Board of Foreign Missions In Charge



Program Personalities: Willem and Lydia van der Plas, Missionaries to Bulgaria

Special Music: The Radfords, Spring Hill Church, Goldsboro, NC

Willem and Lydia van der Plas are our missionaries to Bulgaria, Eastern Europe. They pioneered this new Field in 1991. They will only be in North Carolina for two months (July 18-September 19). Please come and share this time with them and show them your support.

Why not call off prayer meeting and come to the Rally? You will surely be blessed.

Special Offering: Your special offering at this Missions Rally is vital for the continued growth of your missions programs. Begin to pray now and ask God to reveal to you what your contribution should be this year. I believe Him for the greatest offering in our history.

Remember: Your special gift to Foreign Missions at the Missions Rally must be designated. If for some reason you cannot attend the Rally, you can mail your gift and receive credit for the Rally offering.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
The Rev. Harold Jones, Director-Treasurer
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513; Phone 919-746-4963

NEWS LETTER FROM INDIA AND NEPAL

by the Rev. Dr. E. M. Lall



Our Sunday School children singing on Palm Sunday.

It has been observed that a considerable progress in our Sunday Schools is evident. Though the senior people lack enthusiasm, the younger generation is marching ahead in attending and participating in our Sunday School activities. I personally urged upon all our ministers and deacons at the time of last council of ministers and deacons to ensure that the entire congregation takes interest in the promotion of Sunday Schools in India and Nepal. There was nothing like Sunday Schools when we started work of the church here but when the congregations were adopted and constituted the need of Sunday School was followed up. It is now a pleasure to see the Sunday Schools in function in all our churches.



The bumper crop of wheat at our church campus being harvested.

We have been greatly blessed with the bumper crop of fine wheat in the church campus at Bareilly. Though it rained with hail-storm in our adjacent towns and cities causing damage to the wheat crop, it did not affect our district with the result that our crops remained intact. The church will assess the quantity and determine the cost for sale to church members and the proceeds will support some urgent work of the church.



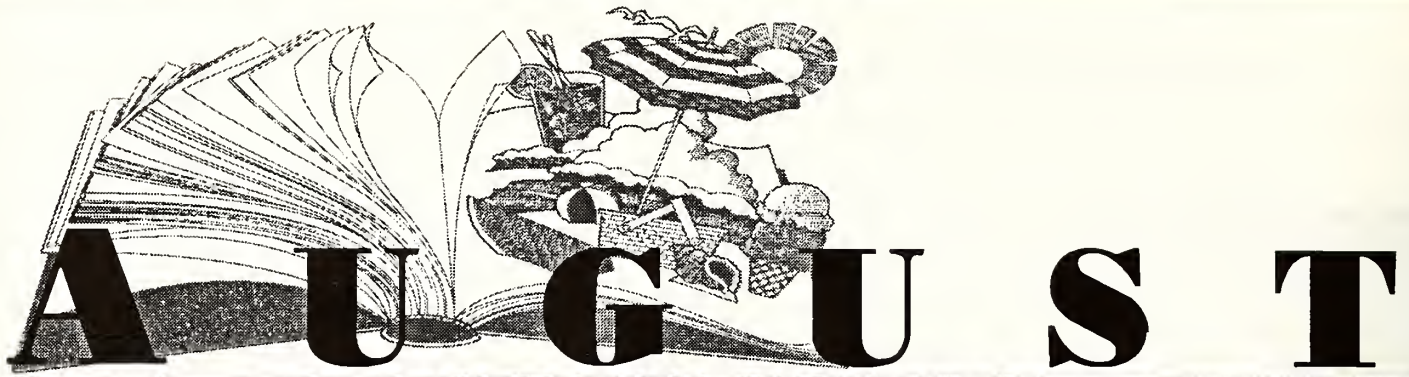
The people of the State of Bihar under the Rev. D. K. Wilson erected a chapel hall by themselves as a worship place.

Deacon Daya Kishan Wilson is working in the province of Bihar in the extreme South for about a year. It is the same province where the late Miss Laura Bernard established her church work in the extreme North in the district of Purnea. Deacon Wilson is reported to be doing a fine job in expanding the work of our denomination in that large State. He recently participated in our Bible Training program held at Bareilly, April 8-11, 1994. Our Ordaining Council saw fit to ordain him as a minister of the Church so that he may not find any handicap in the function of the duties of a minister in his congregations. He gave me some photographs of the people of one of the villages who have recently finished building a worship place for themselves. The Rev. Wilson has been provided with a bicycle by the Board of Foreign Missions through our Director-Treasurer, the Rev. Harold Jones. The bicycle will be of great help to him as he has been working in 13 villages far and near. He has conveyed thanks for the bicycle. I have yet to visit the state personally in the event of some better opportunity. The Rev. Joyti Prakash of Agra circuit had made a couple of visits on my instructions to see the work personally and he gave good reports.

(Continued on page 26)



The Bareilly congregation on Palm Sunday, March 27, 1994. They marched around the Cantonment area with slogans bearing Palm leaves.



AUGUST

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SUN	MON	TUE	
	1	2 + Executive Committee Meeting, 10 A.M. Headquarters	3
	▲❁ (1-6) WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE		■ (1-5) JOHN R. P.
7	8 -Pastor's School, Mount Olive College	9	10 ● B
			■ (8-12) DAVID Y
14	15	16 -FWB Press Board Meeting, 10 A.M. Headquarters -Retirement Homes Board Meeting, 6 P.M. Headquarters	17
21	22	23	24
28	29	30 ❁ Board Meeting, 1:30 P.M. Mount Olive College	31

G E N D

ous/following month

ent month

- ◇ Children's Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Union Meeting
- Vandemere
- * Woman's Auxiliary

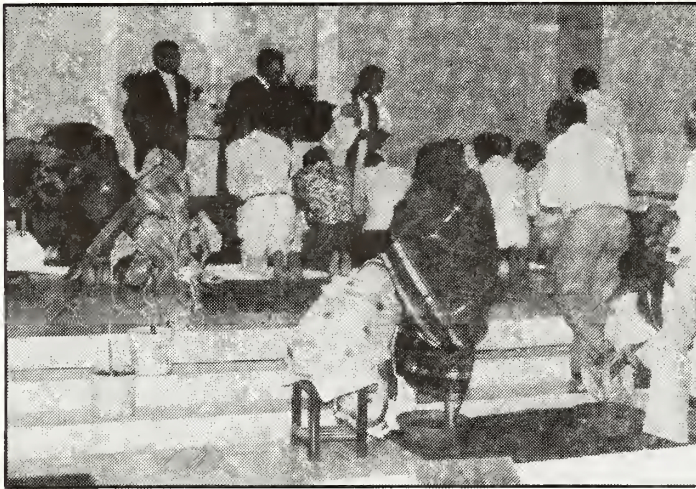
THU

FRI

SAT

	<p>4 ◆ Promotional Committee Meeting, 7 P.M. Elmer Harrell's Office, Snow Hill</p> <p>-Minister's Program, 9-1 P.M. Headquarters</p>	<p>5 ★ 1st Pee Dee</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>ing, 1 P.M. Headquarters</p> <p>B Materials</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 ▲ Board Meeting, 10 A.M. Bill's Bar-B-Que</p>
<p>ER, DIRECTOR</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>

The Bareilly congregation of our church organized a unique program on Palm Sunday, March 27, 1994 by marching around the Cantonment area with slogans bearing Palm leaves. It attracted people of the streets to inquire about Palm Sunday. It challenged the non-Christians.



Foot-Washing at Bareilly Church, Thursday, March 31, 1994

Having considered seriously as to why "The Foot Washing" which is one of the ordinances of the Lord Jesus Christ is not being observed in our congregations, the church at Bareilly pioneered in solemnizing this ritual on Thursday, March 31, 1994. All of our ministers and deacons who were here for the Bible Training Program and participated in the ceremony prior to Holy Communion on April 10, 1994 have agreed to follow this practice in their churches. There was a pin drop silence when the ceremony of foot washing was being conducted in the church at Bareilly. It appeared that the people felt the gravity of this ordinance because there was some change on their faces which led us to think that they felt purified after partaking in the Holy Communion.



Baptismal service at Bareilly Church on March 20, 1994.

Five baptisms of new converts took place on March 20, 1994 at Bareilly after teaching them about the Lord Jesus Christ and their salvation. Our congregations are growing with new converts and continue taking interest in preaching the Word around them. Things some times seem difficult in

the wake of regionalism, communalism, and casteism. We covet your prayers while we are in His vineyard.



Mass evangelism program conducted during Bible Training program on April 9, 1994.

Our Bible Training program was conducted from April 8-11, 1994 as a part of our yearly activity. This provides great help in learning more in the Bible. Effective sermons and class meetings give a great deal of knowledge to the people. Their questions are resolved in a way that is understandable by all and as such endeavours are made to equip them with all the best at the occasion. Our people look forward for this program and enjoy the fellowship of being together for the refresher course. April 9, 1994 was set apart for practical evangelism in the city of Bareilly by our people who participated in the training program. The day's hard toil achieved tremendous progress. The entire city was caught by surprise and the name of our Lord held high among the non-Christians. This effort of evangelism continued to remain the talk of the day in the city. Some other church people confessed that they are much behind in this task. It was a time of great rejoicing being together in the program and meeting each other's needs, spiritually and physically. We owe our gratitude to the people in North Carolina for supporting such programs. They are no less partakers with us.



Ordination of two ministers and one deacon on April 10, 1994.

Two deacons, Vijai Dutt looking after the work in the country of Nepal, and Daya Kishan Wilson of the state of Bihar were ordained as full-fledged ministers with exclusive responsibility of ministry in their region. The other deacon, M. R. Bhaskar in the district of Ferozabad, where we started work since last year was ordained for that region. Deacon Bhaskar and his congregation were impatiently waiting for the visit of the group from North Carolina on their way from Agra to Bareilly which we missed because we were too late.

ANNUAL CONVENTION MISSIONS RALLY

The Annual Convention Missions Rally is a vital part of the financial life of the Board of Foreign Missions. The special offering received at the Rally comes at the end of the usual summer drop in funding and helps bring the budget up to date. I encourage you to give the most generous offering you have ever given at the Rally for Foreign Missions. Thank you in advance for your response.

I hope all of you can attend; but if you cannot, you can mail your special offering to Board of Foreign Missions, Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513-0039. You will still receive credit for the Rally offering.

REMEMBER: You must earmark your check for Foreign Missions or place it in a special Foreign Missions envelope. These will be sent to every pastor and supplied at the Rally.

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOME

by Tina Allen, Director of Church & Public Relations

"STRAIGHT UP" VISITS CHILDREN'S HOME



"Straight Up"

A little variety in the lives of the residents at the Free Will Baptists Children's Home is good. We are fortunate enough that we have groups who want to do something special just for our children. On the evening of Saturday, June 4, 1994, a talented group from Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro came to perform for our residents at the Home. This talented group of singers calls itself "Straight Up" and has performed many times throughout the Free Will Baptist churches. The staff and residents at the Home felt a privileged that they would want to come and bring us a special message considering it takes them three hours to set up their equipment!

We would like to say thank you to this group for the time and effort they took to share with our children the "contemporary" message in their singing. We all enjoyed the evening and hope that they will come back soon!

AUXILIARY TOURS THE CHILDREN'S HOME



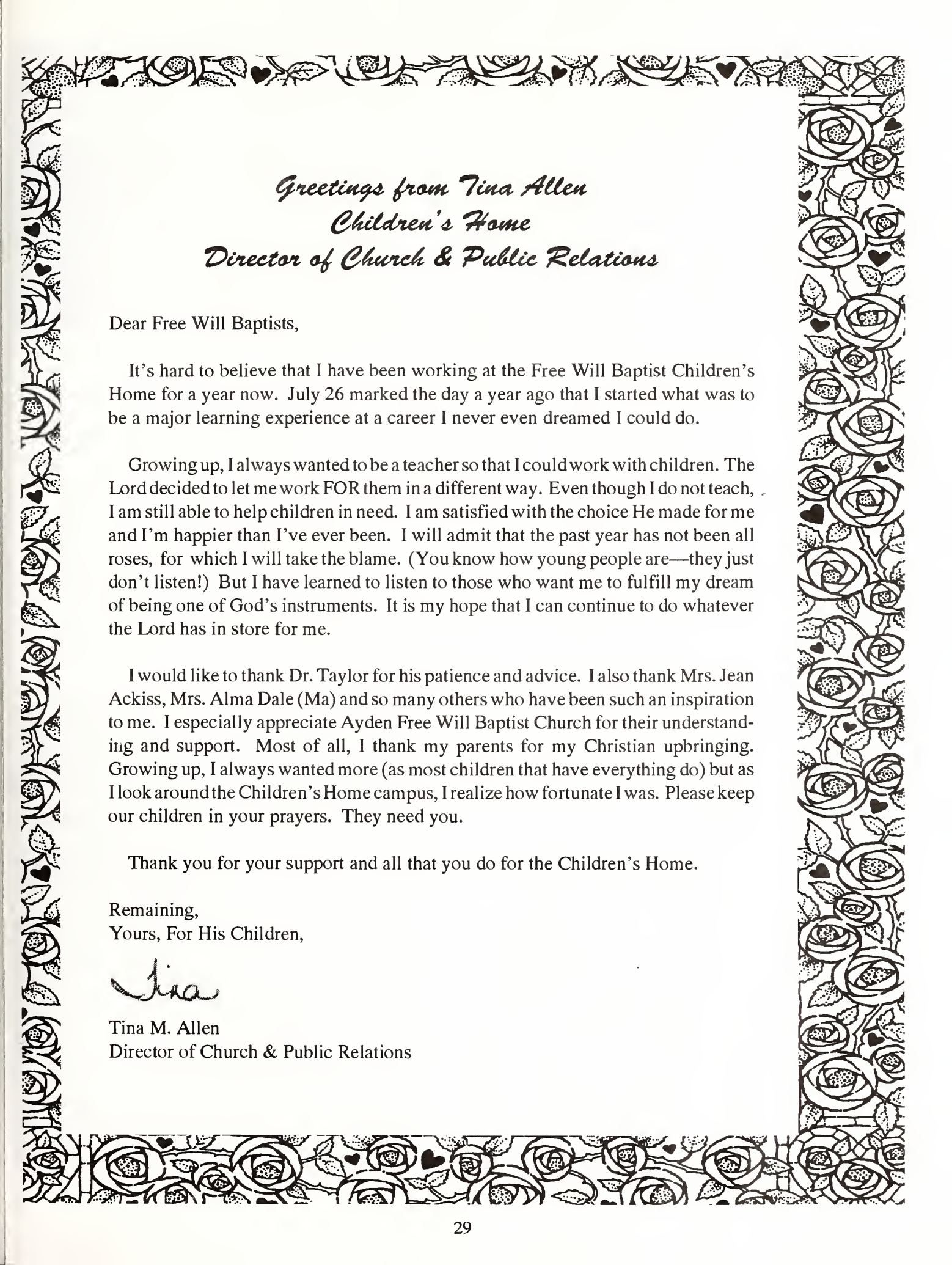
Greenville Senior Citizens



Senior Citizens at Heritage Hall

The Senior Citizens group of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, NC, decided to take a trip to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for a tour on Thursday, June 16, 1994. Unfortunately, the air conditioner on their van stopped working on their way to Middlesex so they were good and warm by the time they reached the Home. And once they got there, they took a tour of the campus in the hot sun! They were anxious to get to Heritage Hall where the air conditioner was!

Despite all of the troubles they had, I think they enjoyed their visit and tour anyway. (At least I hope they did!)



*Greetings from Tina Allen
Children's Home
Director of Church & Public Relations*

Dear Free Will Baptists,

It's hard to believe that I have been working at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for a year now. July 26 marked the day a year ago that I started what was to be a major learning experience at a career I never even dreamed I could do.

Growing up, I always wanted to be a teacher so that I could work with children. The Lord decided to let me work FOR them in a different way. Even though I do not teach, I am still able to help children in need. I am satisfied with the choice He made for me and I'm happier than I've ever been. I will admit that the past year has not been all roses, for which I will take the blame. (You know how young people are—they just don't listen!) But I have learned to listen to those who want me to fulfill my dream of being one of God's instruments. It is my hope that I can continue to do whatever the Lord has in store for me.

I would like to thank Dr. Taylor for his patience and advice. I also thank Mrs. Jean Ackiss, Mrs. Alma Dale (Ma) and so many others who have been such an inspiration to me. I especially appreciate Ayden Free Will Baptist Church for their understanding and support. Most of all, I thank my parents for my Christian upbringing. Growing up, I always wanted more (as most children that have everything do) but as I look around the Children's Home campus, I realize how fortunate I was. Please keep our children in your prayers. They need you.

Thank you for your support and all that you do for the Children's Home.

Remaining,
Yours, For His Children,



Tina M. Allen
Director of Church & Public Relations

NEWS FROM MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Cecil Cahoon II

Free Will Baptist Student Finds Personal Change in Experience at Mount Olive College: Janet Corbett



Pictured from left to right: Janet Corbett, Dr. Burkette Raper, Mrs. and the Rev. Corbett.

“Three years ago, I was a frightened individual entering into my freshman year at Mount Olive College. Like many freshman, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. Furthermore, I was a person who was not sure of myself or my abilities. My self-esteem was low and I did not speak unless I was spoken to. During the first month of school I realized that it was time to make a change. One may ask, “How did you make these changes?” The answer was simple. I looked to the Lord for guidance and became involved in clubs and organizations on campus. It was through the clubs that I gained many valuable friendships. It was these friends who helped me to realize that I have a lot of talents to offer and that I should not keep them to myself.

“My leadership skills were strengthened as I served in many leadership roles around campus. I began to realize that my actions and thoughts played a major role in who I was and what I would become. My undecided choice of a major was weighing heavily upon my mind. At first I thought about teaching but decided that was not what I wanted. After taking an Introduction to Psychology class, I knew what academic program I wanted to pursue. Psychology has proven to be interesting and thought-provoking. On October 19, 1993, I was inducted into Psi Chi, The National Honor Society in Psychology.

“I plan to pursue a Master’s Degree in Social Work upon graduation in May.

“Today as I think about the changes and growth in my life I find it hard to believe that I was once that shy and withdrawn. Today, I am more sure of myself and what I am doing. People tell me they cannot believe just how much I have grown into

a more mature and focused individual. I no longer let people run over me but I speak my mind. I realize that my leadership skills have been strengthened, and I will rely heavily upon what I have learned as I serve as the President of the Student Government Association for the 94-95 year.

While studying at Mount Olive I have grown in many aspects of life such as academics, responsibilities, social and cultural. I would not trade any of my experiences at Mount Olive for anything.”

Biographical Sketch of Janet Corbett

Janet Corbett is a senior psychology major at Mount Olive College who combines academic, civic, and church responsibilities into a well-rounded and full schedule. The daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. James Corbett of Pinetown, Janet received the Presidential Citizenship Award last spring and will serve as president of the Student Government Association during the 1994-95 academic year.

In her three years at Mount Olive College, Janet has participated in numerous academic and church-related programs and activities. She is a Leadership Scholar and has worked as peer advisor to freshmen. She served two years as resident assistant in the women’s residence halls and as a student assistant for the Office of Advisement and Career Planning.

While her father is currently pastor of Rock Springs Free Will Baptist Church in Bailey, Janet continues her work with Free Will Baptist youth in Bible School and in district and state competitions of the annual State Youth Convention arts and crafts and public speaking activities.

In addition to her memberships in the Free Will Baptist Fellowship, the Baptist Student Union, Psi Chi and the yearbook staff, Janet is a Read To Succeed volunteer at Carver Elementary School in Mount Olive.

Student Responses to Annual Survey Favorable to Christian Mission

Responses to an annual questionnaire given to candidates for graduation at Mount Olive College show a favorable attitude toward the College’s Christian mission and its fulfillment of the mission.

When asked to describe things they have learned at Mount Olive College, the class of 1994 frequently made references to the College’s focus and commitment to maintaining and developing its spiritual core.



Graduating seniors were asked to respond to a survey questionnaire on their experience at Mount Olive College. Pictured here are Free Will Baptist graduates Kathryn Croom Farrior of Pleasant Grove FWB, Pikeville; Kimberly Byrd of Lee's Chapel FWB, Dunn; and Barbara Lancaster of May's Chapel FWB, Dudley.

"I have learned what Christian values are all about," one answered.

Another wrote, "I've learned that it takes hard work and dedication to finally reach this time. I have learned the professors really do care for us. They want us to succeed. And I have learned that with God, all things are possible."

Students noted learning "the value of hard work," "how to mature and handle life-like situations," "to be more responsible and committed," and "to respect other people as well as myself, that I am important and my life is what I choose to make of it."

"I have learned how to keep my Christian values alive and well in the areas of my life," said another student. "Choosing to attend Mount Olive College was a wise decision, for the college has guided me both educationally and religiously."

When asked what they perceived their duty to be as graduates of Mount Olive College, some answered, "to be the best I can be at whatever I do," "to represent the college well," or "to live a Christian life with the school's ideals as a guide."

One responded that his duty is "to inform prospective students of what Christian life is all about and how they can receive it at Mount Olive College."

Another wrote that his duty was "to be a productive member of society with strong belief in God. The strong belief in Christ will inevitably lead to a good foundation to build from to influence others that education and God are important in life."

"To uphold the highest moral and ethical standards possible," wrote another. "I would not think a graduate of a Christian college with Christian beliefs would consider anything less."

In response to the last question on the survey, "At this time in my life, I value most . . .," many students noted family and friends. Some noted their education as having the most value, but others answered "faith."

"I value most my faith in God, my wife and two children, and the ability to be thankful for all we have been blessed with," said one. Another valued most "my service to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

"Without Him, I would have never made it this far," another wrote. "With Him continuing to be at my side, He gave me confidence, strength and knowledge to graduate. Without God in my life, I would be nothing."

President Burkette Raper said he was "very pleased" by the responses given in the survey.

"The ultimate measure of a college is not what the administration and faculty say it is but what the students experience. If meaning and purpose are at the center of human experience, then faith and values should be at the heart of education. If God is the foundation of life, He should also be the foundation of education," Raper said.

Church Mission is Focus of Administration Meetings

Administration and staff members of Mount Olive College met twice recently for discussions important to the college's mission and purpose. The meetings focused on discussion of the College's fulfillment of its Christian mission and service to the sponsoring Free Will Baptist Church.

President W. Burkette Raper said that everyone involved in the College's work should have a clear view of its mission and consider what should be the goal of their endeavors. The charter of the College, he noted, includes a commitment to "Christian education of young men and women."

The most distinctive quality of Mount Olive College is not its programs but its people, said Frank Harrison, campus minister. "Christian life is taught and lived; the character of the College is molded by the people it employs," he said.

Jean Ackiss, director of church support, said that Mount Olive College's willingness to declare and support its Christian mission makes it distinctive. "We're not afraid to say we're Christian and use terms to describe ourselves as Christian," Mrs. Ackiss said.

"We believe we're here because God instituted this work and has a purpose for it," she added. "We're not afraid of loving God, seeking His path and helping others, and living a life that has the most value: a Christian life. We seek to find meaning through the right answers and the right people."

From the Bible comes the simplest ideas the College holds, she said, quoting Micah 6:8, "He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God?"

"We bring what we are inside to our work," she said. People seek "something more, real, genuine, and the College offers that through its commitment to basic Christian values."

In addition, Mount Olive College is a place where academic ideas are valued, where education includes raising the

right questions and preparing students to seek answers, said Dr. J. William Byrd, executive vice president. "This makes Mount Olive College's record one of academic value."

Certain things are clear, Raper said. Mount Olive College exists to provide Christian higher education, and students attend the college because they believe it will deliver educational services with some distinctive qualities. The College exists to help the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists fulfill its ministry to people, and people support the College because "students would be deprived if we didn't share in the experience," Raper said.

Another quality of distinction is the attitude of Christian mission that permeates every program of the campus, said Dr. David Hines, chairman of the Department of Religion. Even through the College's extension in New Bern is this attitude evident, Hines said.

A perspective of life is offered at Mount Olive College that is not found at state institutions, added Academic Dean Dorothy Whitley. "Advisors meet with students frequently, discuss various life goals and encourage students in their developmental pursuits. Students do not normally find such character in personal relationships elsewhere," she said.

Dr. Opey Jeanes, who directs the College's program on Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, said that in his observations of the program, students "go shopping" when they are ready for academic study.

"Many of them report that Mount Olive College's service is what they are seeking," Jeanes said. "I believe the reason for the success of the Seymour Johnson program is the way we treat our students, plus quality faculty and product."

The group discussed ways to expand the College's service to the sponsoring Free Will Baptist Church and began work on programs and activities that will better prepare Free Will Baptist students for service to their churches.

To make better use of the Free Will Baptist Tuition Grant given to students attending the College, Hines suggested developing a program of service that encourages students to take leadership roles in their churches. Those receiving the grant will be required to participate in special activities related to the history, beliefs, and polity of the church and ministries of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

"Ideally, Free Will Baptist students who attend Mount Olive College and receive the grant should grow in their service to their churches while growing through their academic programs," Hines said.



The Mount Olive College seal conveys the College's Christian mission through a union of Christian faith, symbolized by the Cross, and education, symbolized by the lamp of learning.

Downtown Campus on the Market

The building that served Mount Olive College during its first 40 years has been put on the market for sale.



Downtown Campus

A "For Sale" sign was recently erected in front of the old "downtown campus" where hundreds of Mount Olive College alumni lived, studied and worked during their college experience.

President W. Burkette Raper noted that the building has served Mount Olive College well, but the time has come when its continued use by the College is no longer feasible.

"Continued use of the building would require extraordinary renovations that would be unduly expensive," Raper said. "In addition, the educational program will be more effective with the consolidation of facilities on the main campus."

The building, which stands at the corner of James and Breazeale streets, served the Mount Olive public schools for 40 years before it was condemned in 1951. In 1953, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists purchased the property and set about renovating it for use as a college facility. Several who watched the renovations, almost hopelessly noted cracked and falling plaster, broken windows, sagging floors.

Reports show that when the building was ready for the first students to enroll in September, 1954, the paint in the upstairs dormitory rooms wasn't dry on the night students arrived. Students slept on the floor that night.

Those who attended Mount Olive College on the downtown campus remember the building fondly.

"On that one ground floor, we had a nice library with a reading room, the stacks, even a music room," said Dr. E. Lee Glover, who entered Mount Olive College in 1957 and is now a professor of biology at Montgomery College, Takoma Park, Maryland. "As you came out the door, we had not just a new science lab, but one that had four new tables init that would seat 16 students."

"Across the hall, there was a student lounge, the president's office, a couple of classrooms, a kitchen and dining hall, the registrar's office, a business office, and a bookstore, all on one floor."

Lillian Barwick Langley, was one of the College's first students and attended events in the upstairs auditorium. A native of Mount Olive, Mrs. Langley knew the auditorium well; she took piano lessons in the room while in elementary school and through her high school years.

"That auditorium meant a lot to me through the years. It was in all the fibers of my life, really," she said.

The building was closed in 1993 after dining and other services were med to the newly-constructed Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. A "Last Dinner" occasion marked the event. During the 1993-94 academic year, some rooms of the building were used by the fine arts department as studio classrooms, but those classes will be taught on the main campus in the future.

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

SURPRISE PASTOR'S APPRECIATION DAY AT BARNES HILL CHURCH

Submitted by Mrs. Kay Manning

On May 29th Barnes Hill Church surprised their pastor, the Rev. Dewey C. Boling with a pastor's appreciation day. The church was decorated with a beautiful flower arrangement by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Flags were in all the windows for Memorial Day honoring our country and all of its veterans who had given their lives for this great country.

When Mr. Boling, as usual came out with the choir to sing, he noticed all of his family sitting together, and he knew something was going on that he was not aware of. When he reached the pulpit to lead the opening hymn, he saw the day's bulletin for the first time and realized what was actually going on. Seated together were his wife of 56 years, his daughter, Cindy, her son Brandon Wall (a rising sophomore at UNC at Wilmington, his son-in-law, Greg Wall whom many remember as the lead singer for the singing group, *Damascus Way*; his son, Redgar Boling, his wife, Johnnie, his two great-grandchildren, Elizabeth and Kandace, their mother, Tammy, and their father, Dewey Scott Boling, named after his grandfather, Mr. Boling. It was certainly good to have all the family together for this special service.

After the opening hymn, prayer, announcements, and choir special, a special selection "Healing" was sung by Mr. Boling's grandson, Brandon. As Mr. Boling prepared to preach the morning message, the chairman of the Deacon Board asked to have the last ten minutes of the morning service. At the close of the service, the Chairman, John Manning, proceeded to read a letter

written by his wife, Kay. (See the following letter). Mr. Manning also talked to Mr. Boling's family about how much they appreciated their pastor and his wife and how much they appreciated the Lord's leading Mr. Boling their way and how his 43 years in the ministry had given him wisdom from God to be a great help to them in a difficult time. He also commented on how the Lord has blessed the church with new and returning visitors since Mr. and Mrs. Boling had come to pastor their church.

Mrs. Cleo Worrell presented Mr. Boling with a new Bible and a pastoral plaque. She presented Mrs. Boling with a beautiful picture of the dove of peace. The church presented them with a nice check and others also gave them envelopes with money as well as other gifts.

After the closing hymn, the congregation went to the fellowship hall for a lovely covered-dish lunch that was enjoyed by all. Other out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. Othal Minshew, very special friends of Mr. and Mrs. Boling, and owners of Minshew Funeral Home in Four Oaks.

Please pray for the Lord to continue to use Mr. Boling and his wife, Louise, in the wonderful way he has since they came our way.

*Dear Pastor Dewey and Louise,
This is a love letter from your family at Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church.*

When you two came to the church the first time as our Pastor family, you made us feel the love you have in your hearts. It was one of those warm sunny feelings, like the first day of Spring. Having that warm sense of humor and a young-at-heart attitude, you made us comfortable, no matter what our ages or backgrounds.

GENERAL INTEREST

We appreciate you and Louise for being so faithful to the church, to us and to the Lord. You are always there for the services and we are grateful to Louise for being so supportive in your ministry and for being our friend.

You both are energetic and got involved from day one, and encouraged us to do the same. Louise introduced new programs to the church, like the Christmas Service at Christmas and helped with the tree and ornaments and the service was so beautiful. Then there were the other times, like dressing in costumes, and using new plays for different occasions, and all of the things you both do for the church and us, that no one knows about.

You both visit us when we are sick, or if we just need someone to talk to, you are there and that means so very much to us. We have seen you drive many miles to get to the church on service nights, and drive many miles to wherever there is a need and never have we heard you complain.

The most important thing is that you, Pastor, preach from the Bible and never deviate from it. You are always encouraging us to read along at church and to read more of God's Word wherever we are.

You mention sometimes that we all need to be careful about what we do, because someone could be reading our lives as a Bible, well, we read you and Louise and we can see that you both practice what you preach. Not many congregations can say that about their pastor and his wife, we are blessed that we can!

We just wanted you and Louise to know how much we do appreciate you on this special day—and all of the other 364 days of the year.

*Love,
Your Church Family*

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

GENERAL INTEREST

QUILT PRESENTED TO PASTOR OF PLEASANT HILL FWB CHURCH



Pictured are the Rev. Jones and his wife, Marietta in front of the quilt.

On Sunday, May 15, 1994, the members of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, located on Highway 43 South, Greenville, NC, presented the Rev. Harry A. Jones Jr. with a personalized quilt in appreciation of his dedication and service to God and his church.

The quilt project started in November, 1993 by the Ladies' Auxiliary and was originally intended to be finished in January, 1994. But, because of unforeseen circumstances, the quilting was not finished until April, 1994. The quilt was a labor of love for each church member's family. It consisted of various squares with significant representations of each family, ranging from the first baptism the Rev. Jones had the pleasure of performing to a square for our beloved shut-ins to a square of a computerized photograph of the Rev. Jones that was located in the center of the quilt. Ways and Means Chairwoman,

Brenda VanDerven, coordinated the putting together of the quilt by making sure the squares were completed and turned in to her. She then turned them over to the ladies of Timothy Christian Church, located in Gardnersville, NC, who put the quilt together with the help of members of Pleasant Hill's Ladies' Auxiliary.

There was one hitch that the members had to overcome. We had to keep the quilt a secret from the pastor! Never let it be said that the members of Pleasant Hill cannot keep a secret. That secret was kept for six months! This was especially profound since the Rev. Jones' wife, Marietta is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary and knew all about the quilt and the plans to present it to the pastor.

The pastor had previously been told that on May 15 the church ladies were going to serve a meal after the morning church service. He had also been told to try and keep his message short so lunch could be served promptly at 12:00. What he didn't know was that he was going to be surprised with the presentation of the quilt during the time of his planned service. To say that he was surprised is by all means an understatement! He was very touched by the love that was shown to him that day. After the shock wore off, everyone made their way to the fellowship hall where a bounty of foods was waiting to be served. To top the day off, the pastor's parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Harry A. Jones Sr. joined in the lunch and had fellowship with everyone who attended the event.

All the hard work that everyone put into this labor of love turned out to be a great success by the power of God and His direction.

WESTERN DISTRICT PRESENTS LIFE AWARD HONOR AT SPRING CONVENTION



Jean Marlowe

The Western District Convention was held April 6, 1994 at Sherron Acres Church, Durham, NC with 82 delegates and guests present. Devotion, fellowship and a wonderful luncheon was enjoyed by all. Theme for the day "Whole Hearted Obedience."

The morning message was given by Jean Bunn, Marsh Swamp Church. Reports were given by all the Denominational Ministries. Special music was presented by the members of the local church.

Five churches received A-1 Status:
First Church, Wilson
Piney Grove Church, Kenly
Selma FWB Church, Selma
Marsh Swamp, Wilson County
St. Mary's, Wilson County

The highlight of the day was the presentation of the Life Award to the Western District President, Jean Marlowe. In presenting the award the following information was given:

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

GENERAL INTEREST

The woman we are honoring today has been doing an outstanding service in her church, in the district, and the Free Will Baptist denomination.

She was born in Wayne County, the only daughter of her parents, now deceased. She has two brothers, one whom is a Free Will Baptist minister. She is married and has one daughter and two grandchildren. She grew up in Wayne County and attended Nahunta School. She was active in Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church while growing up, and very active in the Youth Auxiliary. She loved attending the Youth Rallies. She would work real hard on Saturdays in order to get her chores done in time to get ready for the Youth Rally on Saturday night. She has been heard to say her favorite pastime in those days was sitting on the doorsteps with her friends, eating runny chocolate fudge with a spoon.

Later in her teens she moved to Fremont where she graduated from Fremont High School. She met her husband there and was married on March 27, 1955. Her husband experienced severe heart problems some years ago, and she promised God she would serve Him in any way He could use her if He would spare her husband. She has done just that. She and her husband are very active in their church and in the Free Will Baptist denomination. Some of her accomplishments are: Board of Directors at the Free Will Baptist Press, secretary of Wayne County Fellowship Supper, president of her local auxiliary, treasurer of Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, and she teaches young children in Sunday School.

Aside from performing her duties as school secretary very effectively, and

her many church activities, she finds time to enjoy her husband, Donald and her daughter Donna, her son-in-law and two grandchildren, Emory and Marlowe. She loves to travel, take vacations, and visit Cragmont. It is an honor and a pleasure to present this life award to Western District President, Jean Marlowe, a very loving and deserving lady.

DUBLIN GROVE CHURCH'S NEW PARSONAGE

by Mrs. Owen Peele



The Rev. Edward Thornton on the steps of the new parsonage of Dublin Grove Church, Aurora, NC.

For many years the pastors of Dublin Grove Church at Route 2, Aurora, NC have been commuting pastors. In the history of the church we have had only two who lived in the community and at their own expense. For several years we have been investigating the possibility of a trailer that the pastor could use at his convenience. In the above picture you see our pastor, the Rev. Edward Thornton, standing on the steps

of the trailer recently bought and furnished by the church. Mr. Thornton lives and works in Snow Hill and is driving 62 miles one way. Now on weekends or any night he chooses, he and his family have a nice, cool private home. Dublin Grove over the years has grown from two services a month to two services a week and many extra church activities. Mr. Rev. Thornton is a pastor who attends all church functions. To all of our former pastors we wish we had stepped out on faith and done this many years ago. We have been blessed with many wonderful Christian ministers.

ORGANIST HONORED AT FIRST FWB CHURCH GREENVILLE, NC

by Barbara Arnold



On Sunday, June 26, 1994, the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville, NC honored Ruth Moye Taylor for more than fifty years of devoted service as church organist. A special service was planned in Ruth's honor and was miraculously kept in secret by the

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

GENERAL INTEREST

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

entire congregation until she arrived with her children for church. She was surprised by many others in her family who had gathered for this special occasion.

Special tributes were given by the choir director, Kathy Norman, our pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, and special music was presented by Ruth's daughter and son-in-law, Ruth Cotten and the Rev. Wayne West. Mr. West also brought the message from the Book of Ruth.

In addition to her musical talents, Ruth has demonstrated her leadership capabilities as a deacon and in the local auxiliary. She is presently serving as president of the Central Auxiliary Conference.

Ruth has been an outstanding example of God's love and caring for our congregation and others over the years. We had a beautiful service honoring one of our own whom the Lord has blessed and through whom His love has touched the lives of so many.

A wonderful meal followed in the fellowship hall where we enjoyed delicious food and amusing stories related by Ruth's family.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HELD AT SELMA ORIGINAL FWB CHURCH



Selma Original Free Will Baptist Church held Vacation Bible School, June 13-16, 1994. In keeping with the theme "Celebrate Jesus" the educational building was decorated with brightly colored banners, streamers, helium-filled balloons and even a nine-foot "hot-air balloon." Each evening began with a light supper hosted by the Men's Fellowship and Women's Auxiliary. Along with the usual classes, art and music, there was a special activity each night.

On Monday, we celebrated the birth of Jesus. There was birthday cake and a birthday present for each child, symbolizing God's gifts to us and especially, the most wonderful gift of all, His Son.

On Tuesday, we studied the miracle of feeding the multitude with the five loaves and two fish. Everyone got to "go fishing." Each child caught a BIG fish that had a surprise inside.

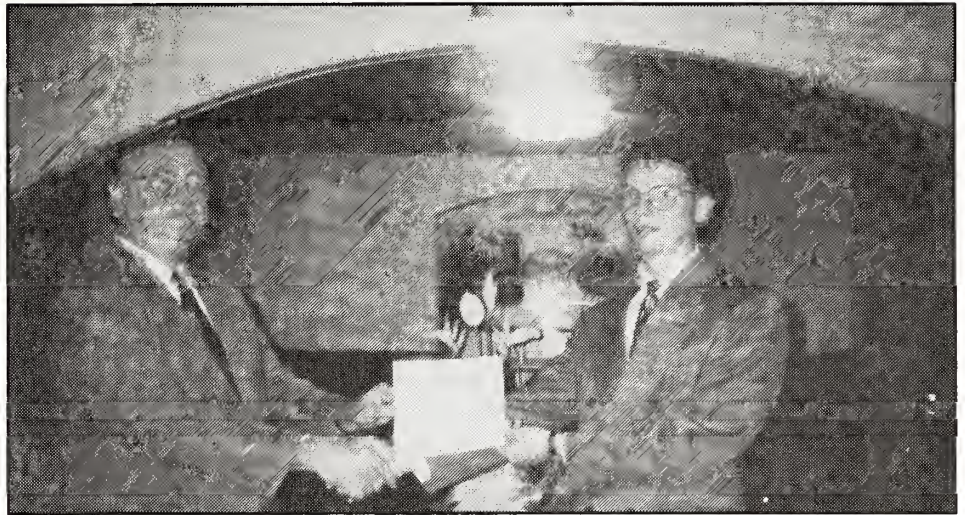
On Wednesday, we learned about the prodigal son. Everyone was given

six gold coins. They had to buy their supper with two gold coins. They also had opportunities to earn more coins by helping in class, giving correct answers, etc. The students got to go to "the store" to purchase candy, toys and mystery bags, if they chose to do so. At the end of the evening, everyone was given a ring as a symbol of our Heavenly Father's love for each of us.

On Thursday, we celebrated The Triumphant Entry with a parade around the church. The small children rode in decorated wagons while the others marched, carrying balloons and banners, and singing and playing musical instruments.

On Sunday evening, commencement was held in the fellowship hall. Each class told about what they had learned during the week, showed their art projects, and sang their favorite celebration songs. This week was a great reminder that Christians have so much to celebrate.

**RANDY COBB RECEIVES
LICENSE FROM DILDA'S GROVE CHURCH**



Donald Randolph (Randy) Cobb receives license from the Rev. Dennis Sherrod.

Donald Randolph (Randy) Cobb received license to the ministry from Dilda's Grove Free Will Baptist Church on May 1, 1994.

The Rev. Dennis Sherrod, pastor, presented the license prior to the evening message delivered by Randy.

Randy was a graduate of Southwest Edgecombe High School. He graduated from Mount Olive College with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion. He recently graduated (May 21, 1994) graduated from Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia, with a Master of Arts in Christian Doctrine and History.

Randy served as Youth Director at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro while attending Mount Olive College and Regent University.

He is currently the Youth Director at Black Jack Original Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, NC.

Randy's parents are Randolph Jr. and Kay Cobb of Macclesfield, NC. He has one brother, Allen Cobb.

**ATTENTION
YOUTH DIRECTORS**

Do You Need Help
in Resources?

**A YOUTH WORKERS'
TRAINING SEMINAR**

Saturday, October 1, 1994
9 a.m.—3 p.m.
Cost: \$25 each
(covers lunch & materials)

Seminar Leaders

Joey Williams, Youth Director
First FWB, Greenville, NC
Brian Garris, Youth Director
Hickory Grove FWB, Stokes,
NC

Glenn Mills, Youth Director
Stoney Creek FWB,
Goldsboro, NC

TO REGISTER

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Church Representing _____

ANNUAL LABOR DAY HOTDOG SALE AND BAZAAR

DATE: Saturday, September 3 and Monday, September 5
TIME: Begins at 8 a.m. and ends when the last hotdog is sold.
PLACE: Intersection of Hwy 39 and Hwy 231 (Emit Plaza)
(Just a few minutes from the famous "5-County Stadium".)

We will have our famous 'HOTDOGS' for sale. \$1 buys a hotdog and a drink. There will also be lots of homemade pies, cakes, and goodies. As well as an assortment of homemade crafts and canned goods. Please join us for a day of fun and fellowship. All proceeds benefit the upbuilding of our Lord's house!

Sponsored By: Friendship FWB Church Women's Auxiliary

NEWS OF FALL SEMESTER

The fall semester at Carolina Bible Institute will begin with registration at the school on August 29, 1994 at 7 p.m. There will be two classes taught on Monday nights. The first of these will be "Leadership." This course will carry three (3) credit hours. The course will deal with discovering and developing church leaders. We will attempt to define leadership in the church and deal with the many difficulties of leadership. We will also explore the role of leadership and decision making in the church.

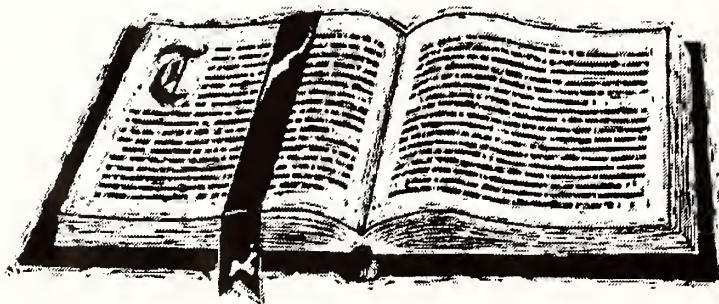
The second class taught will be "The Major Prophets." This will be a study of the life and teachings of the prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, and Ezekiel. We will also cover the Book of Lamentations. This course will also carry three (3) credit hours. Both of these will be taught by Dr. Ingram.

Also, we will offer Bible Chronology here at the Institute. Dr. Pierce will teach this class on Thursday nights. This next semester he will be teaching Bible Chronology I & II. The study will begin with the Creation, move through the Patriarchal Period, the Exodus Period, the Conquest Period, the Period of Judges, and the United Kingdom Period.

This course will help any serious Bible scholar to be more effective in their studies or teaching. These classes will give a good foundation for teaching Sunday School.

Why not plan now to attend classes at Carolina Bible Institute this fall? For more information write to: Carolina Bible Institute, P.O. Box 280, Pine Level, NC 27568 or call (919) 965-6364 or (919) 284-6106.

Bible Chronology will be taught again this year in the Greenville area. It is not yet definite as to the location of the classes but they will begin on September 1, 1994. For further information, please contact Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, NC, telephone (919) 965-6364 or 284-6106.



C. B. I.

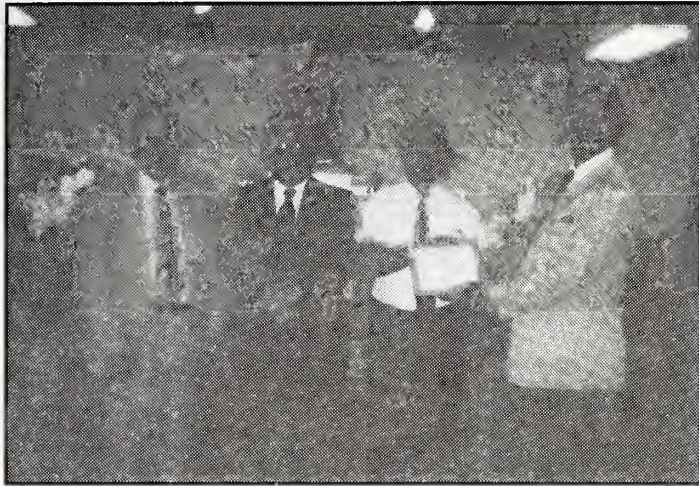
FALL 1994

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

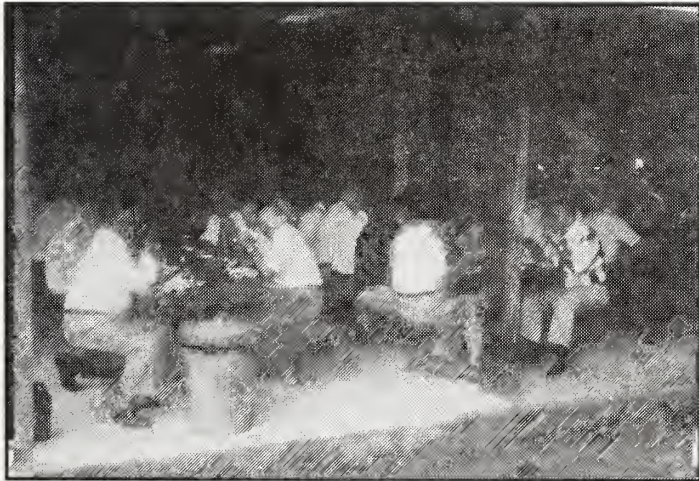
ON THE MOVE
WITH THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE



Memorial FWB Church, Chocowinity Layman's League being chartered by President Elmer Harrell.



Smith's New Home FWB Church, Eastern Conference being chartered as a Layman's League.



Central Conference quarterly meeting at Rose of Sharon Church on June 7, 1994. The food and fellowship was outstanding.



Central Conference, June 7 meeting at Rose of Sharon Church. The men on the front row are from Friendship Church.



New officers, Central Conference



1994 Spiritual Life Retreat—early arrivals at Eagles' Nest

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

ON THE MOVE
WITH THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE



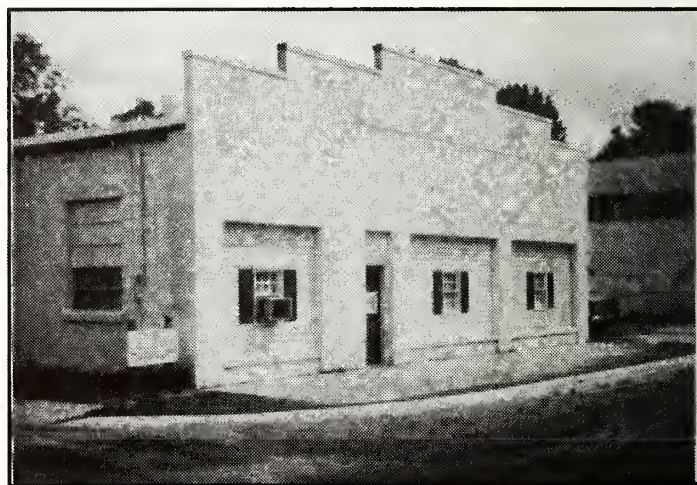
1994 Spiritual Life Retreat



1994 Spiritual Life Retreat



1994 Spiritual Life Retreat



Elmer Harrell's office, 602 S.E. Third Street, Snow Hill, Executive Board and Promotions Committee meeting place.

1994-95 Layman's League Officers Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

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Vice President: Stanley Jenkins, 522-3246

Secretary: John Newton, 823-3049

Treasurer: Robert Tripp, 244-0222

Member at Large: Randy Tyson, 524-4863

Publicity: Randy Beamon, 753-4263

Advisor: Rev. David Parrish, 756-2391

Honorary Advisor: Rev. C. L. Patrick, 747-8877

Executive Board Members

Board meets the first Thursday night of each odd month

1996—Elmer Harrell, 747-2894

1996—Frank Parsons, 486-4636

1996—Billie Dildy, 332-2665

1996—Stanley Jenkins, 522-3246

1995—Floyd Newsome, 239-1175

1995—Roney Bunn, 237-4429

1995—E. C. Hines, 746-6126

1995—Billie Maitland, 796-0241

1994—Fred Boykin, 237-2455

1994—Edsel Ottoway, 346-9527

1994—Raymond McLawhorn, 746-3366

1994—Donald Marlowe, 242-4831

CAMP VANDEMERE THROUGH THE EYES OF A CAMPER

by Cristy Arthur

Recently you have seen some articles on Camp Vandemre, but this one is different, this is seeing Camp Vandemere through the eyes of a former camper.

As a child I grew up learning of Camp Vandemere and being involved in it. My parents had been directing for many years until circumstances could not allow them to. I don't remember much about the "good ole days" as my Daddy has told you about, but I do remember going to camp and it being one of the most memorable and fun weeks of the summer.

I had been to Vandemere since I was small and when I was old enough I went as a camper. Once we arrived we checked in and picked out the bed we wanted to sleep in for the week, then we began to meet new friends. Once everyone was checked in, we were divided into groups by age and did most things with our group the rest of the week. We started out with breakfast.

If the cooks were not ready we would all stand in a single file line and sing "Here We Stand Like Birds in the Wilderness." That was always one of the traditions we had and I think the cooks enjoyed it also. Next, we would have morning groups. We had counselors who were of the young adult age who took the different groups. During this time, we would have a lesson and talk about different things that we may have had questions about.

We would always have a snack in the morning where we would go to the snack shop and get a drink and something else. Each camp was different, but I always remember having groups and then a church service at night. We would also go swimming alot during the week. When I was going, we didn't have the pool until the last year I was there, we went into the river with the jellyfish. Many people got stung, but that was part of camp and even though it hurt to be stung by a jellyfish; it was also exciting.


One of the main highlights of the week was on Thursday night; we would have a talent show. We were allowed to do anything we wanted to within reason. It ranged from singing to skits. I remember one year my brother, Michael, won for doing a re-creation of Star Trek as Captain Arthur. Even though it is not what I would have done, he won and his grand prize was he was thrown into the pool—clothes and all. He didn't like it very much, but the rest of us thought it was funny.

We would also go canoeing. This was always fun, especially when people would accidentally tip over and get all soaking wet. We would go to the pier and sit and watch the water. Toward the end of my camping days we received a trampoline. We all enjoyed this—we were able to act crazy and then jump all our energy out.

Since my camping days, many things have been added to Camp Vandemere, but I will always remember and treasure the days I had there. Some of the best times I had came from Camp Vandemre. Camp Vandemere always has and always will hold a special place in my heart.

Vandemere is an enjoyable place to go, but it needs our help. Camp Vandemere relies on our help to survive. The camp has seen many long and hard years, but the effort has been worth it to see the number of children who have accepted Christ into their lives. Won't you send your child to Camp Vandemere? Take it from a former camper, your child will have the time of his/her life and at the same time you will be helping the camp out. I encourage you to take a moment to think of Camp Vanderem. There are several other camps around and they may have more to offer, but Vandemere will offer them fun as well as a Christian environment.

Please support Camp Vandemere and send your child to camp. You won't regret it!



Come!
Celebrate Your
Sunday School

at the
Sunday School Banquet
for
Pastors and Superintendents

Friday, September 9, 1994
7:00 p.m.

King's Restaurant, Kinston, N.C.
Family Style Meal
\$ 10.00 per person

Entertainment
Hands for Christ

Sponsored by:
The Sunday School Board
Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

Sunday School Charms



Sunday School Charms

by W. Michael Ledbetter, Sunday School Board

Is Sunday School important? Yes, a thousand times, YES! The reason it is important, the Word of God is important. We are reminded that Paul told Timothy, "Study to show thyself approved unto God," (2 Timothy 2:15). What better place than Sunday School to prepare yourself for God's approval.

The unsung heroes of Sunday School are the **teachers!** They prepare a lesson for each Sunday from the precious Word of God to reach a soul, and build a soul, for **JESUS**. What a lot of Sunday Schools need is a "new breath" of life. *Enthusiasm* is a good word to use for what the Sunday School needs. It means, "to be inspired" or "the God within you." To be excited about what God has done for you shows "the God within you." Let all the saved show the God in them by a little enthusiasm!

Here are a few suggestions for breathing "life" into your Sunday School:

1. Have a teacher appreciation day. After the services have a dinner and let all the teachers and the assistants be first in line to eat.
2. Start a new Sunday School class. It could be a "College and Career Class" or a "SoulWinners Class." Let your imagination run and come up with a new idea for a class. You will be surprised how much pleasure you will find "breathing life" into a new class and to see it grow.
3. Get your children involved through skits, singing and involvement. When the children want to come to Sunday School, the parents will bring them. Parents and grandparents love to see their children take part in the worship of the Lord.
4. Encourage the Sunday School classes to have "outings." This is a great way to have fellowship with other believers. It is also a great way to get the "unchurched" involved with Sunday School.

Here's an idea for your bulletin board—have a "Heritage Board." Let one Sunday School class be in charge and prepare a photo essay of each student in the class. Use baby pictures to the present. This is especially fun for the adult classes.

W. Michael Ledbetter is pastor of Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Cape Fear Conference. He is also a member of the Sunday School Board. At the present time, the Sunday School at Shady Grove is experiencing a 10% greater growth over last year.

WESTERN CONFERENCE NEWS

Newly ordained ministers in the Western Conference:

Rev. Bobby G. Ferrell
607 Valleydale Street
Wilson, NC 27893
Phone: (919) 237-5896

(available for pulpit supply, interim work
or to pastor a small church).

Rev. Charlie Carroll
2005 Jones Road
Clayton, NC 27520

(now pastoring Wooten's Chapel OFWB Church)

Rev. Scott Casey
2225 Johnston Union Road
Clayton, NC 27520

(now pastoring First OFWB Church, Micro)

Linwood O. Lassiter and Eddie Franks have voluntarily
surrendered their Ordination Credentials to the Western
Conference and are no longer ordained Original Free Will
Baptists ministers.

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet on
Monday, October 3, at 10 a.m. at Kenly Original Free Will
Baptist Church. Any person with business with the Board
please contact the Chairman, the Rev. James Joyner at (919)
284-2833 or the Rev. De W. Eakes, Clerk at (919) 239-0361
or (919) 239-1058.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Willem and Lydia van der Plas, our missionaries to Bul-
garia, are in North Carolina for a brief furlough. They will
return to Bulgaria on September 19, 1994. They are residing
at Route 2, Box 253-AA, Walstonburg, NC 27888, phone,
919-753-2480.

Since they will have opportunity to visit only a few of our
churches while they are here, I urge you to attend the Annual
Convention Mission Rally on September 14 in order to greet
them and show your support for their work.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. H. P. Norman is available for full or part-time
revival speaker or supply pastor. Contact him at P.O. Box
723, Farmville, NC 27828; phone, 919-735-3385.

**CHURCHES
SEEKING PASTORS**

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, NC is seek-
ing a God-called minister for full-time pastoral work. Con-
tact Jack Emory, 682-3248.

Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, is
searching for a part-time pastor to help with the visitation
program, youth, committees and the elderly. Send resumé to
James Tyndall, Route 1, Box 227-A, Pink Hill, NC 28572.

Shiloh Church, Albemarle District, is seeking a full-time
pastor. Send credentials and resumé to Ray Collier, Long
Ridge Road, Pinetown, NC 27865; phone, (919) 927-4837 or
Wilbur Sheppard, Route 4, Box 294, Washington, NC
27889; phone, (919) 946-5310.

URGENT

Flood Disaster Relief

Anyone (church, Sunday School, etc.) wishing to help
the flood victims in Southern Georgia may send
contributions to the:

Free Will Baptists Headquarters
PO Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039.

Any items (toiletries, blankets, towels, canned goods,
etc., may be delivered to the Headquarters for later
delivery to the flood victims. (Note: We have learned
that some of those connected with the Paul Palmer
Free Will Baptist Conference have relatives and
friends that have been affected by the flood.)
Please respond no later than August 10, 1994.

NOTES & QUOTES

notes and quotes

C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator



Convention
of
Original
Free Will Baptists

CONVENTION TIME AGAIN

Within a few weeks, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet in its 82nd annual session. It doesn't seem possible that another twelve months have almost passed. When we were younger, time moved slowly; but with age, time passes more rapidly. We are reminded anew of the brevity of life and the words of the Scriptures which teach us that life is like a vapor, that is as grass, and we remember the words of Jesus, "I must work the words of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4).

As Original Free Will Baptists, we must faithfully work in His kingdom while we have the time and opportunity. With the passing of another year, we will once again hear about the results of our labors, especially in the areas of our Christian ministries. Each report will bear testimony regarding our faithfulness in stewardship; but more importantly, our faithfulness in prayer and dedication to God.

Between now and Convention time the ministry directors will be preparing their reports and budgets for this fiscal year (1994-95). New challenges will be presented and adopted. It is our hope that progress has been made and that the new year will be the greatest ever.

By the time this "Notes and Quotes" is read, the report forms, registration cards, and informational letter will be in the hands of the church clerks. The report forms are a "must" in the compiling of information and in the updating of our ministers' and church directories for printing in the Yearbook; therefore, each church is strongly urged to complete each of the forms and return them to the Headquarters office.

Again this year there will be an Annual Report booklet of the same size and makeup as last year. It will serve as the report booklet for all the fall conferences.

Each church is urged to send its proper number of delegates (one delegate for each one hundred members or fraction thereof) to the Convention. Each minister is urged to attend and all Free Will Baptists are welcome. We hope for the greatest Convention ever when it meets at Mount Olive College on September 13-15.

THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

I attended my first Ministers' Conference at Cragmont in the early '50s (1953, I think). Since that time I have missed only a few. Over the years attendance has grown from about thirty-five to nearly one hundred. Attendance increased a few

years ago when the decision was made to invite the minister's wives to attend.

This year's session, June 13-16, was attended by more than eighty ministers, plus a good number of wives and children. This provides a time for the family to spend some time together in a vacation atmosphere, some of whom would not have the opportunity otherwise.

Although the first session does not begin until Monday evening, several arrive on Sunday afternoon, allowing extra time for relaxation, such as "front-porch" rocking or riding 'round the mountain.

From its beginning the annual Cragmont ministers' conference has involved the elements of good preaching, good singing, fellowship, relaxation, and fun. The few days are spent with free afternoons, thus providing time for relaxation. There are times for worship, prayer, singing, etc., but also some time that is not regimented and structured. After all, most of the minister's time is spent in this manner. Thus, a few days away from the pressures of the pastorate are needed, as well as the opportunity to hear various preachers as they expound the Word. Personally, I am grateful for Cragmont and especially for the Ministers' Conference.



Ministers' Choir: These ministers joined together in the singing of several hymns during the Ministers' Conference. They were led by the Rev. David C. Hansley, with the Rev. Everette Harper at the piano.

LICENSE PLATE AVAILABLE

A license plate is available to Original Free Will Baptists. It carries our official logo as well as the identification, "Original Free Will Baptists." The plate may be ordered from the Headquarters, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. The cost is \$5 each.

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family:

A couple of weeks ago I had the privilege of working with twenty of my closest friends. We were faced with the task of teaching 180 campers at Cragmont how to "Run the Radical Race."

No, I am not talking about the "busy race" that we seem to be on day by day. We were trying to instill in them, as well as the counselors, the importance of being in a race for God.

So many times we get into the race of the things besides church, family, and spending time with God. We often go through the day without thanking Him for all He has done for us.

Even though we may be running the busiest race of our lives, with family, jobs, and other activities, we should be thankful for the strength He has given us to get through all we do. We should remember that it is Jesus Christ at the finish line waiting and cheering us to victory.

The past month has taught me the importance of being thankful and finding a taking time out of a busy life to count God's blessings. Out of college and finding a job I really enjoy, I have several things to be thankful for. This would not be possible without the strength from God and the support from my family — and new family here in Ayden.

Thanks to all of you at the Press for making the transition as smooth as possible. To Mr. Gray, Robert, and Bobby thanks for your support. Sheila, Darren, Mary Ann, and Trish, thanks for all the long hours during inventory (Sheila and Darren, I know your fingers are tired).

To all the guys in the back: Jerry, Ronnie (my assistant editor), Randy, Gene, Nina, and Vickie thanks for getting everything out on time.

Many thanks to all of you who have given your support through your calls, letters, and prayers. With God's help, we have run part of the race. Until next month... "give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:128, NIV).

In His service,

Tracy

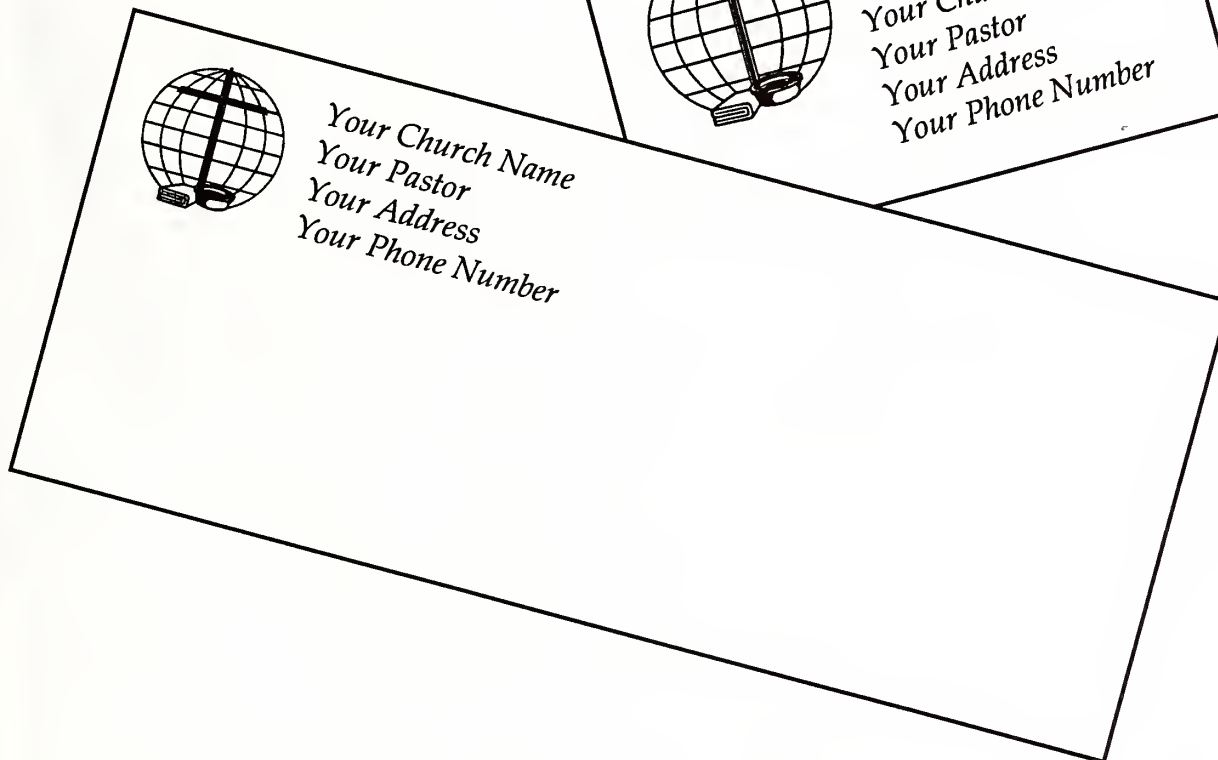
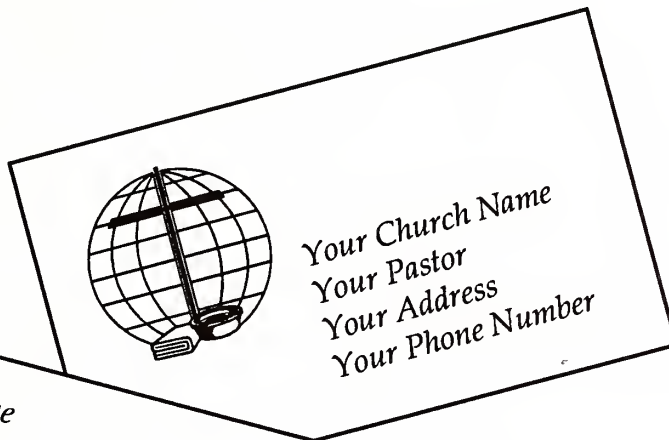
Tracy A. McCoy, Editor



Your Church Name
Your Pastor

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The Free Will Baptist

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September 1994



CONTENTS

September 1994 • Volume 109 • Number 9

FEATURES

A LOOK AT CONVENTION 1994	3
XRISTOS WOKRESE	8
WHAT MY PARENTS DID RIGHT!	9
STATE YOUTH CONVENTION	10
CAMP VANDEMERE	12
JAMES A. EVANS LECTURE/P. T. LUCAS PASTOR'S AWARD ...	13

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES

HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM	17
FOREIGN MISSIONS	21
CHILDREN'S HOME	23
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE	28
CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY	33

DEPARTMENTS

THE MONTHLY CALENDAR	24
PEOPLE & EVENTS	38
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS	42
FYI	44
NOTES & QUOTES	46
EDITOR'S NOTE	47

NEXT MONTH

*Minister's
Program*

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs and policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All materials for consideration in any issue must be in the hands of the editor thirty days prior to the publication date of that issue. Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, *The Free Will Baptist*, PO Box 159, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$9.01; two years, \$16.43; four years, \$31.80 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50, and \$30, respectively (plus sales tax where it applies). **Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send *The Free Will Baptist* to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more copies of *The Free Will Baptist* are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday; New Bern and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

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Features

1994

CONVENTION SPEAKERS

The Rev. W. Scott Sowers is the current president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He is a long-time member of the Executive Committee including his years of service as vice-president, recording secretary, and member-at-large. He is a member of the Central Conference and has served as vice-moderator and clerk.

Scott currently pastors Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church in Farmville. He and his wife, Janie, have been involved with the denomination for a number of years.

Scott enjoys being with people, young and old alike. Reading and "playing" with computers are but two of his favorite pastimes.

Scott will be bringing the message on Thursday morning of the Convention.

The Rev. Joseph Ard is the pastor of Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church, in the Fountaintown community, of Duplin County. He is also employed at Southeastern Freightlines in Kinston. He is currently the Clerk of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

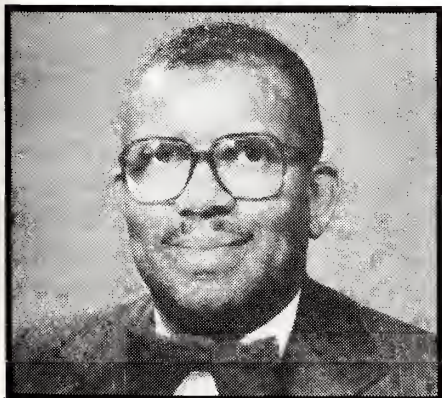
Joe and his wife, Billie, have two children, Billy Joe, nine, and Caleb, four.

Joe will be the guest speaker for the Night of Evangelism, on September 13, 1994, at 7:30 p.m., in Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive College.

Willem and Lydia van der Plas will be speaking at the Mission Rally on Wednesday night, September 14, 1994. They are our missionaries to Bulgaria and are citizens of the Netherlands. They came to the United States in 1980 to work with North Carolina Export in Arapahoe. They began to attend and later joined Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church. They served as missionaries to the Philippines from 1984-1991 and opened our work in Bulgaria in November 1991.

Willem and Lydia have four children, Herman, Martin, Dirk, and Caroline.

Bishop L. N. Forbes was born in Wayne County but he and his wife, Ramona, reside in East Orange, New Jersey. He will be our guest speaker on Wednesday morning, September 14, 1994. Bishop Forbes has an extremely busy life due to his many responsibilities. He is the founder and pastor of the Faith Temple #1 in East Orange, New Jersey and also founder and pastor of the Faith Temple #2 in Seat Pleasant, Maryland. Bishop Forbes is the General Bishop of the Original Free Will Baptists of America and the President Bishop of the Original Free Will Baptists of America. He is also the vice-president of the National Original Free Will Baptists of America. If this does not keep him busy enough, Bishop Forbes is also the President of Hampton University Ministers Conference in Hampton, Virginia.



EIGHTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
of the
CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
College Hall
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina

Tuesday, September 13, 1994

7:30 Evangelism Rally

Rodgers Chapel

Wednesday, September 14, 1994

Ushers: Layman's League Members; Music Leaders: Mrs. Mary Dudley, The Rev. Phillip Boykin

MORNING SESSION

8:30 Registration of Ministers and Delegates

The Rev. Bruce Dudley

9:00 Convention Called to Order

Mrs. Mary Dudley

Congregational Singing

The Rev. Phillip Boykin

Special Music

Scripture and Prayer

Mr. Lloyd Jones

Welcome

9:15 President's Remarks

The Rev. W. Scott Sowers

Appointment of Committees

9:20 Partial Report of Credentials Committee

Executive Committee Report

The Rev. Bruce Dudley

Treasurer's Report

The Rev. Ronnie Vann Hobgood

Executive Administrator's Report

The Rev. C. H. Overman

Miscellaneous Business

10:00 Worship Service

Congregational Singing

Mrs. Mary Dudley

The Rev. Phillip Boykin

Convention Offering and Special Music

Introductory Message

Bishop L. N. Forbes

Original Free Will Baptist Church in America

11:00 Retirement Homes Report

The Rev. Walter Sutton

11:15 Home Missions and Evangelism Report

The Rev. David C. Hansley

11:30 Mount Olive College Report

Dr. W. Burkette Raper

11:45 Children's Home Report

Dr. Bobby Taylor

12:00 Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30 Registration (1:30-2:00)

Congregational Singing

Mrs. Mary Dudley

The Rev. Phillip Boykin

Scripture and Prayer

Mr. Elmer Harrell

Recognition of Fraternal Delegates

The Rev. C. H. Overman

1:50 Foreign Missions Report

The Rev. Harold Jones

2:05 Cragmont Assembly Report

The Rev. John Williams

2:20 Church Finance Report

The Rev. Walter Reynolds

2:35 Free Will Baptist Press Report

Mr. Cliff Gray

2:50 Ministers' Program Report

The Rev. Donald Fader

EVENING SESSION

7:30 Missions Rally

College Hall

Thursday, September 15, 1994

MORNING SESSION

8:30 Final Registration
Congregational Singing

Mrs. Mary Dudley
The Rev. Phillip Boykin

Special Music

9:05 Scripture and Prayer
9:15 Chaplain's Commission Report
9:20 Sunday School Board Report
9:25 Ministerial Association Report
9:30 Layman's League Report
9:40 Woman's Auxiliary Report
9:50 Carolina Bible Institute
10:00 Worship Service
Congregational Singing

Mrs. Sandra Jones
The Rev. Adrian Grubbs
Mrs. Mary Dudley
The Rev. Jeff Daughtry
Mr. Elmer Harrell
Mrs. Carolyn Jernigan
Dr. Joseph Ingram

Mrs. Mary Dudley
The Rev. Phillip Boykin
The Rev. W. Scott Sowers
The Rev. Ralph Sumner

Message

11:00 Camp Vandemere Report
11:10 Board of Publications Report
11:20 League Convention Report
11:30 Report of Free Will Baptist Fellowships
11:40 Final Report of the Credentials Committee
11:45 Obituary Committee Report
11:50 Resolutions Committee Report
12:00 Recess for Lunch

Dr. K. David Hines
The Rev. Mike Ledbetter
The Rev. Henry Armstrong
The Rev. Earl Glenn

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30 Congregational Singing

Mrs. Mary Dudley
The Rev. Phillip Boykin
The Rev. Frank Grubbs
The Rev. DeWayne Eakes

Scripture and Prayer

1:40 Nominating Committee Report
Miscellaneous Business

Convention Prayer Breakfast



Wednesday, September 14, 1994
Lois K. Murphy Regional Center
Mount Olive College
7:30 A.M.

Prayer for Convention, for the ministries, churches, and people

Everyone is invited

You Are Invited To Attend
The Annual Convention Missions Rally
September 14, 1994
7:30 P.M.
College Hall, Mount Olive College

Board of Foreign Missions In Charge



Program Personalities: Willem and Lydia van der Plas, Missionaries to Bulgaria

Special Music: The Radfords, Spring Hill Church, Goldsboro, NC

Willem and Lydia van der Plas are our missionaries to Bulgaria, Eastern Europe. They pioneered this new Field in 1991. They will only be in North Carolina for two months (July 18-September 19). Please come and share this time with them and show them your support.

Why not call off prayer meeting and come to the Rally? You will surely be blessed.

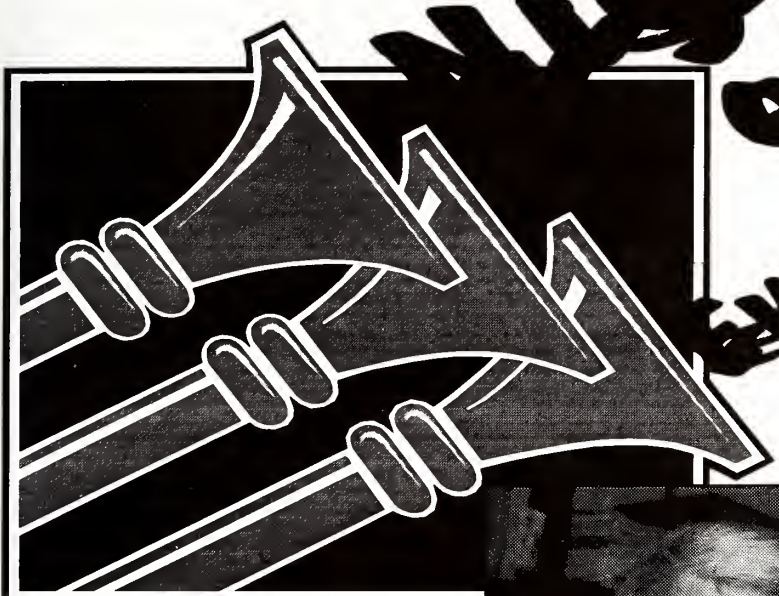
Special Offering: Your special offering at this Missions Rally is vital for the continued growth of your missions programs. Begin to pray now and ask God to reveal to you what your contribution should be this year. I believe Him for the greatest offering in our history.

Remember: Your special gift to Foreign Missions at the Missions Rally must be designated. If for some reason you cannot attend the Rally, you can mail your gift and receive credit for the Rally offering.



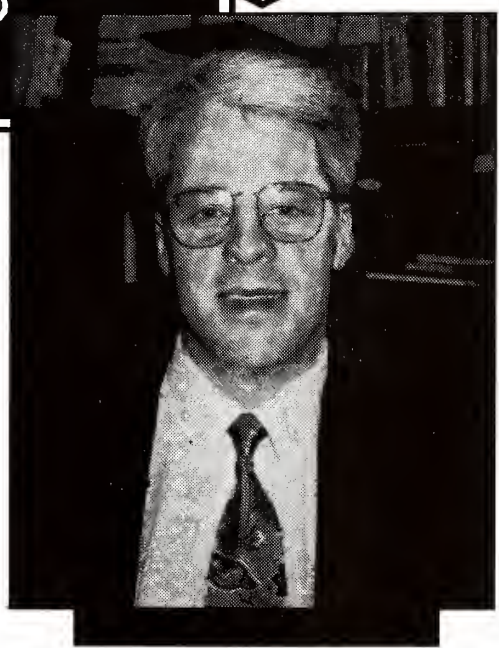
FREE WILL BAPTIST BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
The Rev. Harold Jones, Director-Treasurer
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513; Phone 919-746-4963

Evangelists



7:30 p.m.
Tuesday,
September 13,
1994

~
Board of
Home
Missions
&
Evangelism



Joe Ard,
Pastor
Bethlehem
Original
Free
Will
Baptist
Church

~
Fountaintown
Community

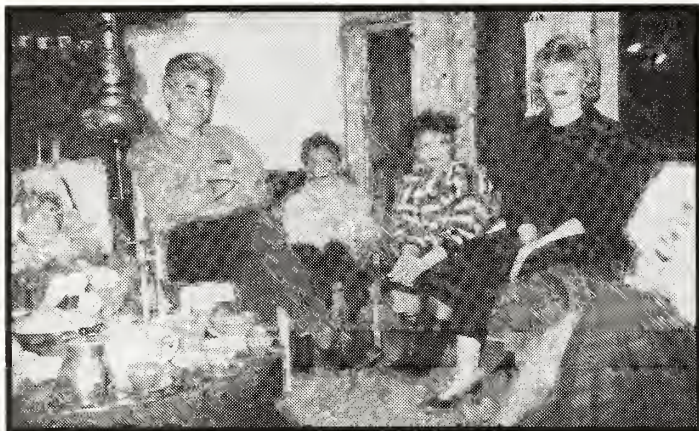


Rodgers Chapel
Mount Olive College

Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

XRISTOS WOKRESE

by Willem van der Plas



On Silent Saturday, the 30th of April, our livingroom was filled with people. They came to listen to the Matthew Passion of J.S. Bach, while listening to the music and singing they followed the passages of the Gospel of Matthew in the Bible. According to Dr. Peter Vulkov there were at least 20 people who had never opened a Bible before in their lives.

One young man asked Teshdyan for a Bible and he had many questions about the religion in general and the truth of the Bible.

Another woman came to me and she asked: "May I keep this Bible?" We presented the Bibles to them as an Easter present, with the note in it that God loves them; John 3:16.

At eleven o'clock the bells of the Orthodox Church began to ring over our small town to call the people to the church for the Eastern mass, which lasts three hours. Thousands of people gathered there. In sacred devotion they burnt their candles with the hope for health and good luck.

Three times they walked in procession around the church building without understanding the symbol that Jesus rose on the third day. That He is alive.

After the procession the people started to greet one another with the beautiful phrases: "Xristos Wokrese" (Christ is Risen) and "Woistina Wokrese" (truly He is Risen). One person does the first greeting and the other answers the greeting. After this the pope (pastor) walks through the church with the bread and the wine. Only a few people know the meaning of this. It is the general view that they do not need to know the meaning but that they have to follow the traditions without questions.

The next Sunday there were no more than 60 persons attending the mass. Most of the people don't understand that the Risen Lord is eager to fill their hearts through the Word and Spirit. The worst fact is that the leaders of the Orthodox Church refuse to accept that the believers need to meditate on the word and that they need to meet the Lord in their personal lives daily. Tradition and history are the highest values. Please pray for revival of the Orthodox church

After Teshdyan read this article she witnessed the reaction of the people who were in our home. She said that they were impressed by the message of music and that they went to the church with a different understanding, with a different mindset. We saw that they were happy to be with us but we could not evaluate the true reaction. It is hard to read the emotions from the faces of our Bulgarian friends. However, we know that many of them love us and respect us.

Pray that the seeds will grow and bring forth fruit which are worthy to the Lord our GOD. Hallelujah.

WHAT MY PARENTS DID RIGHT!

by Jason Modlin



The following is the third article in a series of three entitled "What My Parents Did Right!" which was a Youth Sunday project sponsored by Sidney Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School.

When asked to write this essay to be delivered as a speech during our Youth Sunday, my three main points came quickly to mind. The three most important things my parents did right in raising me were leading by example, making sure I was disciplined, and bringing me to Church at every opportunity.

Looking back at my childhood, I can easily see the examples my parents set for me. They didn't just tell me to do or not to do certain things. They practiced as well as preached. I was shown, not told, that a man's word should be kept. I was shown how to respect others. My parents lived the kind of life they know I should live. Sadly, there are many parents today who chastise their children for certain things such as drinking or using drugs, and then turn around and get drunk or stoned every chance they get. A child can learn more by example than merely teaching, and I am living proof.

The second thing my parents did right was discipline me. Boy, did I receive my fair share of discipline. I can recall the times I got into trouble at school. I could face the school's punishment. Three days of In-School-Suspension were a breeze. That didn't scare me. What scared me was wondering what Daddy was going to do to me when I got home. When you got into trouble at school, you got in trouble when you got home. It was just automatic. Today, if a child is punished at school, many parents rush to the principal to spout off a hundred reasons why their sweet, innocent, little

child didn't deserve to be punished. The Bible says, "Spare the rod, spoil the child," and I can assure you there wasn't any "rod-sparing" going on at my house.

The third, and I believe most important thing my parents did right was they brought me to church. Now, the key word here is "brought." Unlike many parents, they didn't "send" me to Church. They came with me. Because of that, today I come willingly. I realize Church is the place to fill myself spiritually. Even now, if I miss a Sunday of Church, the next week is thrown off track. My parents made sure I had a Christian environment in which to develop.

These three things are the major reasons why I am who I am. I thank God for my Christian parents and everything they've done for me. I pray that I will be able to raise my children as my parents have raised me. While I am far from perfect, I know I am a better person because of my parents.



Jason Modlin is a senior at Mount Olive College pursuing a degree in English. He along with his parents, Bud and Linda Modlin attend Sidney Free Will Baptist Church.



Youth Convention Of Original Free Will Baptists

1994 Entry Winners

Arts & Crafts

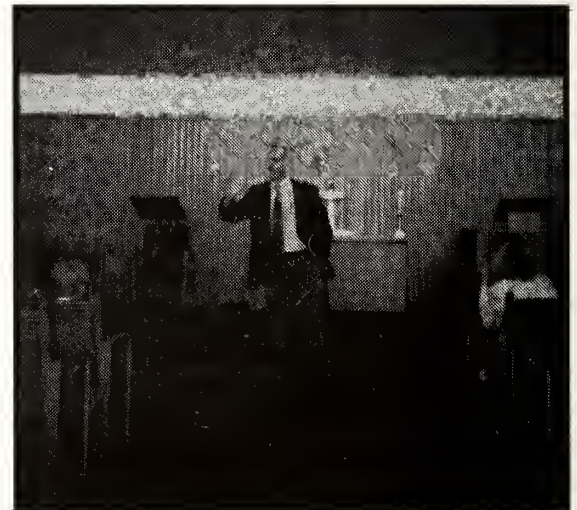
- Cherubs:* 1st — Michelle Hoggard, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle
 2nd — Dara Gray, Westside Church, Eastern
 3rd — Nathan Hanchey, First Church/Greenville, Central
- AFC's:* 1st — Jamie Harrison, Union Chapel Church, Albemarle
 2nd — Steven Hewitt, Shiloh Church, Albemarle
 3rd — Amy Daughtry, Westside Church, Eastern
- YFA's:* 1st — Jennifer Hathaway, First Church/Tarboro, Central
 2nd — Shelly McLamb, Pleasant Grove Church, Cape Fear
 3rd — Tara Harrison, Union Chapel, Albemarle

Christian Writing

- AFC's:* 1st — Le Ann Markuson, Genesis Church, Cape Fear
 2nd — Mandy Price, Stancil's Chapel Church, Western
 3rd — Charity Whitt, Cypress Creek Church, Pee Dee
- YFA's:* 1st — Jennifer Tuten, Trinity Church, Albemarle
 2nd — Joshua Pittman, Kenly Church, Western
 3rd — Erica Houston, Sandy Plain Church, Eastern

Lesson Presentation

- AFC's:* 1st — Ashlea Meads, First Church/Tarboro, Central
 2nd — Jamie Page, First Church/Wilson, Western
 3rd — Dawn Faircloth, Roberts Grove Church, Cape Fear
- YFA's:* 1st — Kelly King, First Church/Wilson, Western
 2nd — Justin Carter, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle
 3rd — Johnathan Stroud, Juniper Chapel Church, Eastern



The featured speaker, Harry Grubbs, focuses on love at Sunday's worship service.



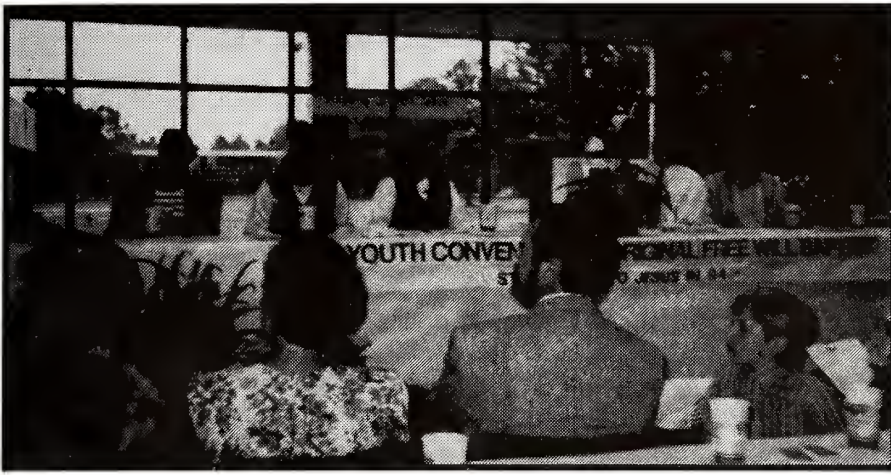
Public Speaking

- AFC's:* 1st — Amanda Buck, First Church/Tarboro, Central
 2nd — Kasey Britton, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle
 3rd — Joshua Burrett, First Church/Wilson, Western
- YFA's:* 1st — Joell Kennedy, Sandy Plain Church, Eastern
 2nd — Christy Edmondson, First Church/Tarboro, Central
 3rd — Teresa Reynolds, Sound Side Church, Albemarle

Talent Search

- Cherubs:* 1st — Rachel Jones, King's Cross Roads Church, Central
 2nd — April Davenport & Nicole Smith, White Oak Church, Pee Dee
 3rd — Trinity Cherubs, Trinity Church, Albemarle
- AFC's:* 1st — Reedy Branch Group, Reedy Branch Church, Central
 2nd — Elizabeth Clayton, Sidney Church, Albemarle
 3rd — Christie Hill, Westside Church, Eastern
- YFA's:* 1st — Carla McLamb, Shady Grove Church, Cape Fear
 2nd — Chasity Heath, King's Cross Roads Church, Central
 3rd — Jackie Varnell, Whit Oak Grove Church, Eastern

Mount Olive College — May 20-22, 1994

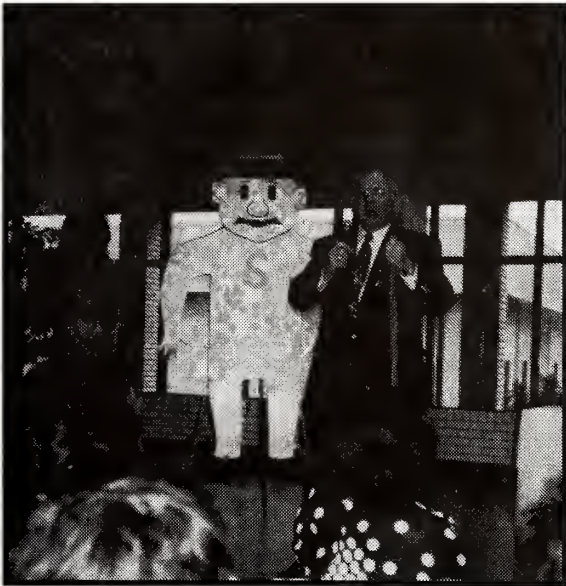


State Youth Convention Officers



The Project for 1994 was the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation's perfect binding machine. Total Project money: \$4,911.73. ***Thank you very much!***

The Project for 1995 is Cragmont Assembly. Help us reach our goal of \$5,000.00.



The Rev. David Hansley and Salvation Sam



State Youth Convention Choir performs during Sunday's worship service.

1995 Bible Bowl

Study Topic:

The Book of Proverbs

Bible Bowl

- AFC's: 1st — Reedy Branch Church, Central
 2nd — Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee
 3rd — Sandy Plain Church, Eastern
- YFA's: 1st — Reedy Branch Church, Central
 2nd — Juniper Chapel Church, Eastern
 3rd — Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee

We had a wonderful convention. I want to thank every person that helped to make this convention one of the best. Without your help and God's, we could not have done it. May God richly bless you!

Martha Parsons
 Director



Stepping Up To Jesus In '94

NEWS FROM CAMP VANDEMERE

by the Rev. Owen Arthur

We have something new to offer and I am excited about it. It is for those who would like to join our Lighthouse Keeper's Club. We now have a beautiful Quartz desk clock for you. It has Camp Vandemere's name, with the slogan "Camp by the Sea," imprinted on it. It is very nice and it is just the right size to set on a desk, or for a college student to take to school, or even sit on a shelf in one's kitchen. My wife hasn't decided where she is going to put hers.

Our Lighthouse Club works like this. If you will send the Camp a love offering of ten dollars a month for a year then you will receive this beautiful little Quartz clock. Plus, you can send a boy or girl to camp for a week free, or you can come and spend a week-end (for two) in one of the dorms free. If you would join our Lighthouse Keeper's Club it would help the camp, and I believe that the Lord will bless you for He loves a cheerful giver. Why not sit down right now and send the camp your first offering. Be sure to put Lighthouse Keeper's Club on your check so our Treasurer will know where you would like your offering to go. Also, so we can send you your beautiful new Quartz clock. Don't wait, we have a limited number of clocks.

Again, let me say thank you for all your prayers as well as your financial support. Without you we wouldn't have a Camp.

Camp is about over for the summer and we have had some wonderful times. Souls have been saved, hearts blessed and to God be the glory.

There has been several groups, besides the regular weeks of camp, using the Camp. The Carteret County Youth Rally came down and they had a wonderful time. Another week there was a group of about sixty campers plus their counselors. Other directors worked hard and had a wonderful time during their week at Camp. If you would like to take a group down for a day, or weekend please contact our manager, the Rev. Ralph Sumner. His phone number is 910-298-5885.

Other events will be taking place in the future. Plans are to have a basketball tournament in the early fall. It will be called, "Whooping it up for Christ." We will let you know more about this in our next article.

Camp Vandemere has a new mailing address. It is 215 Third Street, Vandemere, NC. Please make a note of this for future reference.

Don't forget about our family lodge that we have told you about. Come down and see firsthand what we are talking about. Even better make plans to come down and spend a night or a weekend at the Camp.

We are still celebrating our 25th Anniversary and we would like for you to continue to help us. One way you can help is by getting some of our plastic bags that has the slogan "Helping Camp Vandemere to send out the light and truth." You can take these and let Sunday School classes, youth groups, and other organization in your church fill them with coins and send them to the Camp. If you will contact our Camp Manager, the Rev. Ralph Sumner, he will be happy to send you some.

Camp Vandemere is your *Camp*, and we have made it available for you to use. We need for you to send us your young people and in turn we will do our best to share the love of Christ with them. There is something special about Camp, those who have the privilege to attend usually find it very rewarding. If you haven't been to the Camp, we encourage you to call and see when a good time would be. You can come anytime, but we would like to know when you are coming so we can be available to show you the Camp and assist you if we are needed.

Don't forget about our new clocks we now have, I would like for you to have one. Please continue to remember your Camp in your prayers.

Join
The
Lighthouse
Keeper's
Club

THE FIRST ANNUAL JAMES A. EVANS LECTURE: CHURCH CONFLICT AND RESOLUTION THE P. T. LUCAS PASTOR'S AWARD

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

"Someone asked me why I am working in a counseling center," began Dr. Harold "Mac" Wallace, Director of the North Carolina Baptist Hospital Counseling Center at Wilmington. "I have two sons," he explained. "My oldest son is quick, but my younger son is not quite as quick. I shamed him as he was growing up. We shame someone to straighten the problem person up. A teacher called me in and said my younger son was not doing well in school. So what did we do? We went to pastoral counseling sessions. I learned how important it is to give my son positive affirmations so that he would feel better about himself. He's a probation officer in Winston-Salem today. I'm proud of him. *That's* why I'm doing this," stressed Dr. Wallace, key speaker for the first annual James A. Evans Lecture series held at Mount Olive College in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, August 8.

Currently Dr. Wallace's work involves providing individual, marriage and family, group psychotherapy and community, clergy education and consultation. He received his Doctor of Ministry and Master of Divinity degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts from Duke University and an Associate of Science from Mount Olive College. He holds membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and in the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy. He is also a member of the Regional Certification Committee for the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

Conflicts Within the Person

In order to deal with church conflicts, Dr. Wallace began with conflicts with individuals. After all, groups are made up of individuals, and until a pastor has an awareness of what type of personality he is confronting, he may not be as effective in dealing with conflicts in the church.

"Living and thriving has to do with harvesting more nutrients from one's environment than the energy it takes to harvest them," declared Dr. Wallace. "If a fox

chases a mouse and catches it, that fox might consume the mouse and gain 1,000 calories. But if the fox spends 1,100 calories, the fox will die," he said.

"Today we are not finding adequate nutrients to meet our hungers. The world provides stimulation but not nutrients. Five hours of television do not provide nutrients. Junk food does not provide nutrients," he stated.

In order to address the conflicts within a church, Dr. Wallace focused upon the hungers of individual personality types. People have styles of communication and Dr. Wallace identified five personality styles: (1) passive dependency, (2) aggressive dependency, (3) obsessive-compulsive personality, (4) passion-aggressive personality, (5) borderline personality. All church groups have these personality types, and pastors will be able to resolve church conflicts more effectively if they recognize unconscious behavior patterns among their church members. To illustrate these five personality styles, Dr. Wallace showed video tapes of pastoral counseling sessions with these five personality patterns.

Passive Dependency Personality

A passive dependent person tries to harvest nutrients for the hungers within by depending upon someone else. The needed nutrients are always outside the person, as if the self were a passive plant seeking outside nutrition. Someone else assists in decisions, dialogue, attitudes. A passive dependent person may find an abusive partner, because the person does not feel there are any strengths within. Whatever another person says, this personality will agree to it and do whatever is asked. Oftentimes if a passive dependent person comes into a church group, the church may support the dependency by telling the person what to do.

"Churches need to encourage people to grow out of dependency patterns," insisted Dr. Wallace as he addressed the mesmerized pastors.

"How does this person see God?" he asked.

"God will take care of everything," replied one minister.

Aggressive Dependency Personality

An aggressive dependent person appears to be strong and not need nutrients from the outside world. This personality has dependency needs but masks them. This person only shows the external, analytical side of the personality. Often this type is talented but fickle. Everything is exaggerated. In time, the dependency needs will come out.

"How will this person see God?" Dr. Wallace asked.

"God helps those who help themselves," replied one minister.

"Yes," affirmed Dr. Wallace. "And the conflict begins in churches with people who bring these dependency needs out of their past. Remember, nobody gets to adulthood alone," he stressed. "Families select people for different roles. These roles are brought into the church."

Obsessive-Compulsive Personality

An obsessive-compulsive person is one who repeats obsessive thoughts or rituals. This is one way to balance life, as if the needed nutrients actually exist in the compulsions.

Dr. Wallace illustrated two of the obsessive rituals. One woman had to turn her lights on and off five times. She had to touch her kitchen table five times. Five was the obsessive ritual. Another woman had to turn into her driveway from the north side. She would back up on the street in order to do this.

"Thoughts pervade the mind of these personalities," explained Dr. Wallace. "A chain reaction of thoughts occur. These people suffer terribly and there is medication for them. When they relate to you as their pastor, they begin by seeing you as superior, as the one who has the answers. But this person is going to catch you doing something wrong," he said.

"What do we do? How do we relate to this personality style?" asked one minister.

"Keep the ball in their court, replied Dr. Wallace. "Keep asking this person what do

you think about this or how would you manage this. This is the personality who will serve the church to challenge your authority after you have been in the church for 18 months. The honeymoon is over and usually after 18 months, the first power test emerges. When this person challenges you, don't bow down and don't lose the person either. As a pastor, you've got to pass the test the church has put you under," explained Dr. Wallace. Every minister seemed to be making sharp mental notes.

"How would be the obsessive-compulsive personality interpret God?" asked Dr. Wallace.

"Rigidly," answered one minister.

"Right," affirmed Dr. Wallace. "If a passage in Daniel does not fit a passage in Revelation, this person will make it fit. There is no room for the tension of flexibility."

I thought of the wonderful mind of John Keats, how refreshingly flexible he was. Keats' own *negative capability* stance insisted upon the mind being willing to live with "uncertainties, mysteries, and doubt without an irritable reaching after fact."

Passive-Aggressive Personality

The passive-aggressive person is one who is aggressive about harvesting nutrients but ambivalent about how to harvest these nutrients. The motto of this personality style is—"Yes, but."

"This person withholds as a way to deal with power. If a church has conflicts, probably this person will be in every one of the conflicts," declared Dr. Wallace.

"A passive-aggressive person will never take responsibility," he added. "And until we assume responsibility for who you are, we will not be able to provide healthy, mature leadership. How would this person see God?" he asked.

"Yes, but," replied one minister.

"You got it," affirmed Dr. Wallace. "This person will say to God that whatever is done, it is not enough. Yes, God, you are here but I have this recurring problem."

Borderline Personality

A borderline personality is fragmented. This person splits along good-bad lines. At some point the borderline personality will give the bad person away by *projecting* the bad person onto the pastor. The pastor (or someone else) becomes the worst pastor (or person) in the world.

"A person like this in your church is dangerous," cautioned Dr. Wallace. "This person projects onto the church group the personal pathology. I knew one church that bragged it never had a pastor beyond 18 months."

The borderline personality thinks doctors are totally inept, turns nice people into jerks, threatens to sue other people, sees the bad in church members as well as in pastors. This personality splits and projects the bad side onto others.

"Get ready for the blow from the borderline personality," warned Dr. Wallace. "Get ready to try to avoid internalizing this projection. Get ready to try not to react or overreact. Stand steady," he stressed.

"How would the borderline see God?" he asked.

"As part Devil," replied one minister.

"You got it," agreed Dr. Wallace

The Wilderness Journey

According to Dr. Wallace, each of us must experience the *wilderness journey* in our own way. We find ourselves in the wilderness when we experience confusion, chaos, the loss of something. We may be thrust into the wilderness after a death, divorce, family fight, church fight. To be in the wilderness is to experience uncertainty, mystery, doubt.

"To get out of the wilderness is *hard work*," stressed Dr. Wallace. "To be in the wilderness is to be lost without food or water. We lack nutrients."

What then can one do to move through the wilderness. Dr. Wallace emphasized three giant steps: (1) being able to move from emptiness and depletion to solitude, (2) learning how to abandon hostility and embrace hospitality, (3) being able to leave behind the world of illusion by moving closer to a sense of prayer.

Being Able to Move From Emptiness and Depletion to Solitude

In order to be able to allow the experience of emptiness, one must work to gain a sense of SELF. Dr. Wallace stressed that pastors and their church members need to know how to be alone and empty in the presence of God. Jesus sought time apart in order to experience emptiness in the presence of God. The process of being empty allows for healing to occur.

Dr. Wallace described an experience Scott Peck had as a 15-year-old boy. Scott

Peck was experiencing some personal problems and he picked out the brightest man on campus. He went to the teacher and asked for his help. The teacher told Peck that if he were in Peck's place, he wouldn't know what to do. This teacher was willing to be empty before his student. Peck left the teacher and thought that if the brightest teacher on campus did not know what to do, then it was O.K. for Peck not to know what to do.

Learning How to Abandon Hostility and Embrace Hospitality

As wanderers in the wilderness, we find ourselves facing strange realities. What is strange is unpleasant to us, so we create a wall of hostility. To cling to the known, to the status quo is a form of comfort. We develop a mind frame of hostility towards that which is different.

"I can get mad at computers," confessed Dr. Wallace. "But my task as a wanderer in the wilderness is to embrace and welcome this new unit. My task is to see how we can work together, how we can embrace what is new and not remain hostile to it," he said.

The strange issues facing the church today are homosexuality and women as ministers. "The issue is to face these strange realities in a way not hostile. The world is going to demand that of us," he declared.

Some heated discussion followed on these problems facing the church today.

Being Able to Leave Behind the World of Illusion by Moving Closer to a Sense of Prayer

"Most people I see pray on the run, at meals, in a car, in a bed. We live in a world of illusions and we need to move closer towards a sense of prayer," proclaimed Dr. Wallace.

In discussing prayer life, Dr. Wallace emphasized a twofold pattern: (1) spending half the time *talking to God* (2) spending the second half of the time *listening to God*. In talking to God, people can tell God what they want God to know. In listening to God, people can listen to what God says. The listening process allows time to open ourselves in the wilderness experience. The point is to get through the wilderness trial.

"The time comes to step across the Jordan River on the stones of truth," declared Dr. Wallace. "If we come out of the wilderness, out of the lostness too soon, we are destined to repeat the journey."

Worship Service: Hungers of the Heart

The Rev. Jeff Daughtry led the worship service held in Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive College. Dr. Wallace addressed more than 30 Free Will Baptist ministers as well as numerous visitors. He identified six hungers of the heart: (1) the hunger for some sense of security, (2) the hunger for a sense of self-esteem, (3) the hunger to be needed, to be useful, (4) the hunger for some recreation, a kind of pleasure, or soul food, (5) the hunger for boundaries that separated the ME from THEE, (6) the hunger for a workable faith.

Hunger for Some Sense of Security

"This is a *hungry world*," stressed Dr. Wallace. "We live in a society that has lots of food but other kinds of food—the food of spiritual and emotional side of life—we do not have. To feed this empty spot inside the soul is necessary," he began.

"What are our spiritual and emotional hungers?" he asked.

First, every person hungers for some sense of security. Dr. Wallace noted how important it is for a baby to be born into a secure family. If a baby is born into a hungry family, then that baby will be malnourished spiritually and emotionally. In America, according to Dr. Wallace, babies are born into insecure, scattered families where traits of jealousy, possessiveness, anger, power, selfishness destroy the fabric of the family.

A child should feel secure and never worry about being abandoned. Dr. Wallace recounted the story of a mother who drove her child to an orphanage and told her son that if he didn't behave, she'd drop him off at the orphanage.

"Insecurity begets more insecurity," explained Dr. Wallace. "It takes a lot of grace and mercy to change the patterns of families. We must keep coming to the throne of grace to get help to meet our hungers," he said. "God is present to help us in our time of need."

Hunger For a Sense of Self-Esteem

"Every person needs to feel O.K.," declared Dr. Wallace.

In order to feel O.K., Dr. Wallace discussed the importance of having a self first. A person needs to have a sense of self before the person is able to give the self away.

"Where does a sense of self come from?" asked Dr. Wallace. He then explained. The

sense of self comes from someone else esteeming the self highly. People need to know they are being heard, that their contributions are important. People need to hear statements such as—"This is my beloved son/daughter/husband/wife in whom I am well pleased."

To give esteem to someone who is not acting the way we wish is perhaps the hardest task. But the criticism and shame dumped on others does not work. Every person needs to feel some sense of belonging, of value. A church can be a mirror whereby the eyes reflect the delight someone is here.

Dr. Wallace recalled talking to a minister when a child tugged at the minister's pants. The minister stopped talking to Dr. Wallace, picked the child up, listened to the child, held the child in his arms.

"Imagine the image of God that this child has today," said Dr. Wallace. "We need the image of God as one who picks you up, holds you in His arms, listens to you, is willing to stop the world and put you in the center of the world," he said.

"I must tell you," he continued, "that parents who have no self-esteem find it impossible to esteem their children. The reason I'm a minister today is because my grandmother told me Bible stories over and over again. She told me I was important. She esteemed me."

Dr. Wallace paused as if caught in a childhood memory.

"Esteeming people when they are acting in a way we don't want them to is hard. Maybe God hasn't called them to do what we want them to do. God invites us to come boldly, to the throne of grace," he said.

Hunger to Be Needed, to Be Useful

"Someone who does not feel needed will be gone," declared Dr. Wallace. "My grandson felt needed in fixing up my back yard. He worked all day carrying a bucket of dirt. He felt needed," he said.

"And let me stress," he added, "the truth lies *between* us not *within* us. Between us, as we sit together, work together, we'll find the truth. We need in our churches, families and groups to help people to feel needed, to feel useful. We need to learn how to use and to include all of God's children."

Hunger for Some Recreation, a Kind of Pleasure or Soul Food

Dr. Wallace discussed the hunger for recreation to feed the soul. The soul food

may be different for each person, but that person needs to know where the soul food is and how to get it for the soul.

The two great enemies for the soul are depression and burn-out. Each person needs to be restored and needs to have a place to find that restoration.

Pastors oftentimes must face burn-out. Pastors can't really get away from their congregations and what they need, so pastors need to find a source of recreation outside the congregation.

"We need to approach the throne of grace to balance our lives," stressed Dr. Wallace.

Hunger for Boundaries

That Separate the ME from the THEE

"There is something in the core of the soul that cannot be invaded," said Dr. Wallace.

People need to claim their private space, a boundary for others. Pastors may have trouble setting boundaries, saying "No" when necessary, resisting trying to meet every need of every person in the church.

"People who invade your boundaries are people whose boundaries have been invaded," he said.

Hunger for a Workable Faith

According to Dr. Wallace, a workable faith is a faith that stands up. A borrowed faith is one that folds. As he visited the Cancer ward, he saw many faith stages. What he realized was that all the scholarly information he learned at seminary was not the bottom line. The workable faith offered the test of strength. Once people find themselves in the wilderness, they face their own faith. Is it a workable faith or a borrowed faith? When we face life and death issues, we discover what we believe and what we can stand on.

"What is in your soul?" he asked. "That's what matters."

"A workable faith is hammered out on the anvil of life. Life keeps throwing curve balls and we have to go back again and again to the anvil. Come boldly to the throne of grace and receive mercy, he concluded.

The P.T. Lucas Pastor's Award

Sponsored by Dr. Thomas R. Morris in memory of his great-grandfather, the P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award has been established to foster pastoral qualities Dr. Morris observed in the Rev. James A. Evans when he served his home church, Union Grove Free

Will Baptist Church in the Nahunta community of Wayne County. Eighteen nominations from Original Free Will Baptist churches were made this year. Nominated were: the Rev. Royce L. Reynolds—Malachi's Chapel, the Rev. Everette Harper—Union Chapel, the Rev. Harold Swinson—Free Union, the Rev. Tom Miller—Hugo, the Rev. Ray Walls—Marsh Swamp, the Rev. John David Hill—Sweet Gum Grove, the Rev. Walton E. Parrish—Union Chapel, the Rev. Billy Ray Jordan—Piney Grove, the Rev. Ronnie Vann Hobgood—First, Greenville, the Rev. William Scott Sowers—Marlboro, the Rev. DeWayne Eakes—Little Rock, the Rev. W. H. Willis—Christian Chapel, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough—Palmer Memorial, the Rev. Aubrey Williamson—Saratoga, the Rev. Clifton Styron—Pilgrims' Rest, Cedar Island, NC, the Rev. James V. Joyner—Kenly, the Rev. Connie Bryant Hines—Core Creek, and the Rev. William J. Godwin—Beaverdam.

In introducing the P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president emeritus of Mount Olive College, said, "This award is to go to a person who is really ministering to the spiritual needs of his people. He is a *Shepherd of Souls*. The award is to encourage in ministry the kind of pastoral leadership James Evans demonstrated," he said.

"In my opinion, the most basic and urgent need of Original Free Will Baptists today is for a ministry that is educationally equipped and spiritually committed to advance the church into the new millennium of the twenty-first century," he said.

"Whatever happens to the Free Will Baptist ministry will eventually happen to the Free Will Baptist church. When an ordaining council ordains a man to the ministry, it is saying that this is what it wants the future of the Free Will Baptist Church to be like," he added.

Selection committee members for the first aware were Dr. K. David Hines and the Rev. Frank Harrison of Mount Olive College, the Rev. Doug Skinner and the Rev. Ray Wells of the North Carolina Ministerial Association, and the Rev. C. H. Overman, representing the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists at-large.

The 1994 winner of the P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award is the Rev. William J. Godwin, pastor of the Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church.

Afternoon Session:

Group Dynamics in a Church

"Personalities bring their own form of emptiness and hunger to the church group," said Dr. Wallace. "Also men and women bring their own way of speaking. Women are concerned with how people connect. Men are concerned with who's in charge. Women are concerned about best friends, how to get along. Men operate from a sense of hierarchy, from a winning or losing issue," he explained.

Dr. Wallace discussed how pastors might deal with couples. He noted five issues that relate to marital conflict: (1) conflicts outside from a job, parents, (2) triangles in relationships when people other than the couple are drawn into the marriage conflict, (3) affairs outside the marriage, (4) Pur-

suer—distancer dynamics, (5) Expectation—alienation dynamics.

In discussing family and group dynamics, Dr. Wallace stressed teaching, basic values such as honesty, courage, peacefulness, self-reliance, fidelity, loyalty, respect, love, kindness, and justice.

When families in a church are facing turmoil, Dr. Wallace recommended that pastors help these families seek Christian therapists. Numerous resource centers are available in North Carolina.

"Remember," warned Dr. Wallace as he eyed the room of Free Will Baptist ministers, "you cannot help people by carrying their burdens for them. They need to take responsibility. Many problems are unconscious and will keep recurring until therapy intervenes."

Dr. Wallace concluded by noting various levels of church dynamics. In Level One, the church must solve a simple problem such as where to move a water fountain. In Level Two, church members need to negotiate. In Level Three, the church dynamics have disintegrated into a win-lose stance. In Level Four of problems, someone is going to be a casualty.

"Let me end by reaffirming that there are ways to move groups through conflicts and resolutions," declared Dr. Wallace. "People come into the church with their own personality style and family system. These family systems surface within the church. The church can create an atmosphere of healing if enough healthy people are in leadership roles. Pastors need to ask hard questions and recommend outside consultation," he concluded.

*Congratulations to
the Rev. William J. Godwin
winner of the
P. T. Lucas Pastor's Award*

Home Missions

A New Church

Roanoke Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church

Eighty-five people gathered on July 17, 1994, at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Roanoke Rapids for the organizational meeting of a new Original Free Will Baptist Church. The Executive Committee of the Western Conference organized the new Roanoke Valley Church in a special ceremony attended by 27 adults and young people of the new Church and many visitors.

The Rev. Larry Barbour, the pastor of this new community of God's people, presided at an inspirational program marking the birth of the new congregation. This is the first new Church to have been a part of Harvest 2000, and it is sincerely hoped that they will become a great witness for our Lord.



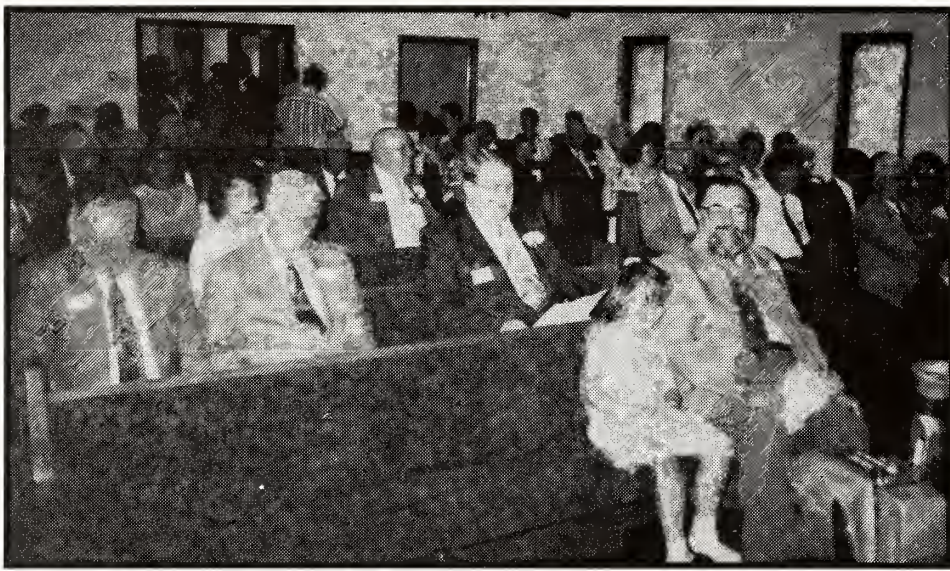
The Rev. Joseph Ingram, assistant moderator of the Western Conference presents the Bible to Pastor Barbour.



The members of the new congregation are standing.

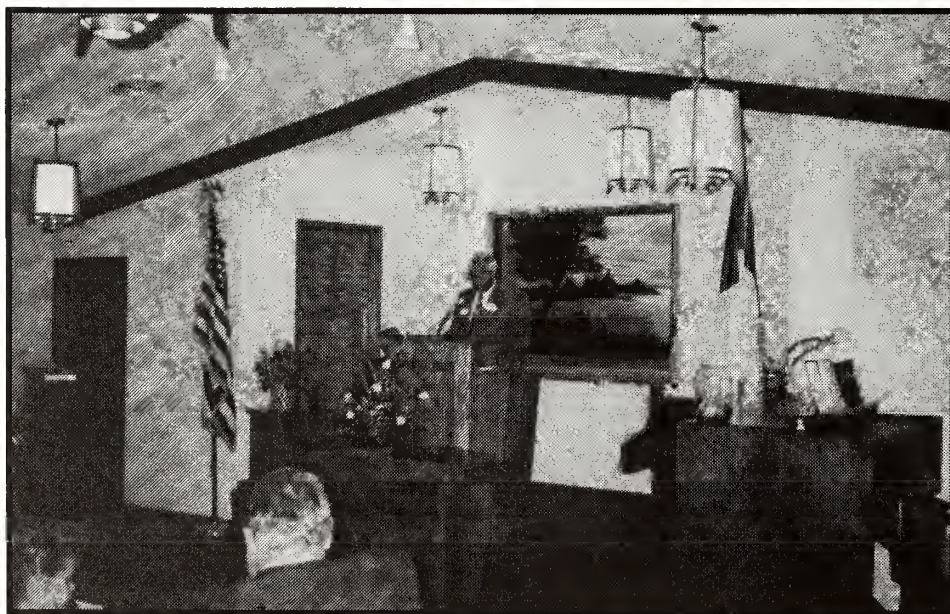


Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Duff, members of the new church.



Pictured at left seated on the front row is the Rev. David Ingram, manager of the local Christian Radio Station, who sang at the organizational meeting. Also pictured are members of the Western Conference and two of its officers, with many others in the background.

At right, Ray Wells, pastor, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Yarborough of Marsh Swamp Original Free Will Baptist Church of Rock Ridge. Brother Wells is also moderator of the Western Conference.



The Rev. Lyn Renfrow, clerk of the Western Conference reads the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.

Working Toward A New Mission Endeavor

Rock Springs Original Free Will Baptist Church

The people of Rock Springs, Bailey, NC, work hard to raise funds to support a new mission work. They have pledged to provide \$100 per week for a year to help begin the new mission in the Cary-Apex area.



Saturday, April 24, 1994, was a big day at Rock Springs Church. The people worked hard cooking chickens and fixing the trimmings for a Barbecued Chicken Lunch and Supper. The meal was delicious and over \$3,000 was raised to help meet their commitment to the new mission work. They did not know until later that their pastor and his wife would become the new missionary couple for the project.

The people have responded very well to the choice that Terry and Sandy have made to serve our Lord through Home Missions and Evangelism.



A very special thanks goes to the people of Rock Springs Church for their hard work and support. The decision to help "mother" a new Church calls for understanding and commitment. This kind of support is very important to meeting the challenge that is open to Original Free Will Baptists through Home Missions and Evangelism. Please consider asking your Church to make such a commitment.

Thanks also go to Terry and Sandy Ellis as we promise to uphold them in their new endeavor.



Help keep the doors open
Support Home Missions and Evangelism
at the
Convention Mission Rally
September 14, 1994
7:30 p.m.
Come, and bring a "Special Offering"

NEWS FROM FOREIGN MISSIONS

VICTORIOUS LIFE YOUTH CAMP

by Nerie Peralta



Our National Hero here in the Philippines, the late Dr. Jose Rizal, said, "That the Youth for today is the hope for tomorrow." I believe that the Apostle Paul agreed with him when he said also to young Timothy that *Let no man despise thy youth* (1 Timothy 4:12). There are similar meanings in these two phrases, especially in the spiritual application that Timothy became the successor of Paul in his missionary work.

The Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines, Inc. is not neglecting the young people. They are putting much emphasis on the fact that the young people have a big part in the body of Christ (the church).

Last April 18–22, 1994 we had our Youth Summer Camp that was held at Malatgae, Narra, Palawan beside the big river. We made our tents for our shelter like Boy Scouts because there is no building there. We appreciate the presence of the Rev. Harold Jones during our camping trip. We are very grateful for his donation to make this camp successful. It was attended by seventy-five (75) registered young people plus visitors and Christian workers, more or less. We had more than 100 people. We are happy for the personal and moral support from our pastors and Christian workers. But we also feel sad because some of our pastors failed to send their young people because of financial difficulties.

Our speakers challenged our young people to let their light shine upon their lives, as the Apostle Paul told Timothy to be an example (1 Timothy 4:12). We had three speakers: the Rev. Lorenzo dela Rosa helping the young people to strengthen their commitment to God, and to the church. Pastor Teddy Martinez reminded the young people of their relationship to God and to their fellow Christians. And the Rev. Darie Basingil educated the young people and challenged them to apply the biblical principle on love, courtship, and marriage.

Our last night, Pastor Bern Berja appealed to the campers to repent for salvation, to rededicate their lives to God and to prepare their lives in the Service of the King. Many young people responded to His call. We believe because of God's providence our trip was a success.

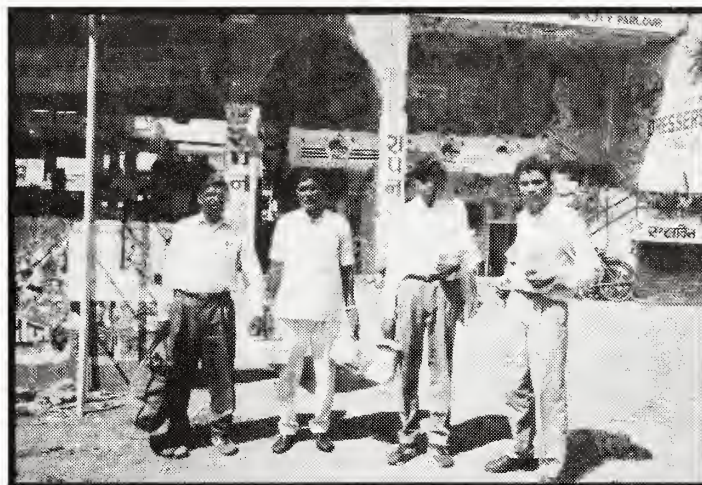
We make an appeal to our co-workers to continue to mold our young people in what God wants them to be.

To our brethren in North Carolina, thank you for your spiritual and financial support.

To God be the glory and honor for the things He has done. Amen.

MASS EVANGELISM—1994

by the Rev. Dr. E. M. Lall, India



In compliance with our Church Covenant, our chief business is to hold Christian principles and obligations supreme, esteem it to the highest order to make the Lord Jesus Christ known to our countrymen, and constantly pray and toil that the Kingdom God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. The church in India and Nepal is the outcome of evangelism in these past years.

The month of June is set apart for this hazardous task every year. Though the month continues to be of extreme heat as it did this year when the mercury touched 47 degrees celsius breaking a record of five decades. It is just because it is a month of vacation for all these people whether in courts, schools or in private business. People move around from place to place, visiting their relatives and health resorts and are quite relaxed wherever they are. At this time of the year we take the opportunity of evangelization since it has been proven to be of great achievement. It is not only that we feel excited to undertake evangelism to unknown places and to unknown people, it is also that the people long to hear the Word of God. At this time our preachers answer various questions for which they have studied in their training program. We impart comparative study of major religions we are confronted with in terms of our Holy Bible. Such communication is more fruitful to those who like to know our Lord as the only Saviour of mankind.

With this belief our people, comprising 48 in number, carrying a couple of Bibles, enough New Testaments, Gospels, story books, comics and various other Christian literature which we gather from different resources travel in a radius of 328 miles on bicycles provided by the Board of Foreign Missions and the local churches. The report we had on July 4 from our ministers and deacons in the midst of our council indicated that around 32,000 were reached with the message of salvation. There were many commitments, promises and at large there was a good reception of the Word of God moving many hearts to accept Him as their Saviour. Having done our job to this extent, our preachers continue the follow-up work during the rest of the year and bring many of them into the fold of our Saviour. This is how the church has grown from 19 to 18,367 at this time.

This has been made possible with the help of the Rev. Harold Jones, our director-treasurer who is conscious of the need and gives us guidance and regular financial assistance. The people who continue to pray and support the work here are the great share-holders in the task and will be richly rewarded by the Lord Jesus Christ.

WORLD WAR III

by Lydia van der Plas



Lydia van der Plas

On this very day is there any country in the world without war, confusion, strikes, tribal struggle, racism, vandalism, hatred, slavery, corruption, brutality, murders, drug use, alcoholism, etc? Since we have satellite TV in our home all the misery is overwhelming us and we are asking ourselves "can it become worse than this?"

Reading the Bible tells me that this is just the beginning. Here in Bulgaria and the neighbouring countries a personal relationship with our Lord has become a crime. Some evangelical groups are banned, in Romania, as well as in Bulgaria. We are not allowed to witness or worship, the law of 1951 is

again in full force, clear and painfully legal.

Also, every day in our ministry we are surrounded by a host of angels; by your prayers and your faith.

Satan is working now with all his mighty army.

The "World" is an easy work area, a little me pressure and there goes family-life, children against parents, parents against parents, family against family, people against people, love against love.

Finally he *found and is using* his most deadly weapon. Religion, traditions of the churches (who exist already more than 1200 years, like the Orthodox churches) against God's Word.

The Bible, ha ha, poison for the people, how can they understand that? No, what you have to study is the history of the church and partake in the traditions. The Bible is not for people. *This is the final battle. World War III.* All the believers in the Salvation in Christ, His sacrifice for our sins, our love to God our Father, our love for our neighbors are attacked by Satan. He is using, desperately, people who are carrying the name "Christians."

But we are not sleeping victims. Our Lord has given us all the weapons we need. He has already armed us for this battle before all our lifetime of this world. I need not to tell you where you can find all this in your Bible.

Read, pray, be alert, pray with and for your family. Pray for His angels to strengthen you, like they did to Jesus in Gethsemane.

Know and fight the evil in our own hearts. Pray for this world and prepare yourselves for His coming. We already have the answer for these prayers! Revelation 22:20, *Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.*

"BIRTHDAY TIME AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

by Tina Allen, Director of Church and Public Relations



Tarboro YFA



"Let's play hacky-sack!"



"Time to pass out the presents!"

Everyone likes to be remembered on their birthday, especially children. Can you remember the parties with the birthday cake and candles, all of your friends and—don't forget, the presents? The residents at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home like to be remembered too! There are several church members who remember our children with cards—some even have a little money in them!

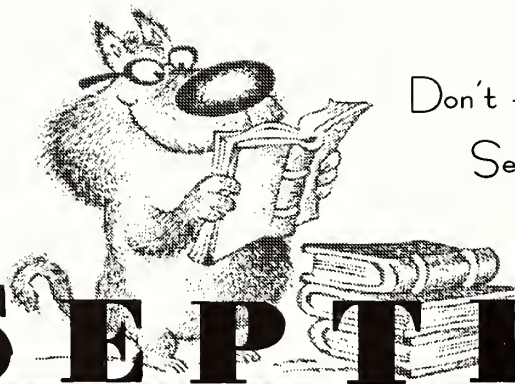
Recently, we had a group do something for our children that had never been done before. Several months ago, the youth leader from the Tarboro Free Will Baptist Church, Mrs. Joyce Hathaway, contacted me concerning her YFA groups doing something for our children. The youth had collected over \$500 to purchase birthday presents for all. Each of our children named a \$10 item that they would like. The list was filled with all kinds of gifts—cassette tapes, basketballs, candy, books, stamps, Mickey Mouse T-shirts, teddy bears, and many others.

On the Sunday afternoon of July 31, 1994, the Tarboro YFA arrived to give the birthday party we had all been waiting for. The party began in Whitley Center with games of basketball, crab soccer, and hacky sack. Then everyone gathered in Heritage Hall for a hot-dog supper. And can you guess what the highlight of the party was? Yes, the gifts! As the youth group passed out the birthday presents, they also gave each child an individual birthday cupcake with a candle in the center. All of the candles were lit and blown out after a quick wish. (I wonder what they wished for?!)

After opening their presents, the youth group presented us with a program in Memorial Chapel. We all sang songs and were entertained with a puppet show that demonstrated how much we are loved by God. As the day came to a close the YFA took a tour through our cottages to see how our children live.

It is so inspiring to see the love shown by other children to those who are less fortunate than they are. I'd like to encourage this group to keep up the good work for the Lord. Our children and staff really enjoyed the day. Thank you!

(Continued on page 26)



Don't Forget....

Send in your dates of interest

so we can print them for all to see!

SEPTEMBER



SUN		MON		TUE	
28	29	30	31		
4	5	6	7	+ Membership Meeting Ayden FWB Church, 10:00 a.m. * Johnston-Wake Planning Session	
11	12	13	14	+ Night Of Evangelism Rodgers Chapel, 7:30 p.m.	Murp + C
18	19	20	21		
26	27	28	29		

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS

LEGEND

Previous/following month
 Present month

- ◇ Children's Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- ✚ FWB Convention
- ✚ FWB Press
- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- Sunday School Board
- ★ Union Meeting
- Vandemere
- ✿ Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 ✿ Samson, Harnett, Cumberland Planning Session	2 ✿ Carteret Planning Session	3
	8 ✿ Wilson Planning Session	9 ○ Pastor and Superintendent Banquet King's Restaurant, Kinston 7:00 p.m.	10
Breakfast 7:30 a.m. Convention Session College Hall Missions Rally 7:30 p.m.	15 ✚ Convention Session College Hall	16	17
	22 ✿ Eastern District Northeast FWB Church	23	24
	30	31	1

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

ALUMNI CELEBRATE 48TH HOMECOMING AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

by Tina Allen, Director of Church and Public Relations



Registration



Alumni fellowship together



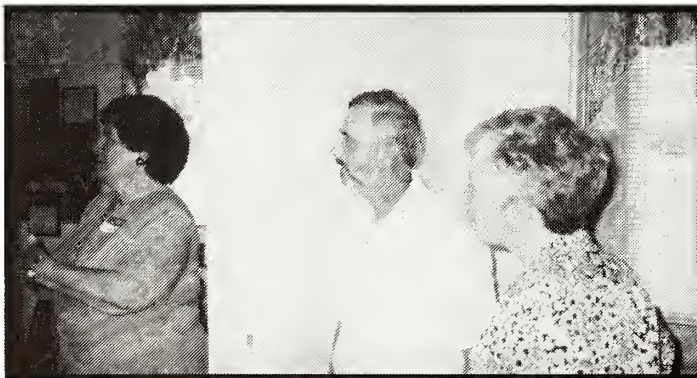
Kathy Langston Poythress, Keynote speaker



Some of the Alumni members that were present at Homecoming



Alumni enjoying their lunch catered by Parker's Barbecue



Mary Mitchell, Billy Hines, and Mary Hines touring Smith Cottage

The 48th Annual Alumni Homecoming was held at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on Sunday, July 10, 1994. The event began with a cookout and activities at the home of Billy and Mary Hines of Wilson on Saturday. Mr. Hines was formally a resident of the home. On Sunday morning, the 150 in attendance gathered outside of Memorial Chapel reminiscing about old times. There was quite a few Alumni who resided out of state but came back to visit with old friends and family. After registering, the morning proceeded with the Homecoming Service in the Chapel. The service began as the congregation sang, "Jesus Loves the Little Children."

Judy Warren Aycock, President of the Alumni Association, presented the Alumni awards to current residents of the Home. These various awards are given to those who have shown the most interest in the Home, those with overall excellence during the preceding year, overall progress during the past year, most interest in religious activities, and those who have made the highest scholastic average during the past school year. These awards are sponsored by the Alumni. A total of eleven awards were presented. Also during the morning service, a group of Alumni provided us with special

music. Dr. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive College, former resident, gave the Memorial Report and touched on the lives of those who have passed away during the previous year.

The keynote speaker of the Homecoming Service was Kathy Langston Poythress. Mrs. Poythress came to the Home in 1963 and left in 1970. Mrs. Poythress addressed the congregation with her message entitled, "The Child Within." Before she came to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, she was locked outdoors, locked in closets, and felt as if she didn't have anyone. When she first arrived at the Home, she described how scared she was. She states, "I could not express my feelings while at the Children's Home. They were pushed too far down." She encouraged the current residents to "Let it out—if something has happened, tell someone. The little girl or boy in everyone wants to be loved." Mrs. Poythress recalled some special moments with staff members while at the Home who are deceased. She talked about Mrs. Themla Rulli and states, "She was my mother." She also viewed Mr. M. L. Johnson as a father figure. Near the end of her message, she read a poem from the book, *The Child Within*. A few lines from the poem read as follows:

"Please hear what I am not saying . . .
I wear masks . . .
Don't be fooled . . .
I give the impression that I am secure."

Mrs. Poythress closed her message by stating, "I'm not a victim, I'm a survivor."

After a congregational hymn of "Love Lifted Me," Mr. Billy Hines closed the service with the benediction.

Following the service, the Alumni held a business meeting discussing new ideas for their 50th Alumni Homecoming in 1996. Lunch was catered by Parker's Barbecue of Wilson. During the remainder of the afternoon, Alumni visited the cottages and with each other sharing good and bad times while they lived at the Children's Home. They discussed how different life is at the Home today compared to yesterday. The one thing they saw that is not different is the mission of the Children's Home—to provide children with a Home to help deal with their emotional and physical pain and come to grips with the child within.

We hope everyone had a pleasant afternoon and that they will join us again next year!

ATTENTION YOUTH DIRECTORS

Do You Need Help in Resources?

A YOUTH WORKERS' TRAINING SEMINAR

Sponsored by Carolina Bible Institute

Will Be Held at First FWB, Greenville, NC

Saturday, October 1, 1994

9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Cost: \$25 each

(covers lunch and materials)

TO REGISTER

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Church Representing _____

Seminar Leaders

Joey Williams, Youth Director

First FWB, Greenville, NC

Brian Garris, Youth Director

Hickory Grove FWB, Stokes, NC

Glenn Mills, Youth Director

Stoney Creek FWB, Goldsboro, NC

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carolina Bible Institute

(919) 965-6364

Tending the Fields in God's Country

by Cecil Cahoon, Mount Olive College Office of Public Information



Owen Peele stood between fields of cornstalks that towered two feet taller than himself and beamed at the health of the crop. In a growing season that has yet seen more days with 90-degree-plus temperatures—and less rain than in previous seasons—Peele declared his corn healthy and marveled that it might produce above average when the harvest comes.

Peele, a friend of Mount Olive College, invited President W. Burkette Raper and Cecil Cahoon, public information officer of the College, to visit his farm and explained that while he would like the day's massive, low-flying clouds to loose a long, slow shower, he isn't worried that they don't.

"I told you—this is God's country," he said, still smiling.

"Using God's Water"

Peele's 750 acres straddle the border between Beaufort and Pamlico counties alongside Bay City Road, a stretch of two-lane highway connecting Aurora and Bayboro. The farm and 2,100 acres that Peele has managed for others over the years bumps or wraps around young Weyerhaeuser pine forest. In July, corn stands on much of the land while soybeans ripple under the breeze in a tract of mile-long rows. It is this tract of land, affectionately called "Plantation South," that produces an average of 50 bushels of beans per acre under Peele's direction. The state average for soybeans is 28 bushels per acre.

The secret, Peele says, is water control structures. More than 60 squat, aluminum flashboard risers block passage of water through the network of ditches on his farm. Attachments are added to or taken from the structures, depending on rainfall accumulation, to regulate a consistent irrigation to the fields.

"We're using God's water," Peele explains. "We store up the rain that comes during the winter months in these structures and use it in the summer."

His confidence in the structures comes from experience. Peele graduated from North Carolina State University's biological and agricultural engineering program in 1974. He, with assistance from fellow graduates and farm engineers, designed and planned the farm's management, from placing water control structures to experimenting with the most strategic placement of nitrogen fertilizer near each corn plant's feeder roots.

Not everyone is convinced of the structures' value. Adjacent to Peele farmland lies cornfields that already show serious damage from heat and lack of water.

The Peele farm runs on a three-crop program: corn, wheat and beans. "It's all part of one plan, one program. Before we're through with one, we've already planned for the next one and the next one. We never stop."

During a tour of the farm, Peele stopped to wade into the corn. Despite the summer's low rainfall in the area, he expects his fields to produce 135 wet bushels or more per acre. Agriculture extension officials say the state average is 80 bushels per acre.

Following Paul's "Bi-Vocational" Example

Water control structures is one secret Owen Peele brings to farming; his Christian faith and ministry is another. Peele holds a degree from Carolina Bible Institute and was ordained a Free Will Baptist minister in October, 1991. He has since preached or pastored in the denomination's Eastern

Conference, most recently as pastor of New Haven Free Will Baptist in Craven County.

Aurora's geography is right for Christian faith, Peele noted. He serves on the annual Aurora Fossil Festival planning committee and helped organize a multi-denominational choir to perform during the festival. Aurora's Richland Township boasts 55 churches, he found, 13 of them inside Aurora's town limits. The figures help explain Peele's nickname for the region, "God's country."

Peele joined Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Aurora in 1966. In 1977, he dedicated his life to Christ after reading *In His Steps*, a discourse on Christian living by Charles M. Shelton. Since then, faith and farming have been a joint venture.

"I don't see how a man can be a farmer without having a relationship with Jesus Christ. A man can't do this by himself. I've learned that." When asked for a specific spiritual lesson that farming teaches, Peele answered quickly, "Philippians 4:6. *Be careful for nothing, but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*"

"I believe that it's not a lesson to be applied—it's an experience to be tried," he said.

Peele's Scriptural reference, he points out, was written as a letter to the newly-established church at Philippi from the Apostle Paul. Like Peele, Paul was a "bi-vocational" preacher; in lieu of financial support from fledgling churches, Paul built a tent-making trade that supported him as he traveled from city to city. It's a principle with which Peele agrees.

"I believe that God calls his ministers in one of two ways. Either he's called to be a full-time minister" or he can be a part-time minister, supplementing his income with other work, he said. "There is Scriptural reference to support this idea. There are many churches who simply cannot support a full-time minister and they need the Pauls of the world. I'm a Paul."

Peele's time is split again with service to his community: he is president-elect of the Aurora-Richland Township Chamber of Commerce, holding membership on its board of directors and as its economic development chair. He also sits on the board of directors of the Beaufort County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Which vocation is preferable—farming or preaching—is like asking which of two sons one prefers. They are alike in many ways, Peele suggested. Tending a congregation is like cultivating the earth and requires similar attention, similar nurturing. Youth, in particular, need such diligent attention.

"Young people don't see things in black and white. They see a lot of gray areas. I tell them that with Christianity, you either are or you aren't. And if you are, you live it 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It's black or white," he said. "It takes some of them a while to understand, but sooner or later, they see."

"Whether you're pastoring or farming, the secret is perseverance, sticking to it and coming back," he said.

A Partnership With God

Like his nitrogen fertilizer, Peele sees his Christian faith as a tool to be used in growing crops. He admits unashamedly to "talking to" the crops and the elements, and also to animals like deer and bears, who can quickly whittle away a good crop. His discourse with nature sounds like prayer, someone suggests to him.

"Is there a difference?" he asks. "The Bible says man has dominion over the earth and the animals. You have to say what you want them to do and ask it in the name of Jesus Christ." Row after row of healthy green crop are evidence that his strategies work.

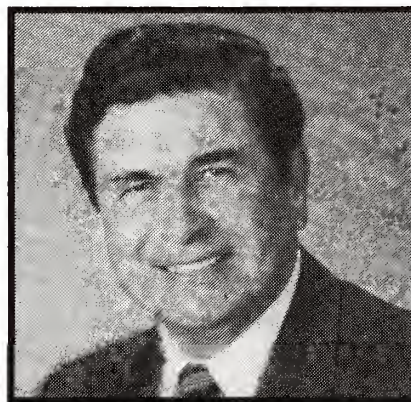
Peele's work is like a partnership with God.

"There are people who say no, you can't do this or that, but then we turn around and show them what we have done," Peele said, excited by the memory of his experience. "With God, nothing is impossible. I'm telling you, I have people who park on the side of the road and watch us work when we're picking corn or beans."

"Like I said," he grinned, "this is God's country."

(Photos by Cecil Cahoon)

On the Present and Future of Mount Olive College: Selecting a New President



Dr. W. Burkette Raper

As a search committee of leaders from the church, community and region gather to recommend a successor to President W. Burkette Raper, the Mount Olive College family prepares for a change of the same magnitude as its transition from two-year to four-year status.

Although Dr. Raper does not serve on the committee or hold any advisory position to it, the committee asked him to attend a recent meeting and share his views on the needs of the college that the new president will need to address, the relationship of the college to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, and the personal and leadership qualities which will be important to the new president.

Dr. Raper's remarks addressed his work, his vision for the future of Mount Olive College, and his view of the future of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. Committee members found his remarks to be as revealing as any he has given in his forty years in the office.

With Dr. Raper's permission, the address has been excerpted for publication in the Free Will Baptist magazine in this and the next edition.

* * *

"I probably will not tell you anything you do not already know, but I will try to help you look through the Office of President as I have experienced it. I do not suggest my experience as a model for the next president, but hopefully I can share with you some useful reference points.

"I am reminded of the words of President Henry M. Wriston following his retirement from Brown University"

'The president. . . is expected to be an educator, to have been at some time a scholar, to have judgment about finance, to know something of construction, maintenance and labor policy, to speak virtually continuously in words that charm and never offend, to take bold positions with which no one will disagree, to consult everyone and follow all proffered advice, and do everything through committees but with great speed and without error.'

"Being president of Mount Olive College has not been for me a job but rather *a way of life*. It has required intensive and relentless devotion to the work. For forty years, I have had to measure almost everything I did by whether or not it would advance the college: the development of friendships; the choice of social events; deciding where I attended church; the use of holidays, weekends and after-hours activities; and the selection of most books I have read. It is something I have had to live and breathe. It has been an all-consuming work.

"While I am an advocate of a strong work ethic, my style of work has not been totally of choice but of necessity. I would hope that my successor would be able to establish a less stressful and more effective work style; it is my opinion, however, that the future well-being and advancement of the college will continue to require an extraordinary level of commitment from whoever serves as president.

"This office would not look so glamorous if people knew what it cost in terms of time, energy and priorities. When viewed, however, in terms of mission, purpose and meaning, it has been a joyful price to pay.

Needs of the College Which The Next President Must Address

A. Mission

"It is the mission of the college which justifies its existence. If Mount Olive College were to close today, who would

care? What difference would it make to whom? There are approximately 120 institutions of higher education in North Carolina and more than 3,300 in the nation. Since colleges are competing for students, why is Mount Olive even needed? The answer must rest in the contribution the college makes in the lives of its students.

"The mission of Mount Olive College is stated in its charter:

'To establish, maintain and operate a four-year co-educational college for the Christian education of men and women.

'To maintain an emphasis upon scholarship and Christian living in an academic community made up of persons dedicated to the practice and advancement of Christian ideals in all areas of life.'

"In addition to the mission statement in its charter, the college has published a seven-point statement of 'Commitment' regarding the kind of educational experiences which it seeks to provide: academic quality; a focus on students—their needs and development; career preparation; a global perspective on citizenship; making educational opportunity affordable; the fostering of Christian values and spiritual growth; and a wholesome, safe environment for learning and living.

"'It is this spirit of pride, of shared values, of learning together, of a community bound by Christian values that sets Mount Olive College apart,'" the Commitment statement concludes.

"The Free Will Baptist Church and other donors support Mount Olive College not because the college has needs but because they believe in its work. The largest planned gift in the history of the college is conditioned upon the college adhering to its mission as expressed by the Commitment statement.

"The president must believe in and be unreservedly committed to the Christian mission of Mount Olive College, for without its mission, the college would not be needed. I have always believed that there is a divine destiny for this institution."

B. Vision

"Mount Olive College is primarily not an institution to be managed—it is a vision to be developed. A college will never exceed the vision of its president. I have always been sustained not by what the college was, but by what I believed it could become. People do not give big dollars to little ideas, for life is too precious to be wasted on something cheap. In the truest sense, education is helping people develop the vision with which they have been endowed by God.

"The next president will have a choice: to scale the college down to the level of resources that can be conveniently acquired, or to develop the resources necessary to achieve a vision that transcends anything we have yet attained.

"The next president should be one who inspires this committee and the Board of Trustees with the vision of what he or she would like for Mount Olive College to become: academically; in student development, including moral and spiritual values; and in new buildings, technology and learning resources. To lead Mount Olive effectively into the next century will require the kind of vision the prophet Isaiah had when he wrote to the Hebrew exiles in Babylon:

Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes (Isaiah 54:2).

C. Special Ability and Commitment in Resource Development (Raising Money)

"During the early 1980s, our annual gift support averaged \$875,000; during the early 1990s, it has averaged \$1,750,000 annually. But by the year 2000, our gift support must double again. We are currently awarding \$1 million annually in institutionally-funded scholarships and grants. This amount will increase, and it must be underwritten through gifts and endowments.

"During our five-year (1989-94) *Road to Excellence* campaign, we received more than \$9 million in gifts plus \$694,000 in life-income investments with an additional \$2 million in pledges which are still in the process of payment. During our next campaign, we will need to raise \$15-20 million. Gift support is the life-blood of this institution, for without the resources for survival, our mission and vision would be an empty dream.

"For forty years, Mount Olive College has lived year by year, month by month, week by week and sometimes day by day on the contributions of the Free Will Baptist people and its friends. This college is as dependent upon gifts as most people are dependent upon their salaries. Finding this gift support has been and, in my opinion, will continue to be the most pressing demand upon the president. Whoever comes to this office should be willing to devote a minimum of one-half of his/her time to institutional advancement with a focus on fund raising.

"Obtaining gifts is more than raising money. It is helping people enrich their lives through investing in a cause which transcends ourselves."

D. Building Enrollment

"For the fall term of 1993, total enrollment (headcount) in both on- and off-campus programs was 894: 473 on-campus, 408 at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro and 13 in the first class at New Bern. The Seymour Johnson program is well-established and has always been more than self-supporting. The upper division (junior and senior level) program at New Bern has great potential as a model for extensions in other population centers.

"It is the main campus program, which is the heart of the college, that will require most concentrated effort for growth. In today's educational market, an economy of scale calls for a *minimum* enrollment of 800 to 1,000. In effect, we need to move as rapidly as possible toward doubling our on-campus enrollment, but reaching this goal will require more academic majors, an expansion of the library, and at least two additional buildings: a mathematic and science building with state of the art technology and a fine arts center, including a performance auditorium.

"Other requirements will include (1) a reputation for academic quality, (2) being financially affordable through scholarships for worthy and qualified students, and (3) institutional visibility. Students must know about Mount Olive College if it is to be the college of their choice.

E. Faculty and Curriculum Development

"The business of the college is education, and at the heart of this work is our faculty. Among the major needs of the college are programs for the professional development of the current faculty and increasing the number of teachers who hold the doctorate or terminal degrees in their respective fields.

"Using the current economic index, faculty salaries merit a minimum increase of 25% with 50-100% as a goal for those with top professional credentials and whose performance can be rated excellent on the criteria of our 'Commitment Statement.' *A college can be as good as its faculty but never better.*

"Concurrent with faculty development will be curriculum and program planning for additional majors necessary to meet the needs of prospective students. Currently, Mount Olive offers 18 majors, but this number needs to be substantially increased in order to build a larger student body.

"In summary, I see the following priorities for the next president:

- (1) Defining and implementing the distinctive educational *mission* of the college;
- (2) Articulating a *vision* for the future;
- (3) Procuring the *financial resources* required for both operation and advancement;
- (4) Building the *enrollment*; and
- (5) *Curriculum and faculty development.*

Note: Excerpts from the remainder of Dr. Raper's address, including his views on the relationship of the college to its sponsoring church and the personal and leadership qualities important to the next president, will be published in next month's *Free Will Baptist*.



Mount Olive College student ordained in Georgia



From left to right: the Rev. William Bronson, the Rev. Jim Pelt, the Rev. Bobby Johnston, the Rev. Wayne Sheffield, and the Rev. David Charles Hansley. (Photo by Dianne Riley)

Bobby Johnston of Blakely, Georgia, was ordained a minister on July 16 at Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Blakely, Georgia, at the July, 1994, Paul Palmer Fellowship Conference.

Pastors from Georgia, Florida and North Carolina participated in the ceremony. David Still, a deacon in Zion FWB, prayed the Prayer of Invocation and the Charge was given by the Rev. Jim Pelt, pastor of Live Oak FWB and moderator of the Paul Palmer Fellowship Conference. The Rev. Wayne Sheffield, pastor of Jakin FWB, spoke on the Divine Call to the Ministry.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley, executive director of Home Missions and Evangelism of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, prayed the Prayer of Ordination, during which all ordained ministers present participated in the Laying on of Hands while the Johnstons knelt at the altar.

The Bible was presented to Johnston by the Rev. William Bronson, pastor of St. Cloud FWB Mission of St. Cloud, Florida. Mr. Pelt prayed the Benediction, after which the congregation participated in extending the Hand of Christian Fellowship. Stephen Prescott, a Christian ministries student at Mount Olive College and summer intern of Zion FWB, directed special music.

Johnston, a Christian ministries major, and his wife, Beth, moved to Mount Olive in the summer of 1993 to attend Mount Olive College. Both work on the campus in maintenance support positions while attending classes. The Johnstons have three children: Luke, Julie, and Whitney.

FWB Students Attend Freshman Orientation at Mount Olive College



Incoming freshmen from across North Carolina and other states toured the Mount Olive College campus during the college's summer orientation. Students took placement tests, met their advisors, registered for classes and visited residence halls. Parents who attended also participated in information sessions with student development officers and college officials. Visiting the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center were the Free Will Baptist students pictured above: (Left to right) Ryan Gray of Stoney Creek FWB in Goldsboro, Reagan Singleton of Beulaville FWB in Beulaville, Holli James of Malachi's Chapel FWB near Columbia, and Barbara "Babs" House of Hickory Grove FWB in Pitt County with Dianne Riley. While the regular semester is already under way, openings are still available in the Management and Organizational Development program featured in Mount Olive's "Evening College." Registration for the Evening College is open through Sept. 27. For information, call Dean Dorothy Whitley or Admissions Director Dianne Riley at 919-658-2502 or 1-800-653-0854.

Evening College available at Mount Olive College

Following the success of its Management and Organizational Development curriculum at the New Bern Center, Mount Olive College will offer the same curriculum program on the main campus beginning this fall. "Evening College" offers a degree-completion program to students within commuting distance and is designed for students who have completed two years of college study.

Registration for the Evening College continues through September 27, the first night of classes.

In Evening College, students move through a 55-week program of courses, a schedule comparable to two semesters and a summer. Students who have completed two years of college study that meet Mount Olive College's general education requirements are immediately eligible for the program. Advisors at Mount Olive will help plan a curriculum at a local community college for those who do not already meet Mount Olive College's requirements.

For further information, contact Dean Dorothy Whitley or Admissions Director Dianne Riley at 919-658-2502 or 1-800-653-0854.

Cragmont News



On July 4–9, 92 campers and 17 counselors attended AFC Conference at Cragmont. Our theme was “Basic Training.” We went back to the basics of our faith as we studied about the armor of the Bible, prayer, witnessing, God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. The greatest lesson we learned was that God blesses His children—even during rain, no air conditioning, and flat tires!

We were privileged to see several young people accept Christ while at Camp, and at least one more accepted Christ after returning home! Our special thanks goes to the Woman’s Auxiliary for sponsoring AFC Conference. Doug Skinner directed the week.



Scott and Janie Sowers led the adventuresome YFA week, June 27–July 2 and what a memorable week it was. Its theme was “Basic Training” and the lectures and studies were delivered with great energy and pizzazz. A broken wrist and a near broken nose were only part of the week that changed many lives and created many friendships.



If it's hard to imagine a silent night during a youth conference at Cragmont, just try singing **SILENT NIGHT** during a summer youth camp. During General Youth Conference II recently not only did we sing Christmas carols, but we had a real tree, and even Santa himself as we celebrated "Christmas in July"! The theme set the stage for the music, many of the activities, the Bible lessons, and the worship services to remind us that God's gift of His Son is a year-round gift. The campers and the counselors got into the spirit of the season with a live nativity scene, several Christmas skits, and even caroling for the Williams family and the guests in the motel. The Cragmont staff got in on the act by serving up a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Our red theme shirts with the "Christmas in July" message made us easy to spot at Carowinds and gave the kids a built-in opportunity to share the Christmas message.

We had 86 campers hailing from Folkstone to Hickory and points in between. We had 14 youth to accept Christ as their Saviour as well as numerous rededications. If any church would like more information about GYC II, contact Chris Singleton at 910-298-3520.



Freedom in Servanthood was the theme for the August 1-6, 1994 Women's Conference at Cragmont, with 118 in attendance. The Bible teachers were Willem and Lydia van der Plas. Morning devotions were given by Judy Harris. Harold Jones was the guest speaker on Friday night. The music was provided by: Alma Dale, Director; Joann Parrish, Pianist; and Alma Buck, Organist. Frances Phillips was Camp Nurse. The week was directed by Donna Holland with Teresa Ball as registrar.—Ruth L. Warrick, Corresponding Secretary, N.C.W.A.C.



GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE I
"Get A Life—Running the Radical Race"

GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE I—July 18–22 was a week filled with fun, music, friends, memories and a lot of people. 180 campers and 25 staff came from all over Eastern North Carolina and took the challenge to "Get a Life—Run the Radical Race." The week included a trip to Carrowinds, a worship service by New Life Ministries, and the excitement of seeing 27 first time decisions for Jesus Christ. The Rev. Bryant Hines, pastor of Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, directed the week.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS YEAR

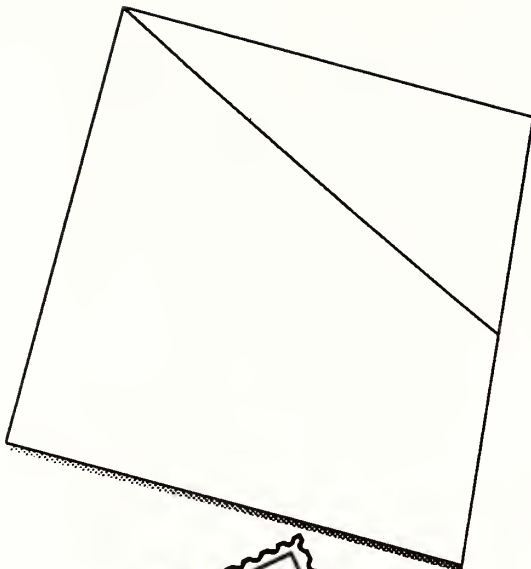
Repairs Made to the Physical Plant: 1. 30 yards of new sand for the volleyball court. 2. 30 yards of new sand for the ball field. 3. 12 truckloads of new gravel for the driveways. 4. New rock and gravel for the steps leading to the boys' dorm. 5. Two new showers for the boys' dorm. 6. New roof for the boys' dorm. 7. Boys' dorm repainted inside

Repairs that need to be made to the Physical Plant: 1. New shingles on the Main building. 2. New shingles on the dining hall.

Attendance Record: 1. Ski Weekends—613, 2. Spring Weekends—475; 3. Summer Conferences—1000; 4. Fall Retreats—hoping for 1200–1500.

Approximately 65 New Professions of Faith

Balance owed on debt: \$53,000



Dear Carol,
 Phyllis was telling me that she hasn't heard from you yet about Fall, Limited Edition! Here's the scoop again in case my letter didn't get to you. Starting Monday, October 17, and ending Thursday, October 20, they've got a touring package that starts with historic Jonesborough, TN! You know, the township whose county tried to become the state of Franklin? I just found out the Tennessee State Seal was made there! Anyway, they're talking about a tour through some homes and other landmarks, the museum and lunch at the Parson's Table, an old (and I mean old!) converted church building. That's Tuesday. Wednesday they're going to Mount Pisgah and Pisgah Inn, the Farmer's Market and, your favorite, Asheville Mall. But there's more! And since I'm running out of room here's the scoop on their price. It's \$175.00 per person. That includes your travel by bus, lodging, and some meals. Can you believe it? But you better hurry. Your \$75 per person deposit and completed registration form has got to get to Cragmont before they can reserve your spot. The other \$100 isn't due 'til September 24. Well, I've got to go. Hope to see you there!

Love,

Susan

Cragmont Assembly's

Fall LIMITED EDITION

1 9 9 4



Yes! Save my space on Fall Limited!

No. I do not wish to sign up at this time, but I would like more information on future *Limited Editions!*

Name _____

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of? If so please describe:

Address _____

Church _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Roomate(s) _____

Mail to: "Fall Limited", c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Bus Stop Preference _____

Dear Susan,
 Thanks for the information on Fall Limited! Since you didn't mention it, my guess is you haven't heard about Cragmont's Christmas Limited! You can tour for four days and three nights (starting December 1st and ending December 4th) for only \$200 if you choose Option Package One. The price covers travel, lodging and certain meals. And because I know you're always looking for a bargain, you can tour with Option Package Two for only \$175. The only difference is with Option Package One, you get to tour the Biltmore House (It is absolutely GORGEOUS!). Otherwise, the packages are the same including a trip to DollyWood (you know, one million lights), a visit to the Folk Art Center in Asheville, the Grove Park Inn, the Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace and more!
 But don't mess around! If you want Option One, you've got to send your registration form and \$100 deposit by September 23. But if you want Option Two, then you just have to send \$75 (But that doesn't have to be in by then). Oh, and the rest of the money is due November 11. From what I understand, they've already taken reservations so you better get cracking!
 Well, I hope you understood all that. If not just call Cragmont. Their number is 1-704-669-7677. Call me if you decide to go and I'll tell them to make us roommates!
 Well, I'll see you later.
 Love,

Carol



Cragmont Assembly's
CHRISTMAS
Limited Edition 1994



YES! Save my space on Christmas Limited!

No.

I do not wish to sign up at this time, but I would like more information on future *Limited Editions!*

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of? If so please describe:

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to: "Christmas Limited",
 c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____

Roomate(s) _____

Bus Stop Preference _____

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

GENERAL INTEREST

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

A HISTORY OF THE WINTERGREEN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH



The Wintergreen FWB Church was founded in 1882 on land that was given by Haywood Daugherty. The Rev. Robert F. Daugherty was her first pastor. Among the charter members were Sidney Heath McCoy, Haywood and Susan Daugherty, Redden and Lizzie Wood, Hutch and Frances Heath, Fred and Betty Heath, Cullen Daugherty, and Robert and Caroline Daugherty.

The Church building was completed in autumn, and while some of the ladies were working in the church yard, they noticed the beautiful mossy green background; hence, the perfect name for the church, Wintergreen. The original church was enlarged once, and in 1936 was moved 1/4 mile south of the original site.

The present church building was started in 1936 and in 1947 the first Sunday School rooms were added. In the beginning worship services were held once a month, and in March of 1951 the church moved to half time service with worship twice a month.

Several recent important dates and events are:

- 1955—Fellowship Hall built
- 1961—Land given for the Church cemetery by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Smith
- 1969—More Sunday School rooms began. The work was completed in 1970
- 1973—The parsonage was built on land given by Mr. Hubert Daugherty
- 1976—The church was remodeled and enlarged complete with new heating, air conditioning and baptistry
- 1990—The church parking lot was paved
- 1991—The women of the church remodeled the Fellowship Hall
- 1992—New carpeting and heating system installed in the church

Over the past year God has been good to our church and community. Physically and financially the church is doing well, and all of our needs are being met. But what is more important, we have seen a significant amount of spiritual growth. During our spring revival and to date, we have seen seven new converts and a host of rededications. Our Youth Program, which was sorely lacking, has taken on new life, and there seems to be a special feeling in the air. We honor God for His goodness and give Him the glory for anything and everything that has been accomplished.

A few of our more recent pastors are—the Revs. M. C. Prescott, G. C. Joyner, N. D. Wiggs Sr., Sam Kennedy, E. E. Edwards, Phillip Rice, W. S. Burns, J. B. Starnes, James Lupton, Raymond Hardison (1965–1969), Rudy Shepard (1969–1975), Don Venerable (1975–1977), Bobby Brown (1977–1981), and Donald Walston (1981–1982). The present pastor is the Rev. Mike Scott who came in March of 1983.

"WHAT JESUS DID FOR YOU"
Would you be beaten and spat upon
for sinners you hardly knew?
Jesus did for you!
Would you be mocked and scourged
by someone who hated you?
Jesus did for you!
Would you die for some hell deserving
people that you never met?
Jesus did for you, and He's
not through giving yet!!
We deserved Hell and for eternity to burn!
Love, caring, grace and salvation
is all Jesus gave in return!

—Composed by Neal Cox
Wintergreen FWB Church

"Jubilee Sunday" at First FWB Church, Rocky Mount



The First Free Will Baptist Church of Rocky Mount celebrated the paying off of their twenty year mortgage in less than five years during a special service in July 17, 1994, designated as "Jubilee Sunday." The climax of the service was the burning of the note on the church steps. The church treasurer, W. S. Wooten, had the privilege of striking the match while the Chairman of Deacons, Don Rogers, and the pastor, the Rev. Ray Williamson, held the note. Indeed, it was a 'Jubilee: moment for all the congregation as a \$235,000 debt was retired. Due to the fruitful and diligent efforts of all the members, the helpful cooperation of Church Finance Association, and most of all, the miracle-working power of a Great God.

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

GENERAL INTEREST

VBS A SUCCESS!



Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Box 345, Nashville, NC, would like to give all Praise to the Lord for a very successful Vacation Bible School, the turnout was wonderful!

The theme was 'Come to the Party, Celebrate Jesus' and Barnes Hill did just that! With nightly enthusiasm learning about Jesus, people came night after night throughout the week. Just look at these totals, Sunday night 71, Monday night 81, Tuesday night 91, Wednesday night 85, Thursday night 85, and Friday night 110 at Commencement!! This was the largest participation for Vacation Bible School at Barnes Hill in many years.

Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church would like to commend the Vacation Bible School Director, Terry Whitley and her energetic staff who kept things interesting and moving. A big thanks also to the following for making this a very happy, successful Vacation Bible School: the teachers, the musicians, the refreshment committee, our special guests, Ms. Piggy, Mr. and Mrs. Music, Yogi Bear, Big Bird, Dorothy and the Cowardly Lion from the Wizard of Oz.

I know Barnes Hill would like a rerun next year!

WOMAN'S DAY OBSERVED AT MARSH SWAMP FWB CHURCH

Presented by Anne Liles, Publicity Chairman

Sunday, July 17, 1994, was observed as Woman's Day at Marsh Swamp FWB Church at Rock Ridge. The ladies of the church were in charge of the entire morning worship service.

Also, during the service, the Ladies Auxiliary presented Ms. Carolyn Boyette, president of the auxiliary, with a Life Time Membership Award. Ms. Boyette has been an active member of the auxiliary for forty years.

Ms. Patsy Vick presented the children's sermon entitled "Jesus is the Icing on the Cake." Iced cupcakes were shared with the youngsters.

Ms. Jean Bunn delivered the morning message. Her topic was "Wholehearted Obedience."

Ladies of the church formed the choir and rendered special music for the morning service.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

by Lizzie W. Dawson

The banner outside Shady Grove FWB Church, Roue 5, Dunn, NC invited "Come to the Party—Celebrate Jesus." Well, they accepted and kept coming until attendance peaked at 83. On Friday night, parents, grandparents and friends joined the celebration. A colorful sign on the door announced "The Party's Here." Balloons and presents filled the auditorium.

VBS pupils and teachers marched in singing "Celebrate." Everyone stood reverently for the pledges to the American and Christian Flags and the Bible.

Preschoolers and Kindergarteners sang: "Come as You Are Party, We're Going to a Party, The B-I-B-L-E, and Jesus Loves Me." All week they had been given examples of love, sharing, and kindness. Their crafts included colorful felt balloons, clouds made from cotton balls, mobiles and horns made from construction paper.

The Primaries and Middlers sang: "Come As You Are, I believe in Miracles, Let All the Children Praise and Hip, Hip, Hooray." They studied the Life of Jesus: His birth, His invitation for all to come, and the excuses made to wait or delay salvation, the Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jeuss Christ. Their crafts included Joy Streams (a band spelling out Joy), Angels (fashioned like handkerchief dolls), and Tic Tac Toe boards.

The Juniors and Young People sang: "Walk Like Jesus, Celebrate, and Rejoice in the Lord Always." They studied the celebrations in the Bible: Weddings, dinners, and feasts, but dwelt especially on the Roman Road to salvation. Their crafts included Flag Pins,

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

Power Beads with one bead representing sin and one the blood, baptism, growth, the crown of life, and the clear call of salvation. They also painted archangels.

All week there were contests. One was a scavenger hunt to secure needed supplies for the Children's Home. Another contest was to see how many words could be made from the words "Celebrate Jesus." Persons from each group were awarded a prize for the highest number of words found. Among the younger group there was a small jar of jelly beans for them to guess how many were in the jar. For the older pupils, there was a huge jar of jelly beans. Pupils guessing the closest to the actual number were awarded a prize and also the jars of jelly beans. The number in each jar had been counted; however, two small children had gotten into the jars and consumed some, so no one actually knew the number the night the prizes were awarded. The older groups were given paragraphs to see who could discover 16 books of the Bible in the words. Ten found all 16!

Brother Mike Ledbetter quickly did a chalk drawing which fascinated the audience. The lights finally revealed the drawing was a hot air balloon with a banner trailing that read: "JESUS SAVES." Then he shared the wonderful news that a 10-year-old girl, Holly Godwin, had received Jesus Christ as Saviour on Friday at Bible School.

Refreshments were served in a gayfully decorated activity building. A pinata was burst and the children scrambled for the goodies that fell out. Later the balloons were released outside. We hope and believe the things learned in Bible School this year will be as far-reaching as the balloons that soared and scattered overhead.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MRS. ANNIE LOU TEW OF ROBERT'S GROVE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

by Sulie Spell

On Tuesday morning, May 31, 1994, while the dew was still glittering on the flowers, God picked one of the most beautiful white roses to be placed in His bouquet around the Great White Throne. It was at this time He called Mrs. Annie Lou to move up higher to be with Him.

She was a very simple, down to earth lady, one who believed in living a Christian life every day. She loved everyone, and when you spent time with her, you always felt better. Our loss is her gain, for surely she is with the Lord. She lived the golden rule, "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

We are sure she could say as the Apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 4:6-8, *For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*

We, at Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, on Route 1, Dunn, NC can hear the Lord say to her as was said to the servant in the "Parable of the Talents." . . . *Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord (Matthew 25:21).*

MARY ALICE PERRY February 20, 1940-March 7, 1994



Mary Alice Perry

Sometimes in this life it's difficult to understand why some things happen. That's when we need to reach down deep in our faith and place our trust stronger in the Lord. Such is the case when we consider the loss of our dear friend and sister in Christ, Mary Alice Perry, who passed this life on March 7, 1994. Yet, at a time like this, we bow in humble submission to God. We know that He is too wise to make a mistake and too good to do wrong.

Mary Alice was born February 20, 1940, in Craven County, the last of eight children to Luther and Zilphia Powell. She attended school in Dover and graduated from Dover High School in 1958. She chose as her vocation a beautician and attended Mitchell's Hairstyling Academy. She owned and operated Modern Beauty Shop for 30 years. She and Benny E. Perry of Greenville were married on December 18, 1960. To this union were born two children, Scott and Cathy.

Mary Alice was a member of Greenville First Free Will Baptist Church and was a dedicated member of the Woman's Auxiliary and the Crusaders Sunday School Class. She enjoyed music and sang in the choir for many years. She leaves not only her family to mourn their loss, but also a

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

GENERAL INTEREST

host of friends.

Mary Alice was honored in memory by her Sunday School Class, the Crusaders, on Sunday, July 10, 1994. The Class placed a Shadow Cross of brass embedded in solid walnut wood above the mantel in the Fellowship Hall. The entire Sunday morning service, led by the Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood, centered around the Cross. The special dedication was opened with lighting of candles by class members, Joyce Keel and Dorlis Mills. The Cross was then presented to the church by Stearle Pittman, president of the class. Stearle said that the class has always been very close and that we wanted to do something special for this one we loved so much. He stated that as the Cross hangs above the mantel, let us be reminded of the One who gave His life on a Cross nearly 2,000 years ago that we might have eternal life. We have comfort in knowing that Mary Alice is now enjoying that eternal life. Our loss of her love and friendship saddens our hearts, but we rejoice to know we'll see her again.

The prayer of dedication was prayed by the Rev. J. B. Narron, a member of the class. The service was concluded with the singing of "The Old Rugged Cross."

Mary Alice had a sunny smile for all and she will be greatly missed by her family, her friends and her church. We consider it a privilege and honor to have known her and to present this Cross as a special tribute to her memory.

ALBEMARLE UNION MEETING

The Albemarle Union Meeting will be held on October 29, 1994 at Gum Neck Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, North Carolina. The schedule is as follows:

- OPENING SESSION**
- Pianist—Mrs. Lucille Jones
- 10:00 Devotions—the Rev. Paul Grubbs
- 10:10 Welcome—Mr. Charles Cahoon
- Response—the Rev. Harold Swinson
- 10:15 The Moderator's Address—the Rev. Charlie Overton
- 10:20 Roll Call of Ministers
- Recognition of Visiting Ministers
- 10:30 Roll Call of Churches
- Offering for Denominational Enterprises
- Announcements
- Prayer Time
- Two Testimonies
- BUSINESS SESSION**
- 10:40 Report of Children's Home—via Literature
- Report of Mount Olive College—via Literature
- Report of FWB Press—via Literature
- Report of Missions: Home and Foreign—via Literature
- Report of Cragmont—via Literature
- Report of Retirement Homes—via Literature
- 10:50 Report of Treasurer
- Old or New Business
- Announcements of Next Union
- 11:00 Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

- 11:10 Hymn
- 11:20 Special Music—Host Church
- 11:25 Message—Billie Reynolds
- Benediction
- Adjournment and Lunch

WESTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY CONVENTION TO MEET

The Western District Auxiliary Convention will meet on October 5, 1994 at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, North Carolina. The schedule is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

THEME:

Home Missions—"Begins at Home"
Scripture: Luke 24:47

- 9:15 Registration
- 9:45 Hymn—*Tell Me the Story of Jesus*
- Devotion—John 1:40—42A
- Welcome—Jean Sauls
- President's Remarks—Jean Marlowe
- 10:15 Hymn—*Bring Them In*
- Convention Offering
- Special Music—Piney Grove
- Missions Report—Mattie Braswell
- Benevolence Report—Agnes Corbitt
- Youth Report—Virginia Joyner
- 11:00 Hymn—*Rescue the Perishing*
- News from Home Missions—the Rev. David Hansley
- Special Offering for Home Missions
- Special Music—Piney Grove
- Convention Message—the Rev. David Hansley
- 12:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15 Hymn—*Bringing In The Sheaves*
- Devotion and Memorial Services—2 Timothy 4:7—8
- Cragmont Report—Donna Holland
- Business Session
- Closing Hymn

A GREAT TEACHER

by Bobby Foy

Someone has suggested, "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."

As our Master Teacher, the Holy Spirit fits into the final category, for He not only guides us into all truth but also inspires us and empowers us to live out that truth in our lives. He not only teaches. He also inspires.



*Come to the edge, he said.
They said, we are afraid.
Come to the edge, he said.
They came. He pushed them . . .*

And they flew.

—Guillame Apollinaire

Bulletin Board Ideas

SEPTEMBER PRAYER CONCERNS



Use a real tree branch with leaves falling or cut one from paper with paper leaves. Place two basket cutouts beneath the tree. On large paper leaves write these words.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Children's Home | 7. Convention |
| 2. Mount Olive College | 8. Sunday School |
| 3. Retirement Homes | 9. Cragmont Assembly |
| 4. Foreign Missions | 10. Camp Vandemere |
| 5. Home Missions and Evangelism | 11. Church Finance |
| 6. Ministers' Program | 12. FWB Press |

Contemporary Christian Recording Artist

David Parker

Friday, October 28, 1994

7:00 p.m.

Black Jack FWB Church Family Life Center

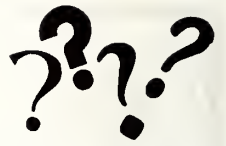
David Parker is a professional recording artist touring on his "Take It 2 The World" tour. Come and enjoy an evening of contemporary Christian music, worship, and celebration. While this concert will appeal mostly to youth, all are invited and welcomed to attend.

Reservations or tickets are not required. Groups of ten or more are asked to contact the church in order to assist event planning and to secure adequate seating.

Black Jack FWB Church is located ten miles from the Plaza Mall, Greenville. Travel five miles south on Highway 43. Turn left at the stoplight near D.H. Conley High School. Go five miles east on Mills Road. The church is located just off the Mills Road on the right. The Family Life Center is across the road from the church.

For further information contact Randy Cobb, Youth Director, Black Jack FWB Church, Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, NC, 27858, or call 919-752-6485.

Bring Your Youth!!!



NOTICE

The annual membership meeting of the Free Will Baptist Press will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 1994 in the Fellowship Hall of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

All Original Free Will Baptist churches and organizations holding memberships are encouraged to attend.

Board of Directors
Free Will Baptist Press

PASTOR NEEDED

Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, is searching for a pastor for full-time pastoral duties for Sunday morning and night services and for Wednesday night services. Also, to work with our youth program, committees and have a good visitation program. Send resume to James Tyndall, Route 1, Box 227-A, Pink Hill, NC 28572.

PASTOR NEEDED

Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church is seeking a pastor. Please call or write: Wallace Williams, PO Box 21, Bethel, NC 27812; phone, (919) 825-9421.

**EASTERN DISTRICT
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY**

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Northeast Original Free Will Baptist Church, Mount Olive, NC (on Indian Springs Road off Highway 55) on September 22, 1994. The theme is "God's Investment" taken from 1 Corinthians 6:20. The worship service speaker will be the Rev. Jeff Daughtry, Westside. After the day's events, everyone is invited to go to the campus at Mount Olive for a special tour.

**1994 MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
DINNER PLANNING
SESSIONS REMINDER**

The remaining planning sessions for the gift support dinners for Mount Olive College are listed below. Pastors and representatives of each church are encouraged to attend these sessions.

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties: Thursday, September 1, 7:30 p.m. at Oak Grove FWB near Newton Grove.

Carteret County: Friday, September 2, 7:30 p.m. at Crab Point FWB near Morehead City.

Johnston-Wake Counties: Tuesday, September 6, 7:30 p.m. at First FWB of Smithfield, Smithfield.

Wilson County: Thursday, September 8, 7:30 p.m. at Daniel's Chapel FWB near Wilson.

For further information, contact Jean F. Ackiss, MOC Director of Church Support and Dinner Coordinator, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365; phone, 919-658-2502.

You Are Invited!



**Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner
Saturday, September 24, 1994
at 6:30 p.m.
Lois K. Murphy Regional Center
Mount Olive College**

While this event honors the Bridge Builders from our 1993 church dinners, all friends of the College are invited. The cost of this event is being underwritten by a friend of the College. To make your reservations, contact Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss by September 20, 1994.

Mount Olive College
634 Henderson Street
Mount Olive, NC 28365

Telephone for all
main campus offices:
919-658-2502

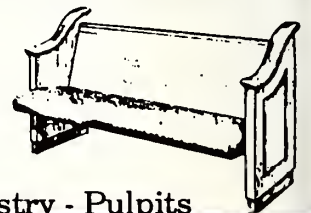
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**ROBERT'S GROVE FWB CHURCH
100 YEARS: 1894-1994**



Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church will celebrate its Homecoming and 100 year anniversary on Sunday, October 2, 1994. Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m. with the worship service at 11 a.m. All former pastors and friends are invited to come help us celebrate. The Rev. Fred Baker is the pastor of Robert's Grove.

**ANNUAL HOMECOMING AT
SPRING HILL FWB CHURCH**

The annual homecoming for Spring Hill FWB Church, 2127 US Highway 70 West, Goldsboro (Wayne County), will be held Sunday, October 2, 1994. The Homecoming theme will be *Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name* (Psalm 103:1). The Sunday School lesson will be taught by Mrs. Rose Hicks.

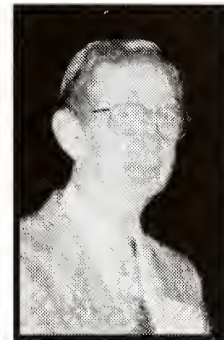
The morning message will be brought by the pastor, the Rev. Charles (Pete) Norris. During the morning worship service the church membership roll will be called and a memorial service will be held for deceased members from the past year. Special music will be provided by the church choir and the Radford Family. Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m. and the morning worship service at 10:45 a.m.

Immediately after the morning worship service, lunch will be served in the fellowship hall.

A singspiration will be held after lunch.

All former pastors, former members, and friends are invited to attend and enjoy the day's activities.

REVIVAL SERVICES



Sidney FWB Church has scheduled revival services for September 18-22, 1994 with the Rev. C. H. Overman as the guest evangelist. Each evening service will begin at 7 p.m.

The Rev. Overman currently pastors Ayden FWB Church and also serves as Executive Director of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He has been ordained over 40 years and has served on various boards and committees throughout the denomination. His wife's name is Ruby and they have four children.

Also, Homecoming services will be observed on September 25, 1994. The Rev. Charles Parrish, a former pastor of Sidney will bring the Homecoming Message.

Sidney FWB Church is located in Beaufort County, 6 miles south of Belhaven at Sidney Crossroads. The Rev. Paul Grubbs is the pastor.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU

by the Rev. Doug and Ginny Skinner

As of July 9, 1994, we have "retired" from directing AFC Conference at Cragmont. All the pages in the world cannot store the memories we have of the past 14 years. We can honestly say that the sleepless nights, anxiety over buses, limited budgets, rainy camp weeks, and so forth have been worth it all. The joy of seeing young people crowded around the altar pouring out their hearts to God, the tingle of hearing vigorous young voices singing praises to God, the thrill of leading a young person to Christ, the pride of seeing past campers now in Christian service, the satisfaction that we did the best we could with the resources available, the beauty of smiles upon campers' faces, the closeness of new friendships, the warmth of hugs when leaving camp on Saturday morning . . . none of these can be bought in the marketplace; they can only be experienced when working with young people. These and many more are the memories we will cherish for the rest of our lives.

There are so many people we want to thank: particularly the parents who placed their children in our care for a week; the churches who supported their youth through funds and encouragement; the Woman's Auxiliary for their confidence to allow us to serve as directors of AFC Conference.

However, an even greater thanks goes to our counselors. We lovingly recognize the following individuals who sacrificed their time, talents, and energy to be used of God in service to AFCs.

Marlene Andrews, R.N.
Sandra Baker
Jeannie and Ginny Beckerman
Allen Blount
Kelly Britton
Rev. Donald and Susan Coates
Wayne and Barbara Edwards
Bonnie Jo Ford

Richard and Lora Hall
Rev. Dwight and Aileen Hawley
Joey and Lisa Jones
Sherry Jones
Penny Sue Murray
Ann Pierce
Alicia Purifoy
Shirley Ricks

Doug and Melanie Seymour
Jonathan Skinner
Sandra Smith
Becky Jo Sumner
Michelle Taylor
Danny Turner
Willem and Lydia van der Plas
Larry Weston

Tammy Whitley
Rev. Phillip and Sheryll Wood
Rev. Frankie Baggett
Randy Beaman
Patty Bennett
Karen Bowen
Stacey Burgess

Vicki Daughtry
Rosalie Edwards
Michelle Gaskins
Vickie Hardee
Rev. Calvin Heath
Misty Jones
Rev. Wayne King
Wilma Parker
Sam Pittman

Rev. Joe and Cathy Ratcliff
Jane Santimaw, R. N.
Rev. Chris and Vickie Singleton
Fred and Susan Smith
Renee Sullivan
Charles Taylor
Wayne and Libby Taylor
Caroline van der Plas
Karen Waddell
Hulon Whitehead
Linda Williams

Above all, praise and thanks to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

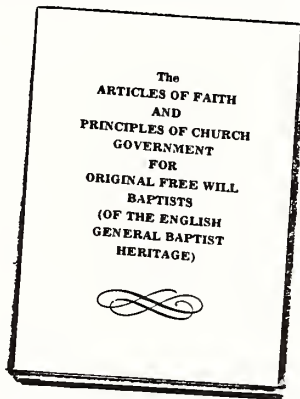
NOTES & QUOTES

notes and quotes

C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator



Convention
of
Original
Free Will Baptists



This booklet is the very heartbeat and focal point for our denomination. We do not, of course, place it above His written Word—the Bible. Our *Articles of Faith*, however, are soundly rooted and grounded in the Word. The Principles of Church Government as set forth in this booklet were not formulated instantly; rather, they have evolved over many decades. Revisions of the *Articles of Faith* have been made over the years, but the basic doctrines have not changed. While we shy away from the term, “fundamental,” in its most relevant connotation, we do have a fundamental doctrinal position when it comes to the truths of the *Bible*. All agree that we have a sound doctrine, and one to be proud of. Regarding our rules of church government, etc., we are also sound. We have realized over a period of many decades, and after several major periods of losses within our ranks (in years past), that we need rules to govern ourselves as a denomination. Thus, what we read in this booklet is written for Original Free Will Baptists, and in particularly those belonging to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

When inroads have been made into our ranks by those not truly of us, then problems have plagued us. Everything written in our “Treatise of Faith and Government . . .” is written to inform us, to teach us, and to protect us as a denomination. Therefore, it is our unwavering position that if we are Original Free Will Baptists, if we truly believe in our denomination as a means of God’s blessings upon the world, then we must in one accord support and defend that which we have said we believe.

This booklet sets forth twenty-two *Articles of Faith*, and the Rules of Church Government relating to: The Local Congregation, The Ministry; The Annual Conference; The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; and Rules of Order. If we read and understand it in the light of Christian love and unity, it will bring God’s blessings and directions upon our church and all its work. Those joining our ranks must understand that we are a denomination. We are not independent; rather, we have chosen to unite into a body church, a part of the body of Christ. In the early beginnings, conferences and associations were formed and finally a larger, representative body which we call our Convention. Ministries evolved out of the conviction that Christians are

to minister to the needs of mankind. There is no ministry that is not worthy of our efforts and to do less is to fail in our pledge and promises to serve Him, for we serve Him by serving mankind.

Throughout the reading of this booklet, we find a “binding” together of churches and conferences, of conferences and the Convention, and the ever-present unification of all believers in a common goal and purpose. Let’s be what we say we are—Free Will Baptists united in the accomplishment of His will and purpose. There is no room for mediocrity in our ranks. The challenge to faithfully serve, to proclaim the Word, to minister, is before us as never before. We must renew our Covenant and remember what we have promised!

Free Will Baptist Church Covenant

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages; the abuse of drugs, and to “provide things honest in the sight of all men.”

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to “grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to “keep the unity of the Spirit” in the bonds of peace; to be careful of one another’s happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family:

Have you ever thought about a bird that is about to lay her eggs for the spring? I know I had not until recently. Last month a fellow co-worker and I had the opportunity to watch one of God's miracles right in front of us.

For a couple of days, this bird collected all kinds of stems, leaves, and twigs. She carefully wove them together to create a steady home for her eggs she would soon lay.

This nest would withstand all kinds of weather. Many days of chilly mornings, heavy rains, lightning, strong winds, but through it all that mother would be there with her nest. If it was not the weather she was looking at, it was the foreign passersby so that nothing would harm her home.

One day the mother began chirping ecstatically as those three eggs became three new visible creations from God. These featherless beaks popped up and began to sing their mother's song.

Every day the mother followed the same routine. She would fly from the nest, bring some kind of food such as a grasshopper, or a small bug. She would always check around her nest to make sure there was nothing there to get the food she had caught.

As days went by, the birds got stronger and began to venture out on some of the branches. Everyday we would sit in amazement over these four birds and all the activities they would do.

One morning, like every other morning, we saw that the birds had gone away. We did not even see them leave. We felt like we had been cheated. We had seen them grow from nothing to flying birds. We felt like part of them.

This long story made me think about two things: First, If God made sure that those birds would not be harmed, how much more does he care about us? Second, how does it feel when we leave Him and not say good-bye...

In His service,

Tracy

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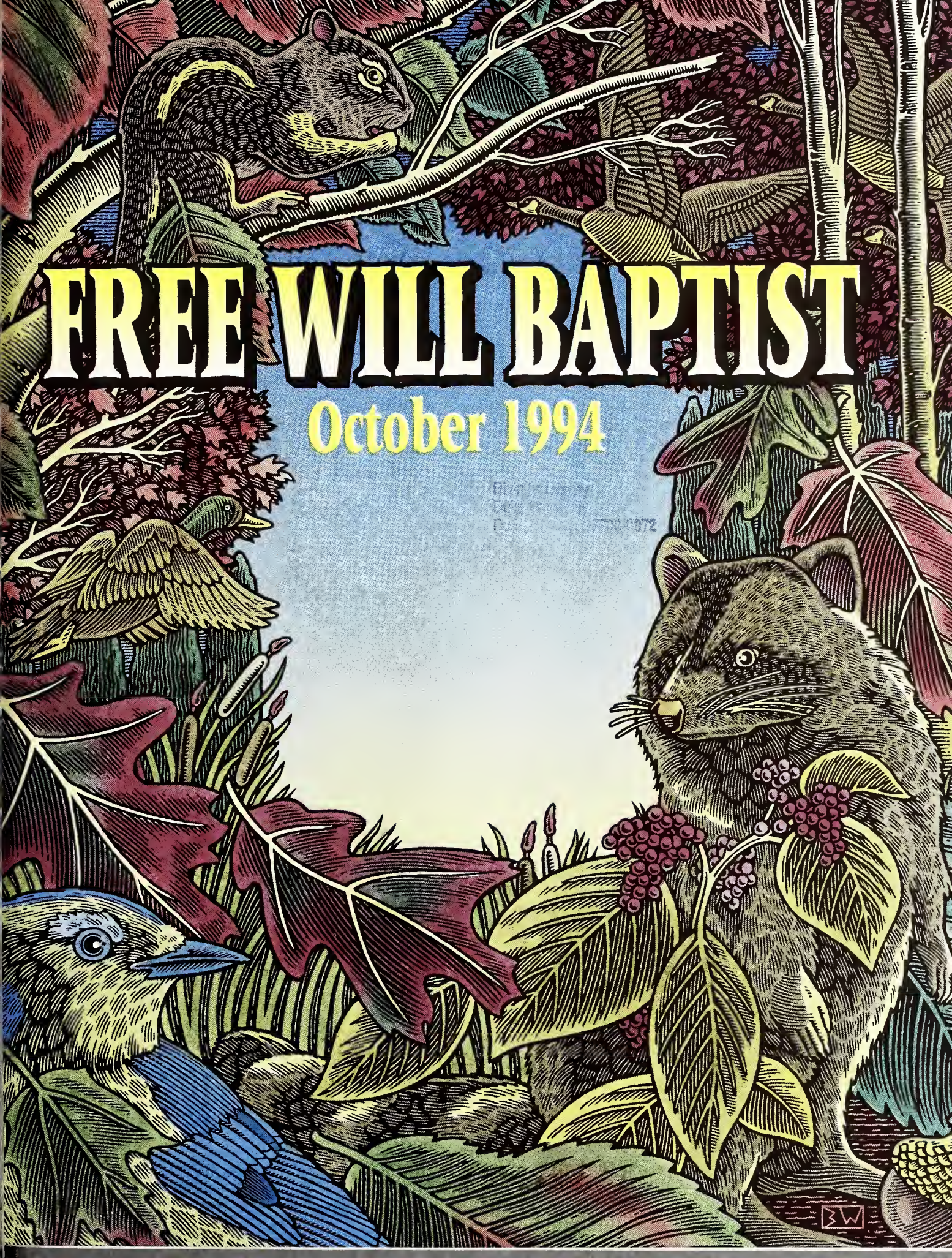
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FREE WILL BAPTIST

October 1994

Free Will Baptist
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BW

CONTENTS

October 1994 • Volume 109 • Number 10

FEATURES

EASTER MORNING	3
A FLOOD'S AFTERMATH	4
WHERE I MIGHT FIND HIM?	5
PART VII: THE FWB CHURCH AT BAREILLY	6
CAMP VANDEMERE	11

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES

FOREIGN MISSIONS	12
CHILDREN'S HOME	15
CRAGMONT	17
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE	21
HOME MISSIONS	26

DEPARTMENTS

CALENDAR	18
PEOPLE AND EVENTS	27
FYI	29
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS	31
NOTES AND QUOTES	34
EDITOR'S PAGE	35

NEXT MONTH

Children's
Home



October
is
Minister's Program
Month

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Features

Easter Morning

by Willem van der Plas



On Easter morning before sunrise, nine children were waiting for us. In two cars we went to the beautiful shore of the Black Sea. A cool breeze blew from the North, as we sat on the ground and listened to Teshdyan tell the Resurrection story of Jesus to "her children" who all come from Moslem homes.

The children responded with great enthusiasm and joy, because they were emotionally hurt and disturbed by the Crucifixion story of Jesus. One boy pounded his fist on the picture of the soldiers who crucified Jesus when he heard the story.

Jesus has become an important part of their lives. They have understood the love of God or Allah as they used to say. Allah is the generic Arabic name for God; used like El or El-Elohim in Hebrew. For the children, God and Allah are the same.

They love Jesus as a person, because Jesus loves them. They feel a relationship with Jesus. They don't identify Jesus' suffering with their own suffering, but they experience His love and His friendship to them. The love of Jesus has provided them with sjalom—peace—and with love to one another. This love they treasure together in a deep sense of relationship and hope for their future. Some of them even long for the return of Jesus to the world.

Before they used the name of Allah in many ways of cursing and now they know that God calls them to live by His command of love. For them Easter means that Jesus is alive and that He is alive in them.

From the beach we returned to the classroom. Ten other children entered and shared the Easter bread and the popcorn from North Carolina. The children who were on the beach shared the joy of Easter with those who were too late to join in the Sunrise service. We heard the words "Slava na Boga," Praise the Lord, "Xristos Wokrese," Christ is risen, "Wo istina Wokrese," He is truly risen.

They repeatedly told Teshdyan and Lydia, "I love you." Continuously they say: "Our lives are different now."

From the mouths of the children His glory will be proclaimed. Slava na Boga, Praise the Lord.

*This is the final article in the series by Willem van der Plas.

A FLOOD'S AFTERMATH

by C. H. Overman

We viewed the flood waters on our television sets within the comforts and confines of our own living rooms and dens. As the waters flowed over the land, homes, and properties of southwest Georgia in July, only those living there could know the full impact of what was happening in their lives.

As we learned about the flood and its aftermath, Free Will Baptists decided to do something about it; thus, in response to a plea for disaster relief, items and especially monetary help, a total of \$7,370.11 (at the time of this writing) has been contributed to the flood victims in Georgia. This money and the items were delivered directly to those within the Paul Palmer Free Will Baptist Conference.

The first contact with the flood victims was made by the Rev. David C. Hansley in mid July. At that time Brother Hansley visited with the Rev. Paul Irvin family of Newton, Georgia and was able to see much of the flooded area, although the waters had begun to recede.



Pictured is the Rev. David Hansley with Mr. and Mrs. Mike Irvin and son, Chris. Mike lives in Albany. His home, and 9,500 more, suffered severe damage from the flood. The waters that came to their area of Albany was "backup water" that remained for days. When the waters receded, the homes were stripped of all the furnishings, as well as the inner walls, insulation, etc.

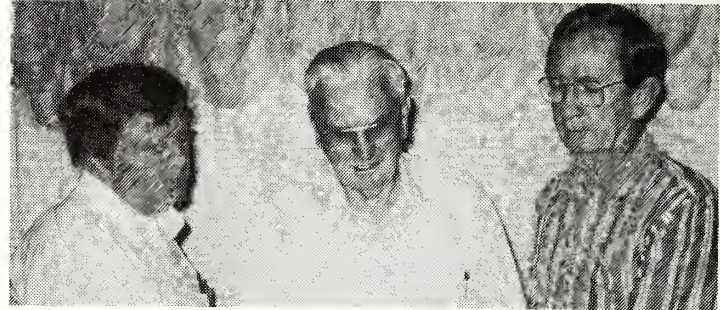


Mike Irvin is seen inside his home after the interior has been removed, with the exception of the wall studs. Drying-out time takes six weeks. Also pictured is the Rev. James Owens.

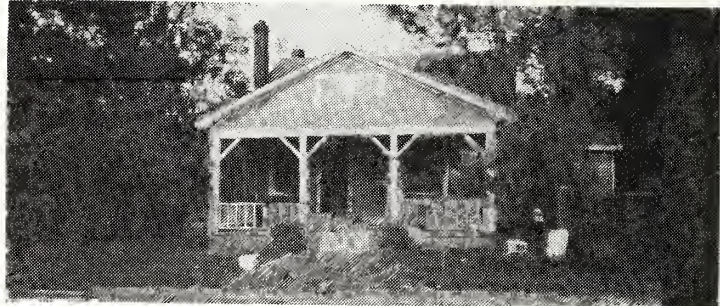


This scene was typical of the streets in Albany depicting the piles of rubbish that was removed from the flooded homes.

On Tuesday, August 23, the Rev. James Owens and I left for Newton, Georgia to deliver the flood relief items and a check in the amount of \$6,000. These were received by the Rev. Paul Irvin and were distributed to various flood victims. The distribution was carried out with the assistance of others within the conference. In addition to this first check, \$1,370.11 has also been forwarded to the victims.



Pictured (left to right) is the Revs. James Owens, Paul Irvin, C. H. Overman, as the check is presented to Brother Irvin.



This house in Newton, Georgia, now condemned, was almost entirely covered by the flood. A careful look at the top part of the gable shows the level the water reached.

Most of the town of Newton was seriously damaged by the flood. All of the functions within the town ceased, and it is uncertain when they can be resumed. Most residents have not yet returned to their homes, and there is much uncertainty as to when they will be able to return. A recent conversation with Brother Irvin indicated that there is much frustration among the people—those whose lives have been severely affected.

It is by no means too late to help these flood victims. Their recovery in the aftermath of the flood is long-term.

Following are some of the expressions of thanks from the flood victims.

"Words can never express the gratitude I feel . . . for the monetary gift . . . and the food. I live in the city of Newton. My home was flooded and over six feet of water stood in it for about three weeks. I am 82 years old and my husband is in the nursing home. I have lived in my home for over 40 years. The flood has been a very traumatic experience for me. I am currently renting a house up the street from where I was living. I don't know if I'll be able to return to my home. It is a wonderful feeling to know that people like you cared enough to think of me. My daughter is a member of Live Oak Free Will Baptist Church in Newton. When the lights went out in Newton, several of us ladies went and stayed in the parsonage there for about a week. I know that God had a reason for all of this and with His help. I will be able to go on with my life" (Mrs. Bessie Edwards).

"Words cannot express our gratitude to your association. You'll never know how much we appreciate the prayers, over offering and food that you sent during our time of need. It's willing vessels like you that make this devastation so much easier to face. Please continue to remember us in your prayers, as we do likewise and remember all of you" (Jim and Joanne Parker).

"Thank you for the generous gifts we received from you for our family during our time of need. We are so grateful for the things we saved and for the help we received from family, friends, and total strangers. We lost all our appliances so the money will help tremendously. It is a great feeling knowing people like you really do care and want to help and may God bless each and every one of you. Many, many thanks" (The Paul Irvin family).

WHERE I MIGHT FIND HIM

by Mike Scott, pastor
Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church
Cove City

Scripture Text: "Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat!" (Job 23:3)

Practically everyone is familiar with the afflictions of Job in the Old Testament. Afflicted by Satan and seemingly forgotten by God, Job was reduced to boils and dust to contemplate the mystery of life's unfairness. The Devil had thrown everything at Job that Heaven would allow, and now, almost to the point of utter despair, Job's troubles continued in the form of a nagging wife and negligent friends. As he carries on a conversation with these would-be comfort givers, Job utters this verse almost as a prayer of deliverance. If only he could touch God; if only he could approach His presence; if only he could pray through, then he would have an answer as to why this great darkness of the spirit had fallen upon him.

In this message we desire to offer a solution to Job's predicament as to where he might find God. Through the prophet Jeremiah God declares, "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13). I want us to realize that God can be found, and that He can be touched. In this abstract age in which we live, there are no absolutes and when nothing is certain, God is still as real and as approachable as He has always been. There is still a God who is concerned about man, and that God is waiting for men to seek with the whole heart that they might find Him. I submit that there are at least three places where God can be found.

First, God can be found in the Bible. When I was at Southeastern Seminary, my Systematic Theology professor, Dr. John Eddins, taught me that we can know nothing about God except that which God reveals of Himself. In other words, everything that we know about our Heavenly Father is what He Himself has chosen to reveal unto us. We all know that the Psalmist teaches that God is revealed through creation, or nature—"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." (Psalm 19:1). God can also be seen through His Word.

In the Bible we know who God is in and through His attributes. The Bible teaches of His love and mercy, and of His wrath and judgment. The Bible shows His power and authority as well as His gentleness and compassion. On every page of the Scriptures we meet God, and we learn of Him through his dealings with individuals, families, people, and nations.

For a lot of people the Bible is nothing more than a figment of the imaginations of the superstitious people who lived in Biblical days. Many view the Scriptures as fabricated, untrustworthy, and so full of error and contradiction that they are devoid of any truth or certainty. But these people are wrong. The Bible is in the infallible Word of the God who cannot lie. God Himself lives in truth and His Word reveals truth. Lies, errors, and contradictions lie within the realm of the Devil. These things are his tools. God deals with truth, honesty, and integrity. What God says can be believed, and what He does can be trusted. "Let God be true, but every man a liar" (Romans 3:4). The Bible is indeed Revelation, the revelation of God unto mankind. And if you and I want to know God today, and want to find Him today, we don't have to look any further than our Bibles. It is there that we may see Him, and there that He may be found.

Second of all, God may be found in Jesus Christ. Jesus was God in the flesh, living and dwelling among mankind. Paul teaches that, "In Him (in Christ) dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily" (Colossians 2:9). Everything that can be said of God can be said of Christ and *vice versa*. Everything that the Son did when He was upon the face of this earth was a reflection of the Father that He served. God can be seen in His fullness as we behold Christ and the mighty works that He performed.

When Jesus walked this earth, He didn't try to alienate Himself from the Father. As a matter of fact, He did just the opposite. He taught from the very beginning that God was His father, and that He came to serve and to represent Him. Take notice of the following Scriptures—

I and my Father are one.—John 10:30

The Father is in me, and I in him. —John 10:38

He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.—John 14:9

I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself; but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.—John 14:10

Many people view God as so high and holy that He can't be seen, felt, touched or approached by man. He is so far removed from us and from our human situation that He cannot be interested in our infirmities and afflictions. Nothing could be further from the truth. God has come down to man in the person of His Son and our Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ reveals God in His actions, reflects God in His love, represents God in His death and responds to God in His glorious Resurrection and Ascension. Praise God He can be found. When we have found Christ, we have found it all. To know the Son is to know the Father, and to have the Son is to have the life of God in and through our very being. God can be found, and He will be found by those who know Christ.

Thirdly, God can be found in the church. The church exists today for many reasons. One of these reasons is to make God known to the world. The message that we preach is His message, and the kingdom that we represent is His kingdom. The church is the army of God marching through the domain of devils to instill the righteousness and holiness of God in the hearts and lives of mankind. If God cannot be seen in the church it is because the church has moved away from God and from what He intended for it to be.

It's no wonder that the world looks upon the church and fails to find God there. Our message has become so watered down and liberal that it no longer rings with the air of authority. The church has become so worldly and the world has become so churchly that it is no longer possible to know where one stops and where the other begins. We are more interested in social programs than we are in souls, more concerned with pleasure than we are with prayer, more fascinated with social standing than with soul-stirring movements of God's Spirit in our services. The world

thinks that God is dead because the church is dead.

The church that began on the day of Pentecost was a living organism. The Spirit of God came upon those 120 people in power and in might. They were so caught up in what God was doing that they saw 3000 souls birthed into the kingdom of God the very first day. Yet, they weren't satisfied. The Bible teaches that they saw souls saved on a daily basis (Acts 2:47). And yet, even this didn't satisfy that first century church.

They were so on fire for God that they didn't stop until they had literally "turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6). I would to God that we today would burn with such a zeal for the things of God. I pray that the church might once again so faithfully represent God that others may be able to see and to know Him.

In conclusion, we once again look at our text. It is Job's desire to find God; to come into His presence. He states, "Oh that I might know where I might find Him." God

can be found. In every note that the birds sing, in every brook that babbles, in every mountain and tree, in every rock and flower, in every sunrise and in every sunset *God can be found*. Yet, in this brief message we find three other places where He might be found, and those places are His Word, His Son, and His Church. I trust that you have found Him. I pray that in your searching and in your struggles you have found Him and His grace to be all sufficient. If you haven't found Him, you can. God can be found today.

Part VII

The FWB Church at Bareilly

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

We arrived in Bareilly late at night. The Bareilly Free Will Baptist Church of India was lit up, making our drive into the compound a surrealistic movement, as if we were swirling in a universe of stars.

The Rev. William Samuel welcomed us as did the assistant pastor Y. B. Lal. Excitement was in the air, because Bareilly is the home of Dr. Emmanuel Lall.

The FWB Church in Bareilly has a membership of 700. This church started with 13 members. "Let me say that 99 percent have been converted by us," declared the Rev. Samuel. (We had just passed a sky of parrots and were on the lookout for pink-faced monkeys on the Bareilly buildings. Even Dr. Lall's home had a stick to push the monkeys away from the roof of his home.)

Bareilly, a city of approximately 500,000 people, is deep within Islamic India, so early mornings we heard the Muslim call to prayer.

Dr. Lall settled us comfortably in his home before the Sunday service. He lives in the heart of the Muslim district. Fresh fruit, nuts, soap, and towels were spread out for our benefit. More gifts to us followed: costume jewelry, shoes, flowers—all of us felt as if we were descendants of the Mughal emperors.



Our group felt excitement on the Sunday morning of worship at the Free Will Baptist Church in Bareilly, India. From left to right, front row: Paul Anderson, Pepper Worthington, Mike Scott, Alma Dale, Mrs. E. M. Lall. Back row, from left to right: Harold Jones, Lib Scott, Delbert Scott, Dr. E. M. Lall, Sandra Jones.

Early Sunday morning, we got out of our warm beds, washed with the cups of water in the restroom. We ate cereal, fruit, and eggs prepared by Dr. Lall's helpers, then we had prayer, and left for the church we had seen at night, now to see it in daylight.

A picnic on the grounds was planned to follow the service, and we would have a

chance to shake the hands of many Indians. We had already shaken many hands so that I was beginning to feel as if India not only was the land of Islamic mosques but also the land of Christian hands.

Sunday Service in Bareilly

As we entered the FWB Church in Bareilly, the sound of violin music softened the interior, creating a sweet meditative tone. Outside, bells were ringing.

We took off our shoes to sit as a group behind the altar. As I looked out over the congregation, I noticed most of the women sitting on one side while the men sat on the other side. Occasionally there were exceptions in the male-female groupings, but very few.

We sang in English while the congregation sang in Hindu. Alma Dale stood next to me, her voice ringing with joy as she sang, "When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation, and take me home—what joy shall fill my

heart. Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God how great Thou art."

Still standing, we all recited the Apostle's Creed, we in English, the Indians in Hindu. The church in Bareilly seemed alive as well, voices were cheerful, even joyous in excess as if to be in the house of the Lord

brought great happiness to a people who live in what Harold Jones called a "country of darkness."

The Rev. Y. B. Lal read from Matthew 6 to prepare the way for Harold Jones' sermon. The Rev. Lal stressed Verse 6: "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into my closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

Eight women then came forward to present us flowers: Mrs. R. Vergise, Mrs. Chander Massey, Mrs. Bina Peters, Mrs. Masih Charan, Mrs. Manoj Charles, Mrs. R. K. Stanly, Mrs. R. M. Massey, and Mrs. S. Joseph.



The men sit on one side of the church while the women sit on the other side. Occasional exceptions appear at the Free Will Baptist Church in Bareilly, India.

Responses to the Congregation in Bareilly

We were asked to respond. Harold Jones rose to speak. "It is wonderful how the congregation has grown and what improvements have been made on the grounds. God bless you. We keep you in our prayers."

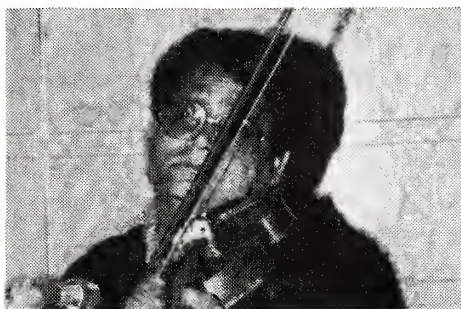
Sandra Jones followed to say, "If people are not Christians, we see much darkness. But as I look into your eyes, I see the love of Jesus. I bring you greetings from the Ladies Auxiliary of North Carolina. I pray God will continue to bless you and to strengthen you as you serve Him.

Mike Scott came forward. "It is good to be in God's house," he proclaimed as he looked out over the congregation. People filled the church and there was an air of expectation. "You have a beautiful church," continued Mike Scott, "and a beautiful congregation. You have a wonderful spirit. I pray God will strengthen us, bless us, serve us as we worship Him. In the United States, it is dark right now. People are asleep now, but here in India we are awake and God is with us. We all worship the same God today, and we pray for His goodness."

Paul Anderson walked to the front where Dr. Lal was translating into Hindu so that the congregation would understand what we were saying. "I appreciate this visit in God's house in India," Paul Anderson said. "I see the love of Christ in your eyes and that is good. Keep the Lord's will. See you later. God bless you."

Lib Scott followed to stand by Dr. Lal. She softly said, "It is wonderful seeing you. I ask God to bless you. I am so happy to be with you."

Alma Dale spoke. "Love brings us together," she said. "The love of Jesus knows no race. We love you."



The violin music at the Free Will Baptist Church in Bareilly set a meditative tone. (Kiran Massey)



Delbert Scott (left) presents a plaque of recognition to Dr. E. J. Lal (right). The plaque is the Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church's acknowledgement of Dr. Lal's exceptional work for Free Will Baptists in India and Nepal. Mr. Scott presented the plaque at the Sunday worship service in Bareilly, India.



Flowers were given to our group at the Sunday service in Bareilly.

Promptly Delbert Scott followed and allowed Dr. Lall to translate his words into Hindu. "Greetings!" he robustly began. "Thank you for your warm welcome we received this morning. My church in North Carolina is about this size. It is good to be in the house of the Lord, to worship with you. My church at Stoney Creek, Goldsboro, North Carolina sends greetings to you."

Alma Dale then sang a solo. "Oh how I love Jesus because he first loved me." Her voice carried a sweetness that reflected the depth of her faith.

Outside the church building children were seated on mats for Sunday School. The morning had an urgency about it, as if this walled compound were a manifestation of the power of Jesus in a land of darkness.

The Rev. Harold Jones' Sermon: The Importance of Prayer

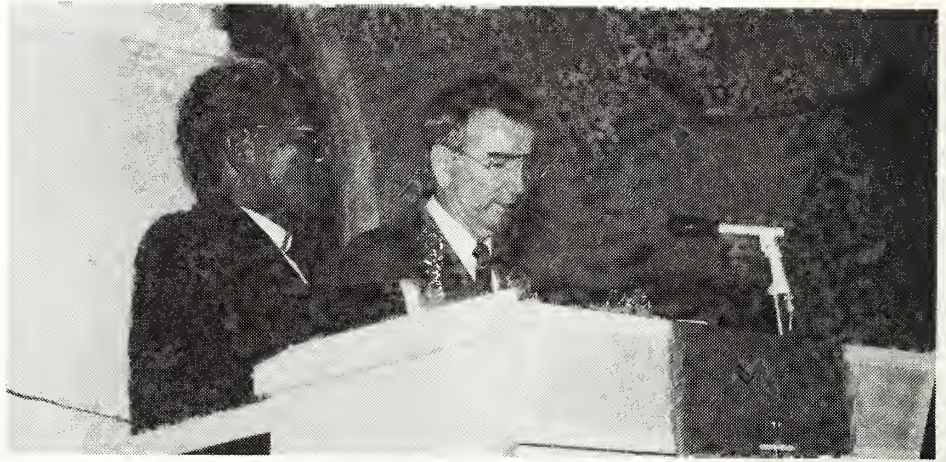
"I can't speak Hindu," began the Rev. Jones as he paused for Dr. Lall to translate his words. "Something may be lost in the translation, but God's Word is able to speak to all of us. Neither language nor culture is a barrier for God's Word. God's Word was given for all people in every nation."

The Rev. Jones referred to Matthew 6:6, and noted the importance of prayer—*private prayer*. "Prayer should be one of the chief concerns of all of us," he began. "We may read God's Word, but until we pray, we cannot fully come into the communion with God. Prayer puts us on a one-to-one relationship with God, but the serious time of prayer must be in private," he said.

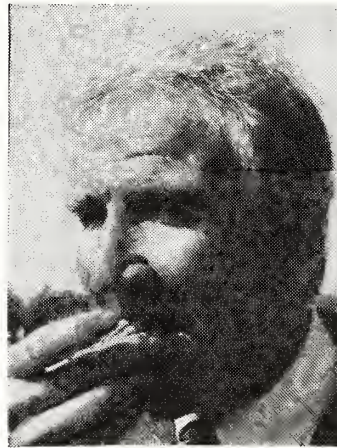
The Rev. Jones then discussed the danger of praying to be seen. "To stand and be seen of men is not the way God wants us to pray," he said. "People who pray for the attention of others have their reward. When you pray, try to seek a closet, a private place where you can feel alone with God. Every person needs a place to go alone in prayer. *Go regularly*. It is important to pray in church, but we must daily go to God in prayer. Our prayer life will determine how strong we are spiritually," he said.

"If we pray, we'll grow stronger spiritually. We must feed our souls with communion with God. The only means of communication is with prayer. Go to a secret place and pray," he said.

The Rev. Jones emphasized a pattern we might use in order to come into the presence of God: (a) worship, (b) praise, (c)



Dr. E. M. Lall (left) translates the Rev. Harold Jones' Sunday message from English to Hindu.



The Rev. Harold Jones opens wide to sample the homecooking of the Indian picnic on the grounds of the Free Will Baptist Church in Bareilly. Undaunted by spices or novelty, the Rev. Jones tasted foods boldly, bravely, boisterously.

confession, (d) petition, (e) communion, (f) prayer for forgiveness, (g) prayer for our needs.

To worship God, the Rev. Jones stressed knowing that there is only one God—the Lord God who made the heavens and the earth. "The Lord God made you and He made me. He deserves our worship this morning. We need to pray a prayer saying we recognize the Lord as our Father. We need to worship the Lord in order to come into His presence. We need to say we are glad to know Him. We then need to *praise God*," he said.

To praise God, the Rev. Jones suggested recognizing God's importance. "There is no other name that compares to His name," he said passionately. "Both worship and praise God. He is God and we need Him in our lives. Go into your closet, your *private place*. Always remember this private place is a place of worship and praise for the kingdom of God to come."

In the closet, we should seek to confess our sins and petition God. "What I want is spiritual power in my life every day," he said. "Fill me today in the power of the Holy Spirit so that others will see the King-

dom life in me. I pray that I get excited, because I'm looking forward to Jesus' coming any day. That's the joy of the Christian. We know there is a better place than this. Always there is health in Jesus, no poverty, no sickness in the final Kingdom," he said.

Prayer then involves worship, praise, confession, petition, communion. In communion we attain a relationship with God that reminds us of our responsibility to communicate that truth. "When I pray," declared the Rev. Jones, "I pray that I realize I also have a serious responsibility to share the truth of God with other people. And here in India I have to pray for God to give me a broken heart for all these people who do not know Jesus Christ. Our relatives, friends, neighbors, and people all over the world need to know Jesus. Oh God, help us to share thy kingdom so that thy kingdom will come and thy will be done," he stressed.

Prayer also involves forgiveness. The Rev. Jones noted the serious responsibility of forgiveness, of praying for God's will to be done not only on earth but in Him. "I seek God's will in prayer everyday so I can

walk with God in word and deed," he said. "God's will must be done in me. If God's will is done in every life every day, then this would be a different world because the needs of all people would be met," he said.

But prayer addresses our *needs*. "Many horrors of life would be eliminated and many needs met if we find God's will for our lives through prayer and Bible study,"



The Rev. William Samuel is pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church in Bareilly, India. His energy, enthusiasm, and efforts have helped the church to grow to a membership of over 700.

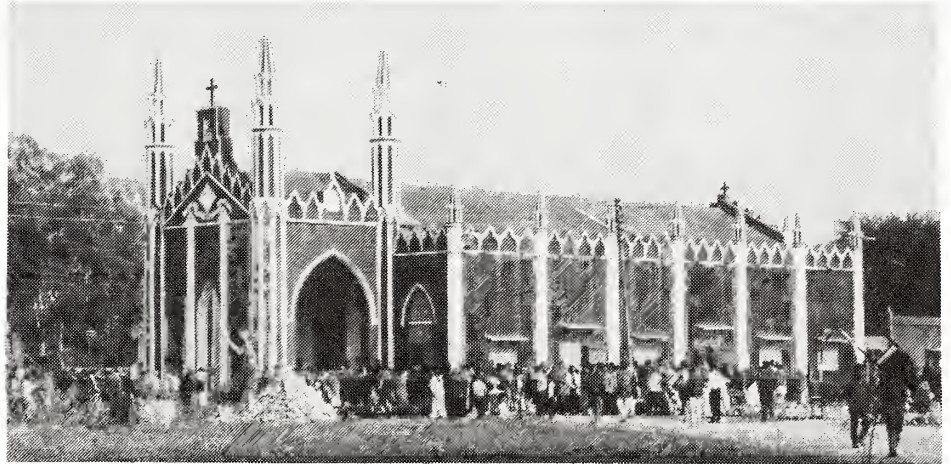
he proclaimed. "Our needs include our daily bread, but in prayer we recognize that God is the One who give us our every need. We have jobs and we get paid, but God is the one who supplies all things. God alone can meet the needs of our lives," he said.

"And," he added, "we must ask for forgiveness in prayer. We forgive others, we let go of bitterness towards anyone else, and

this letting go frees us. We must have a forgiving heart in prayer," he stressed.

"If you have hatred or bitterness in your heart this morning, you need to ask God to help you so you can walk in purity of heart," he declared.

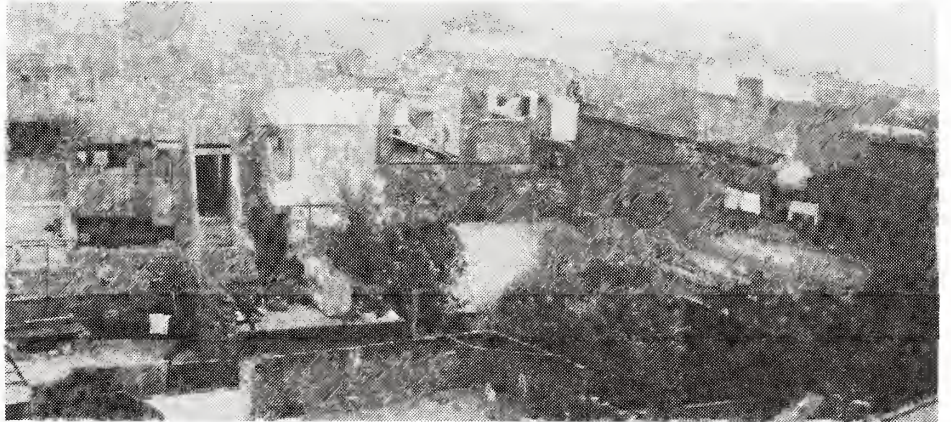
"And," he concluded, "God's Kingdom is above all kingdoms. His power is above all powers. His glory is above all glories."



A picnic on the grounds was an occasion to meet the Hindu-speaking congregation.



The Rev. William Samuel and Alma Dale dare to sit on a scooter in Bareilly, India.



A view of Bareilly, India from the roof of Dr. E. M. Lall's house.



Children as well as adults move about in Rickshaws in Bareilly, India.



A view of Dr. E. M. Lall's neighbors from the roof of his house in Bareilly, India.

BAREILLY

The sky darkened as we entered Bareilly,
home of Dr. Lall,
A Christian in a land
of Muslims.
The moon glowed as did the brightly painted
Free Will Baptist Church
lit up to greet new eyes
visiting
an elusive India.

Islamic mosques and calls for prayer
poured across the city
teeming with people,
Islam strong in a city
where the Koran rules
more than Christ,
words the clue to
the universe,
its mysteries,
its hopes,
its pattern of history.

Prayer was everywhere
as the mosque called out to Allah
while Harold Jones called out to Christ,
prayer a thing of faith,
the soul silent,
waiting,
listening,
forgiving.

Brave in the midst of Muslim strength
sinks the Free Will Baptist Church,
bold William Samuel
filled with song and joy
as he leads his flock
to the water that quenches,
the fire that warms,
the faith that shelters.

Men sit on one side,
women on the other,
custom as vital as air
in Bareilly's Free Will Baptist Church,
but William Samuel's voice sings,
his eyes laugh,
and his voice celebrates
as he proclaims his faith
to his people
in elusive India.

Somehow in the silence of Sunday
in a Muslim world
a Christian God settles
upon the brow of an Indian
and shows the Kingdom above all king-
doms,
the power above all powers,
the glory above all glories.

Pepper Worthington

CAMP VANDEMERE

by the Rev. Owen Arthur

Attention basketball enthusiasts. Here is your chance to play basketball and help Camp Vandemere at the same time. Come on out to Sandy Plains Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, October 8, 9 a.m. sharp, and let's Hoop it up for Christ.

Let's show the world that Christians can have fun and still be Christ-like. What better way to spend a day than have fun and be a witness for Christ at the same time.

Sandy Plains Church is located on Highway 241 between Pink Hill and Beulaville. If you have any questions, please call the Rev. Tim Heath, 910-327-2850 or the Rev. Ralph Sumner, the Camp Director, 910-298-5885.

Please mail your registration form to the Rev. Tim Heath as soon as you can. Hope to see you there.

CAMP VANDEMERE'S
Hoop It Up for Christ 1994
3 On 3 Basketball Tournament
Saturday, October 8, 1994
Hosted by: Sandy Plain FWB Church

Ages: Group 1: 13-17 years old, Group 2: 18 and up (Limited to 32 teams)

Registration Fee is One Dollar (\$1) per player. Proceeds go to the Camp.

For rules and more information please contact either the camp director, Ralph Sumner or Tim Heath (number listed below).

REGISTRATION FORM

Church Name _____

Conference: _____ Pastor: _____

Team Coach: _____ Phone: _____

Team Members: *Group 1 (13-17) *Group 1 must be represented by a coach
18 years or older. They must also provide
Group 2 (18 and Up) parent's permission for medical attention.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Return Registration before September 17, 1994 to:
Tim Heath, 601 Turkey Point Road, Sneads Ferry, NC 28460; phone, 910-327-2850

Rules: General rules governed by the N.C. High School Regulations.

—Games will be determined by fifteen points or thirty minutes, whichever comes first.

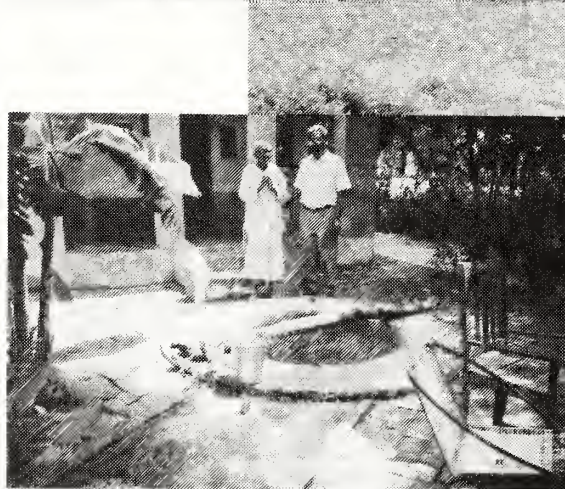
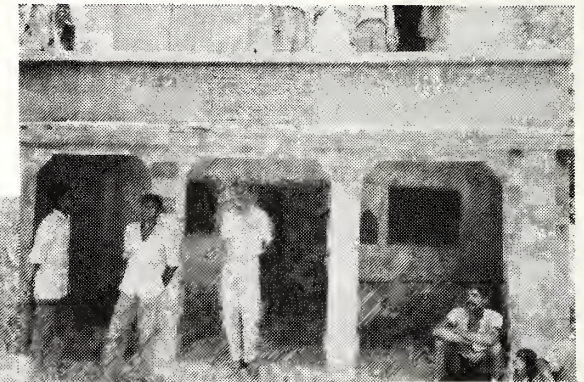
—Alternating possessions after each point. On change of possessions (i.e. rebounds) the ball must pass the free throw line before shot attempt.

—Monitors will be present, however, the "honor system" will be in effect.

Denominational Ministries

NEWS LETTER FROM INDIA AND NEPAL

by Dr. E. M. Lall



OUR WORK IN RETROSPECT: In case we furnish the details of the progress of our work it would need pages. However, in a nutshell, it is evident that our church denomination in India and Nepal has rapidly grown in the past years. New dimensions of work in respect of schools, which are the stepping stones of our ministry, and new congregations is quite visible. We could hardly expect such a progress in the face of versatile problems that confront us. However, the success has been on our side. Yet we cannot claim all this as our own. The constant prayers of Christians in North Carolina as well as in our part have had good results. We alone are without any source and resource but the encouragement and inspiration from our Board of Foreign Missions are creditable.

THE FACTS OF THE BIBLE: We as human beings often overlook the promises contained in the Holy Bible for God's people. The Word, under various

synonyms, is said in Psalm 19:7-8... *converting the soul: . . . making wise the simple. . . rejoicing the heart: . . . enlightening the eyes.* These are great rewards given to all those who keep the Law of the Lord.

THE BLESSINGS: Scripture reveals that the blessing of God is a specific, recognizable manifestation of divine favor. The theme of blessing appears 500 times in the Bible. In fact, we fail to count the numberless blessings that we receive today, but we are convinced that it is not primarily through our efforts but through His Divine Grace. All our schools have started from the beginning of this month in full swing, gaining momentum on account of imparting quality education. Report has come in that in both the schools in the country of Nepal the enrollment is as high as 264,122 students and there is a demand for another school.

DONATIONS: In a country like India donation by other caste people can hardly

be imagined for Christian undertaking. Whatever exists here is the outcome of the Christian institution developed for their denominations. Having limited sources at our disposal we could not do as we ought to have done. Yet we are second to none of the missions that started working in our time. We cannot resist expressing that our Board of Foreign Missions has done very well to be at par with other missions. According to our mite the church in both the country enjoys great impact and respect as well. As per the dream of the Rev. B. W. Falls, an authority of the Methodist Church in Southern Asia, at his dying bed explained to me to the effect that "The Free Will Baptist Church in India will take over as a major church," is coming true.

A Hindu millionaire at Bareilly had recently approached me for donating some land measuring 160 feet in length, 60 feet in breadth on the foot hills of Himalya called "Bhim Tal." In case we agree he would charge only 50% of the cost of land.

SPORTS FESTIVAL '94—PHILIPPINES

by *Nerrie Peralta*

Bhim Tal is a very progressive town and the land would be best suited for a school and church convention like Cragmont! We are separately enquiring the status and the probably cost of the land and would further negotiate with the person concerned and then submit proposal to the Board of Foreign Missions for decision.

Another orthodox Hindu at a distance of about 50 miles from Bareilly, having heard of the goodwill of our schools has opted to donate a good piece of land for establishing a Free Will Baptist elementary school at this time, subsequently raising it to Junior High School and then to High School. I had the privilege of visiting and seeing both the sites. We are examining the prospects of this and will later refer to the Board for decision.

Our church at Bareilly had a vision for the expansion of work in Clutterbeckganj close to Bareilly and they have adopted a small congregation which is likely to grow further. One person in the name of Sunil Barrow who work in the country of Belgium has come out donating a chapel and a parsonage in Sonia Vihar, New Delhi to our church denomination. The Rev. William Samuel has been assigned to visit Delhi, look at the prospects and report back here when the matter will be decided. It is for several years that we are pondering to have our work started in Delhi and this seems to be the result of our earnest desire.

We feel extremely obliged to our Board of Foreign Missions for acceding to our request of various needs providing funds for three school buildings which are in the offing at Bilsa, extension of rooms for Junior High School at Asafpur and the school building at Tondalpur. Tondalpur is under flood these days and the school building work will resume as soon as the situation improves.

My visit to Kathmandu Nepal, is due for registration of our work sometime this month. There seems to be good prospect for starting our denominational church work in the country of Bangladesh for which a green signal has been given by the Board of Foreign Missions. I am in contact and communication, gathering first hand information from my contact there before I make a trip to access the situation and report to our Director-Treasurer the Rev. Harold Jones for final decision.

As the church is marching ahead in this part of the world we covet your prayers and encouragement for our inspiration.



With God's sovereign power and His faithfulness, once again we are happy because we just finished our Sports Fest '94 last April 22-29, 1994 at Iraray, Brooke's Point, Palawan.

There were four teams who participated in basketball: Central, North, South and Mission Teams. In boys' volleyball there were five teams: Iraray, Mission, South, North and Central. While in girls' division for volleyball there were four teams: Iraray, Central, South and North. We also had a Chess Tournament and drama.

We began our ceremony in prayer and other instructions were given to the players, followed by tossing of balls. We played all ball games during the day and at night we had talent show competition, including drama, comical skits and singing. The Word of God was shared by selected pastors. It is amazing that there were many people watching our programs and it seemed like fiesta time. Everyone was very happy.

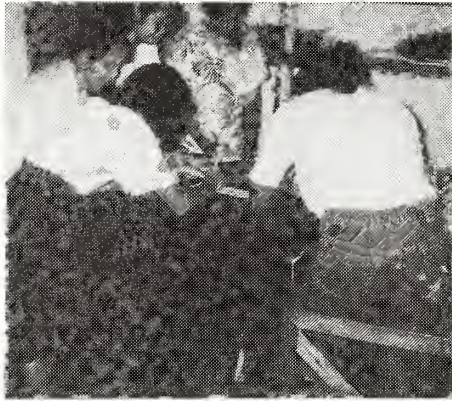
After four days of competition in ball games and other activities, we had the final results. The champion in basketball was the Central Team and the Mission Team got second prize. In boys' volleyball the champion was Iraray and the Mission Team won second prize. In girls' volleyball, the champion was Iraray and the second prize went to the South Team. In the Chess Tournament, Brother Jerito Saluto was the champion and Brother Teddy Martinez got the second prize. Brother Francning Doller was the champion in drama.

The most blessed thing of all the events was the baptizing of three precious young people from the North District. The Rev. Lorenzo dela Rosa officiated this service.

Our last night was the Evangelistic Service. The Rev. Dario Basingil, Mission Director, delivered the message and many responded to the message. I believe that this was the success of all our activities, that people came to know the Lord Jesus Christ.

PALAWAN BIBLE COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

by Phing Rodriguez



On June 9, 1994, the Palawan Bible College dormitories were opened to welcome the students from their respective areas. The entrance test for new students was given on June 10 at 9 a.m. and on June 13 registration was held. On June 14 the general orientation for the students was conducted by the Rev. Antonio Samones Jr., Student Dean. He explained the rules and regulations set by the College. The first day of class started on June 15. The Lord blessed the College with four new students. They are: Darilyn Binas, a member of the Free Will Baptist Church in Intangil, Dumarán, Palawan. She was recommended by Pastor Arturo Aspa. Darilyn decided to study in Bible College as God called her to learn and to serve Him. Marvie Flores from Caroroy Calawag Taytay, Palawan was recommended by Pastor Juanito Dulce. Dailyn Tupas from Abo-Abo Brooke's Point, Palawan. She decided to study in Palawan Bible College because of her earnest desire to know more about God and serve people. Nimrod Gambe was born in Bohol, but stays in Cebu. He said that God called him to be His minister, and he decided to study in Palawan Bible College. According to him, to be a minister is a great privilege but is also a great task and needs courage and submission to His will.

Please pray for the first year students. They are few in number, but God will use them in a big task. Continue to pray for the other students.

We are very blessed that God continually uses the College as an instrument to mold and teach the students who give their time and talents in a way that God may use to His glory.

MEXICO-YOUTH CAMP

by Rev. Antonio Escobar



A group of young people from our churches, along with their group president, had a meeting in Jimenez, Coah. This is about forty-five kilometers from Piedras, Negras. The purpose of the outing was to strengthen their bonds of fellowship and to study the Bible. The young people participated in asking Biblical questions and other activities. This was a time of blessing for all.

All activities were directed by Raquel Aguero, President of the young people. She assembles the youth of the churches every month and motivates them to participate in Bible reading and other activities. The programs of the churches were directed towards strengthening the youth departments so as to reach more young people for the Lord. In one of our Youth Conferences, held at the Emmanuel Church on July 29, ten young people accepted Christ as their Saviour.

Let us unite our prayers so that young people will continue to be reached with the Gospel of our Lord.

MEMBERSHIP IN MEXICO

by Rev. Antonio Escobar



On May 28, 1994 in Emmanuel, the Saviour Church of Piedras Negras, Coah, the pastors, delegates and members of our churches had the honor of receiving the Revs. Harold Jones and Edmundo Gonzalez as official members. Certificates were presented to Brothers Jones and Gonzalez, accrediting them as members and representatives with official voice and voting rights in all of the business of the Convention in Mexico.

At the given moment, the pastors directed themselves towards Brothers Jones and Gonzalez, expressing themselves with joy as members together of the Convention. The right-hand of fellowship was extended to them. This act extends the right to our brothers from North Carolina to fully participate in our Lord's work here in Mexico, as if they were citizens of this nation.

At the end of this ceremony, a hymn was sung by the congregation and all present then extended the right-hand of fellowship to our brothers.

Everything was accomplished with joy and singleness of heart.

CHILDREN'S HOME IS SITE FOR CAPE FEAR YOUTH RALLY

by Tina Allen



For many years now the Cape Fear Youth district has held their annual Youth Rally at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home the first Saturday in August. When they arrived the morning of August 6, 1994, they brought with them boxes and bags full of school supplies, cleaning supplies, toiletries, canned foods, and other donations received from various churches in the Cape Fear district.

The rally began with a business session and praise time held in Memorial Chapel. Special music was provided by Alison and Mary Ann of the Children's Home singing, "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" and "Mansion Over The Hilltop." Choruses were sung by the congregation led by Angela Honeycutt and Carla McLamb. Mrs. Martha Parsons, Cape Fear Youth Director, presented the attendance banners to the youth groups represented.

After the business session, the youth played games of volleyball, basketball, and softball while youth directors and parents prepared a hot dog and hamburger lunch. The day ended as stacks of hay were laid out and handfuls of silver change were thrown into the hay for all of the younger children to find.

The staff and children at the Home send out a special thank you to the Cape Fear for all that you do for us. We look forward to this event every year!

ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

by Tina Allen

Words are powerful. They are the basis of language and an expression of one's thoughts, feelings, and ideas. It is important that parents never underestimate the power of words with their children. Words can build confidence or destroy self-esteem. They can make us feel good or bad, fill us with joy or create unhappiness.

What we say to children is important. But even more important is the way we say it. Many parents believe that their primary responsibility is to control a child's behavior at all times and in all situations. The lesson parents teach their children is that what they think and feel is really not important. The only thing that is important is what parents do or say and that the child does as the parents say. This style of parenting tends to raise children who live to please others. They say and do things not because they believe them to be right but to win the approval and praise of others.

It is true that words can be a powerful force in relationships between family members. But as important and powerful as they are, words without actions and thought tend to be empty and often meaningless. It is not the words "I love you" that mean so much as the physical and emotional expressions of love they imply. Hearing the words is one thing, but experiencing the meaning of those words is another. Children learn far more from what we do than from what we say. Actions do speak louder than words. Show your children you care!

I came across an article printed in the March/April '94 issue of *Special Report*. The article was entitled, "Navigating the Teen Years." In the article were three lists for communicating with teenagers. I hope they will be helpful to parents with teens and build for a stronger relationship with them.

Communication Turn-Ons and Turn-Offs

Turn-ons:

- "I'd like to talk to you; Is this a good time?"
- "I know that I can count on you to make a good decision."
- "I don't approve of what you did, but I love you."
- "I respect the fact that you're getting older, and I want to talk with you, not dictate to you."
- "I don't feel you're ready for sex. Can you tell me why you think you are?"

Turn-offs:

- "You come in here and sit down this minute! You're going to listen to me."
- "You're not nearly mature enough to handle this!"
- "You are so stupid! Why did you do that?"
- "You'll do it because I'm the parent and I know what's right!"
- "You will absolutely not have sex with anyone, and that is that."

Signs That Teens Have Something to Say

- Telling an anecdote about "someone else" that's clearly aimed at eliciting your opinion
- Asking, "What are you doing?"
- Unusual silence
- Easy tearfulness
- A fall in grades
- Sleeping a lot or not enough
- Abusive behavior toward parents or others

Why Teens Take Risks

Most kids aren't utterly fearless, but they do take some risks. Here's why:

- They might not realize a particular behavior is a risk. (Here's where education becomes prevention.)
- They can't resist peer pressure. (It helps to have raised someone who can stand up to others.)
- Risks can be an outlet for stress. (Other activities, such as sports or clubs, work as well and are usually much safer.)
- Kids want to feel confident about handling unfamiliar situations. (So offer them more autonomy at home.)

1995 NASHVILLE II LIMITED EDITION

April 6–11, 1995

Cragmont is once again offering an exciting trip in the spring. We had so much fun the last time we went to Nashville we have decided to do it **AGAIN**. The price includes travel by motor coach, five nights lodging—two at Cragmont where it is nice and quiet, three nights (double occupancy) at the world-class Opryland Hotel known for its lush tropical gardens, and spectacular fountains and waterfalls; baggage handling; one day admission to Opryland Park; one night's admission to the Grand Ole Opry; a guided sight-seeing bus tour including the Ryman Auditorium—home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943—which was listed on the National Register of Historical Places, March 1974; an unlimited shuttle pass; a visit to the Upper Room, a museum containing a collection of religious artifacts, painting, porcelains, manuscripts, and furniture; one breakfast buffet at Opryland Hotel; dinner on the General Jackson showboat—dine as you cruise along the Cumberland River and be entertained while you eat; meals at Cragmont and admission to see "Easter in Song and Story"—an Easter pageant. All this for only \$475 per person. This **EXCLUDES** personal spending money and the cost of meals not designated above.

"Nashville Limited II" will begin, Thursday, April 6, 1995 with transportation to Cragmont by motor coach. Stops will be designated after January, but we will have several stops in eastern North Carolina.

On Friday, April 7, after breakfast we will travel to Nashville and take in the Grand Ole Opry.

Saturday, April 8, because we are staying at the Opryland Hotel the shuttle will be available to take you to and from Opryland Park as often as you wish at no extra cost. On Saturday evening, we will enjoy the dinner cruise on the General Jackson riverboat.

On Sunday, April 9, we will take the guided sight-seeing tour including Ryman Auditorium. You will have some free time to relax before we take the shuttle to see "Easter in Song and Story."

Before we head to Cragmont on Monday, April 10, we will make one last stop in Nashville at the Upper Room. We will return to Cragmont for a well-earned rest.

"Nashville Limited II" will come to an end Tuesday, April 11, 1995. The bus will leave for eastern North Carolina after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space we will only be able to accept forty (40) people. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first-served basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form along with **\$100 non-refundable** deposit* per person. The second payment of **\$125** per person is due by **January 1**; the third payment of **\$125** per person is due by **February 1** and the final payment of **\$125** per person is due by **March 1**. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Nashville.

Come join us for this special getaway. All arrangements are made by Cragmont thus freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*All money will be refunded **only if Cragmont** has to cancel.

Mail to: "Nashville Limited II" Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: Day _____ Night _____

CHURCH _____

If you have a roommate preference, please list name here:

Do **you** have a health condition we need to be aware of such as:
heart condition _____ *diabetes* _____
hypoglycemia _____ *trouble with stairs* _____
any other condition _____

Preferred bus stop _____

Non-refundable deposit \$100

Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.

(Please clip off and save for mailing in other payments)

Payment No. 2
(January 1, 1995)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Payment No. 3
(February 1, 1995)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Payment No. 4
(March 1, 1995)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____



SUN		MON		TUE	
25	26	27	28	29	30
2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31			

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRES

G E N D

ious/following month
ent month

- ✧ Children's Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- Sunday School Board
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Conference Meetings
- ✿ Mount Olive College
- ★ Union Meeting
- Vandemere
- ✿ Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
	5	6	7
ference 9:30 WB Church lhaven, NC Piney Grove tern District	6	7	8 ■ Vandemere Basketball Shoot Sandy Plain FWB Church
	13 ◆ Western Conference Stoney Creek	14	15 ◆ Pee Dee Association 9:00 a.m., Cyprus Creek
	20 ◆ Eastern Conference 9:00 a.m., Beulaville	21	22
	27	28	29 ★ 1st Union Western Con- ference Rains Cross Roads ★ 5th Eastern Union Trent Church ★ Albemarle Union Gum Neck, 10:00 a.m.

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

Dear Susan,
 Thanks for the information on Fall Limited! Since you didn't mention it, my guess is you haven't heard about Cragmont's Christmas Limited! You can tour for four days and three nights (starting December 1st and ending December 4th) for only \$200 if you choose Option Package One. The price covers travel, lodging and certain meals. And because I know you're always looking for a bargain, you can tour with Option Package Two for only \$175. The only difference is with Option One, you get to tour the Biltmore House (It is absolutely GORGEOUS!). Otherwise, the packages are the same including a trip to Dollywood (you know, one million lights), a visit to the Folk Art Center in Asheville, the Grove Park Inn, the Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace and more! But don't mess around! If you want Option One, you've got to send your registration form and \$100 deposit by September 23. But if you want Option Two, then you just have to send \$75 (But that doesn't have to be in by then). Oh, and the rest of the money is due November 11. From what I understand, they've already taken reservations so you better get cracking! Well, I hope you understood all that. If not just call Cragmont. Their number is 1-704-669-7677. Call me if you decide to go and I'll tell them to make us roommates! Well, I'll see you later.

Love,
 Carol



Cragmont Assembly's
CHRISTMAS
Limited Edition 1994



YES! Save my space on Christmas Limited!

No.

I do not wish to sign up at this time, but I would like more information on future *Limited Editions!*

Name _____

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of? If so please describe:

Address _____

Church _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Roomate(s) _____

Mail to: "Christmas Limited",
 c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North
 Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711.

Bus Stop Preference _____

On the Present and Future of Mount Olive College: Selecting a New President

As a search committee of leaders from the church, community and region gather to recommend a successor to President W. Burkette Raper, the Mount Olive College family prepares for a change of the same magnitude as its transition from two-year to four-year status.

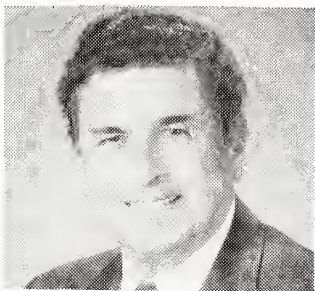
Although Dr. Raper does not serve on the committee or hold any advisory position to it, the committee asked him to attend one of its meetings and share his views on the needs of the college that the new president will have to address, the relationship of the college to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, and the personal and leadership qualities which will be important to the new president.

Dr. Raper's remarks addressed his work, his vision for the future of Mount Olive College, and his view for the future of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. Committee members found his remarks to be as revealing as any he has given in his forty years in the office.

With Dr. Raper's permission, the address has been excerpted for publication in the Free Will Baptist magazine. The last issue carried his comments on the needs of the college that the new president will have to address; following are Dr. Raper's thoughts on the relationship of the college to its sponsoring church, and personal and leadership qualities that will be important to the new president.

* * *

The Relationship of Mount Olive College to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists



In my opinion, the future of both the college and the church will be significantly impacted by their relationship. The college needs the church and the church equally needs the college. Both will be better with each other, and each would be poorer with-

out the other. It is a kind of Siamese twin relationship. The church is rightfully concerned about the image of the college, but the college should be equally concerned about the image of the church.

The college needs the church to help it keep a clear focus on its mission as an institution of Christian higher education. In addition, the college needs the financial support of the church. During the past five years, outright gifts from church-related sources have exceeded \$3.5 million, and without this support the college could not have survived. In addition, life-income investments from church-related donors have totalled \$543,000 during the same period of time.

"On the other hand, the Free Will Baptist Church needs Mount Olive College. The mission and leadership of the church are inseparable from education. Henry P. Van Dusen, in his book *God in Education*, described the founding of the first college in the New World, Harvard College:

'After God had carried us safe to New England, and we had builded our houses, provided necessaries for our liveli-hood, rear'd convenient places for Gods worship, and settled the Civil Government: One of the next things we longed for, and looked after was to advance Learning and perpetuate it to Posterity: dreading to leave an illiterate Ministry to the Churches, when our Ministers shall lie in the Dust. And as we were thinking and consulting how to effect this great Work; it pleased God to stir up the heart of one Mr. Harvard (a godly Gentleman, and a lover of Learning, there living amongst us).'

"The very nature of Christianity makes it dependent upon education. Our faith is rooted in a book – the Bible – and a book requires the ability to write, read, and understand. Christianity is a historic religion and a knowledge of history is an educational experience.

"In the early part of the nineteenth century, a New England minister asked Jeremiah Heath, a leading Free Will Baptist minister, about the status of Free Will Baptists in North Carolina, and in his reply Heath commented, 'The ministers are all men of families, of little property, and not a single scholar among us.'

"We have made great progress since Mr. Heath penned these words, but not enough.

"In my opinion, the most basic and urgent need of Original Free Will Baptists today is for a ministry that is educationally equipped and spiritually committed to advance the church into the new millenium of the twenty-first century. I believe that the next president will have no greater challenge or responsibility than to assure that Mount Olive College provides the kind of education and spiritual nurturing required to meet this need. Whatever happens to the Free Will Baptist ministry will eventually happen to the church, and whatever happens to the church could eventually happen to the college.

"The education of ministers, however, is not enough to meet the needs of the church. For every person who stands in the pulpit, there are one hundred who sit in the pews or who, at least, hold membership. These lay people who provide the funding for the church are also entitled to the benefits of Christian higher education for themselves and their families.

"The church needs the college for the education of both its ministers and its laity, for we never stand more than one generation from a pagan society.

"In addition to its educational program, Mount Olive College provides for Original Free Will Baptists a large range of other valuable services, including the extensive use of its facilities and the unique resources of the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection.

"To provide Christian higher education and related services for the life and work of the Free Will Baptist Church is integral to the mission of the college. The president must always keep in mind that the church is a primary public to be served and not simply a potential resource for financial support.

"To provide effective leadership for educational services to the church, the president must know – or learn – the history and distinctive heritage of Original Free Will Baptists. He or she must also appreciate and support the faith and work of the church. Furthermore, an understanding of the inner dynamics of how the church operates is invaluable.

“To achieve these goals, the president will need to relate and identify himself with the *people* of the church. During most of my years in office, Sundays have been devoted almost exclusively to College Day services in churches throughout North Carolina. In addition, I have attended annually a wide range of denominational conferences, conventions and other events. Wherever and whenever Free Will Baptists gathered, I have tried to be there. In addition, I have visited in hundreds of homes. I believe that Original Free Will Baptists are a good, noble and generous people who will support those whom they believe respect and love them. On the other hand, they will keep their distance from those who put position and authority above service.

“No one can please all the Free Will Baptists all the time. They have been among my most severe critics but they have also been among my most loyal friends. In my opinion, Free Will Baptists will reject those who seek to control them but will follow those who seek to serve them.

“The president will always want to keep in mind that:

- the college was founded and chartered by the church;
- the college is defined as a ‘Christian ministry’ by the Constitution of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists;
- the governing board is elected by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists;
- the college depends upon the church for substantial financial support; and
- the mission of the college is rooted in the faith and values of the church.

“On the other hand, the church will want to keep in mind that the church is not the college, and the college is not the church. It is the mutual *relationship* of trust and service that is important.

Personal and Leadership Qualities Important to the New President

A. Qualifications

“The qualifications for the president are set forth in the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees as follows:

‘The President shall be a person who gives nqualified evidence of his/her Christian faith and commitment to the mission and purpose of the college as stated in its Charter and as interpreted by the Board of Trustees. In addition, he/she shall possess and maintain those academic, professional, personal and moral qualities necessary for

the Presidency of an institution of Christian higher education.’

B. The Ability to Work with Diverse Publics

“A college cannot effectively operate, or even survive, in an isolated environment. The publics with which a college must relate itself are extremely diverse, and the responsibility for bringing unity to these relationships rests primarily with the president. He or she is the one person who can speak with a holistic view of the college. Simply the listing of the major publics of Mount Olive College will emphasize the strategic role of the president in providing institutional leadership:

- the Board of Trustees to whom the president bears full responsibility for the management and work of the college;
- the faculty, administration and staff through whom the work of the college is performed;
- students for whom the college primarily exists;
- the Free Will Baptist Church which elects the governing board and provides generous financial support;
- alumni, a growing body of former students who give witness to the kind and quality of education the college provides;
- governmental agencies – local, state and federal – which increasingly set the parameters within which the college must operate;
- accrediting agencies whose endorsement is the foundation for recognition and substantial funding;
- the higher education community, including individual colleges and a wide range of organizations such as the state and national associations of independent colleges and universities, the College Foundation, Inc.; athletic conferences and associations, and an endless number of professional and organizational groups;
- the business community, including banks and industrial groups;
- charitable foundations and other philanthropic entities;
- influential leaders and the general public; and
- the public media – television, press, radio – which have the capacity to make or destroy a college whose viability is dependent upon public perception.

“Quite often these publics have conflicting expectation of what they want – and sometimes demand – from the college, and the president is the person whom these various groups expect to interpret and relate the college to unacceptable terms.

“One of my major problems was how to make Mount Olive a quality educational institution that could effectively educate students for the real world in which they will live and at the same time meet the expectations of certain ministers on how religion should be taught and how student life should be controlled. Another area of potential conflict is how to manage the budget in a manner that will be satisfactory to both faculty and trustees.

“The president cannot always be popular, but he or she must never hesitate to do what he or she thinks is right. Priority must be given to what is in the best interest of the college rather than being popular. While the president must be sensitive to all publics, the decisive reference must be the mission of the college.

“When the president speaks, it must be not only with authority but also with understanding and with love. The president must be able to inspire the confidence of those whose support is essential to the future of the college.

C. “The president must *always* be positive. If he does not stand firm in his faith, he will not stand at all (Isaiah 7:9).

D. “The president must be willing to work according to the needs of the college rather than the clock or calendar. There is not an hour on the clock nor a day in the year I have not been in my office.

“The past forty years have brought us to a threshold, but the next president will have the opportunity to lead Mount Olive College across the threshold into a new millenium. Moses led the Children of Israel for forty years, but he did not enter the Promised Land; David reigned as king for forty years, but he did not build the temple.

“Much has been achieved at Mount Olive College since 1954, but I believe the expanding horizons before us are the gateway to even greater attainments. The journey ahead calls for the leadership of a president who will come to serve rather than to be served.

"In my opinion, the choosing of the president is the most important responsibility of the Board of Trustees of a Christian college – except one – and that is helping the president to succeed.

"A college president has to work with many and diverse groups, including faculty, students, alumni, church constituency and various groups who sometimes have vested interests. The president can overcome criticism and opposition from any of these so long as he or she has the firm confidence and support of the Board of Trustees. The one battle a president cannot win is with the governing board.

"Let me add that in this respect I have been most fortunate. Without the supportive relationship I have enjoyed with trustees, especially with the four chairmen under whom I have served (David W. Hansley 1954 – 63; Ralph A. Morris, 1963 – 74; James B. Hunt, 1974 – 89; and L. Marvin Edwards since 1989), performing the duties of my office would have been impossible.

"Choosing the next president of Mount Olive College must be the decision of the Board of Trustees and not some pressure group. Appointing the president, however, will not be enough; helping the president to succeed will be even more important."



The Mount Olive College Seal conveys the College's Christian mission through a union of Christian faith, symbolized by the Cross, and education, symbolized by the lamp of learning.

The 1994 dinner season holds as much potential for Mount Olive College and its sponsoring Convention as any program season yet planned, says Jean Ackiss, Mount Olive College Director of Church Support. The season goal is more than \$330,000.

Each year, Free Will Baptists host county dinners throughout eastern North Carolina as a means of providing gift support for the college. In addition to financial support, the dinners provide a strong means of communication between the college and its sponsoring church.

Funds raised at the dinners are used to assist in underwriting scholarships for students who wish to attend Mount Olive College but who are unable to afford the full cost of tuition, room and board, and who demonstrate academic or leadership potential.

Mount Olive College currently awards more than \$1 million annually in institutional scholarships. Recipients in the college service scholarship programs perform tasks in offices and work areas on campus as part of their scholarship agreements. "It is through this partnership plan of work and study," Mrs. Ackiss said, "that Mount Olive College is significantly able to fulfill its mission of providing Christian education opportunities to deserving young men and women."

Mrs. Ackiss encourages Free Will Baptists participate in the education of young people by becoming "Bridge Builders," individuals or groups who give or pledge an restricted gift of \$100 or more at one of the dinners. Bridge Builders can give the entire gift at the time of the dinner or fulfill their pledges by giving monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually.

There are three Bridge Builder Clubs: College Club, \$100 – 499; President's Club, \$500 – 999; and Trustees' Club, \$1,000 or more.

"All of these gifts make a difference in the life of each student who comes to pursue an education on this campus," she said.

The schedule for the remaining college appreciation dinners is listed below. In addition to participating in the dinners, contact Mrs. Ackiss at 919-658-2502 to find out how you can make a difference in the lives of young people.

Lenoir County • Saturday, October 1, 7:00 p.m., Kinston High School, Kinston, **Jeff Daughtry, Chairman.** Goal: \$16,850

Edgecombe County • Monday, October 3, 7:00 p.m., Edgewood FWB Church near Macclesfield, **Luther Bisette, Chairman.** Goal: \$6,100

Beaufort County • Saturday, October 8, 7:00 p.m., Beaufort County Community College, Washington, **Billy Gurkin, Chairman.** Goal: \$11,500

Greene County • Monday, October 17, 7:00 p.m., Greene County Middle School near Snow Hill, **Lena Walston and Randy Beaman, Co-Chairmen.** Goal: \$21,525

Nash County • Tuesday, October 18, 7:00 p.m., Whitley Center, FWB Children's Home, Middlesex, **John R. Manning, Chairman.** Goal: \$8,700

Pamlico County • Saturday, October 22, 6:00 p.m., Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, **Carol Prescott and Angela Prescott, Co-Chairmen.** Goal: \$8,150

Wayne County • Tuesday, October 25, 7:00 p.m., Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, Mount Olive College, **Tempie Jones, Chairman.** Goal: \$52,215

Onslow-Brunswick Counties • Thursday, October 27, 7:00 p.m., Folkstone FWB Church Fellowship Hall, Folkstone, **Ronnie Parker, Chairman.** Goal: \$4,475

Duplin County • Saturday, October 29, 6:00 p.m., East Duplin High School near Beulaville, **William D. Thigpen, Chairman.** Goal: \$12,350

Craven County • Thursday, November 3, 7:00 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern, **Marice DeBruhl, Chairman.** Goal: \$20,000

Johnston-Wake Counties • Monday, November 7, 7:00 p.m., Spiritual Life Building, Everette Chapel FWB Church, Clayton, **V. T. Craddock, Chairman.** Goal: \$44,675

Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, and Pasquotank Counties • Thursday, November 10, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper, **David Cahoon, Chairman.** Goal: \$10,325

Carteret County • Saturday, November 12, 6:00 p.m., West Carteret High School, Morehead City, **Sheri S. Noonan and Edgar Pake, Jr., Co-Chairmen.** Goal: \$15,675

Wilson County • Monday, November 14, 7:00 p.m., Beddingfield High School near Wilson. Goal: \$40,025

Pitt County • Tuesday, November 15, 7:00 p.m., J. H. Rose High School, Greenville, **Jane T. Tripp, Chairman.** Goal: \$32,025

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties • Thursday, November 17, 7:00 p.m., Clinton-Sampson Agri-Civic Center, Clinton, **Lee Morton Jernigan, Chairman.** Goal: \$27,575.

MOC FALL CONVOCATION: THE NEXT NEEDED THING

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

“Welcome to the beginning of a new academic life,” said Dr. W. Burkette Raper to the new freshmen gathered in College Hall on August 30, 1994, for Fall Convocation. “Our vision is to help you,” he continued. “We want you to have the most effective, most meaningful education possible. Our faculty, our buildings, our Trustees, our entire staff exist to assist you. Our facilities help make possible your educational experience,” he said.

Dr. Raper drew attention to the numerous friends of the College who provide funds for scholarships, computers, equipment, buildings. He acknowledged the 30 Trustees elected by the Free Will Baptists as the ones who own all of the College, because only the Board of Trustees can authorize granting a degree.

“Let us have the friendliest campus in America,” said Dr. Raper.

NEXT NEEDED THING

The motto—the next needed thing—grew out of a Negro Rural School Fund established in 1907 in rural Georgia. The purpose of the fund was to guarantee quality master teachers for black youth.

“When we make choices, we strive to do the next needed thing, but we also realize we do things with no guarantee that success will follow,” said Dr. J. William Byrd, Executive Vice-President of Mount Olive College and the Fall Convocation speaker.

“Our capacity to err is our capacity to learn. What we seek is a real improvement in the condition of human life,” said Dr. Byrd.

In discussing the importance of the next needed thing, Dr. Byrd turned to issues during the American Revolution, issues in quantum mechanics, issues for Samuel when he heard God speaking to him, and issues for Isaiah.

“The American Revolution was a time of turmoil and challenge,” explained Dr. Byrd. “People faced a grave threat. The risks of that period were heavy, because the British crown could come down on them like a ton of bricks.”

However, with the leadership of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and others, the great American experiment worked. The American leadership focused upon the next needed thing—independence.

Likewise, Winston Churchill in the 1930s spoke out as a back bencher for Britain to be frightened of the rise of Hitler. Churchill was against the British policy of appeasement. He insisted that the next needed thing was to confront Hitler’s power.

The scientific world also faced the drama of the next needed thing when dialogue began about the behavior of electrons. To see things as particle nature or wave nature opened the scientific world of quantum mechanics.

Samuel too had to learn to listen to the next needed thing. When he heard the voice of God, he did not listen to God at first. Later he did. Isaiah also had to learn to listen to God.

“We need to listen to the voices that speak to us,” said Dr. Byrd. “We need to listen to the challenge out there and respond as Isaiah with a sense of being ready. Mount Olive College has its triumphs and its problems. Our enrollment has increased 15 percent and we have begun to expand the curriculum. In the future, we wish to expand in music and in education. The foundation laid here is a solid one. Our students do well in the marketplace and in transferring to other schools. Our new faculty members are strong. What then is the next needed thing?” Dr. Byrd asked.

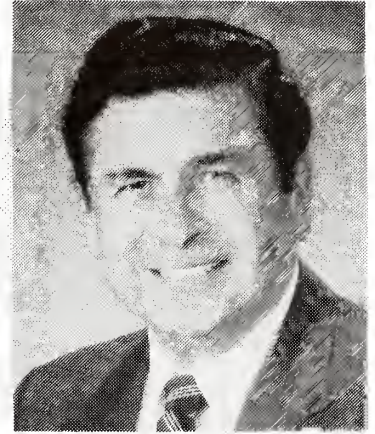
NEXT NEEDED THING FOR MOC

“At Mount Olive College we need to continue to expand our curriculum. We are larger than ever and have more to offer. Our financial needs are greater than they have ever been. We need to spend well the resources we have,” he stressed.

“What must we do?” asked Dr. Byrd. “We must not succumb to those times that try out lives. Our American forefathers did not succumb to the times that tried their souls. We must spend wisely. We must follow the lead of quantum scientists and look for bold, new ideas. We must listen to people around us as Samuel and Isaiah listened to God. We need to be bold in the things we are willing to attempt. We must realize that the capacity to err is linked to the capacity to learn,” he concluded.

HONORING 40 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP: W. BURKETTE RAPER

The Mount Olive College Family invites you to participate in a truly historic occasion: the fortieth anniversary celebration honoring our president, W. Burkette Raper.



Recognized by the American Council on Education as the longest-tenured active college president in the nation, Dr. Raper has provided the leadership for Mount Olive College since its opening in Mount Olive in 1954.

Leaders and ministers in the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, representatives of the academic community of North Carolina and friends of Mount Olive College will gather to pay tribute to this incredible accomplishment and recognize the occasion of Dr. Raper's plans to retire from the office.

Join us Saturday, November 5 at 6 p.m. for dinner in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. An admission of \$40 per couple (or \$20 per person) and other special gifts will benefit the W. Burkette Raper Scholarship Endowment, funding scholarships for deserving students at Mount Olive College.

To make reservations for your family, complete the reservation form below. Mail it with your check by October 21 to: Office of Public Information, Mount Olive College, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Or call Cecil Cahoon, Office of Public Information, at 919-658-2502 or 1-800-653-0854.

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

YES, I plan to attend the 40th anniversary celebration honoring Dr. W. Burkette Raper. There will be _____ in my party and my check is enclosed for _____ (\$40 per couple, \$20 per person).

Name _____

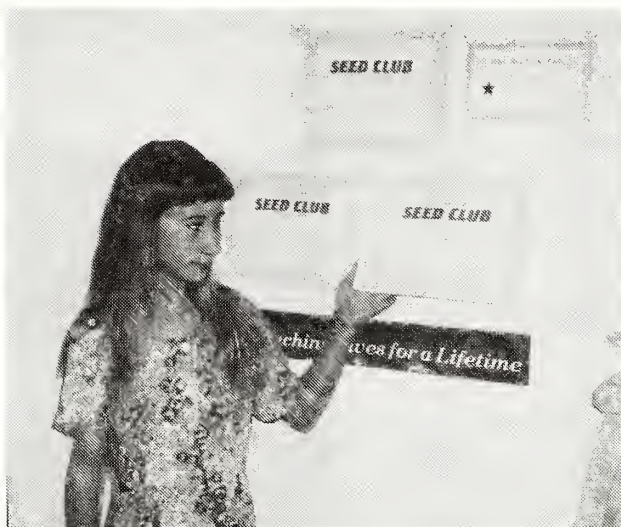
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please apply the enclosed additional gift of _____ from our family to the W. Burkette Raper Scholarship Endowment.



HOME MISSIONS HAPPENINGS—SUMMER 1994



Seed Club—Katie Sheffield, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Wayne Sheffield, and a member of the Jakin Original Free Will Baptist Church of Georgia has been a Seed Club member for three years. She has just received her fourth year certificate. Every year she has collected pennies and silver for Home Missions and Evangelism.

As seen in the photograph at the left, the wall of her room displays her Seed Club certificates as well as one of our assignment banners: *Touching Lives for a Lifetime*.

H'mong Summer Camp—For several years the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism has helped to underwrite the summer camp for the H'mong Youth of California. This year our Executive Director had been invited to instruct the campers on "How To Lead A Non-Christian to Christ." In August, Brother Hansley taught, as invited, for five nights, as more than 80 young people attended. Many made commitments to share their faith with friends and families.

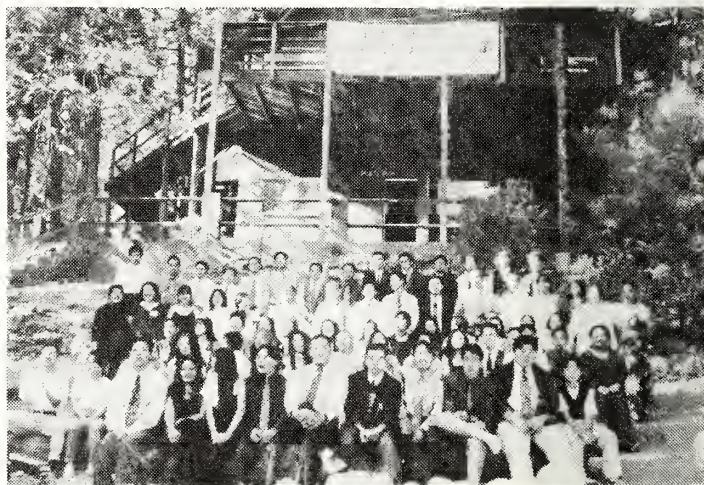
Also this year, 15 young H'mong students accepted Christ as Saviour during the "Camp" and were baptized on Friday afternoon in a stream of cold mountain water.



The fifteen youth, following the baptismal service.



Brother Hansley with three of the baptismal candidates.



Group picture at the Heavenly Hills Christian Camp, Twain Hart, California



Brother Hansley with H'mong pastors baptizing the candidates.



The banquet on Friday night.

(The photographs of the H'mong Youth Camp were taken by Vameng Lo of Stockton, California.)

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

ROCK OF ZION HAS YOUTH DAY

The Sunday morning worship service on July 31 at Rock of Zion Church was under the direction of the youth. From the playing of the instruments, the reading of the Scriptures, singing of choruses to the special music, all was performed by our young people. One of our young girls, Loretta Lynn Rice, composed a special poem for the service. We believe it is worth sharing.

TRUST IN THE LORD

This prayer is to my Lord,
To watch me day and night,
To keep me going straight ahead,
And show me wrong from right.

Lord, lead me down the road
You would have me to take,
And keep me doing things I
should—
Without too many mistakes.

Lord, please help me make it
through,
And help me make decisions.
I know you will be beside me
With love and supervision.

From way up in the Heavens,
Your love shines down on me.
I must admit, I'm proud to say,
I'm part of God's family.

When your problems drag you
down
Everything seems like it's gone,
Trust in the Lord with all your
heart
He'll keep you moving on.

He's there for you no matter what
It seems you're going through,
Trust in the Lord with all your
mind
He's watching over you.

You may think you've done the
worst,
And there's just no forgiving.
Trust in the Lord with all your soul
He's the Gift that keeps on giving.

Loretta Lynn Rice

MT. TABOR CHURCH IN BUILDING PROGRAM



Decisions . . . decisions . . . decisions! Men at work at Mt. Tabor FWB Church, Creswell, NC



Eleanor Moore and Virginia Haire help prepare lunch for church members working on the building project at Mt. Tabor.



Phil Armstrong constructs the new doorway connecting the new education building to the existing sanctuary at Mt. Tabor FWB Church, Creswell, NC



Men working on church prepare to enjoy lunch prepared for them by the women of the church. (left to right): Fentress Simmons, Michael Oliver, Doug Cooper, Phil Armstrong.

Mt. Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, Creswell, NC, has undertaken the building of a new Christian education building. When completed, the new facility will house 10 classrooms, a nursery, a conference room, and restrooms. Work on the building has been underway for approximately one year. Under the direction of the maintenance committee, members of the church are striving to have the facility completed in time for the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the church's charter.

Mt. Tabor was originally chartered on September 10, 1896. There were 25 charter members, led by the Rev. J. R. McCasky. The original sanctuary was completed in March, 1897, with the first services being held on the second Sunday of that month. The church has served the needs of the Mt. Tabor and Creswell communities since that time. Over the years, there have been several building programs including the addition of Sunday School rooms, and the construction of a parsonage and fellowship building.

The new education building will be a two-story, 2000-square-foot brick building. Funding has come from donations of money and materials from both church members and friends. At the present time construction is being completed by members of the church. The maintenance committee, composed of Phil Armstrong, Doug Cooper, Joey Reynolds, Scott Davis, and Tim Biggs, has provided much of the leadership for coordination of the church's efforts.

Mt. Tabor Free Will Baptist Church is a member of the Albemarle Free Will Baptist Conference.

PEOPLE & EVENTS

people and events

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

HICKORY CHAPEL HONORS PASTOR'S WIFE



Billy Dilday presenting plaque to Sudie May.

On Sunday, July 31, 1994, Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Ahoskie, North Carolina honored Sudie May for thirty-one years of dedicated service as the church's music director. During the morning worship hour, Billy Dilday, chairman of the deacon board, presented Mrs. May with a beautiful plaque acknowledging her unselfish dedication in service to our Lord through the music program of the church.

The evening worship service was also dedicated to this special lady. The church choir, under the leadership of Libby Taylor, the new music director, presented a song service of Sudie May's favorite songs. Special tributes were given by several members of the choir.

Following the evening service the church family enjoyed a time of fellowship and refreshments. Mrs. May received a "Friendship Basket" filled with cards and personal notes from the members of the congregation. A poem written by a faithful member of the church, Mrs. Bettie Tinkham, was read along with the presentation of the "Friendship Basket."

TRIBUTE TO SUDIE MAY by Bettie Tinkham

Every man needs a companion to stand by his side.
To encourage, strengthen, and comfort when he's tired—

When he is downhearted and ready to sigh—
You are always there and willing to try—
You give him the words he needs to hear—
To keep pressing on without doubt or fear—
You—Mrs. May are this person.
Mr. May has served us long and served us well.
You have worked by his side, we all can tell.
There may have been teardrops along the way,
But you always knew there was a better day—
No pastor's wife has been more faithful than you—
Whatever the need, your devotion has shone through—
Amid sunshine, rain, heartaches and pain,
You were willing to sing and praise His Name—

Whatever the need, you were willing to work and pray.
Thank you for touching our lives on this your special day.
We've filled this "Friendship Basket" with heartfelt thoughts
For expressing our gratitude and appreciation we have sought.
Accept our gifts of cards and personal notes
To just thank you for being our friend.

In addition to her musical talents, Sudie has taught the teenage Sunday School class, served as president of the Woman's Auxiliary, taught in our Bible School, and served as church organist. The church enjoyed honoring this special lady on her day.

Sudie is the wife of the Rev. Robert May, the mother of two sons, and the proud grandmother of five grandchildren.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT MILBOURNIE FWB CHURCH



Matthew Sullivan, son of Donna and Johnny Sullivan gets fingerprinted by Officer Scott Bissette of the Wilson City Police during Milbournie Free Will Baptist Bible School.

Come and join the Peace Patrol! This was the theme of Milbournie Free Will Baptist's Vacation Bible School. Each night the young people would be challenged by Puppet Detective Sam Saint to learn their memory verse and be good young detectives. The youngsters program began with class time each night where they learned how to use each of their five senses to glorify the Lord. They heard stories of how Jesus would heal men who were blind or deaf. Then they would be told how blessed they were to have each of their five senses.

After class time each room would go to a different Peace Patrol Station. The little detectives would go to music, arts and crafts, snack or to the Super Sleuth Center. In the Super Sleuth Center the young detectives had to use one of their five senses to solve a mystery. One group had to listen carefully to morse code in order to decode the message that, "God can speak to you."

One night the Super Sleuth Center became a finger printing station. Officer Scott Bissette from the Wilson City Police made a special visit. Officer Bissette shared with each child that police officers are their friends and that they care for each child. He then began fingerprinting each child that was present.

Bible School concluded with a pool party on Saturday, and Commencement on Sunday night with approximately one hundred and ten people present. One member commented, "I have been coming to this church for over 40 years and this is the best Bible School we have ever had." The Vacation Bible School workers gave director Lynda Sue Lamm a special gift for all her hard work in making this Bible School such a success.

PIEDMONT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Piedmont Annual Conference met at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Valdese, NC on August 26-27.

A Youth Rally was held on Friday night. Pizza was served prior to the meeting. Good pizza and good fellowship were enjoyed by all! Each church had been invited to attend and participate in the program. Mr. Ben Utley, Dean of Admissions at Mount Olive College, spoke at the youth meeting. The Rev. Audie Tucker, a young preacher from Northside FWB Church in Asheboro, delivered an inspirational message to close the youth meeting.

At the business meeting on Saturday morning, reports were given by the Executive and Ordaining Councils. Several of our Denominational Enterprises were represented at the Conference and reports were given. Harvest, a new church in Winston-Salem, was welcomed into the Conference.

After the business meeting, a praise and worship service was enjoyed. The Blessed Hope singers from Concord, NC presented an inspirational program of music. At the conclusion of the service, the ladies of Calvary FWB Church served a delicious lunch.

Submitted by:

Bobbie G. Foy, Reporter of Piedmont Conference

CHERUBS PROJECT AT BEAVERDAM FWB CHURCH



Beaverdam FWB Cherubs with Ann Gilliard at Shoreland on August 12, 1994.

On August 12, sixteen members of the Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Cherubs along with nine mothers and three youth leaders visited the Shoreland Health Care and Retirement Center in Whiteville.

The Cherubs entertained the residents with singing. D'Wayne Godwin and Sunnie MacPherson sang solos. Jessica Godwin and Hope MacPherson sang duets as did Ashlee and Morgan Fairfax. The Cherubs also talked with some of the residents and gave each a cross as a small token of their love and prayers for them.

After singing for the group, the young people and adults visited several rooms of residents that were members and guests of Beaverdam Church. They also visited the fellowship area and sang again for those sitting there.

Pictured above is a group of Cherubs, one of the mothers, and two leaders with resident Ann Galliard. Ann was a joy to visit. The Cherubs heard her testimony and many were able to fellowship with her.

The Cherubs' leaders are Sandra Todd, Donna and Willa Dean McPherson and Susie Fairfax.

for your **FYI** *information*

???

CAPE FEAR AUXILIARY CONVENTION Haymount FWB Church October 12, 1994

Theme: "Jesus Is Coming Again"
Scripture: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11).

9:30 Registration
10:00 Hymn, "I Know My Redeemer Liveth"
Devotion, Jean Atkins
Welcome, Host Church
Response, Linda Baker
Greetings, Claudette Lane,
President

Business Session

Hymn, "I Shall See the King Someday"
Report of Enterprises

Morning Worship

11:15 Hymn, "One Day"
Offering
Special Music, Host Church
Convention message, Ruth Warrick
Hymn, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes"
12:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:00 Hymn, "Will Jesus Find Us Watching"
Life Membership Award
1:20 Miscellaneous Business
Hymn, "What If It Were Today"

Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary
Study Course on
Evangelism
October 17, 1994—7:30 p.m.
Yelverton Grove Church
Speaker: Mrs. Hilda Starling
Branch Chapel Church

PASTORS NEEDED

Owen's Chapel, Elm City, Central Conference is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested, please contact Donald Webb, 238-2271

Shiloh Church, Albemarle District, is seeking a full-time pastor. Send credentials and resumé to Ray Collier, Long Ridge Road, Pinetown, NC 27865; phone, (919) 927-4837 or Wilbur Sheppard, Route 4, Box 294, Washington, NC 27889; phone, (919) 946-5310.

Choir News



FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
OF
GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
IS
LOOKING FOR
AN ADULT CHOIR DIRECTOR
AND A
CONGREGATIONAL MUSICAL DIRECTOR
CONTACT:
RONNIE HOBGOOD, PASTOR
756-6600

Highlights from the Convention and the various messages delivered will appear in the November issue of *The Free Will Baptist*.

Our deepest sympathy and prayers goes to the Rev. Harold Jones, Director of Foreign Missions, and his family. His mother was recently called to be with the Lord. Please remember his family in your prayers.

NOTICE

There have been several inquiries about the size print of the Large Print Advanced Quarterlies. As time changes, so does technology. In order to keep up with these changes, the Press recently bought new Macintosh Computers. We did not realize the difference it would make. We used the same size print as before, but with the new computer the size print was smaller. In order to correct this problem, we are re-printing the Large Print Advanced to the proper size. The new quarterlies will be available for the Winter Quarter. We are sorry for the inconvenience that this may have caused the Sunday School classes.

Thank you,
The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

Sunday School Charms



Sunday School Charms

by Mrs. Linda Jenkins, Deep Run Original FWB Church



TEACHER OF THE YEAR—The Rev. Adrian Grubbs. This award was presented by Mr. Elwood Hill, superintendent of the Sunday School. The Rev. Adrian Grubbs and Elwood Hill were adult winners in the 52 Club.



Pictured above is Mary Evelyn Miller, Trey Sloan, receiving awards for attendance in Sunday School. Barry Hawkins also received a reward for attendance.

On Sunday, August 21, 1994 approximately seventy members from Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church attended a banquet of appreciation to honor the teachers and officers of the Sunday School for 1993. After eating a delicious buffet meal, several members were given special recognition. Bill Hawkins, Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School, presented awards to the 52 Club winners for the highest attendance. Trophies were presented to the following in the Children's Department: Mary Evelyn Miller, Trey Sloan, and Barry Hawkins. The Rev. Adrian Grubbs and Elwood Hill had the highest attendance in the Adult Department.

Elwood Hill, Superintendent, had the honor of presenting the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award to the Rev. Adrian Grubbs. The Rev. Grubbs has taught the Fellowship Class for several years.

Two donations of \$100 each were made by the Sunday School to the Sunday School Building Fund to honor Elwood Hill for his leadership as Superintendent and Deborah Miller for her faithful dedication as pianist. Greg Smith presented both awards.

All of the teachers and officers were recognized and presented gifts of appreciation. As an additional highlight, verbal thanks were expressed by several class members for their teachers. In addition, Deborah Miller presented a gift to Pam and Johnnie Braxton from the Young Adult Class.

We thank God for the blessings of this banquet and look forward to other times when we can share in fellowship and give honor to our Sunday School program. Special thanks is given to Nettie Jean Hill and Marie Smith for planning this event and to Gary Kennedy and Greg Smith for presenting the door prizes throughout the banquet.

A closing highlight was words of encouragement expressed by Mary Dudley, Chairperson of the Sunday School Board. We are extremely thankful to have Mrs. Dudley as a part of our program at Deep Run and to have her leadership for the total Sunday School program throughout the state. Elwood Hill is also a part of the Board, serving as its Treasurer. He has been on the Board for approximately fourteen years and continues to offer leadership at the Convention level as well as on the local level.

CYSTIC FIBROSIS PROJECT

On Sunday, August 28, 1994, JoAnne Grubbs, Youth Chairman, presented gifts of appreciation to Trey Sloan and Michael Raynor for their participation in a fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis. Several youth members took part in biking and walking events. The total raised for this project was \$258. Our church commends our youth and their leaders for a job well done.

Here's something to think about . . .



**Free Will Baptist
Press Foundation**
811 North Lee Street
Box 159
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-6128

. . . your Christian education. It is easy for us to take Christian education for granted.

In order for your Sunday School to properly train those who participate, you must have qualified teachers who love God and who are committed to the education of the students they teach. Your teachers need your words of encouragement, your prayers, and good materials.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation offers materials written by Free Will Baptists for Free Will Baptists. Contact our offices for more information.

Contemporary Christian Recording Artist

David Parker

Friday, October 28, 1994

7:00 p.m.

Black Jack FWB Church Family Life Center

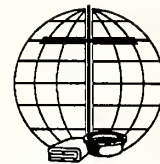
David Parker is a professional recording artist touring on his "Take It 2 The World" tour. Come and enjoy an evening of contemporary Christian music, worship, and celebration. While this concert will appeal mostly to youth, all are invited and welcomed to attend.

Reservations or tickets are not required. Groups of ten or more are asked to contact the church in order to assist event planning and to secure adequate seating.

Black Jack FWB Church is located ten miles from the Plaza Mall, Greenville. Travel five miles south on Highway 43. Turn left at the stoplight near D.H. Conley High School. Go five miles east on Mills Road. The church is located just off the Mills Road on the right. The Family Life Center is across the road from the church.

For further information contact Randy Cobb, Youth Director, Black Jack FWB Church, Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, NC, 27858, or call 919-752-6485.

Bring Your Youth!!!



OUR FLOOD RELIEF EFFORTS

We want to offer a special thanks to all those who responded to the Georgia flood relief efforts. Information and pictures pertaining to the flood is given elsewhere in this issue of "The Free Will Baptist."

This is the third time in less than three years that a natural disaster has occurred in our country—Hurricane Andrew, the mid-west flood, and the recent Georgia flood. Free Will Baptists responded well to the Florida hurricane relief efforts, somewhat less to the mid-west flood, but response to this most recent flood has been the greatest of all.

Seeing is believing. Our trip to Georgia on August 23–24 was an eye-opener. As we viewed the aftermath of the flood, driving around in sections of Newton and Albany that some days before had been under many feet of water, was almost unbelievable. Trash and debris were hanging from tree limbs ten to twenty feet high. Houses were twisted and moved from their foundations. Some had moved by the flood onto other lots and locations. Some of the people were back on their properties, living in camper trailers; but for the most part the previously flooded areas resembled ghost towns.

Several have suggested that we need a definite plan set up to respond to natural disasters. We are contemplating such a plan in the near future; however, we need not think that immediate response is always necessary. Often long-term help is needed, and such is the case in Georgia. Until such plans have been set forth, and in case of another natural disaster, contact can be made to our headquarters. Let's hope that such does not occur, but if it does, we will respond.

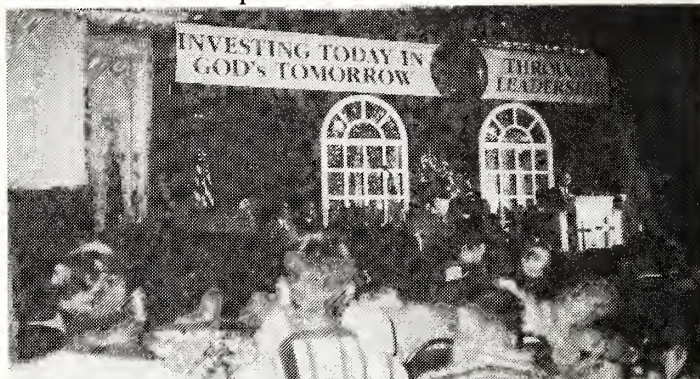
Since we are still anticipating additional donations to the flood relief effort, we will publish a list of the donors at a later date.



The items for flood relief is seen just before loading on the station wagon. It has been properly bagged and boxed in order to get all of it into the station wagon. Items included, towels, tissue, canned goods, sheets and blankets, bottle water, etc.

RECENT TRIPS

In mid-July Ruby and I traveled to Nashville, Tennessee, where we attended the General Association of General Baptists. The convention was well attended and we appreciate the fellowship and hospitality afforded us. Their theme, as depicted in the picture, focused on "leadership."



On August 7–11, our Convention president, the Rev. Scott Sowers, our vice-president, the Rev. Ray Wells, and myself traveled to Findley, Ohio, where we met with the leaders and officials of the Churches of God, General Conference. These sessions began on Monday and lasted through Wednesday afternoon. We met on the first day with their headquarters personnel who shared their areas of work with us. On the second day we met with the President of the Churches of God, Pastor George Reser, and other officials. They shared with us the changes that had been made in their denomination after hiring an outside consultant to evaluate their work and denomination. On the third day we met with the President of Winebrenner Seminary, Dr. David Draper, the professors, and other officials who explained the work of the Seminary, its aims and purposes. These hours together proved to be a wonderful time of fellowship, and a wonderful time of spiritual enrichment.

As we look at our own self evaluation and study of our denomination—Project Solution—we must likewise place ourselves before God in such a manner as to receive His blessings and directions upon our efforts.



Pictured are Ray Wells, C. H. Overman, and Scott Sowers, standing in front of the Chapel at Winebrenner Seminary.

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family

I had the opportunity to attend the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists for the first time as an "employee" instead of a student or a bystander just watching what went on. I sat through the various speeches, business sessions, and mingled with everybody that was there.

The theme for the Convention was the final in the five year theme of "Hear the Word of the Lord". The emphasis was on Christian Ministry.

If any of you were there, you began to realize that another theme began to echo throughout the crowd. "JUST DO IT!" This was adopted from a commercial done by NIKE. NIKE wanted to impress upon everyone the importance of getting out to JUST DO IT! No matter what the age, what the sport, or whatever activity you wanted to do, with NIKE, you had the strength and power to do it.

The Convention and all its speakers began to challenge us to JUST DO IT! Not with the strength of a certain tennis shoe but we can do it with the strength of Jesus Christ.

The Reverend Scott Sowers challenged us to really stop and think about our denomination. We have plenty to be thankful about. Our denomination has been able to support several areas of service to the Free Will Baptists as well as those outside.

We have our own four-year college, our own bookstore chain, a place where children can go to live, an outstanding mission program that stretches all across the world as well as here at home, and many more outreaches of ministry. All of these started as a dream with several people wanting to JUST DO IT.

They proved to the doubters that with God's strength anything can be done. They JUST DID IT!

My challenge to each of us is this: Let us not make this a past tense denomination of what we DID. Look at what we have all accomplished in the past whether it be personally, in our churches, and in our denomination.

All we have to do is ask, and with God we can JUST DO IT!

In His service,

Tracy

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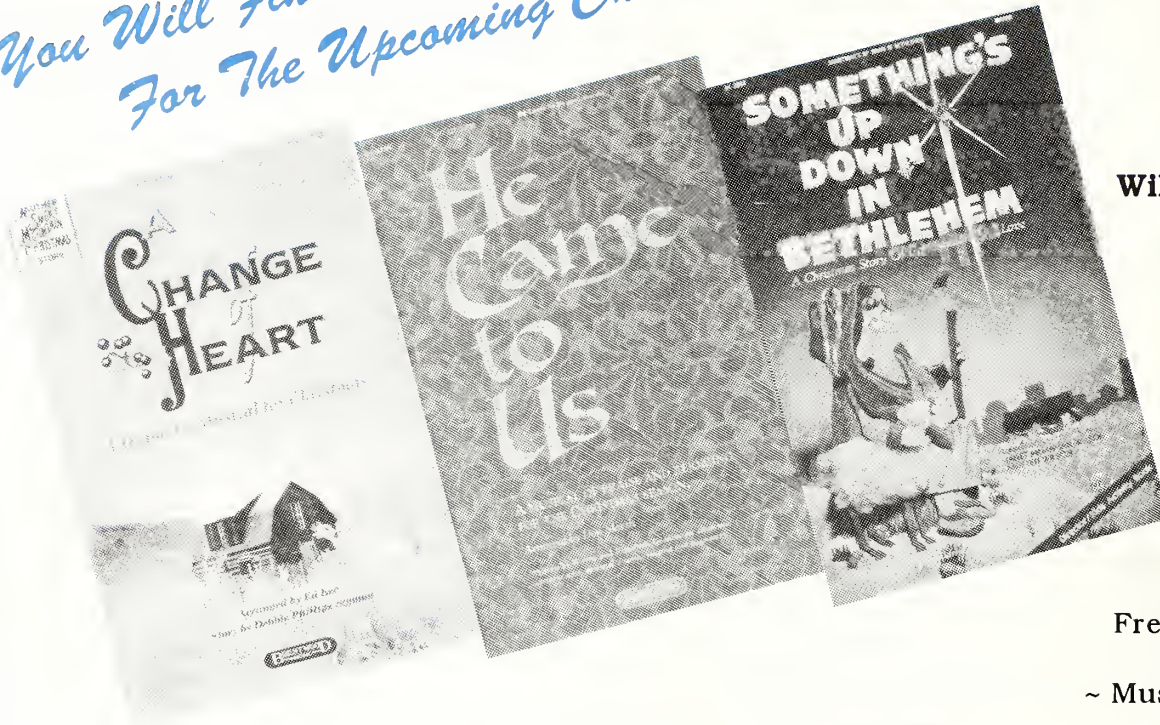
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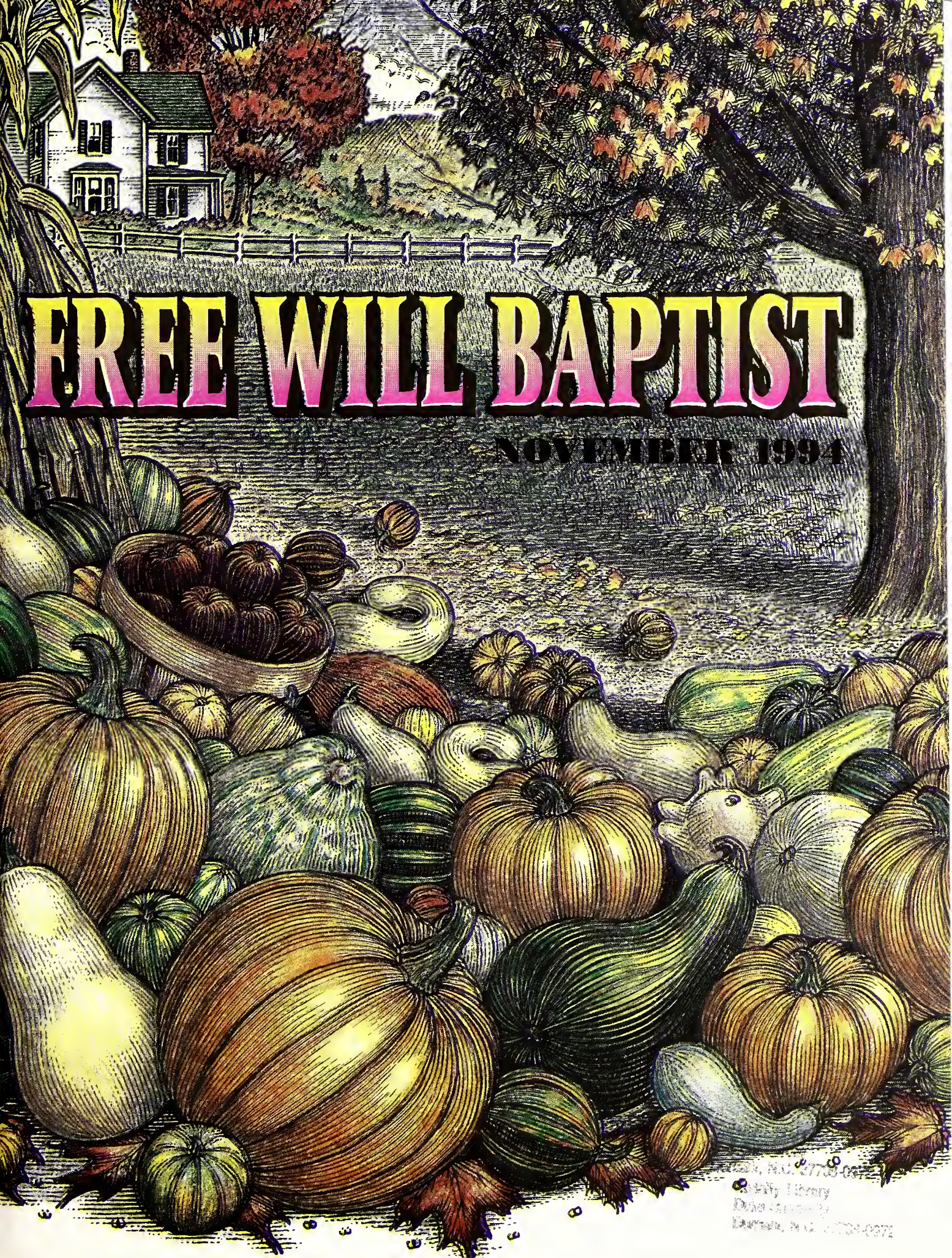
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CONTENTS

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109

FEATURES

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1994 CONVENTION 3
PART VIII: FROM NEPAL TO BAREILLY 6
LAYMANS LEAGUE 9
STATE YOUTH CONVENTION OFFICERS 9

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES

CHILDRENS HOME 10
FOREIGN MISSIONS 11
HOME MISSIONS 14
CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY 16
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE 21

DEPARTMENTS

CALENDAR 18
PEOPLE & EVENTS 25
FYI 29
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS 30
NOTES & QUOTES 31
EDITOR'S NOTES 32
DO YOU REMEMBER 35

NEXT MONTH

**DECEMBER
IS
FOREIGN MISSIONS
MONTH**

**November
is
Children's Home
Month**

Features

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1993-94 CONVENTION: MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

Wednesday Worship Service

"The outline I have for today's message is from the Lord. I'm so glad I belong to Jesus!" exclaimed Bishop L. N. Forbes as he brought energy, enthusiasm, and electricity to the September 14 morning session of the Convention in College Hall.

Born in Wayne County, Bishop Forbes is familiar with all aspects of Original Free Will Baptists. Currently he and his wife Ramona reside in East Orange, New Jersey.

"Bishop Forbes has done so much for black Free Will Baptists," declared the Rev. DeWayne Eakes as he listened carefully to the morning message. Indeed, Bishop Forbes has been actively building Free Will Baptists. He is the founder and pastor of the Faith Temple #1 in East Orange, New Jersey. He is also the founder and pastor of the Faith Temple #2 in Seat Pleasant, Maryland. In addition, Bishop Forbes is the General Bishop of the Original Free Will Baptists of America and the presiding Bishop of the Original Free Will Baptists of America.

"I appreciate Brother Overman's message—DO IT. Yes, we must not only have ideas. We must have deeds—DO IT," he began as voices applauded his emphasis.

"Today I want to talk about the *power of kindness*. We read in Ephesians 4:32: 'And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.' Now it seems like we don't have the power today to control folks. But we do have the power to be kind," he insisted.

"Yes!" echoed members of the Convention.

"To be kind is to be sympathetic, friendly, gentle, generous," explained Bishop Forbes. "And to be kind we must let Jesus have our life. He can do more with it than we can. As Brother Overman reminded us,

we must not only hear about kindness, we must act—DO IT. We can go to seminars, conferences, meetings, but if we are not made better, then it's a waste of time," he asserted.

"Yes! Yes!" agreed voices from the Convention floor.

"Let me tell you a real story," continued Bishop Forbes. "A young factory worker noticed one of his valuable tools missing from his tool box. He needed that tool real bad. Another factory worker had taken the valuable tool out of his tool box. He noticed his tool in the other factory worker's box and he told him, 'I notice one of my valuable tools in your tool box. You can keep it.' Now the factory worker who had stolen the tool began to feel guilty. His conscience began to bother him. One day he slipped money into his co-worker's pocket. But I say to you, when you do wrong, admit it. Later the man who stole the tool sneaked the tool back into his co-worker's box. That day the two men became good friends because one man just about killed the other with kindness. *If you're not kind, you're the wrong kind!*" he exclaimed.

"The time to care is now," continued Bishop Forbes. "We're living in a don't-care world, a *don't-care* age. I see old people left in homes. These old people's children haven't been to see them in months. The children forget about them. The children don't care. But kindness is the most effective tool. Kindness is still the right response no matter how we are treated. Two people cannot hate each other if they love the Lord. *Love the Devil out of these folks!* exclaimed Bishop Forbes.

"Amen!" shouted one Original Free Will Baptist.

"Yes, Brother! Yes, Brother!" exclaimed another.

The morning message was sending currents of energy through the Convention floor.

Lillian Grubbs was smiling.

Frank Harrison leaned forward in his seat.

DeWayne Eakes clapped, slapped his knee, laughed with joy.

"Love them anyhow!" demanded Bishop Forbes. "Love them because God is love. If you don't love everybody, you are a candidate for Hell. Be not overcome with evil but overcome evil with good. Too many are trying to get even with folks. But in order to get even, you've got to stoop as low as they are. You win by kindness. Stand up! Live right regardless of what other folks do! You are responsible for how you treat people. You are not responsible for how they treat you. Show Christ-like compassion. Be careful of your thoughts because they may break into words anytime," declared Bishop Forbes.

Beyond Denominations

"To say I'm a Free Will Baptist is not enough," explained Bishop Forbes. "To be a Christian reaches further than denomination. Christians are the light of the world, and this world is in a mess, too. The world is looking at us. The Bible says for us to come out from among them and be separated. We set the standard and the world is to follow our standard," he said.

"Let me tell you a story," he continued. "A woman was washing clothes one day. She had washed and bleached the clothes. A man with a dump truck backed into her clothesline and knocked her clothes into the dirt. He expected to get a good fussing out. But let me tell you, that lady smiled. She told the man she'd just wash her clothes and hang them back up. Dumbfounded, the man asked her where she attended church. She told him and on Sunday

morning that man walked into her church and he got saved all because of the *power of kindness.*"

Joseph's Kindness

Bishop Forbes recalled the story of Joseph. "Imagine Joseph trying to get along with his brothers," he said. "Joseph talks of his dreams and his brothers got upset with him. One day Joseph went to check on his brothers and they wanted to kill him. One brother suggested not to kill Joseph but to put him in a deep pit. Later the brothers sold Joseph for 20 pieces of silver, 10 less than what Judas sold Jesus for. But God was with Joseph. Later Joseph ran from Potiphar's wife but she accused him of seduction. Yet God was with Joseph. God delivered Joseph by giving him the power of kindness, the power also to interpret dreams. When Joseph's brothers came to him for food, he showed them kindness. When the brothers first came to Joseph, they did not know who he was. But Joseph had all the brothers sit according to their age. They were confused how he should know their age. He then revealed himself as Joseph. The brothers jumped up from the table but Joseph told them to sit down. He said to them, 'What you did to me you did it for evil, but God turned it to good. Go get my daddy. I'll feed all of you.' Joseph had the *power of kindness!*" shouted Bishop Forbes.

"Amen!" echoed voices.

"Be kind. Live right. Live truth. Heaven will belong to you," declared Bishop Forbes.

Bishop Forbes' Famous Lines

- *Can't keep birds flying over your head, but you can keep them from making a nest in your hair.*
- *If you need to repair a relationship, try kindness.*
- *We Christians are the light of the world. We are the salt of the earth. We are the sugar, too.*
- *If trash is in the hearts and minds of people, there will be trash in their buckets.*
- *If you wake up on the wrong side of the bed, roll over on the other side of the bed.*

- *The Bible hasn't been used often enough to be worn out.*
- *Whatever God has given to you, claim it!*
- *Jesus is the head of the church, not the pastor nor the Pope.*
- *A good run is better than a bad stand.*
- *The very one you mistreat may be the last one to give you a drink of water.*
- *Some folk can't sleep good at night because they've done so much wrong during the day.*

The Rev. W. Scott Sowers

"God bless you, Bishop," said the Rev. Scott Sowers. "And the Bishop practices what he preaches. The first words you hear him say over the telephone are 'God bless you.' Once I was told, 'God bless you called.' But I said back, 'Honey, you're wrong. Love called us, because Bishop Forbes is first and foremost a man of love. He loves God. He loves all God's children.'"

Turning to Bishop Forbes, the Rev. Sowers said, "May God bless you in your ministry."

The Rev. David C. Hansley

The opportunities for Home Missions and Evangelism are numerous. The Rev. Hansley vigorously stressed church planning in reaching out to people. The dimension of scouting sponsored by churches offers an opportunity to reach young people. Likewise, the Rev. Hansley claimed that Harvest 2000 is an effort to build 20 new mission/churches by the end of the year 2000. Growth in Fresno, California as well as in the Apex/Cary area of Raleigh will provide two new mission/churches as a part of Harvest 2000.

The Rev. Hansley introduced two strong themes in Home Missions and Evangelism: TLC (Touching Lives Corps) and TAAC (Telling Americans About Christ).

"We are all called to be evangelists," declared the Rev. Hansley. "If you want a tent crusade in your city or area, we have men who will help you put it together. We must have your prayer support. We must have your financial support," he stressed.

With a bold look to all at the Convention, the Rev. Hansley concluded, "There

never will be the day we don't need our Home Missions and Evangelism outreach!"

Dr. W. Burkette Raper's Historic Report: His Forty-first and Final Annual Report to the OFWB Convention

"This report to the annual Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be my forty-first and last as president of Mount Olive College. Since assuming the duties of this office in August 1954, I have sought to give the College my best and my all.

Dr. Raper's Personal Word

"I came to Mount Olive College because I believe the values of Christian education are inestimable to the individual, to the church and to society. I also came because I wanted people with the vision of a good life and a desire to serve humanity to have the opportunity of an education regardless of their financial circumstances.

"The privilege of helping to build a college founded on the Christian faith and rooted in Christian values has provided me a means for paying, in part, a debt I owed to Original Free Will Baptists. This debt was for eight years of care at the Children's Home, Middlesex. In retiring from the Office of President, it is not my intention to become inactive but rather to use my remaining time and energy in the most creative and effective ways possible.

"At the request of the Board and subject to the request of the new president, I have agreed to continue my services under the title of "President Emeritus" with an emphasis on major gift support, including estate planning, trusts, annuities, charitable giving through life insurance, establishing scholarships, special projects and building the endowment. This appointment will enable me to continue my official and personal relationship with many friends who already have meaningful investments in Mount Olive College and with others who have a deep interest in our work.

"I want to thank Original Free Will Baptists, a people whom I love dearly, and the friends of the College for their personal confidence and generous support which have made possible the work and progress we have experienced. From the beginning, Mount Olive College has been sustained by capable and committed members of our Board of Trustees, faculty, administration,

and staff whose quality of performance and steadfast loyalty to our mission have set Mount Olive College apart from many other colleges. The inspiration of seeing our students learn, grow and mature has been the heart of our work. For the good fortune of these relationships, I will be eternally grateful.

"Today, however, is not a time to dwell on the past. We pause only long enough to check our moorings before we pick up the gauntlet and gird ourselves for the next phase of our journey. In the words of the Prophet, now is the time for us to:

Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes (Isaiah 54:2).

"Thank you and God bless you."

Billie Jean Huling's *The Lore and Lure of the Coastal Banks*: Mount Olive College Press Fall Release

"The outreach of the Mount Olive College Press can be seen today with the release of Billie Jean Huling's new book, *The Lore and Lure of the Coastal Banks*," said Dr. W. Burkette Raper.

"Almost everyone likes to go to the coast," explained Dr. Raper. "Ms. Huling's book will give you new insight into the coast. We are honored by her good work."

Dr. Bobby Taylor

"The Original Free Will Baptists enter into our 75th year of caring for children in the Children's Home program. This needs to be celebrated. This needs to be proclaimed," declared Dr. Taylor.

"The importance of our Christian outreach to children is crucial in this day and age as we see families disintegrating, children being put down, put out, abused, abandoned. Some time in the history of this world we need to stand up for children!" proclaimed Dr. Taylor.

"Amen!" said one voice.

"Yes!" affirmed another voice.

"The children are the future of today," stressed Dr. Taylor. "What we do in our endeavors of today affects the future in the long range. I want to thank you on behalf of the child care ministry of the 176 children we served this past year. We touched

their lives, and we hope that touch we made to their lives will be positive, encouraging, strengthening to them," he said.

"We must remember," he continued, "that stress is everywhere. We hear so much about stress, but the children with us have lived in distress. Can we take pride in the 75 years of longevity with the Children's Home? Yes, we can," he declared.

"We need to strengthen our spiritual commitment to children, especially those children not fitting into the mainstream. This year, 1994, was the International Year of the Child. But it is my deepest conviction that every year is going to have to be the year of the family," he concluded.

Comments by Original Free Will Baptist During the 1993-94 Convention

- The messages have been wonderful. If we can just get the people to do it! (Shirley Forsythe)
- During this morning message by Bishop Forbes I wanted to get up and shout and clap my hands! (Debi Fulcher)
- I think it is important to remember that when we leave the church, we are entering the mission field. (Nancy Browne)
- I couldn't believe the average age of Free Will Baptists is 53. (Lewis Forsythe)
- I love the emotion at this Convention, especially in the girl from the Children's Home. That's a wonderful ministry! (Florine Slaughter)
- We get people to turn to Christ and just turn them loose. We need to nurture them. (Shirley Forsythe)
- We need to get out and teach people, discipline them. C. H. Overman said it in two words—DO IT! Look at all the resources our denomination has from home missions, the College to the Children's Home. We need to develop a life of prayer and discipleship. (Jesse Fulcher)
- Want to read some powerful books? Try Barbara Johnson's *Stick A Geranium In Your Hat and Be Happy*, Joyce Landorf's *Balcony People*, Og Mandino's *The Greatest Salesman*. (Florine Slaughter)

The 1993-94 Original Free Will Baptist Convention: Moments of Being

Free Will Baptists flooded College Hall: The day more than hours dated on a calendar
time caught in kindness
arms linked in friendship
laughter exploding like firecrackers
celebrating independence:
The moment a flash of being
in a world often of non-being.

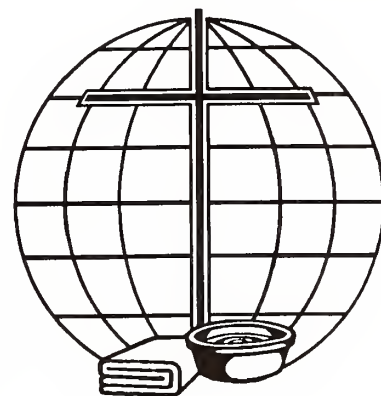
Faith spilled into corners of words as people listened, spoke, reported in a space large enough to get lost but bold enough to embrace:
believing is seeing.

"DO IT!" became the landmark phrase repeated like popcorn popping the aroma of meaning keen in everybody's sense:
belief the breed of life.

Ideas, challenges, commands crisscrossed the platform to awaken all who heard as if the purpose of Convention time really transcended place:
Christians in the world
not of the world.

"Love the Devil out of them with kindness!" echoed at night as if to remind the single separate self of the power of kindness:
Jesus knew when he said,
"Forgive them for they know not what they do."
And we were forgiven then
and now
and tomorrow.

—Pepper Worthington



Part VIII

From Tondalpur to FWB School at Matkhera in Nepal to John Sanjeev's House in Bareilly

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Editor-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

Farmers in Tondalpur are Punjabi and Urdu-speaking people now of India's Uttar Pradesh province. Struggling to survive from harvest to harvest, they grow wheat, rice, sugar cane, and other grains. They live in mud houses with mud floors and mud walls. Of all the FWB churches we visited, the muddy road to Tondalpur where 22 families have aligned themselves to establish a village church proved poignant, passionate, and provocative.

Historical Background

The Tondalpur farmers have fled from the warmongering Punjab region of Pakistan. When British India was partitioned in 1947, Hindus and Muslims rioted, creating one of the largest refugee flights in the history of the region. More than 4 million Hindus and Sikhs fled from Pakistan to India with perhaps 500,000 people being killed in the migrations. The farmers of Tondalpur are refugees from this blood-bath.

What initially sparked the killings was the partition of British India in 1947. Before that partition, Muslim Pakistan and Hindu India had clearly collected states, but in 1947 the Hindu maharajah of Kashmir (an area with 85 percent Muslims) decided to join India. When Pakistan refused to accept the Hindu maharajah's decision, war broke out between India and Pakistan. Muslim-strong Pakistan made it difficult for Hindus or Christians, so many fled. The people of the FWB church at Tondalpur were among these.

Bus Episode

As our bus swung into this tiny village, people began to run from the scattered fields to greet us. Massive eucalyptus trees stretched skyward as did the hefty sugar cane crop, wheat fields moved in a current of wind.

As our bus swayed, swerved, and sped through the village, a mud hole awaited us. Suddenly the front left wheel sank, making the bus come to a slurry halt. We all

piled out of the bus, sighed in the cold wind, looked at the sunken wheel and towards the FWB village church which was a mile away. Mike Scott commented, "Normally in traffic our driver could drive through a donut hole. But here there is space and we sink. Can you believe it?" He laughed.

Suddenly a tall, rough-hewn man came running with a shovel in his hand. Without any greeting, he simply sank in the mud and started digging the dirt out around the front left wheel. Mud and dirt flew everywhere as we watched his excited effort to free our bus. This man knew the value of freedom. He wanted our bus to make it to his church and he with his shovel united to free the stuck wheel. To watch this man's movement was like watching an act of devotion. I felt absolutely reduced. Here in the middle of what many would call nowhere was a man determined to free a bus, and thus free us. His task at hand was a task of energy and humility, a task of washing the foot of the wheel and thus our feet. I had flown across the world and for this moment I knew this man from Tondalpur was more beautiful than the Taj Mahal, the Red Fort, the silk carpets. When he freed the wheel, he motioned for the bus driver to move the bus out of the hole. The driver did so. Then this wonderful old man waved vigorously for all of us to board the bus again. As we did, he took off with his shovel to run to the village church a mile ahead.

Worship at the FWB Church at Tondalpur

When we reached the FWB church at Tondalpur, the pastor, the Rev. Sanjay Johnson greeted us. Members from the 22 families were running from the fields, and the church began to come to life.

Mike Scott spoke to the people at Tondalpur. "Good morning," he began. I wondered if anyone understood the words. Perhaps not. Perhaps they spoke Punjabi or Urdu. Nevertheless, we all could

understand the passion in Mike Scott's voice.

"We serve a good God," he continued as the people sat on the floor of their village church. "Even though today is not Sunday, it is still the Lord's day," continued Mike Scott. "God loved the world so much that He gave us His own Son. Our salvation is the most important thing in all the world. We must be ready to stand before God. We must be prepared for the day of our death. Look at John 3:16 and see what it teaches us. It teaches us about God. God loves us. There is no way today that we can understand the love of God. The love of God is higher than the sky, deeper than the deepest sea, greater than anything we can comprehend. God loves us more than husbands, wives, or parents love us. God loves us NOW. God loves us FOREVER!" exclaimed Mike Scott to a room full of refugees from the Punjab area of Pakistan.

"Friends," Mike Scott continued with intensity. "John 3:16 teaches us about God, teaches us about ourselves, and teaches us the result of our faith. If we believe in God, we will not perish, but have everlasting life. We must remember that we cannot *do* anything to be saved. We must have *faith*, faith as we farm the fields, cook our meals, and sweep our mud houses. Faith connects us to God. To be separated from God is to perish. To have faith is to have everlasting life without end. Thank you, God, for today. Thank you, God, for salvation."

As we got up and moved among the people, they were curious about us. The little girl who sat next to me shook in the cold. She was barefooted. One little girl came up to touch my face to see if my skin felt different. The men smiled when I took photographs. I asked to stroke one man's beard and an uproar of laughter followed.

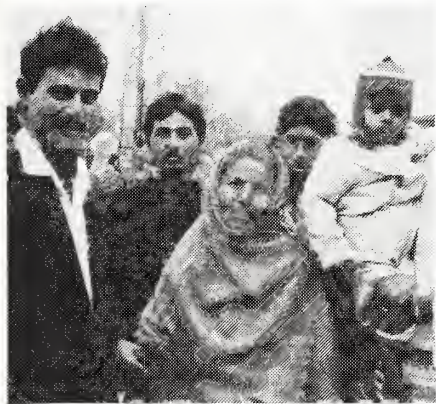
When we left Tondalpur, I wondered what could be done for these people through the Board of Foreign Missions. How could such a people be forgotten?



Our group walks to the Tondalpur FWB village church in northern India.



To worship at the FWB church in Tondalpur, we were asked to remove our shoes.



The Rev. Sanjay Johnson (far left) greeted us at Tondalpur along with other members of the FWB village church.



In India the bongo drum is used with music in the FWB service.



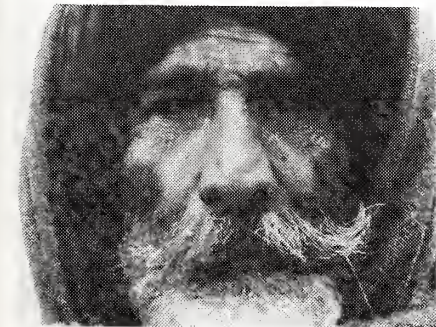
A young village girl at the FWB church in Tondalpur.



Women and children wrap up to attend a spontaneous service at the FWB church in Tondalpur, northern India.



The men at the FWB church in Tondalpur looked at us closely, curiously, cautiously.



A member of the Tondalpur FWB church looks us straight in the eye.



We arrived finally to the FWB Boarding School in Dhangadhi, Kailali, Nepal.



Children in blue uniforms lined up to do a marching formation for us. They were students at the FWB Boarding School in Nepal.

Nepal

We reached the gate at Nepal which read—Gouriphata—Kheri. Located between India and Tibet (which belongs to China), Nepal is cut off from the rest of the world by its northern border of Himalayan Mountains. We never saw the mountains because the fog was thick by late afternoon when we arrived.

In Nepal we visited the FWB English Boarding School. The school has 181 students, some of whom are Sikhs and Hindus. The children were ready for us as they did their marching steps in their navy blue uniforms. While they marched, children from the village came out to look. Some climbed walls to watch the ceremonies.

We then hastened to visit a more rural FWB Church in Nepal where the people gave all of us a hat.

As we hurried to get back to the border before seven o'clock, we felt we had been in yet another remote world, one where people had waited hours for our arrival, where cows, fields, and Hindus mingled in a world bordered by the tallest mountains in the world. We did not see the Himalaya range, and I was glad. Now I had an excuse to return.



A student in the FWB school in Nepal shows us his book.



Members of the FWB Chapel in Dhangadhi welcomed us.



Members of the FWB Chapel in Dhangadhi, Nepal, worship with us.

John Sanjeev's House

Thirty-three-year-old John Sanjeev is the son-in-law of Dr. Emmanuel Lall. John's wife Anita is Dr. Lall's daughter. John and Anita have three children, Ayesha (9), Joshua (5), Jonathan (2).

Currently John works in Kuwait 11 months of the year, spending one month in Bareilly. He is saving his money to build his new house for both his own family and other brothers and sisters. He showed us the many rooms of his new house under construction and stressed how he wanted family members to move into his house and live with him and Anita.

Later John took all of us through the marketplace in Bareilly where Lib Scott bought a beautiful sari. Later Alma Dale purchased one so that she can dress up in Indian style when she speaks about her memories of India.

Departure

Our departure from New Delhi was not without a hassle. We were delayed a day because the fog thickened over the city at our flight time. When we finally landed in London, we found ourselves stranded in Heathrow for 12 hours. Sleep on a cold concrete floor became an art. Alma Dale allowed me to use her red coat for cover, saying, "I'd rather you use it than me."

We managed to fly from London to Dulles International Airport in Washington, DC and then to the Raleigh-Durham Airport.

When we touched North Carolina soil, we gathered in a circle to pray to thank God for our safe journey and for our blessings in meeting the people of the Philippines, India, and Nepal. We had flown around the world.

None of us will ever be the same.



Members of the FWB Chapel in Dhangadhi present special Nepalese hats to Paul Anderson, Harold Jones, Delbert Scott, and Mike Scott.



John Sanjeev and his family in Bareilly, India.

THE MAN FROM TONDALPUR

Massive eucalyptus trees stretched skyward
as our bus bumped down muddy roads,
sugar cane high around us
while packs of birds picked ticks off themselves.

Our bus swayed, swerved, sped towards
Tondalpur,
land of refugees from war-worn Punjab,
land of farmers willing to work
and live in mud homes
with mud floors
for a life of peace.

Suddenly our bus sank,
the front left wheel deep in mud
as if to remind us
the way to wisdom comes against
one's will.

Boldly a tall, rough-hewn man
came running from the distance,
his simple shovel swinging in the air
like life,
his legs intent on reaching us,
helping us,
freeing the stuck wheel.
Without a word he sank into the mud,

slung dirt everywhere
as if the wheel were a soul
and time was at hand.
The old man sank in the mud himself,
forgetting the wind,
the cold,
the dirt,
while he dug the wheel to freedom
so that we could ride to paradise
while he walked.

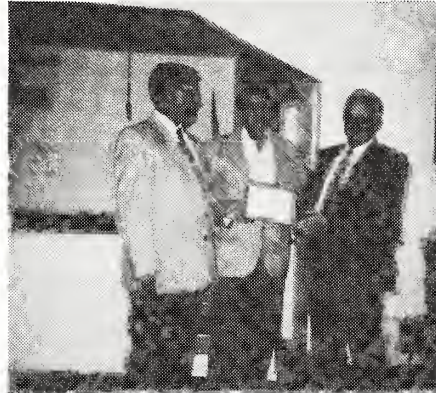
For a moment I felt my heart stop;
I knew this man from Tondalpur
would get to paradise first
and wait for us there too,
in case our wheels got stuck
again
in mud
or gravel
or rain.
His shovel would whip in and out
the hindered wheel
and free us.
He knew what freedom was
and so taught us.

—Pepper Worthington

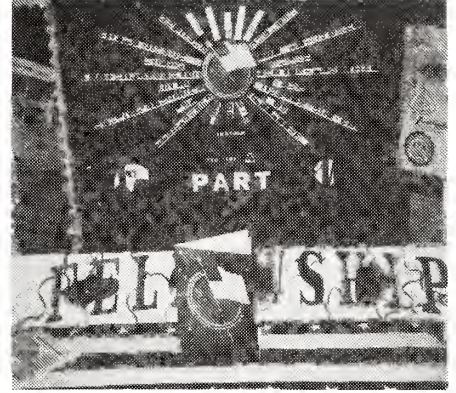
LAYMAN'S LEAGUE UPDATE



Spiritual Life Retreat—May 26-27.



Promotional committee meets December 1 at Elmer Harrell's office in Snow Hill, NC.



Executive Committee meets November 3 at Elmer's Place.



Convention Layman's League meets November 4 at Bethany FWB Church on Highway 903, west of Winterville. Time: supper, 7 p.m., meeting, 7:45 p.m.



Central Conference Layman League meets December 5, supper 7 p.m., meeting 7:45 p.m. at Tarboro FWB in Tarboro.

**What it takes?
Do you know?
At the Convention,
we got a clue.**

**Fellowship in Christ Jesus.
You should have been there
See you next time!**

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION OFFICERS 1995-1996

President



Lee Buck
Central District

Vice President



Jason Bowen
Albemarle District

Outreach Secretary



Annie Miller
Albemarle District

Recording-Secretary



Leslie Martin
Cape Fear District

Treasurer



Natalie Sumner
Eastern District

**State Youth Convention
May 19-May 21, 1995
Mount Olive College
Theme: Prepare With Prayer**

Denominational Ministries

*You are cordially invited to
the Free Will Baptist Children's Home
for our annual luncheon on
Friends of Children Appreciation Day*

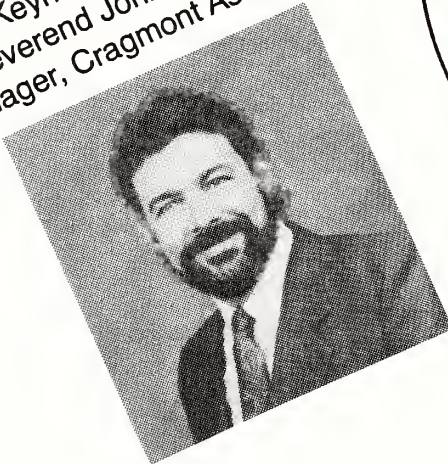
November 19, 1994

12:00 Noon, Whitley Center

RSVP by November 1, 1994



*Keynote Speaker:
Reverend John Williams
Manager, Cragmont Assembly*



*Special Music by:
COVENANT*



REPLY FORM

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN DAY

_____ YES, I will attend

There will be _____ in my party for lunch.

Please call or send response by November 14, 1994 to:

Dr. Bobby Taylor
Free Will Baptist Children's Home
P.O. Box 249
Middlesex, NC 27557 or (919) 235-2161

News From Foreign Missions

CONVENTION
by the Rev. Dario Basingil



The Free Will Baptist Church Philippines, Inc., held its 21st Annual Convention last April 7-8, 1994. There were about one hundred twenty (120) workers including part-time and volunteers attended and gave their full support to the said activities. We had four speakers during the two days of activities: the Revs. Pio dela Rosa, Harold Jones, Zaerias Perocillo and Dario Basingil. Each of them spoke on different topics which were on our agenda as follows:

1. Bayanihan
2. Articles of Faith
3. College proposal
4. Constitution and Bylaws
5. Open forum

The Rev. Harold Jones emphasized the "Bayanihan" and as I listened to Him I believe that this Bayanihan would be very effective in every church here in the Philippines. He encouraged every worker to conduct Bayanihan in their church to help them grow. The remaining topics were delivered by the remaining speakers.

We praise God and thank Him for the two days of activities that went smoothly, especially in the part of open forum, discussion, suggestion, question and answer. Please continue to pray for the ministry here in the Philippines and also for all the workers.

OUR COMMITMENT TO GOD IS ESSENTIAL

by Rosana R. Briones

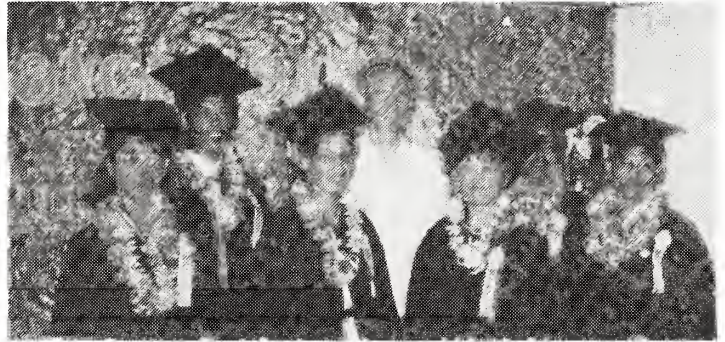
The Free Will Baptist Mission adopted the TEE curriculum (Theological Education by Extension) of the Palawan Bible College as a tool of teaching people from our local congregations to be disciples for Christ.

We are proud that the Revs. J. Ontong and D. Basingil have a real commitment, not only of time and talent but they are also committed to God's work. The situation in Northern Palawan is different compared to other places. Their homes are not very comfortable, the drinking water is unsafe, they lack electricity, and the roads are rough. However, Praise the Lord, through the commitment of our Mission leaders, eight students graduated, together with the BBE and ABE students in Palawan Bible College. The

TEE program gives us a monumental picture, because of the eight, five were truly committed to God's work. Please pray for our TEE graduates.

1. Lunie Lahao-Lahao
2. Alex Lahao-Lahao
3. Ernesto Tabanao
4. Arturo Aspa
5. Juanito Dulce

Pray also for our TEE program, that more people will be used in God's ministry.



REV. HAROLD JONES, THE AUTHOR OF EVANGELISMO BAYANIHAN

by Rev. Dario S. Basingil



On April 7-8, 1994, the Rev. Harold Jones visited the work of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines and attended the 21st Annual Convention and Workers Conference.

During that time, the Rev. Harold Jones explained also the purpose of Evangelismo Bayanihan is to maintain a consistent evangelistic program in the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines. This program is dedicated to giving a witness to every person in every barrio, town, or city throughout the Philippines. It aspires to involve every person in the Mission Local Church in outreach ministry through prayer, witnessing, and giving. This will require every person to shoulder their share of the weight of evangelism.

Evangelismo Bayanihan is designed to capture the heart and mind of the Filipino to whom a witness is given, by sharing love and concern for them and helping them move from darkness to light.

The Rev. Harold Jones showed us the bayanihan tracts which explain the plan of Salvation.

News From India and Nepal

Submitted by Dr. E. M. Lall



Tondalpur School



Asafpur School



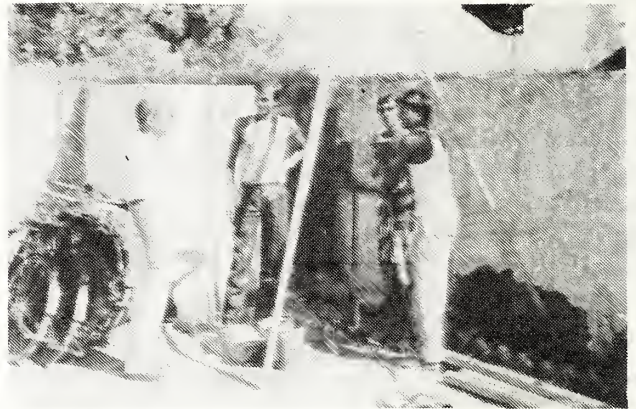
Bilsi School



Bilsi School Children



Council of Ministers Meeting



Hand pump being installed at Asafpur School

At the very beginning, I would like to state that there has been a great political turmoil in our country, especially our state of Uttar Pradesh. It seems as if there is a civil war against reservation of jobs and enrollment in educational institutions for certain castes, thereby favoring them to become vote banks. There have been severe police atrocities against the public. This made normal life difficult with the result of growing insecurity, uncertainty and apprehension of fear for life and property. There was not as much done as should have been done in this situation. All educational institutions are closed for about a month until September 30, as appeared in the press. If the situation does not improve the schools will continue to be closed.

Not only at this end alone, the country of Nepal is also facing a troublesome situation after the fall of the government. There are leading demonstrations by the political parties all over. Communists are trying to take over and are causing problems in the country. Like the same situation in the country of Bangladesh where normal life is disturbed. This had delayed our programs which were expected to be completed by the end of this month. We are praying for stability, goodwill, and Salvation for all the people in these troubled countries. We also covet your special prayers at this time.

Despite various problems on hand, the Lord continues to bless our work in all spheres. Eight new converts were baptized at Christ Church Bareilly. The Kingdom of God is growing through our

ministry within our approach. The school enterprise is the basic approach for our ministry. Much wisdom is seen with this project under the dynamic leadership of our Director, the Rev. Harold Jones, supporting and boosting the work of education through our denomination. India has 30% adult illiterates. A whopping 22% of the globe's total out-of-school children and 30% of the adult illiterates are in India according to official sources. About 19 to 24 million children are in the 6 to 14 age group with 60% of them girls, and about 122 million adult illiterates in the age group 15-35 of whom 62% are women.

We have received funds for the construction of four school buildings, two of which will be completed within a month and the next two by the end of November. While the church in India is extremely grateful to the people in North Carolina, we assure you that much will be achieved in the time to come. All our congregations in both these countries are doing their best in proclaiming the Gospel and preaching about the Salvation in their churches. There is growing enthusiasm seen among the congregations and the schools. As we are a living and witnessing church in this part of the country where the Word of God is tremendously growing, we are subjected to oppression by other church denominations for the fall in their denominational work and their lost vision of the church. They keep on making complaints to the government under anonymous or pseudonymous tactics accusing us of mass proselytizing activities. This happened recently, and we had to produce our evidence that we do so on the desire of the incumbent after receiving the Court Affidavit which saved us. In our country it is evident that Christianity will not suffer at the cost of Hindus, Muslims, or other castes but at the cost of the Christians alone. It also seems that it is most traditional with Christianity with what had happened with the Lord Jesus Christ. We have represented some of these facts to the ministry of home, government of India. All these things involved a great deal of our time in such scrutinies as it happened from August 20 to September 15.

Our council of ministers met on September 1 and resolved that efforts will be made vigorously to raise appreciable funds locally so that all small projects are completed at this end without burdening the Mission Board. The Christ Church at Bareilly have installed a motor-jet pump for the pastor and the congregation. Previously water from the main pumping set was being used which had to fill the tanks kept over the roof of the parsonage and often caused repairs to the pumping set for raising the water level to that extent. I objected to this and put the burden to the local congregation. In some of the congregations fund-raising for bicycles for their deacons and ministers is in the offering. It was decided that the local churches will provide such conveyances to their preachers. It will not be required from the Board. In the case of church and school buildings, the land will have to be arranged and provided by the congregation while we would seek help from the Board for building construction only.

From the letters of the leaders in Bangladesh it transpires that our denominational ministry will set in as soon as I visit there by the end of this month. We seek your prayers in this new venture and God's guidance.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers, cards, flowers, memorial gifts and words of comfort at the death of my mother. We rejoice with her because she is with Jesus. Someone wrote, "Death doth hide but not divide." Mother is now on Christ's other side.

Harold Jones and Family

SPECIAL NOTE:

From the Director of Foreign Missions Subject: Prayer for India

The news reports from India have been rather grim over the past few weeks because of the plague that has struck the country. I have been in contact with Dr. Lall concerning the situation there and the well-being of our people in India. Dr. Lall assured me that everyone associated with our work is well. He, however, asked us to pray for the desperate situation that exists there.

Friends, please make this a serious matter of prayer that God would stop this plague, and that peace and order will reign so the Gospel can continue to go forth.



NEWS FROM HOME MISSIONS



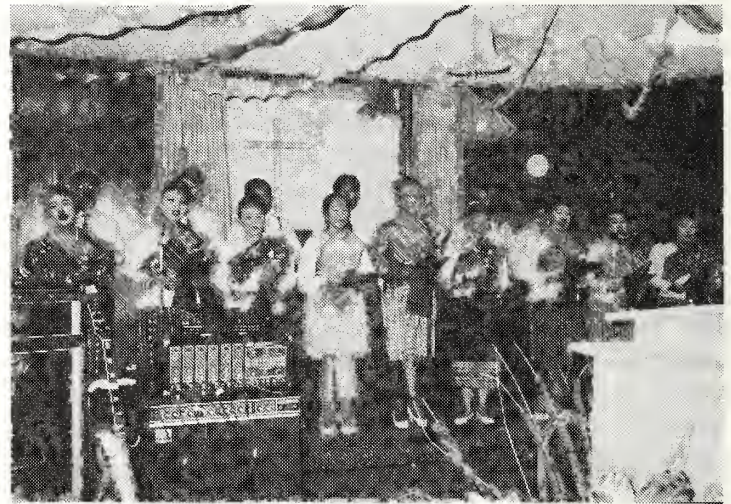
The mayor of Fresno brings greetings to H'mong congregation in their celebration.



David Hansley and the young man, of the Church, who designed the sign.



Graham Lane, Chairman of the Board and Kevin Moua, associate pastor of the Church and an alumnus of Mount Olive College.



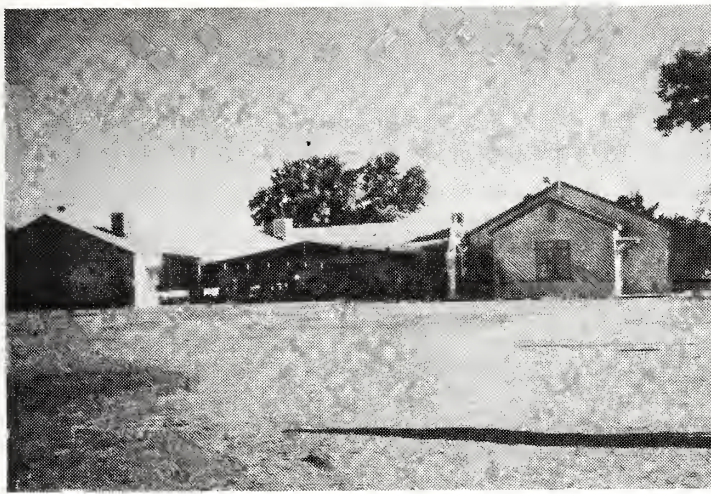
Choir from the Santa Anna Church wearing traditional dress, participants in the celebration.



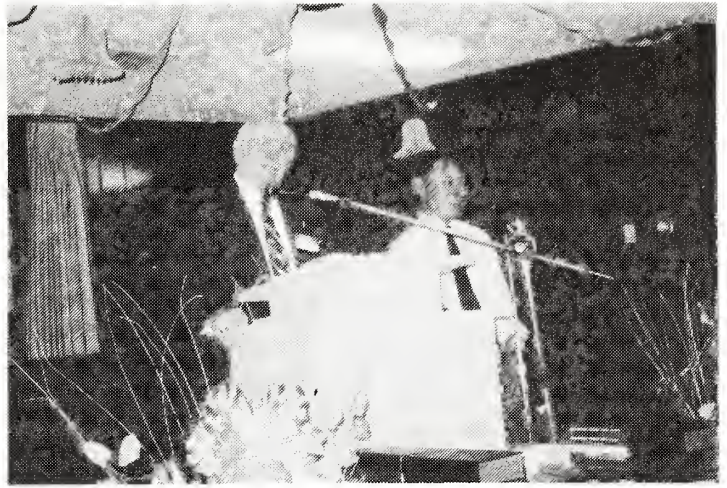
Youth Choir from the Santa Ana Church.



Girls' Choir from the Khmu' Church wearing traditional dress.



A picture of the church building.



Kevin Moua interprets for David Hansley, the sign over their heads says Jesus Loves You.



Pastor, leaders and officers of the Church.



Pastor, Mouatu Mouanoutoua.

Do You Remember?

... A tragedy occurring to someone you knew? It may have been a death in their family or the loss of their house and all their possessions by fire.

... An occasion when your Church first used its new facility? It may have been a new Sanctuary or educational building; maybe it was a fellowship hall.

The H'mongs people remember. They remember the loss of family members to the war in their homeland; their houses and towns destroyed. They also remember the loss of a country as they had to flee for their lives and freedom. They remember the people who didn't care and a country who accepted them reluctantly. They remember the different and strange, the difficulty of hewing-out a place for themselves and their families in the rock of a strange land and a stranger culture.

Now they can remember, that after years of using borrowed and rented facilities and of living like rootless wanderers, the first church structure they can call their own. It is not enough. Most of the H'mong congregations still use rented and/or borrowed facilities for their worship and other Christian programs. They regularly thank God for His grace and the hospitality of caring Christian brethren. But now, they also can thank God for a church building. The H'mong congregation in Fresno, California has a building that, mortgage and all, belongs to them.

In the summer of 1993, the Fresno Church held a celebration for their new building and Brothers David Hansley (Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism) and Graham Lane (Chairman of the Board) were present. The pictures and captions tell quite a story, but the help of every Original Free Will Baptist is needed to help this story develop into a people of God finding their "promised land." The building in Fresno is now also the Headquarters of the Lao Evangelical Church in America. Brother Mouatu Mouanoutoua, the president of the Lao Evangelical Church in America, is also pastor of the Fresno Church and was at our Annual Convention in September.

The voices of the H'mong people present a different kind of cry from the wilderness, but one that demands our response in Christian love and commitment. You are encouraged to pray for our department of Home Missions and Evangelism, give in support of the many needs and to invite someone to come to your Church and tell you the "Story of Home Missions Need."

Cragmont's "Snowhound"

**We can provide an inexpensive ski retreat
for your church group.**

Weekend rates

skiing \$45 per person

Rooms

Main/\$10/person/nightly

Dorm/\$5/person/nightly

Meals

Breakfast/\$4

Lunch/\$5

Supper/\$5

**For more details contact us at
(704) 669-7677 day
(704) 669-5224 night**

1995 NASHVILLE II LIMITED EDITION

April 6-11, 1995

Cragmont is once again offering an exciting trip in the spring. We had so much fun the last time we went to Nashville we have decided to do it **AGAIN**. The price includes travel by motor coach, five nights lodging—two at Cragmont where it is nice and quiet, three nights (double occupancy) at the world-class Opryland Hotel known for its lush tropical gardens, and spectacular fountains and waterfalls; baggage handling; one day admission to Opryland Park; one night's admission to the Grand Ole Opry; a guided sight-seeing bus tour including the Ryman Auditorium—home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943—which was listed on the National Register of Historical Places, March 1974; an unlimited shuttle pass; a visit to the Upper Room, a museum containing a collection of religious artifacts, painting, porcelains, manuscripts, and furniture; one breakfast buffet at Opryland Hotel; dinner on the General Jackson showboat—dine as you cruise along the Cumberland River and be entertained while you eat; meals at Cragmont and admission to see “Easter in Song and Story”—an Easter pageant. All this for only \$475 per person. This **EXCLUDES** personal spending money and the cost of meals not designated above.

“Nashville Limited II” will begin, Thursday, April 6, 1995 with transportation to Cragmont by motor coach. Stops will be designated after January, but we will have several stops in eastern North Carolina.

On Friday, April 7, after breakfast we will travel to Nashville and take in the Grand Ole Opry.

Saturday, April 8, because we are staying at the Opryland Hotel the shuttle will be available to take you to and from Opryland Park as often as you wish at no extra cost. On Saturday evening, we will enjoy the dinner cruise on the General Jackson riverboat.

On Sunday, April 9, we will take the guided sight-seeing tour including Ryman Auditorium. You will have some free time to relax before we take the shuttle to see “Easter in Song and Story.”

Before we head to Cragmont on Monday, April 10, we will make one last stop in Nashville at the Upper Room. We will return to Cragmont for a well-earned rest.

“Nashville Limited II” will come to an end Tuesday, April 11, 1995. The bus will leave for eastern North Carolina after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space we will only be able to accept forty (40) people. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first-served basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form along with **\$100 non-refundable deposit*** per person. The second payment of **\$125** per person is due by **January 1**; the third payment of **\$125** per person is due by **February 1** and the final payment of **\$125** per person is due by **March 1**. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Nashville.

Come join us for this special getaway. All arrangements are made by Cragmont thus freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*All money will be refunded **only if Cragmont** has to cancel.

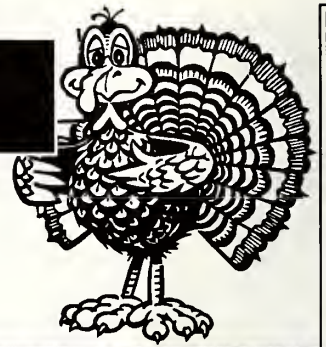
Mail to: “Nashville Limited II” Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE: Day _____ Night _____
CHURCH _____
If you have a roommate preference, please list name here: _____
Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of such as: heart condition _____ diabetes _____ hypoglycemia _____ trouble with stairs _____ any other condition _____
Preferred bus stop _____
Non-refundable deposit \$100 Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.

(Please clip off and save for mailing in other payments)
Payment No. 2 (January 1, 1995)
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____
Payment No. 3 (February 1, 1995)
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____
Payment No. 4 (March 1, 1995)
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____



NOVEMBER



SUN		MON		TUE	
5		6		1	2
6	✧ Children's Home Day	7	✧ Johnston-Wake County Dinner, 7:00 p.m.	8	9
13		14	✧ Wilson County Dinner, 7:00 p.m.	15	✧ Press Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m. Headquarters ✧ Pitt County Dinner, 7:00 p.m.
20		21		22	23
27		28		29	30

G E N D

previous/following month

current month

- ◇ Children's Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- Sunday School Board
- + FWB Press

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Conference Meetings
- ✦ Mount Olive College
- ★ Union Meeting
- Layman's League
- ✿ Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Cape Fear Conference, Palmer Memorial ✦ Craven County Dinner, 7:00 p.m. ■ Executive Committee, Elmer's Place 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Pee Dee Union ■ Convention, Bethany FWB, 7:00 p.m.
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, County Dinner, 7:30 p.m. ◆ Central Conference, 1st Church, Tarboro + Press Deadline 	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Carteret County Dinner, 6:00 p.m.
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. ✦ Sampson County Dinner, 7:00 p.m. 	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Friends of Children Day
24	Happy Thanksgiving	25	26
31		1	8

HELP! THE STATE YOUTH CONVENTION

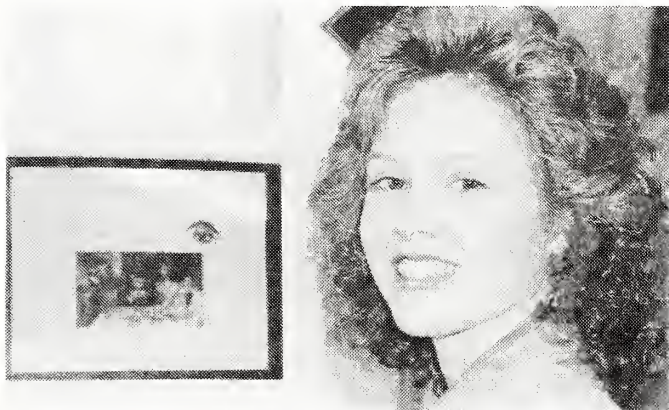
The Youth are raising funds
earmarked to help Cragmont get
a sound system for the chapel.
Please help the youth any way
you can as they learn the value
of hard work and giving.

THANKS!

News From Mount Olive College

Melanie Swinson Completes "Major" Internship in "Miner" Safety

by Cecil Cahoon, Office of Public Information



Following family tradition, Mount Olive College senior Melanie Swinson spent last summer studying in the state capital. She's not a Raleigh native, and her studies were not a traditional academic study that is tested and graded for credit. But as her older sister and Mount Olive College alumna Pam Swinson Keech could have told her, the experience was rewarding academically and in other ways.

Last spring, Miss Swinson applied for and won an internship with the North Carolina Department of Labor, Mine Quarry and Safety Division. Given an office in a Labor Department building in downtown Raleigh, near the capital, the visual communications major was responsible for developing nine safety programs for state workers.

Miss Swinson's accomplishment echoed her sister's work of four years ago, when Pam Swinson, now Mrs. Keech, was the college's first visual communications major to win a state internship.

At the time, the visual communications program was new to the college, and Mrs. Keech's achievement and subsequent good work as intern for the Department of Public Instruction gave a boost to the fledgling curriculum's integrity. It now attracts students from across North Carolina and other states.

In sharp contrast to the computer lab or design studio where students learn on campus, Miss Swinson's internship took her into the field.

To study miners' activities, she rode with state identification, safety glasses, size-five steel-toed boots and a hard hat in a "haul truck" to an explosion site. There, she watched as workers prepared a blast site, then detonated the explosives. Exploding an existing mined site gives workers more area to mine, she explained.

Based on her field research and talks with her supervisors and mine safety officials, Miss Swinson developed a safety information and training package for use by the division's six field representatives.

Containing training manuscripts and slides, the packages address simple safety issues like wearing protective equipment when working at heights or when completing potentially dangerous tasks, and proper care for equipment when it isn't being used.

Part of her assignment was to read standards information provided in state publications and simplify the legal language into "everyday language for working-class people," she said.

In addition, she designed slides and prepared other artwork to accompany state safety programs already being used.

The internship was a full-time position lasting 12 weeks, Miss Swinson said. The extended visit to Raleigh gave her time to study other subjects as well.

"I learned a great deal about North Carolina government and politics," she said. "I know politics can be mean, but somehow it all works out for the best."

"I also realized how the decisions that the government makes affects the citizens of North Carolina, and in how many ways," she said.

Miss Swinson is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Swinson, pastor of Free Union FWB in Pinetown. Melanie's older sister, Mrs. Keech, graduated from Mount Olive College in 1991.



The Mount Olive College Seal conveys the College's Christian mission through a union of Christian faith, symbolized by the Cross, and education, symbolized by the lamp of learning.

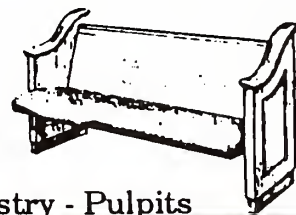
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FALL '94 ... YOU ARE INVITED!

HONORING 40 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP • PRESIDENT W. BURKETTE RAPER ANNIVERSARY DINNER
 Saturday, November 5 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center • 6:00 p.m.

Recognized by the American Council on Education as the longest-tenured active college president in the nation, Dr. Raper has remarkably led the college through its development since 1954. An evening of honor and tribute is planned to mark Dr. Raper's 40th anniversary, with special guests and friends of the college participating in the program. For reservations, contact the Office of Public Information at 919-658-2502 by Oct. 21.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE • DR. PENNY ZIEMER, SPEAKER
 Tuesday, November 22 • Rodgers Chapel, 11:00 a.m.

FOUNDERS DAY • LEE DAVENPORT WITTE OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, SPEAKER
 Tuesday, November 29 • Rodgers Chapel, 11:00 a.m.

The author of two poetry collections published by the Mount Olive College Press, Mrs. Witte will speak at Mount Olive College's 42nd Founders Day celebration.

N. C. SYMPHONY CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT
 Tuesday, December 6 • College Hall, 7:30 p.m.

The combination of classical "winter" compositions from opera and ballet, fresh treatments of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century carols and modern Christmas melodies makes the annual Symphony performance a unique treasure on the college calendar. For ticket information, contact the Office of Public Information.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE CHRISTMAS BUFFET
 Tuesday, December 15 • Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, 7:00 p.m.

The Mount Olive Ensemble returns to the campus to entertain during Mount Olive College's annual Christmas showcase in the Murphy Regional Center. Music, good food and fellowship make this event a yuletide treat for the entire family. Admission is \$10 per person. For ticket information, contact the Office of Public Information.

For additional information, please call 919-658-2502



Experience

M O U N T O L I V E C O L L E G E

Friday, November 11, 1994

9:00 a.m., College Hall

Campus Visitation Day

Campus tours with Mount Olive College students
Panel discussions on student life outside the classroom

Seminars on

Scholarships

Athletics

Academic Planning

Career Planning

Admissions Procedure

Financial Planning

Lunch with faculty and students . . . Visit the College Student Store

Entertainment by Mount Olive College Singers

Please reply by Tuesday, November 1

Detach and return the form below or call 1-800-653-0854 to make your reservation.

Whether it's your first visit or a closer look . . .
experience

M O U N T O L I V E C O L L E G E

YES, I will see you at Mount Olive College on Friday, November 11

NO, I will not be able to attend, but please send the information requested below.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Year of Graduation _____ High School _____ County _____ Total # attending _____

(Parents Welcome)

I would like An application for admission To audition (Choral/Piano Scholarships)

Area hotel accommodations Directions to campus

Other

Calling All
TEENS!

BATTLEFRONT
Glenn Mills—Director 919-735-3916
Retreat Date—April 17-20, 1995

Calling All
TEENS!

Hey Teens! Are you overwhelmed by problems? Do you find yourself arguing and disagreeing with your parents and can't get along with your teachers or even adults in general? Do your friends seem unconcerned and distant? Does hanging with the "in crowd" leave you feeling empty? Does it seem that all you have is bad grades, bad days and bad ways, and you can't figure out why you feel as if the world is closing in on you?

Chances are you are experiencing "spiritual warfare." That's right. It's Satan and his army of demons that is causing you all the confusion. So what's a teen to do? Simple! You need *relief, help* and *direction* that Battle Front offers.

Battle Front is the name given to a four-day spring retreat at Cragmont. The event will be Monday, April 17 through Thursday, April 20. This is the week of Easter vacation when teens are out of school. What better way to spend Spring Break than growing closer to God in the mountains of North Carolina.

This retreat is open to all teens and their friends. The ages for Battle Front are 13 to 19 years old. The cost of the retreat is \$135 per person. This covers transportation, lodging and food (except lunch Monday, dinner Wednesday and lunch Thursday). Battle Front will be limited to 80 teens on a first-come first-serve basis. To reserve a spot, a \$50 deposit is required which is nonrefundable after March 1, 1995. Topics will range from "How to Recognize Satan's Attacks" to "Living the Victorious Life in Jesus." This is truly an event that teens will not want to miss. Teens interested should reply as soon as possible.

Please send your deposit and application to:
Battle Front
752 Stoney Creek Church Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534

If you have any questions, contact Glenn Mills at 919-735-3916.

APPLICATION FORM

"BATTLE FRONT"

Name _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ Sex _____ Birthdate _____ School Grade Next Fall _____

Parents/Guardians _____

Home Telephone _____

Church _____ Minister _____

Make all checks payable to 'BATTLEFRONT'

Today's Date _____ Application Fee Attached \$ _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. ALICE BARROW

(August 15, 1911—September 20, 1994)

Mrs. Alice H. Barrow, wife of the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, died on September 20, 1994 at Wilson Memorial Hospital, following an extended illness.

Mrs. Barrow was a native of Cincinnati, Ohio. She attended Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, where she majored in Home Missions. She also attended the Evangelical School of Evangelism in Cincinnati and Allen Academy in Bryan, Texas, where she was trained in secretarial work.

In addition to being the ideal mother to her four children, she was also the epitome of the faithful pastor's wife. She was always supportive of the work and ministry of her husband; but she also found her own niche in the fulfilling of her calling to faithful service to the Free Will Baptist denomination. She was a writer of Nursery and Beginners' Sunday School quarterlies, writer of the Acme Picture Cards, and also Tiny Tots. She was also writer and compiler of "Devotion," the Woman's Auxiliary program book. She was actively involved in the Woman's Auxiliary Cragmont retreats. In addition, she served as president of the Central Conference District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Bookstore, for seven years and a member of Mount Olive College Board of Trustees for 18 years. Those who knew Mrs. Barrow attest to her pleasant personality and warming smile, reflecting her love for her Lord. She will be missed by all whose lives she touched.

The funeral service was held at Hull Road Original Free Will Baptist Church, Snow Hill, NC. The Rev. Leon Grubbs, pastor of Hull Road, and Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, conducted the service along with the Revs. Walter Sutton, A. B. Bryan, and the Rev. N. D. Beman. A solo, "In Times Like These," was rendered by the Rev. C. H. Overman. Mrs. Nina Grace Register of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, served as organist. She was laid to rest in the New Hull Road Cemetery.

Mrs. Barrow is survived by her husband,

the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow; three daughters, Miriam Lamm of Kenly, Lois Morris of Sumpter, SC and Jane Gainey of Havelock; one son, Nigel B. "Tex" Barrow of Raleigh; four brothers, 11 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

(Memorials may be made to the Barrow Family Endowment Fund, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365.)

A PERSONAL TRIBUTE TO JAMES LUPTON

by Peggy Bailey



Ruth and the Rev. James Lupton wait for the "dinner on the ground" to begin at a recent homecoming at Rose of Sharon Church in Martin County. They were yearly guests even after the search for pastors ended and their interim service was over.

On the evening of August 17, 1994, the gentle tug of the world lost to the greater pull of Heaven and James Lupton went home to be with the Lord.

After many years of full-time service to the Free Will Baptist denomination and its churches scattered across eastern North Carolina, Mr. Lupton eased into interim work. When congregations found themselves between pastors, calls to fill in went out to the Luptons, who responded immediately and positively.

They traveled many miles weekly during his semi-retirement, and numerous times moved into empty parsonages on weekends for as long as it took the searching committees to find just the right person to serve as pastor.

Rose of Sharon had the privilege on several occasions to use this couple during the months it took to find a pastor. The Luptons moved into the Bear Grass community and into the hearts of the congregation. They visited the sick, preached funerals, welcomed new babies, ate in the homes, baptized converts, held prayer meetings and preached the Word twice on Sundays. They literally took on the work of a resident pastor.

The Luptons have been positive role models for many ministers, both young and old. Their dedication to each other and their service to God's people expressed the depths of Christianity needed to lead in the work of a church. They put God first, each other and their family second.

This type of relationship is essential for effective leadership, according to Matthew 10:37-38: *He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not of me. And his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me.*

The Luptons took these instructions from Jesus to the disciples literally. By doing so they enjoyed and reaped many benefits from sowing the Word of God through the years. Only God knows how many people were won to Christ through their ministry. And how many who were encouraged and rekindled to the faith.

The funeral bulletin confirmed a lifetime of service and acknowledged his first preaching sermon as a minister of God 40-plus years ago in a rural North Carolina church. Ironically, he preached his last sermon at that same church this past summer.

Another remarkable incidence occurred in Mr. Lupton's life. He survived a near-death experience several years ago during a heart attack. He shared numerous times in many churches the wonderful feeling of being in the presence of God, totally surrounded by love and warmth. This left him convinced that death is not to be feared. It is only a prelude to entry into the regions above.

No more than a month before his passing, Mr. Lupton told a friend about his longing to see the other side again. The

yearning was not ominous nor macabre; it was a joyful expectation of what awaits the called and chosen people of God.

Mr. Lupton will be missed, but his influence will reach far into the future. For me his memory meshes with those of others who had impacted my life.

Sometimes these memories are recalled by a walk in our garden where I see a spreading grapevine filled with clusters of bronze grapes. That vine was propagated by a friend as he lived the last few months of his life. I remember him fondly every time I brush by those vines. And they're presented to guests who eat the fruit of Jesse's grapes.

There is also a canopy of green plants in our memory garden laden with red and green pods of hot bouquet pepper . . . always referred to as Mama's pepper. Granny Fessie's cabbage collards glisten there with early morning dew or gentle summer rains. Each time we pour pepper vinegar over plates full of those dark green vegetables, memories of both mothers flood the soul.

As we took guests down the narrow rows last week we kept referring to Mama's pepper and Granny's collards. "Why do you call them that?" we were asked. "Because both are grown from seed that have been gathered each fall for over 50 years," we explained. Somehow, this keeps their memories alive for us. Planting the seeds each year reminds us that life is a gift from God. But most especially, so is death. For only through dying, can we enter into that most holy place, the garden of God, where we will bloom forever in His presence.

Mr. Lupton's survivors include his devoted wife, Ruth; three children; grandchildren; and a multitude of friends. They, too, will celebrate his life and death in a constant chain of private and precious memories. Always confident he is resting in that city described in Revelation 21:23: *the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.*

That city, once seen in a vision, is the new home of James Lupton. Justified by the blood of Jesus; sanctioned by a lifetime of faith and service. Effective August 17, 1994.

EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

Hosted by Northeast
Original Free Will Baptist Church
Mount Olive, North Carolina
September 22, 1994
by Eleanor Baker
President of Westside
FWB Church Woman's Auxiliary

The theme was "God's Investment." Scripture for the theme was taken from 1 Corinthians 6:20: "For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

The program opened with responsive reading, led by Dianne Riley, followed by everyone singing, "Jesus Paid It All." After prayer and another hymn, "Glory to His Name," a welcome was extended to everyone by the president of the Northeast Auxiliary, Doris Barwick, followed by a response from Tina Wetherington of Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

Following a solo, "How Beautiful," by Sharon Dille, a member of Northeast Church, the memorial service was led by Margaret Banks of Friendship Church. She used seven doves, a scripture for each dove, with the last one representing life from Deuteronomy 33:27. The hymn, "God's Grace," was sung before Happy Taylor, District President, extended another welcome to each one present.

The ministers were recognized, and the churches they pastor. Eight ministers attended: Ralph Sumner, Jeff Daughtry, Bobby Taylor, A. B. Bryan, C. H. Overman, David Charles Hansley, Bruce Dudley, and Dr. Burkette Raper.

Youth Chairman, Pam Kennedy, gave a report on the youth. She issued a challenge to us to pray for youth, and stressed the importance of investing our time in our youth, and encouraged us to uplift them.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley told us to be alive and more forward for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ! He said we *must do this*. He shared with us that he helped baptize fifteen young people this summer, most of which came from Buddhism or Witch Craft. He said we must plant seeds to reach children and adults. He said we must win

America! He also said America and Canada are the largest mission fields. He recognized a young lady that will be working with Home Missions and Evangelism for six weeks this coming summer. She will have to raise her support. If anyone would like to contribute to her support, they can send contributions to her through Home Missions "TLC"—*Touching Lives Corps*. She also will have someone to help her in her work.

Dr. Bobby Taylor gave a report on the Children's Home. He expressed his thanks for all help and concern for the Children's Home. Next May 27, the Children's Home will be 75 years old. He extended to us an invitation. Lunch will be served and music will be provided. They celebrate Founder's Day every five years.

Ayden Press representative, Tracy McCoy, Editor of *The Free Will Baptist*, invited everyone to send news of their church's activities to the Press.

The report from Camp Vandemere was that they need more equipment. A chest freezer, heavy-duty mixer—one for cakes—something to make slaw, recreation equipment, beds for dorms. They asked us to pray for the ministry at Camp Vandemere. Ralph Sumner expressed his thanks for all support of Vandemere and asked each one to do all they possibly can to send out the "Light and Truth" from Vandemere. He gave small plastic bags to each church for special offerings to be gathered in on October 16. A special offering was taken for Camp Vandemere. They had twenty campers when they began twenty-five years ago. This season they had over 300 campers. They gave forms to each with instructions to join the Vandemere "Light House Club."

The Rev. C. H. Overman, executive Administrator of the Convention, urged everyone—to do what your hands find to do—Whatever your hands find to do—Do it! He said great things are in store for Free Will Baptists. He urged everyone to work together to achieve goals. He talked about the offers of help that came for the flood victims in Georgia.

"Amazing Grace" was sung by Christy Brewington from Mount Olive College.

Special music was presented by thirteen students from Mount Olive College. They introduced themselves, told their majors and what church they attend.

The Rev. Jeff Daughtry brought the message—a wonderful message on “God’s Investment.” He said God has invested in us and it is our first priority to serve God. Be all that God has meant for us to be. Do God’s will. Seek Him first. Investment leads to responsibility. God has invested in us. God is able—but it is up to you and me. Jesus will come again. We will have to account for our investment. Attempt much and accomplish much. Attempt little and accomplish little.

Dianne Riley gave an illustration of the little boy who made a boat—lost it in the water—later saw it in a store window—had to save money to buy it back. Then he said, “I made it. I bought it—It’s twice mine.” She said God made us—then bought us, and we’re His twice. She sang a beautiful song, “What Jesus Is to Me” or “He’s More Wonderful!”

The business meeting followed. New officers were appointed and installed. It was voted for each Auxiliary to send \$25 to Vandemere for a project for the freezer. It was also voted that the Eastern District Convention send \$100 to “TLC.”

The State District meeting will be held May 11 at First Church in Greenville. The Spring Convention will be at Smith’s New Home.

There were thirty-seven delegates, eight pastors, and a total of 105 present.

A delicious lunch was served at 12:30 that was prepared by the host church.

BRITISH CHAPEL ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH SURPRISES PASTOR WITH “PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY”



September 11, 1994, British Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, North Carolina completely surprised their pastor, the Rev. Robert M. Fader with a “Pastor’s Appreciation Day.” The service began quite normally, then the Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Bob Smith, came forward and told the pastor that he was going to hijack the service. The Rev. Fader was asked to have a seat and enjoy the service. Carolyn Butler came forward and pinned a boutonniere on Mr. Fader and also a corsage on Ms. Eva, and they were escorted to sit with the family who had attended.

Ann Daughety, President of the Woman’s Auxiliary, came forward and made the following remarks concerning Pastor Fader’s ministry.

Robert M. Fader Sr., born in Massachusetts, on October 28, 1920. He served his country in the Marine Corps, during World War II. He saw action in the South Pacific theater in the Solomon Islands. During this time he met and married Eva Grace Letchworth on June 23, 1942. They have three children Carolyn F. Hill of Wilson, NC, Robert Maynard Fader Jr. of Dallas, Texas, and Donald E. Fader of Kinston, NC.

He was licensed in 1951 and ordained in 1952. While a licensed

minister he served the Raleigh Mission in Raleigh, NC. His first church was in Selma, NC with eleven churches as pastorates and presently his second time at the present church.

His daughter came forward to make her remarks about her father and the things that she had remembered that was most outstanding about him. She related the many churches he had pastored and the Alaskan Mission Work, that he worked in raising funds for the work.

Things that I remembered about growing up in the Fader home was when we would spend our afternoons in the church Sunday School when it was too far to come home on Sunday and take naps on the tables there. Other things that stand out in my mind, Harvest Days, Single bare light over the pulpit at White Oak Grove before the remodeling, Cantatas at Smith New Home, Singspiration, Prayer Meetings and being an active worker. A father who was a wonderful role model, someone who gave more love away . . . whose sweet spirit is contagious.

A letter was read from Don, which stated,

“Congratulations on this special day as you are honored by your friends, family and church family. I am sorry

that I could not be there in person but the ministry has been contagious in our family and perhaps the best way that I could honor you is to be serving in the pulpit being faithful to the calling that you played so much a part in.

I count myself very fortunate to have learned so much from you and to have experienced the love, instruction and correction growing up in our home. Your tremendous faith and courage are both a model and inspiration to me and I can only hope that I can be a part of the person that you have been these many years. God bless you today and everyday."

After the remarks were made, a beautiful plaque was presented to the pastor by Ann Daughety for the church which read,

"Certificate of Appreciation, For your Outstanding Achievement and Spiritual Devotion In His Service"

The church was honored to have as our guest speaker, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, and his wife, Mrs. Rose Raper. His text was taken from the 23rd Psalm, with the highly inspirational emphasis on the pastor as the shepherd as the leader of his people in the church. Then Dr. Raper invited Pastor Fader and Mrs. Fader to come forward to bring any remarks they wish. The main theme from both of them was the complete surprise that our church had been able to keep as a secret for such a long time and the love shown by each and everyone.

After the service was completed all were invited to the Fire Station for fellowship and a most delicious dinner. We did not use the Fellowship Hall of the church, as it would become difficult to explain to the pastor and Mrs. Fader why all the food was there. The secret was kept completely from them.

Our thanks to all who made this possible and the many friends and former members who attended. Please continue to pray for Pastor and Mrs. Fader in their future work.

PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY AT TEE'S CHAPEL FWB CHURCH



The Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Pollock



The Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Pollock with a quilt which was quilted and given by the Tee's Chapel quilters.

The Rev. Dennis Pollock was honored on Sunday morning, September 11 with a Pastor Appreciation Day by the members of Tee's Chapel FWB Church. The 11 a.m. worship service included a special song "I Love You More Than These," and presentation of a framed poem indicating the congregation's love for him and appreciation for his church and personal ministry. He was also presented a certificate stating "Paid in Full" for special singing he has done when morning worship services exceed attendance goals. The morning message "One Day Too Late," preached by Mr. Pollock, emphasized that each person should consider their relationship with God and not be "one day too late" in deciding to accept Jesus as their personal saviour. A love offering for Mr. Pollock was received at the end of the morning service.

After the morning worship hour, a covered dish meal was served in the Fellowship Hall with the Mr. Pollock, his immediate family, and all of his attending

relatives as special guests. After the meal, the love offering and gifts were presented to him in appreciation of his service to the church, community, rest homes, prisons, and most of all his dedication to preaching the Word of God as recorded in the Holy Bible.

The day's activities were concluded with presentation to Mr. Pollock of the fall bouquet of flowers used for the morning service. The bouquet was an arrangement of lilies, mums, and cattails in warm fall colors of yellow, brown, rust, and red. An arrangement of roses, grown by Virgil Rose, was used in the fellowship hall decoration. Mr. Pollock and his wife were also celebrating their 23rd wedding anniversary.

CAPE FEAR DISTRICT YOUTH RALLY MIDDLESEX CHILDREN'S HOME by Shelley Barbour

The Cape Fear District Youth Rally met at the Children's Home in August for a day of food, fun, and Christian fellowship. A total of 197 people attended. Each church's youth presented various household and school supplies to the home. After lunch, recreational activities were provided for all age groups. Our youth and young at heart enjoyed softball, basketball, and just an afternoon of leisure with the children and staff of the Children's Home.

CAPE FEAR DISTRICT YOUTH RALLY STEVEN'S CHAPEL CHURCH by Shelley Barbour

The Cape Fear District Youth Rally met at Steven's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church for their monthly meeting. Attendance banners were presented to churches with highest attendance. A special musical was presented by a group of teenagers. The presence of the Holy Spirit was felt throughout this program. After the invitation and benediction, food and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to Steven's Chapel for hosting our Youth Rally. The October Youth Rally will be at Vandora Springs in Garner.

SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY AT DUBLIN GROVE FWB CHURCH

by Mary Peele

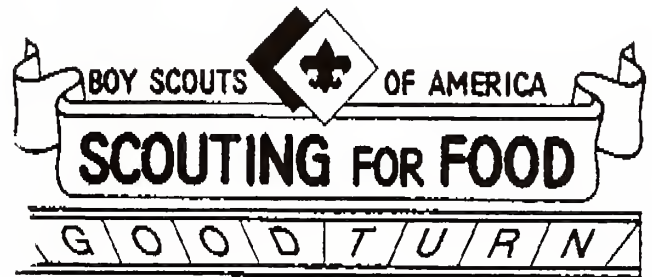


Recently, the newly organized Young Adult Class of Dublin Grove FWB Church near Aurora, North Carolina held a Senior Citizen Day, honoring all members over sixty. Each honoree was presented a corsage and the morning message was especially for them. The class was organized and is taught by our pastor, the Rev. Edward Thornton. Following the morning service, lunch including a pig barbecued by Dan Windley and Joe Galloway was served in the Fellowship Hall. This picture of all the senior citizens present was taken on the Fellowship Hall steps by Mrs. Brenda Thornton.

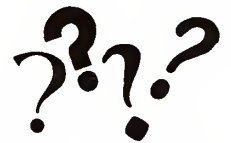
"SCOUTING FOR FOOD"

Our local Boy Scout Council has asked that each church include a notice about "Scouting for Food." "Scouting for Food" is a national Good Turn where scouts collect non-perishable food for local food pantries. Scouts will place bags on front doors of homes on Saturday, November 12. On the next Saturday, November 19, the scouts will return to pick up the bags filled with food. If the scouts miss a house the public can drop their food at any Piggly Wiggly store. All Piggly Wiggly stores will have a "Scouting for Food" box in the front of their store.

They are building a scrap book about "Scouting for Food." Please send us your newsletter and church program if they mention Scouting for Food. (Scouting for Food, P.O. Box 1698, Kinston, NC 28501). Thank you for your help.



for your **FYI** *information*



PASTORS NEEDED

Sound Side FWB Church is currently seeking a full-time pastor. Those interested should contact: Edmond Brickhouse, Route 2, Box 170, Columbia, NC 27925; phone, (919) 796-1841

Smyrna FWB Church (Cape Fear Conference) located on Highway 96 near Meadow School (South of Benson and Northwest of Dunn) is seeking a pastor. The pastor has resigned. Interested persons should call deacons Ray G. Smith at 919-894-4261 or Granville Denning at 919-894-2095.

PASTORS AVAILABLE

Luther Swinson is available for supply work. He can be contacted at :
451 Gerganus Road
Maple Hill, NC 28454
(910) 346-0867.

The Rev. W. S. Burns is now available for pastoral work. Contact him at:
Rotue 14, Box 31
Greenville, NC 27834
(919) 758-1978

ORDINATION SERVICES HELD

The Western Conference Board of Ordination held Ordination Services for Scott Casey, June 26 and Charlie Carroll, July 10 at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton, NC. The Rev. Casey is presently pastoring at Micro Free Will Baptist Church and the Rev. Carroll is presently pastoring at Wooten's Chapel.

Submitted by,
Connie Putnam
Secretary



What is the Task of Your Sunday School?



The First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson presented attendance awards to children and youth that attend Sunday School at least ten times out of the quarter. Pictured above are some of the youth that received certificates for the summer quarter.

What is the task of your Sunday School?

Many churches have been going through the motion of having Sunday School for many years now without really knowing the purpose. The Sunday School should not be something that is done on Sunday morning because it is something that has been done for many years. Sunday School can be and should be a vital part of the ministry of our churches.

To make Sunday School a vital part we must understand some of the tasks of Sunday School. Although there could be many different tasks, let's look at three basic ones.

The first task of the Sunday School is to reach people for Bible Study. At one point in the history of our churches the Sunday School was the evangelistic arm of the church. Much of the growth of our churches was due to the growth of the Sunday School. We have heard a lot lately about the ministry of small groups. But as Free Will Baptists we have for many years had small groups, we call them Sunday School classes. We need to use our classes to

help reach people for Christ.

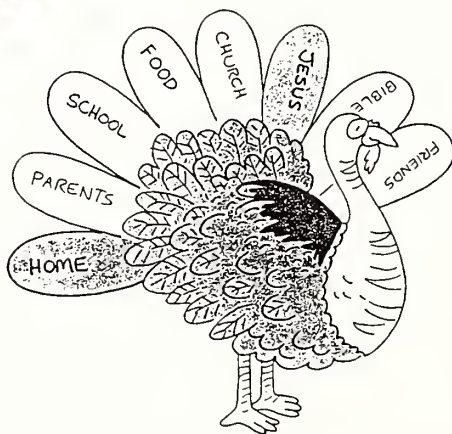
The second task of the Sunday School is to teach the Bible. Although we have the Sunday School quarterly and many other helps, the Bible is still the basic text of Sunday School. The Bible is God's inspired Word. Although there has been much discussion about the understanding of the Bible, our articles of Faith still affirm that the Scriptures "are a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service." We must begin once again to see the importance of teaching God's Word to our people.

The third task of Sunday School is to minister to the needs of people. There are so many hurting people all around. Sunday School classes need to begin looking for people that are hurting that they can help. Christ has called us to be servants of the human race. As Free Will Baptists we wash feet to show our willingness to serve others, but do we really understand what it means to wash the feet of others. It means that we humble ourselves and are willing to look for ways that we can be a servant of Jesus Christ. We do this by sharing His love with others by doing whatever we can to help people.

The fourth task of Sunday School is to provide fellowship. A strong Sunday School class is one that spends time socializing together outside of the Sunday School hour. It is important in our society today to have good opportunities to fellowship with other Christians. Fellowship also provides opportunities of unthreatening events to introduce people to the church.

There are probably very few people who would not want our churches to grow. One of the ways that we can help our churches grow is to under gird them with strong Sunday Schools. We need to examine our Sunday Schools to make sure that they are meeting the basic tasks.

Bulletin Board Ideas



Give
Thanks
for
All
Things

NOTES & QUOTES

notes and quotes

C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator



Convention
of
Original
Free Will Baptists

CONVENTION '94

The Eighty-Second Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will perhaps prove to be a turning point for our denomination in the quest for renewal of our common purpose—"to advance, promote, and increase the cause of Jesus Christ . . ."



Pictured is the Rev. Phillip Boykin as he leads the Convention in its opening.

From the beginning service on Tuesday evening's Night of Evangelism, through the final report on Thursday, there was a spirit and sense of the need for self-examination of our church, a need to consider the future regarding the growth of our denomination. The Rev. Jo Ard's message on Tuesday echoed the necessity of evangelization. Bishop Forbes' message on Wednesday reminded us that love and kindness overcomes hatred and unkindness. Wednesday night's mission rally sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions, turned our hearts to the regions beyond as we listened to the messages of Willem and Lydia van der Plas, missionaries to Bulgaria. Outgoing president, the Rev. Scott Sowers' message on Thursday morning not only challenged us to true commitment in ridding ourselves of hatred and jealousies, but also reminded us of God's blessings in the past. In addition, the various reports were indicative of what Original Free Will Baptists are doing in ministry.

According to the final report of the Credentials Committee a total of 568 registered and attended the Convention. This included 190 ministers (15 registered and failed to attend), 249 delegates (26 registered and failed to attend), 123 visitors, 5 licensed ministers, and one convention member. In comparison to the 81st session, the total registration was slightly lower.

The officers for the next two years are: President, the Rev. Ray Wells; Vice President, the Rev. Leon Grubbs; Secretary, the Rev. Bruce Dudley; Treasurer, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood.

We are deeply appreciative for the opportunity to have worked with Brother Sowers for the past four years, and for the leadership

he gave to our Convention. His insight and understanding of our denomination was always evident. His commitment to a stronger Convention, like others who have preceded him, will live on in the work and advancement of our denomination.

Perhaps more than any previous year, the ministry displays were well planned, and greatly enhanced the Convention's theme, "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Ministry."



The Convention's display carried the theme, "Windows of Service" referring to our Convention Ministries and Outreach.

FLOOD RELIEF CONTRIBUTIONS

A total of \$8,636.36 was contributed to the flood relief efforts in Georgia. As previously reported in "Notes and Quotes," items were also given and delivered that were valued at more than \$300.

Following is a listing of the churches, church organizations, and individuals who contributed to this effort:

Albemarle Conference—Union Chapel, Plymouth, Sidney, May's Chapel.

Cape Fear Conference—Steven's Chapel, Bethel, Haymount, Powhatan.

Central Conference—Hugo, Rose of Sharon, Edgewood Adult SS Class, Ayden, Bethany, Saratoga.

Eastern Conference—Grant's Chapel, Deep Run, Fifth Union, Dublin Grove, Smyrna, Otway, Bethlehem, Pearsall Chapel, Core Creek, Moseley's Creek, Memorial.

Pee Dee Association—Mount Olive, White Oak, Mission Valley.

Western Conference—Piney Grove, Wilson First, Pleasant Hill, St. Mary's, Union Grove, Marsh Swamp.

General Baptist Association Churches, etc.

Others—Joe Ratcliff, H. W. Chamblee, Stuart Forlines.

Note—If anyone has been overlooked, please let us know.

Our thanks to all.

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family

NOVEMBER! It is considered one of the busiest times of the year. The month with all of the area high school football games, band and cheerleading practices, the much needed break from school for parents, students and especially the teachers. It is also that time to start thinking about Christmas shopping, decorating and planning all of the holiday get togethers.

Do we really remember what the month really is? It is the Thanksgiving month. It is the time of the year when we are supposed to sit back and really think about and be thankful for all that we have been handed by God's graciousness.

So many people forget that there is a season in between Labor Day and Christmas. I went into a store the other day and the Christmas trees are already up. And at the time of this writing, it is not even the middle of October.

November should be the time we should think about the Pilgrims and the Indians and that first meal that brought peace for a little while. The farmers have ended their harvesting for the year and its time to reap what has been harvested. More importantly, the time we should thank God for all that He has given to us when we do not deserve it.

Growing up and even now when my family gets together at my grandparent's house with all the aunts, uncles, cousins and whoever else shows up, we all gather around the table and take turns and tell something we have to be thankful for over the past year. This is just a way of making sure that we never forget what has been done for us.

This November, may we never forget to take time out to be thankful for our families, friends, and the harvest that God has given to us over the past year.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO EVERYBODY!

In His service,

Tracy

Happy Thanksgiving

from

the staff

and

management of

the

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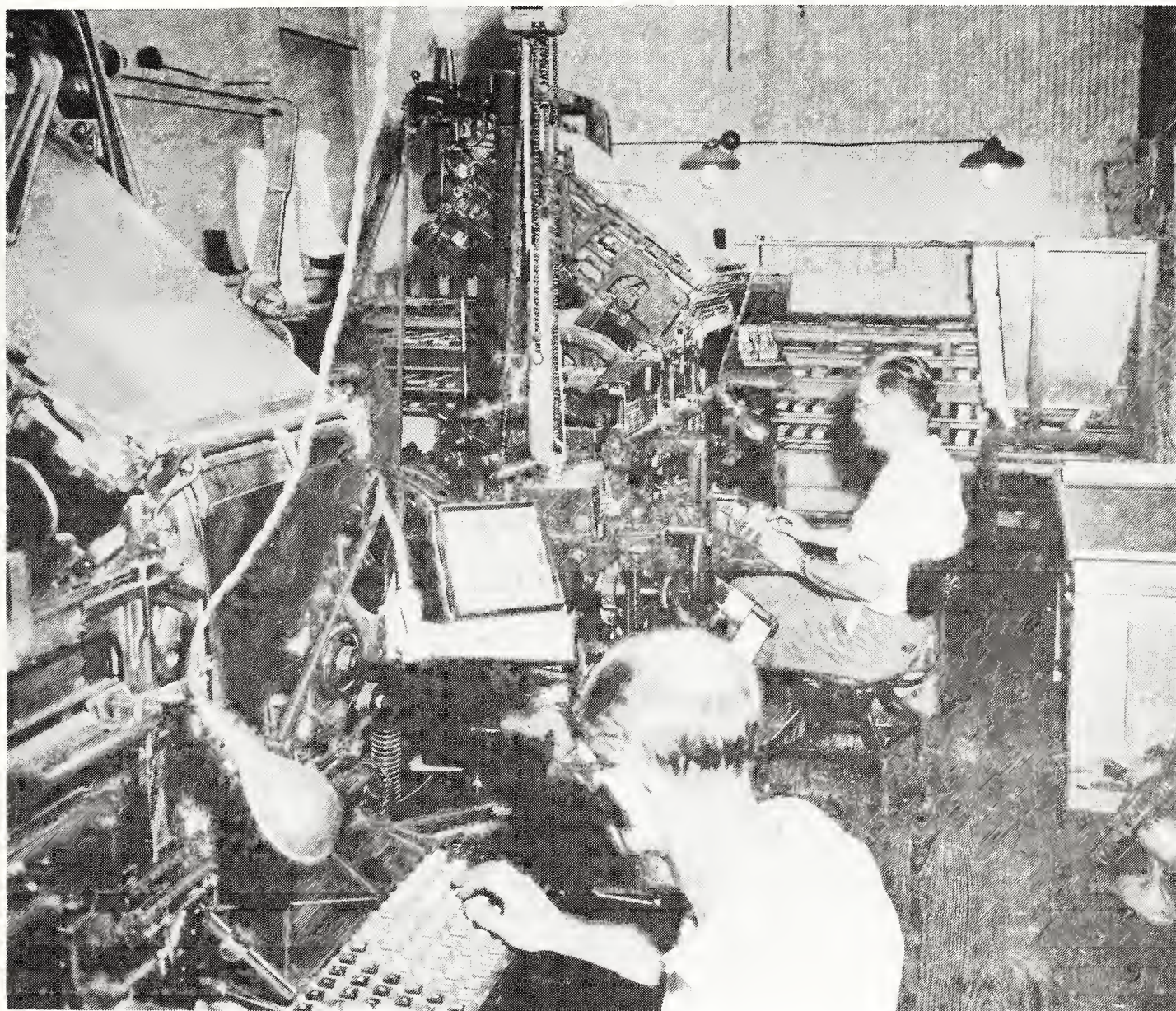


**Stockholders At Meeting
September 6, 1954**

Can you identify anyone?

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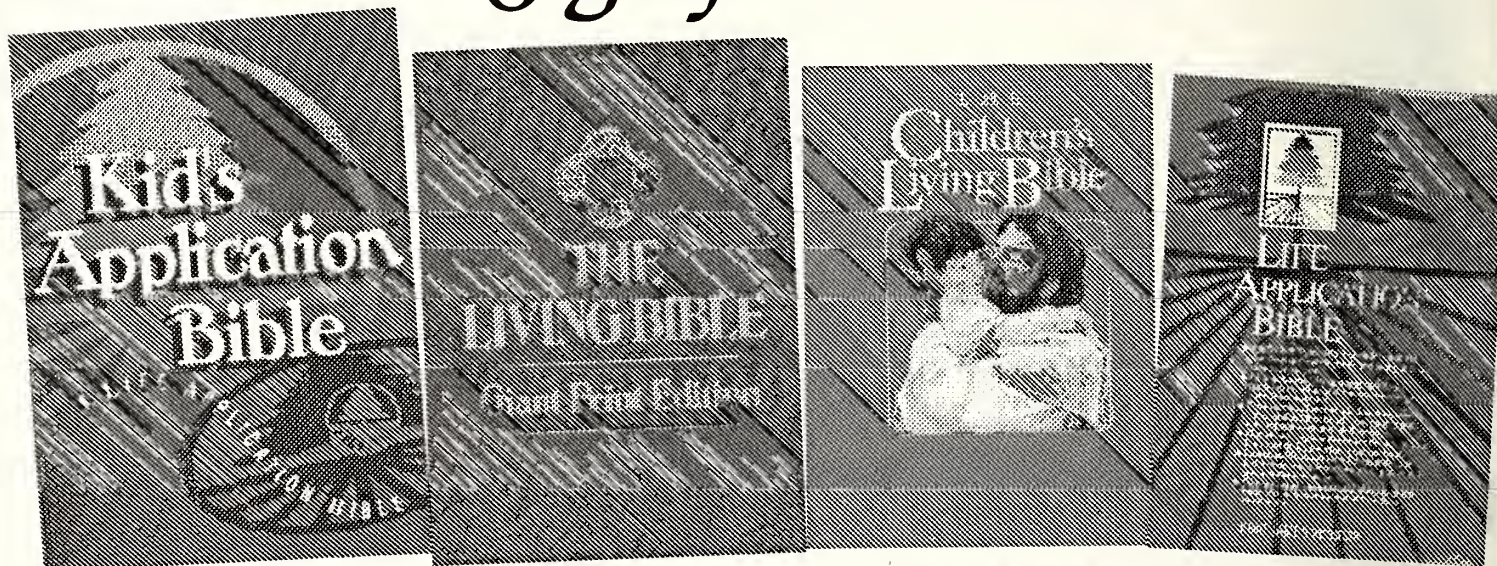


Linotype Room in 1954

Graham Oliver Dave Cavahangh

These machines have now been replaced with computers.

Thinking of Christmas?



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Kinston, NC 28501
919-527-2843

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315 Middle Street
New Bern, NC 28560
919-638-6193

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919-746-6128
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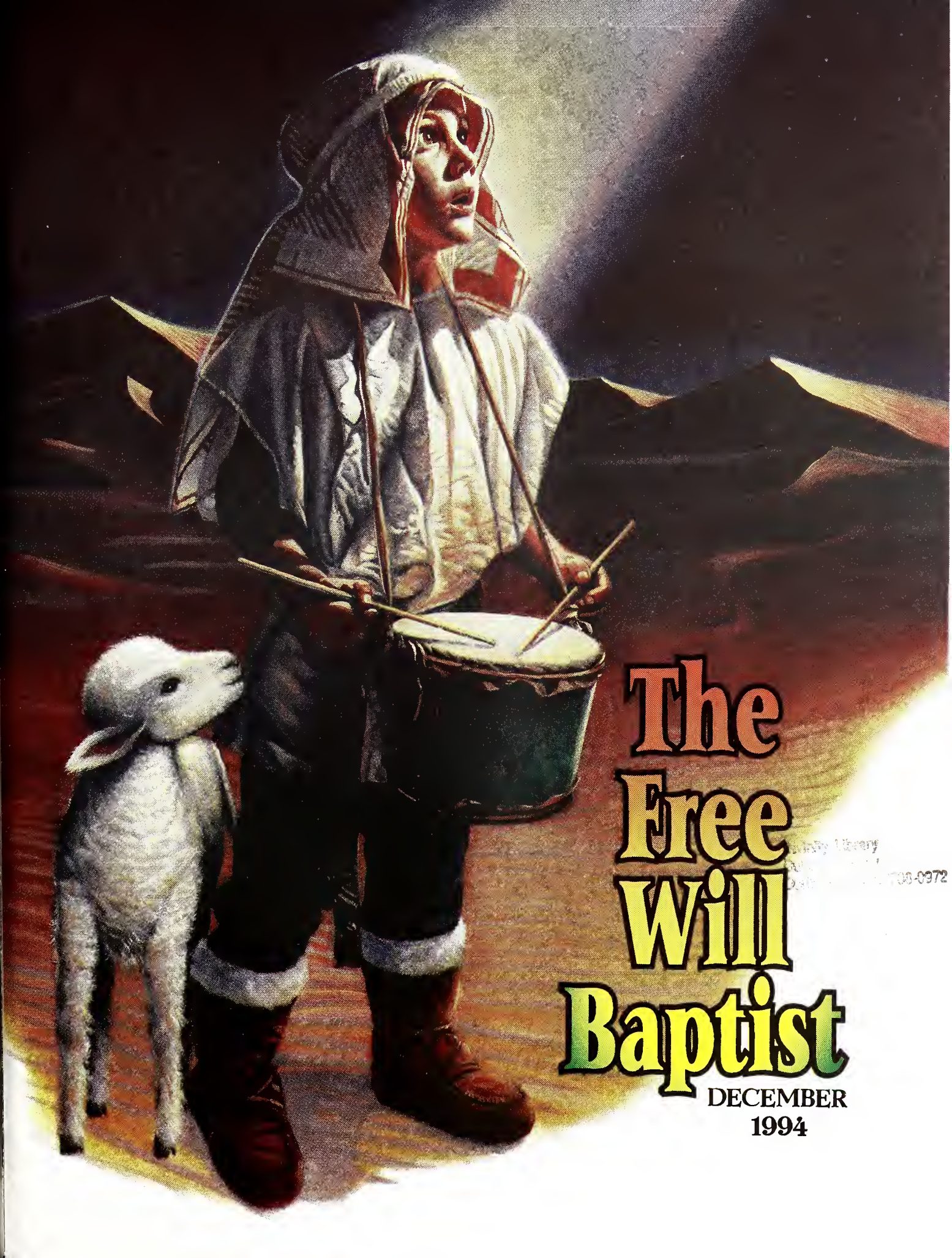
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CONTENTS

December • Volume 111 • Number 12

FEATURES

WOMEN RISK TAKERS	3
LAYMAN'S LEAGUE	7
CAMP VANDEMERE	8

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES

FOREIGN MISSIONS	9
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE	10
CHILDREN'S HOME	13
CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY	14

DEPARTMENTS

PEOPLE AND EVENTS	16
FYI	18
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS	20
NOTES AND QUOTES	21
DO YOU REMEMBER?	22
EDITOR'S NOTE	23

NEXT MONTH

January
is
Retirement
Homes
Month

December
is
Foreign Missions
Month



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WOMEN RISK TAKERS: Love and the Courage to Be as Their Legacy

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Celebrating Women's Sunday at the Selma Free Will Baptist Church were Trent Lassiter (front left), Mark Baker (front center), Sara Lassiter (front right). Featured left to right on the second row are Lillian Grubbs, the Rev. Frank Grubbs, Karen Grubbs, Donnie Lassiter, Linda Lassiter. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



Celebration of Women's Sunday was a special occasion at the Selma Free Will Baptist Church. These four faithful members of the Original Free Will Baptist Church took the speaker, Dr. Pepper Worthington, out to lunch. From left to right: Annie Laurie Cannady, Lillian Grubbs, Mary Creech, and Hilda House. (Photo by Pepper Worthington.)

What is a risk taker? How have women demonstrated their capacity to be risk takers in a patriarchal Biblical world as well as in the modern world? Is there anything unique about women as risk takers as opposed to others?

Let us look at four women risk takers in order to answer some of these questions: Ruth, Esther, Anne Bradstreet, Anita Bryant.

RUTH

Would you call it a risk to leave your home and journey into a foreign country where you would be viewed as a resident alien? Imagine living among people who might insult you, thrash you, starve you. Why would you even put yourself in such a dilemma?

The book of Ruth gives us the cameo story of Naomi and Elimelech from Bethlehem in Judah. With their two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, they flee famine-ridden Bethlehem to enter Moab which lay east of the Dead Sea. Naomi's two sons marry foreign women from Moab. Mahlon marries Ruth; Chilion marries Orpah.

Sadly, within 10 years all three men die: Elimelech, Mahlon, and Chilion. Left are three widows: Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah. What now? How shall Jewish Naomi survive in a land of Moabites? She can't. She must return to Bethlehem. Naomi ("my joy") laments her dilemma much as Job laments his change of fortune. In despair, Naomi declares "Call me not Naomi,

call me Mara ("bitter"). She feels the Lord has dealt "very bitterly" (Ruth 1:20 KJV) with her.

Now Ruth is a Moabite and could return to her own family in Moab just as her sister Orpah does. But Ruth is a risk taker with two strong traits: (a) the capacity to love and (b) the courage to be. Ruth insists upon going with her mother-in-law Naomi to Bethlehem, despite the risk that she as a Moabite might be in grave danger as a resident alien. Ruth understands that Naomi is in despair and alone. She realizes Naomi might starve because Naomi is too old to work to feed herself. Naomi is a soul at the edge of society without a husband or children to care for her. Ruth's love for Naomi is

at the core of Ruth's ability to leave her Moabite family and go with Naomi to Bethlehem. In perhaps the most loving lines in the bible, Ruth cries out to Naomi:

And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God; Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me (1:16-17 KJV).

Ruth clings to Naomi in order to protect her, because Ruth knows Naomi is a marginal woman without security. Ruth enters Bethlehem as a resident alien and she takes another risk: she dares to go into Boaz's fields to glean among the reapers. She is a "Moabitish damsel" (2:6 KJV) and faces the anger and danger of being among people who might abuse her. Ruth cannot claim the right to gather grain. But she braves the danger because she wishes to bring Naomi food. Luckily, Boaz spots her, admires her discipline and beauty, then protects her among the reapers. When Naomi discovers Boaz's favorable attention towards Ruth, Naomi advises her daughter-in-law how to pursue Boaz. She introduces Ruth to the law of the levirate marriage. When a brother dies and has no child, a living brother should marry the widow and allow the firstborn to carry the name of the deceased husband. Naomi tells Ruth what to do.

Once again Ruth takes a risk. Because Boaz is a kinsman of Naomi, Boaz might marry Ruth under the levirate law. Ruth waits until Boaz has eaten and drunk fully before she goes to him. Boaz lies down "at the end of the heap of corn: and she came softly, and uncovered his feet, and laid her down" (3:7 KJV), Boaz welcomes her.

Boaz then seeks permission from a nearer unnamed kinsman to Naomi to take Ruth. The unnamed kinsman only wants the land, but if he takes Ruth,

then Ruth's son will get the land in the name of the dead husband. The unnamed kinsman does not want Ruth because he only wants the land.

Boaz takes Ruth in the levirate law and is willing to accept the loss of the land. Ruth and Boaz have a son, Obed, who is the grandfather of David. Naomi adopts Obed, takes back her name ("my joy") and rejoices.

Ruth the risk taker showed love and the courage to be. She risked leaving her family in Moab because she loved Naomi and wanted to care for her. She risked alienation from her own people as she identified with Naomi's people and requested to be buried with them. She risked danger in the wheat fields as she illegally gathered food. She risked her life as she lay by Boaz.

Literary giants have made allusions to Ruth. Bunyan's "Mercy" is named after Ruth. Dante's "gleaner-maid, meek ancestress" of David is an allusion to Ruth. Goethe called the book of Ruth the most beautiful "little whole" of the Hebrew Bible. John Keats's narrator received the nightingale's solace "amid the alien corn."

Ruth left us two legacies: the power of love and the courage to be.

ESTHER

Would you call it a risk to be Jewish but hide this fact in order to marry a capricious king who has the power to dismiss you or kill you? Imagine beautiful, dark-haired Esther as a dazzling beauty among a bevy of women being viewed by King Ahaseurus. The king has dismissed forever Queen Vashti because she refused to come to him when he commanded. Now he seeks a new queen, one more beautiful, more obedient, more pleasing.

Mordecai places Esther in the position of being seen. King Ahaseurus chooses her and marries her. Once again a risk exists: a Gentile man unknowingly marries a Jewish woman.

Why does Esther risk her life by marrying a buffon-like, whimsical, de-

manding king? She knows her people are in danger. To protect them, she chooses to ingratiate herself and gain access to the highest political power. Her love for her people is stronger than her fear for her own life. She is a risk taker.

What exactly is the danger for the Jews in Persia during the reign of King Ahasuerus? King Ahasuerus (probably meant to be Xerxes from 486-465 B.C.) has appointed Haman, the Amalekite, to the high position of grand vizier. Haman is a threat to Esther and her people. He is the prototype leader who writes the edict of destruction for a group of people. He is capable of genocide, a fact modern history has shown to be forever persistent from pogroms to the Holocaust to Bosnia and Rwanda today. If Haman discovers Esther is Jewish, she is in great danger because she will die with her people on the thirteenth of Adar.

Esther and Mordecai are quite aware of the danger of being Jewish among Amalekites in Persia. Mordecai alerts Esther to her role in history to save her people. He warns her of Haman's edict for annihilation of the Jews:

Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest the peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this (Esther 4:13-14 KJV)?

As Haman builds the gallows to hang Mordecai and announces the edict to exterminate the Jews on the thirteenth day of Adar, Mordecai prepares Esther to approach fickle King Ahaseurus and to expose Haman before the king.

Many questions must have floated through frightened Esther's mind. Imagine her own soliloquy: "What shall I do? No one knows I am a Jewess, but I am. And my people are in trouble.

Why am I here in the court, queen to king? Surely this is no accident. Surely there is a high purpose for my place in Shushan the palace. How now can I please the king so that he will favor me more than Haman? How now can I please Haman so that he will be caught off guard before the king and reveal his evil self to the king? I must act promptly. I must act wisely. How can I defend my people?

Esther becomes the risk taker, her strength rooted in her love for her people and her own courage to be. What does she do?

First, she asks Mordecai to ask the Jews to fast for her. She too will fast for three days, night and day. Why? Esther recognizes her need for a higher power to help her take the risk. Fasting is necessary for courage.

Esther then tries to make herself as pleasing to the king as possible. She wants him to see her in her best jewels with her black hair flowing. When she enters the inner court of the king's house, she comes to him unbidden. The king has the authority to kill her for this. To save her, he must extend the golden sceptre. He does so.

Esther speaks. She has not seen the king for 30 days and invites him and Haman to a banquet she has prepared. Both men accept. Esther is shrewd. She knows human nature. Food and drink make the spirit more receptive. Naomi knew this when she sent Ruth to Boaz after Boaz had eaten and drunk heartily.

At the first banquet, Esther lures the king closer to her. He is pleased with the food and her beauty. She knows any supplication made to the king must be done when he is in a good mood. King Ahaseurus asks Esther what she wants. She requests that the king and Haman come to a second banquet she has prepared for them. Esther is cautious. She needs the king to be doubly pleased with her beauty, her warm food, her rich wine, her very presence. Esther imagines that the king will not rest easily that night because he has eaten rich food and hearty wine. She anticipates

that he will awaken and request his book of records of the chronicles. And Esther has carefully seen that Mordecai's earlier courageous acts have been recorded in the book of records of the chronicles. Esther's judgment is right.

The next day King Ahaseurus asks Haman how a man should be honored. Haman thinks the king wishes to honor him, so he suggests allowing the man to wear the royal apparel the king used to wear and to wear the royal crown and then to ride upon the king's horse so that all the people might see this man the king wishes to honor. King Ahaseurus agrees and asks Haman to do this for Mordecai.

Esther prepares the second banquet which is more pleasing to King Ahaseurus than the first banquet. Only after he has eaten and drunk his wine does she take a risk. She requests that the king gave her her life and let her people be given their lives. She tells him she is a Jewess and that Haman has written a decree to kill all Jews on the thirteenth day of Adar.

King Ahasuerus is outraged, asks Haman who gave *him* such power. The king grants the Jews power and destroys Haman and his people. Though the book of Esther has a harsh element of revenge, the woman Esther manifests the love and courage to be of a risk taker.

Esther's legacy to us is the power of her love for her people, a love which enables her to transcend her own deep fears. Her legacy to us also is her courage to be in the face of possible death. But her death is less important to her than her mission when she declares: "and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish" (4:16 *KJV*).

Esther's Hebrew name, Hadassah (2:7 *KJV*), is the name of the women's Zionist organization of the United States, which is the largest Jewish women's organization in the world. Hadassah has evolved into a symbol of loyalty, love, devotion, the courage to be.

ANNE BRADSTREET

Anne Bradstreet grew up on the country estate of the Puritan Earl of Lincoln where her father, Thomas Dudley, was the manager. She was educated beyond most women of her time. Her first great risk came when she went with her husband, Simon Bradstreet, to America. Moving from the established estate of the Earl of Lincoln to a wilderness was hard, dangerous, tiring. But Anne Bradstreet loved her husband. His job in America was to assist the Company of Massachusetts Bay. She was seventeen when she left the comforts, security, and familiarity of her home.

To be in America in the 1630s was a risk for Anne Bradstreet. She was not strong and had periods of fatigue. To have a child was a risk. But she risked her own life eight times to give Simon Bradstreet eight children.

Today we remember Anne Bradstreet for her courage to be a woman of faith in a harsh world. Her poetry is a testimony to her diligent meditations and ardent praises of God's presence in a new world. Unknown to her, her brother-in-law, John Woodbridge, took a collection of her poetry to London and had it printed in 1650 (*The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, Third Edition. New York: Norton, 1989, I, 91-92).

Anne Bradstreet's love for her husband and her courage to be a woman of faith emerge triumphant in her powerful poem written in 1667, "Here Follows Some Verses Upon The Burning of Our House, July 10th, 1666." She writes:

*In silent night when rest I took
For sorrow near I did not look
I wakened was with thund'ring noise
And piteous shrieks of dreadful voice.
That fearful sound of "Fire!" and "Fire!"
Let no man know is my desire.
I, starting up, the light did spy,
And to my God my heart did cry
To strengthen me in my distress
And not to leave me succorless.
Then, coming out, beheld a space
The flame consume my dwelling place.
And when I could no longer look,*

*I blest His name that gave and took,
That laid my goods now in the dust.
Yea, so it was, and so 'twas just.
It was His own, it was not mine,
Far be it that I should repine;
He might of all justly bereft
But yet sufficient for us left.
When by the ruins oft I past
My sorrowing eyes aside did cast,
And here and there the places spy
Where oft I sat and long did lie:
Here stood that trunk, and there that chest,
There lay that store I counted best.
My pleasant things in ashes lie,
And them behold no more shall I.
Under thy roof no guest shall sit,
Nor at thy table eat a bit.
No pleasant tale shall e'er be told,
Nor things recounted done of old.
No candle e'er shall shine in thee,
Nor bridegroom's voice e'er heard shall be.
In silence ever shall thou lie,
Adieu, Adieu, all's vanity.
Then straight I'gin my heart to chide,
And did thy wealth on earth abide?
Didst fix thy hope on mold'ring dust?
The arm of flesh didst make thy truts?
Raise up thy thoughts above the sky
That dunghill mists away may fly.
Thou hast an house on high erect,
Framed by that mighty Architect,
With glory richly furnished,
Stands permanent though this be fled.
It's purchased and paid for too
By Him who hath enough to do.
A price so vast as is unknown
Yet by His gift is made thine own;
There's wealth enough, I need no more,
Farewell, my pelf, farewell my store.
The world no longer let me love,
My hope and treasure lies above.*

(The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Third Edition. New York: Norton, 1989, I, 113–114.)

ANITA BRYANT

In 1977, Anita Bryant's career was booming. She and her husband, Bob Green, were living with their four children in Miami Beach, Florida. When she heard that the Dade County Commission was going to pass a law giving homosexuals the right to teach even in private religious schools, she took a stand against this law. Whether you agree with her stand or not, the fact that Anita Bryant *took a risk* to fight not only the Dade County law but also the national homosexual bill, HR2998, which had been introduced in Congress,

demonstrates Anita Bryant's modern role as risk taker.

In speaking out against homosexuals as teachers, Anita Bryant discovered the threat of the gay power movement. Her risky political position cost her a contract for her own television show. She lost the position of endorsing the Florida Citrus products. Anxiety moved into her home life and she found herself divorced in 1980. Following her divorce she had a nervous breakdown.

Anita Bryant took a risk and paid a price. But her story doesn't end there. The risk she took demanded a new courage from her—the *courage to be*. She had to pick up the scattered pieces of her disrupted soul and put together a new Anita Bryant. Women as risk takers have given up two legacies: the power of love and the courage to be. Anita Bryant believed her stand against homosexuals in the classroom was a stand of love for children. Her risk cost her the public endorsement of who she was; therefore, she had to pull out from her cracked self the courage to be a new Anita Bryant.

She did so.

How?

She prayed. She sought help. She read the Bible. She sought to forgive others and to forgive herself for the anger and rage many experienced. She returned to her family in Oklahoma to heal. She sought to get in touch with unconditional love. She turned from herself to others and tried to be a blessing to someone else. She never lost her faith in God nor her love for her four children. As she began to heal, she met Charlie Dry, a childhood sweetheart, and married him on August 19, 1990.

With Charlie Dry's help, support, ingenuity, and love, she discovered the place for her to have her own show—Eureka Springs, Arkansas. By May 18, 1991, the new Anita Bryant Show opened in Eureka Springs, Arkansas (Anita Bryant, *A New Day*. Nashville: Broadman, 1992).

Anita Bryant is a modern risk taker. Her legacy to us is her power to love and her courage to be.

CONCLUSION

Ruth, Esther, Anne Bradstreet, and Anita Bryant took risks. They consciously placed themselves in jeopardy in order to achieve a goal. In each case, the goal directly related to a gripping love: Ruth's love for Naomi, Esther's love for her people, Anne Bradstreet's love for her husband, Anita Bryant's love for school children. In each case, each woman had to demonstrate the courage to be: Ruth's courage to be the wife of Boaz, Esther's courage to be the wife of King Ahaseurus, Anne Bradstreet's courage to be a mother, and Anita Bryant's courage to be a new Anita Bryant.

These four women have left all of us two legacies in their risk taking acts. They have left us the legacy of the *power of love* and the legacy of the *courage to be*.



Stained-glass windows make the Selma Free Will Baptist Church a beautiful place to worship. (Photos by Pepper Worthington)

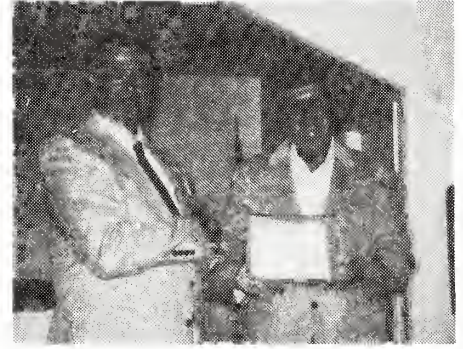
ON THE MOVE WITH LAYMAN'S LEAGUE



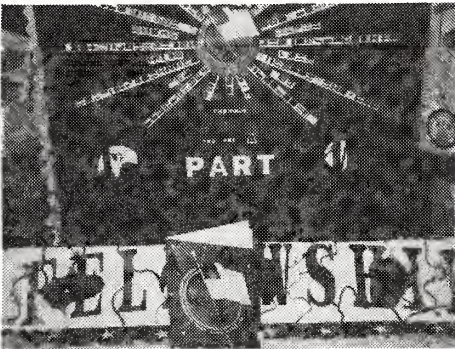
Haymount Church in Fayetteville being chartered as a Layman's League, September 21, 1994. (L-R): Elmer Harrell, Gene Joyce, Pastor Kennedy.



The Haymount FWB Church Layman's League (September 21, 1994).



Convention FWB Layman's League President Elmer Harrell presents charter to Haymount's Layman League President Gene Joyce.



Layman League display at the FWB Convention in September at Mount Olive College. Fellowship was the theme.



Layman relaxing and having fellowship at Convention of Free Will Baptists. (L-R): John Newton, Bill Davis, Earl Shackelford.

Coming Events for Layman's League

Central Conference, December 5, 7 p.m. at Tarboro FWB, Tarboro, NC

Steering Committee meets December 1, 7 p.m. at Elmer's Place.

Executive Committee Board meets January 6, 7 p.m. at Elmer's Place.

Antioch Free Will Baptist Church

presents

A Musical Christmas Drama

"The Gift"

December 18 at 6:00 p.m.

December 18 at 7:30 p.m.

December 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Featuring

Antioch Church Choir

Dr. Jerry B. English, Director

Drama Team Director: Chuck Warren

All groups/individuals welcome

Call for details, special seating, or change of dates/times.



This is more than the average Christmas musical where the choir just stands there and sings, Antioch Church is well-known for its talented musical programs. Come worship the Lord with us.

Camp Vandemere

by the Rev. Owen K. Arthur Jr.

The camping season has come and gone—my, how time flies. It seems like just yesterday we were getting the camp ready for the camping season. We have had a very good year; several young people accepted the Lord as their Saviour. Praise the Lord for all the directors and counselors who were willing to give up some time for the Lord.

Although the regular camps have been over for several weeks, we have kept the camp open for weekend groups. There have been several groups to come down and spend some time at the camp. Some came for a quiet weekend, while others came to fish and crab. We are thankful that they came, and we hope they will come again.

Don't forget about our family lodge. It is available for people to come and spend a week or a weekend. It is especially suited for a family or a small group who would like to stay together. Each room has its own private bath, two double beds, microwave, and a pull out sofa sleeper. There is a small refrigerator so you can store drinks and other items. It is very nice, and has a porch that you can sit on. Be sure to bring your lawn chairs. There are a couple of nice restaurants in Bayboro, which is about ten miles from camp, and some in Oriental as well. Come on down and try it, I am sure you will enjoy yourself.

Let me say how much we appreciate your prayers and financial support. Many of you have been faithful with both, and once again we want to thank you. Please don't stop, we still need them both. The next few months are especially hard for the camp because many forget us during cold weather. Make yourself a note to remember to do something special for the Lord, and send Camp Vandemere a nice love offering.

We need your support as much or even more now. This is a time when we begin to think about the things we need and want to do for the spring and opening of a new camping season. One thing we need to do very badly is to repair our pier. Time and the weather has taken a toll on it. It needs to be made a little wider and more sturdy. Many have enjoyed using it for fishing from, as well as just to sit and look at the river.

We are in need of some updated equipment in our kitchen. We could use a nice commercial food mixer, cabbage cutter, shallow stainless steel pans to cook bacon in as well as other items. We all like to sit down to a nice meal, and this would help our kitchen staff to do exactly that. It would be great if someone or some groups would take on our kitchen as a project so we could have it by the time we start camp next summer.

Some new things have been added recently. Underneath of the family lodge has been concreted, this was made possible by an anonymous donation. Plans are to make part of it into a shuffle board court, maybe add a ping-pong table, and possibly some room for something else. Someone else just recently made another donation so that this area may be screened in. This will be real nice next summer for the boys and girls, also it will help keep mosquitoes out while they are inside. This alone, with our open air building, which is also screened in, gives the campers things to do if the weather is rainy.

We would like to hear from some of our campers. It would be nice to know how much you enjoyed camp and if you were saved at camp. We hope that all those who accepted Christ as their Saviour went back to their home church and shared this great event with their friends and were baptized. It's very important to follow one's conversion with becoming active in church and Sunday School.

How about some of you directors and counselors? We would like to hear from you. Perhaps there is a special event that took place while you were at camp and you would like to share it with us. We would like that. You can send your letters to Camp Vandemere, Post Office Box 188, Vandemere, NC 28587. We need to hear from you and would like to use some of these articles in promotion of the camp.

Please keep us in your prayers, we desire to do what the Lord would have us to do. The Board of Directors thanks all of you for all you have done. Also, send us a donation, and may the Lord richly bless and keep you. If you have any questions or suggestions, we would like to hear from you.

Denominational Ministries

DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

The month of **December** has been designated in the church calendar as **Foreign Missions Month**. I encourage each pastor to incorporate this message in your Christmas sermons, for Jesus truly came to seek and to save those who are lost. This ministry to the lost is the chief business of the Church.

I also encourage each church and individual to remember Foreign Missions in your Christmas giving. Your gift to this ministry makes it possible for our denomination to continue its outreach to the nations beyond.

Thank you in advance for your generous gift during December. God bless you with the full joy of Christmas!

In the name of Jesus,
Harold Jones
Director/Treasurer

WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD PRAY

by Nora M. Aplao



The Book of Philippines 4:6 says, "But in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." It is really true and proven that prayer is

our breath as Christians. It is our life; without prayer we are dead spiritually. It is also our great and sharp tool or weapon as we fight our invisible enemies. It is also stated, that it is our communion with God, meaning to say, we can talk to God and listen to Him. That's the reason Christians should pray.

Last August 19, 1994, the Palawan Bible College had their Prayer Day at Puerto Princesa Free Will Baptist Church. The theme was "Courage to Continue." The Rev. Dario Basingil, Mission Director, was the speaker during the Worship Service. This was followed with a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God for all the goodness, greatness and faithfulness that He has endowed in every moment of our lives.

The second part of the service consisted of prayer for the following concerns:

1. All Free Will Baptist Churches
2. Palawan Bible College students and faculty
3. Board of Trustees
4. Kindergarten pupils and teachers
5. Board of Foreign Missions
6. Workers, pastors, and members to be actively involved in evangelism.

The third part was a prayer for the situation of our nation, concerning the peace and order and, especially, the Government officials. That the supreme will of God and His perfect plan will be done in the Philippines.

The last part of our program was a time of sharing and fellowship. Some gave their testimonies of how God answered their prayers in spite of many hardships, troubles, and trials.

Thanks to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ because He is the One who teaches us to pray to God the Father and who made us as an instrument of

blessing to our fellow Christians and the needy people (Luke 11:1-4).

WOMEN IN ACTION EMMANUEL, THE SAVIOUR FWB CHURCH

Luke 8:2-3

by the Rev. Antonio Escobar



In the first week of the month of October a program was presented by the Ladies Auxiliary. The program was centered on counseling for the family. At the end of the program, an invitation was given to all the women who had not received Jesus as their Saviour. The response was tremendous, as they came to the foot of the Cross of Christ. Others came to reaffirm their faith to continue to serve the Lord.

We believe that the program strengthened the Ladies Auxiliary, a strong arm in the churches. The next meeting will be held at the Tabernacle FWB Church in Ciudad Acuna where the Rev. Toribio Lugo is the pastor.

The thrust of their program is to help motivate the ladies of the church to greater missionary work, to win souls for the Lord. We ask the sisterhood of the Ladies Auxiliaries from North Carolina, India, Bulgaria, and the Philippines to pray for the women of our churches in Mexico. **We are praying for you!**

NEWS FROM MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

**WILLIAM (Bill)
M. MCLAWHORN**



William (Bill) M. McLawhorn

The Mount Olive College Family lost a close and longtime friend in October, when Trustee William (Bill) M. McLawhorn died after a lengthy illness caused by cancer. A trustee since 1973, Mr. McLawhorn served most recently as vice chairman of the board.

"I feel a personal loss," said President W. Burkette Raper. "He was not only a devoted friend of the College, but Rose and I have always regarded Mr. and Mrs. McLawhorn among our close personal friends." Raper noted that Mr. McLawhorn was devoted to the college, generous in his support and always active in helping to advance the institution.

Mr. McLawhorn was a member of the Ayden Christian Church, where he served as a deacon, and of Masonic Lodge #498 of Ayden. He was Pitt County's first Outstanding Young Farmer and owner of "Strawberry Fields." He served on the Ayden Advisory Council and the Pitt County Board of Education for 25 years, the Pitt County Board of Social Services for 12 years, and the Pitt County A.S.C.S. Board, and he was a member of the Board of Southern Bank. Mr. McLawhorn was president of the Ayden Rural Fire Association for 25 years, where he helped raise money for its first fire truck. He was former president of the Ayden Jaycees and served as district vice president for the North Carolina Jaycees.

Those who wish to make memorials are invited to consider the "William M. and Lou Dail McLawhorn Endowment" at Mount Olive College, which the family established in 1984.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SINGERS, COLLEGE CHOIR TO PERFORM AT NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST IN WASHINGTON, DC

MOUNT OLIVE—Mount Olive College's Singers and College Choir have accepted the invitation of U. S. Representative Martin Lancaster to sing at the annual National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC, on February 2. The two groups will form a mass choir to perform at the breakfast where Lancaster will serve as chairman.

"As chairman of the 1995 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC, I am proud to be able to invite the Mount Olive College singers and the College Choir to sing at this national event," Lancaster said Thursday.

"More than 3,000 people, including the President, members of Congress, the Supreme Court and the administration, foreign heads of state and ambassadors will be in attendance," he said. "It will be a wonderful way to showcase the talent of Mount Olive College and give it national exposure."

The morning's program will be broadcast live nationwide on C-SPAN.

Irene Patten, director of the Mount Olive College singers, said the group is honored to perform "in such a large, dignified and formal setting."

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students, college and community to be represented at this auspicious ceremony," Mrs. Patten said. "We look forward to combining the efforts of the College Choir and the Singers so that this becomes a representation from our entire music program."

Mrs. Patten added that the group's placement on the program and the broadcast by C-SPAN will provide the Mount Olive College students "the most individualized coverage we've received." The students have participated with larger performing groups that received similar coverage.

In recent years, the Singers have performed at the 50th Presidential Inauguration, the 75th National Boy Scout Jamboree, the 91st annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, at Walt Disney World and in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

The College Choir, under the direction of Burke Raper, Jr., performs at college events, including the college's weekly chapel service.

Lancaster's invitation and other such honors assist in developing enrollment in the college's growing music program, Mrs. Patten said.

"We are proud that these are the kinds of opportunities that we can offer to students who choose to attend Mount Olive College and participate in our programs," she said.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. RAPER HONORED DURING ANNIVERSARY DINNER *Courtesy of Mount Olive Tribune and Goldsboro News-Argus reports*

From the President of the United States to the Governor of North Carolina to his students at Mount Olive College, President William Burkette Raper was saluted in November for his forty years of service to Mount Olive College.

Among the honors, Raper was presented the Order of the Long Leaf Pine on behalf of Governor Jim Hunt. The Order of the highest honor given to a North Carolinian for community service.

Praise was given to Raper and his wife, Rose Mallard Raper, at the honorary banquet held in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. More than 500 people attended.

N.C. Rep. Phil Baddour read from a letter sent by Governor Hunt which accompanied the Order. "Congratulations on your historical service to

Mount Olive College and North Carolina," he read, "Your leadership has influenced the lives of thousands of young people and leaves a legacy for future generations."

It continued, "Burkette, I know on a personal level how you have sacrificed to further the college's goals. You have touched my family and scores of others. On behalf of the state of North Carolina, I thank you."

In a letter carried by U. S. Rep. Martin Lancaster, President Bill Clinton also praised Raper for his decades of service.

"You can take great pride in your contributions toward this important goal," Clinton said. "Through your hard work and your fine example, you have had a profound influence on many students, helping to give them the gift of knowledge and the desire to learn," and I salute your achievement as an educator and wish you every future happiness," he said.

Nido R. Qubein, a 1968 alumnus of the college, served as master of ceremonies.

On behalf of the town of Mount Olive, Mayor Louis Pate presented Raper with an academic mace bearing the college's seal. Goldsboro Mayor Hal Plonk gave Raper a golden "key to the city" and declared November 6, 1994, the day following the dinner event, "W. Burkette Raper Day" in Wayne County.

Pate said the town of Mount Olive has been "blessed for the last forty years to have this man living in our community."

"You have brought with you a fine institution, a fine faculty and students. You have caused our community to soar because of your presence at Mount Olive College," he said.

Pate added, "We respect you, we love you, and we thank you for all that you have done for all of us."

Executive Vice President J. William Byrd unveiled a pair of painted portraits, of President Raper and Mrs. Raper, given to the college by Kraft Studios of Mount Olive. The portraits

will be displayed permanently in an appropriate place on the campus, Byrd said.

In his response to the gathering, Raper said, "I'm a debtor, and there is no way I can ever repay that debt. I did not get here on my own." He recognized and thanked his wife and children, saying, "They're the ones who've made the sacrifices, not me."

He also noted the college's completed transition from its old campus on Breazeale Avenue. "I'm delighted that in this fortieth year, we can com-

memorate the complete transfer of all operations from the old Mount Olive Elementary School building to the campus here."

Other program participants included: Dr. A. Hope Williams, president of the N.C. Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; Dr. Norman Wiggins, president of Campbell University; Eugene Price, editor of the *Goldsboro-News-Argus*; Dr. J. William Byrd, vice-president of Mount Olive College; and Lorelle Martin, professor emerita of biology.



President W. Burkette Raper and Rose Mallard Raper's six children and five of their ten grandchildren gathered for a rare family portrait following the dinner celebration honoring the fortieth anniversary of Dr. and Mrs. Raper's service to Mount Olive College.



Members of the Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Johnston County visited Mount Olive College in November, where they toured the campus with Jean Ackiss, Director of Church Support, and enjoyed lunch in the Lols K. Murphy Regional Center. The Tee's Chapel seniors class was accompanied by their pastor, Philip Boykin. The group is shown above gathering at the Murphy Center before touring the campus. (Photo by Cecil Cahoon)



Mrs. Ackiss describes the work of President W. Burkette Raper while visiting the President's Office. (Photo by Cecil Cahoon)



IMPORTANT COMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR

Enjoy the college choir in concert, under the direction of Burke Raper, Jr.

Tuesday, December 6 • 7:30 p.m.

College Hall

NC SYMPHONY CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT

The combination of classical "winter" compositions from opera and ballet, fresh treatments of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century carols and modern Christmas melodies makes the annual Symphony performance a unique treasure on the college calendar.



Tickets Required.

Thursday, December 15 • 7:00 p.m.

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

CHRISTMAS BUFFET AND MUSIC BY MOUNT OLIVE ENSEMBLE

\$10.00 per person, including beverage and tax – Reservations Required.

Last year the Christmas Buffet, our first in the Murphy Regional Center, was a highlight of the Christmas season.

Join us for a delicious dinner and a wonderful program of Christmas music.

Tuesday, January 10, 1995

SPRING SEMESTER

Both new and transferring students are encouraged to join the Mount Olive College family for the spring semester. Information may be secured from

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley,

Admissions Office. Phone: 919-658-2502 • 800-653-0854.



For information on above events, contact Cecil Cahoon, Public Information Office • 919-658-2502.

**MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
PROFESSOR,
PRESS EDITOR NAMED TO
"WHO'S WHO,"
RECOGNIZED AS
"DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR"**

by Cecil Cahoon, II, Director of Public Information
Mount Olive College



Mount Olive—Dr. Pepper Worthington, professor of English at

Mount Olive College, has been acknowledged for excellence as a distinguished educator in "Who's Who Among American Teachers" for 1994.

She has been selected for "Who's Who in the South and Southwest" for the publication of her three major books, "Travels With Dr. Pepper" (1991), "Stand Up And Be A Voice" (1991), and "The Triadic Archetype in Keats' Poetry" (1992).

A Mount Olive College professor since 1979, Dr. Worthington also founded the Mount Olive College Press in 1990 and serves as its editor. In its first four years, the Press has produced 28 publications, including a cookbook, a calendar, poetry collections and chapbooks, a novel, a diary and songs.

Dr. Worthington completed undergraduate study at Meredith College, Raleigh, and earned graduate degrees

from Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland at College Park. She has done postgraduate study at Cambridge University and at the New York University Publishing Institute.

In addition to teaching and editing for the Mount Olive College Press, Dr. Worthington writes and frequently is guest lecturer for the Kinston-Lenoir County Public Library. She is a member of the College English Association and the North Carolina Writers Network, and she serves on the National Council for Teachers of English and on the executive board of the North Carolina Historical and Literary Association.

Her professional affiliations include membership in the Modern Language Association and the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

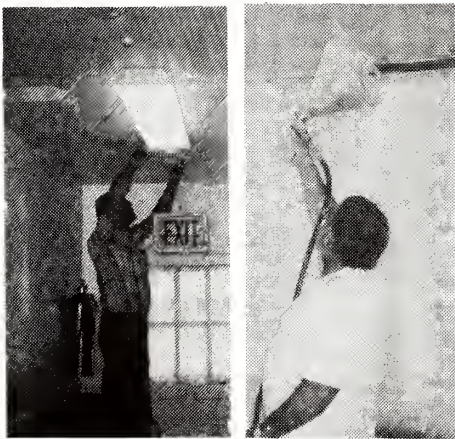
CHILDREN'S HOME HAPPENINGS

WESTERN DISTRICT YOUTH VISIT



On September 21, 1994, the Western District Youth visited the Children's Home. David Charles Hansley, Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism, spoke to the visitors and residents about "Salvation Sam."

RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY



After being closed for nearly ten years Smith cottage was reopened with your prayers and contributions in the Fall of '93. Deans' cottage is the adjoining building and is in need of renovation. New windows have already

been completed. We are striving to repair ceilings and bathrooms, and install new carpeting, cabinets, appliances and paint. Currently, this cottage is being used by younger children ages five to twelve years old. This project is expected to be completed by January of 1995.

CENTRAL COTTAGE



Central cottage will also undergo renovation. Planning is being done and preparations are expected to begin after the completion of Deans cottage. Central cottage will undergo similar renovations including new furniture. It has been fifteen years since new furniture was purchased for Central cottage. The anticipated cost of this entire project is approximately \$50,000.

RESIDENTS LEARN BANKING



On Monday, November 7, the residents in our Preparation for Adult Living program learned about the aspects

of banking and money. Mr. Rick Watson, Vice President, Branch Manager of The Heritage Bank in Kenly is a member of Milbournie FWB Church in Wilson. Residents enjoyed the presentation and learned a lot about money and banking. We are very appreciative to Mr. Watson for sharing himself and his knowledge with our residents.

A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

The Children's Home annual Christmas sponsorship program will continue through the month of December. Individuals or church groups can sponsor a child's Christmas for \$100. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is committed to providing the best Christian care available. You can be a part by helping us meet this challenge by providing another joyous Christmas for our children. If you would like more information on sponsoring a child's Christmas contact Gary Lee, Director of Church and Public Relations, at (919) 235-2161.

*May your Christmas
be a happy time,
a hopeful time, a family
time . . . And may the
greatest joy
of your holidays
be the joy of
sharing them
with one another.*

1995 NASHVILLE II LIMITED EDITION

April 6-11, 1995

1/3 Filled

Spaces Still Available

Cragmont is once again offering an exciting trip in the spring. We had so much fun the last time we went to Nashville we have decided to do it **AGAIN**. The price includes travel by motor coach, five nights lodging—two at Cragmont where it is nice and quiet, three nights (double occupancy) at the world-class Opryland Hotel known for its lush tropical gardens, and spectacular fountains and waterfalls; baggage handling; one day admission to Opryland Park; one night's admission to the Grand Ole Opry; a guided sight-seeing bus tour including the Ryman Auditorium—home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943—which was listed on the National Register of Historical Places, March 1974; an unlimited shuttle pass; a visit to the Upper Room, a museum containing a collection of religious artifacts, painting, porcelains, manuscripts, and furniture; one breakfast buffet at Opryland Hotel; dinner on the General Jackson showboat—dine as you cruise along the Cumberland River and be entertained while you eat; meals at Cragmont and admission to see “Easter in Song and Story”—an Easter pageant. All this for only \$475 per person. This **EXCLUDES** personal spending money and the cost of meals not designated above.

“Nashville Limited II” will begin, Thursday, April 6, 1995 with transportation to Cragmont by motor coach. Stops will be designated after January, but we will have several stops in eastern North Carolina.

On Friday, April 7, after breakfast we will travel to Nashville and take in the Grand Ole Opry.

Saturday, April 8, because we are staying at the Opryland Hotel the shuttle will be available to take you to and from Opryland Park as often as you wish at no extra cost. On Saturday evening, we will enjoy the dinner cruise on the General Jackson riverboat.

On Sunday, April 9, we will take the guided sight-seeing tour including Ryman Auditorium. You will have some free time to relax before we take the shuttle to see “Easter in Song and Story.”

Before we head to Cragmont on Monday, April 10, we will make one last stop in Nashville at the Upper Room. We will return to Cragmont for a well-earned rest.

“Nashville Limited II” will come to an end Tuesday, April 11, 1995. The bus will leave for eastern North Carolina after breakfast and a short devotion in the Chapel.

Because of limited space we will only be able to accept forty (40) people. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first-served basis. To be assured of a place, please return the completed reservation form along with **\$100 non-refundable deposit*** per person. The second payment of **\$125** per person is due by **January 1**; the third payment of **\$125** per person is due by **February 1** and the final payment of **\$125** per person is due by **March 1**. Please honor these deadlines for payment because we, too, have payments that must be made for our activities and stay in Nashville.

Come join us for this special getaway. All arrangements are made by Cragmont thus freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*All money will be refunded only if Cragmont has to cancel.

Mail to: “Nashville Limited II” Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: Day _____ Night _____

CHURCH _____

If you have a roommate preference, please list name here:

Do you have a health condition we need to be aware of such as:
heart condition _____ diabetes _____
hypoglycemia _____ trouble with stairs _____
any other condition _____

Preferred bus stop _____

Non-refundable deposit \$100
Non-refundable only if you cancel your reservation.

(Please clip off and save for mailing in other payments)

Payment No. 2
(January 1, 1995)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Payment No. 3
(February 1, 1995)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Payment No. 4
(March 1, 1995)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Cragmont's "Snowhound"

**We can provide an inexpensive ski retreat
for your church group.**

Weekend rates

skiing \$45 per person

Rooms

Main/\$10/person/nightly

Dorm/\$5/person/nightly

Meals

Breakfast/\$4

Lunch/\$5

Supper/\$5

**For more details contact us at
(704) 669-7677 day
(704) 669-5224 night**

PASTOR AND WIFE APPRECIATION DAY AT BETHLEHEM FWB CHURCH



The Rev. and Mrs. Joe Ard were honored on Sunday morning, September 11 with a "Pastor and Wife Appreciation Day" by the members of Bethlehem FWB Church in Chinquapin, North Carolina. Pastor Joe Ard and wife Billie were honored with plaques of appreciation from the church for their service. Members were given the opportunity to come forward with remarks of appreciation. Following the service, a covered dish meal was served in the Fellowship Hall.

The Rev. and Mrs. Joe Ard have two sons, Billy Joe, nine, and Caleb, four. They reside in Kinston and have been serving at Bethlehem for the past four years. Please pray for them as they serve in Chinquapin. A special thanks goes to all who attended and made this day a special day for Pastor and Mrs. Joe Ard.

PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

At Marsh Swamp Church, Rock Ridge, NC, Sunday, October 9, 1994, was recognized as Pastor Appreciation Day for the Rev. Ray Wells. After the morning worship service, a soup and sandwich lunch was enjoyed in the fellowship hall. After lunch a brief video and presentation concerning the Rev.

Wells was shared with the members. Then members and friends of the church presented the Rev. Wells with an appreciation love offering of \$1,134.00.

October 23 was homecoming at Marsh Swamp Church. At the annual homecoming service the ladies auxiliary had a special program to remember the five members of the church family that had gone on to be with the Lord since the last homecoming service.

After the morning worship a picnic lunch was enjoyed in the fellowship hall.

WESTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention was held October 5, 1994 at Piney Grove Church, Kenly, NC. The theme was "Home Missions—Begin at Home." The Scripture was "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." (Luke 24:47).

The program began at 9:45 a.m. The devotion was given by Evelyn Jones, Jean Sauls, president of Piney Grove Church Auxiliary, welcomed everyone and gave directions for the day. Western District president, Jean Marlow, presided over the day's activities. Alma Dale, program/prayer chairman led the congregational singing and special music was presented by Greg Dixon, pianist and Myrtle Renfrow, soloist from Piney Grove Church.

Denominational Ministries reports were given by representatives from each. Handbooks with annual reports from the various ministries were distributed with full reports for everyone. Western District Youth Advisor, Virginia Joyner, gave an interesting and update report on the youth group ac-

tivities. The Rev. David Charles Hansley gave a report on Home Missions and introduced Michelle Bartlett, who will work with The Touching Lives Corp. next summer. Her partner will be Tina Witherington. They have to raise their own support before they can begin their work in this ministry. We took a special offering for missions at the Convention and motion was made and passed that we donate \$2,000.00 to Michelle for her support. Her assignment will be in Florida.

The Rev. Hansley gave the morning message. He used as his Scripture, Luke 24:27. His topic being the great commission. He stressed importance of the need to preach repentance and of faith in action. He gave four ways to prepare for Harvest 2000. (1) share our faith, (2) surrender our abilities, (3) sew the seed, (4) start with spiritual assertiveness.

The ladies of Piney Grove Church served a wonderfully delicious luncheon and had beautiful fall decorations throughout the church and dining hall.

Joan Howell gave an impressive devotion after lunch and followed with a memorial to our deceased in the last six months. They are as follows: Mrs. Gertrude Ballard, Mrs. Inez Edwards, Lindora Lancaster, Alice Barrow and Pearl Blalock.

We had good attendance with:

36 registered delegates
46 visitors
5 ministers
2 state officers
10 district officers

Total Present 99

Our spring convention will be held at Pleasant Grove Church, Pikeville, NC, April 5, 1995.

WESTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY



Pictured from left to right are: Lucy Pulley, Aline Howard, Alice Porch, Ruth Wright, Lottie Barbour.

Five members of the Woman's Auxiliary at the Roanoke Valley Church, Roanoke Rapids, attended the Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention at Piney Grove Church near Kenly on October 5, 1994. The Roanoke Valley Church was recognized as the newest woman's auxiliary in the Western District. The auxiliary was organized a few months ago and the installation service was conducted by Pastor Larry W. Barbour on Sunday, September 18, 1994 during the evening service. The auxiliary now has a total membership of twelve active members. Each auxiliary is urged to encourage and pray for the members of this new church auxiliary as they work to help grow and build a new Original Free Will Baptist in Roanoke Rapids where there has not been a Free Will Baptist Church.

MOUNT TABOR HAS NEWLY ORDAINED PASTOR



The Rev. and Mrs. Keith A. Pelletier

Mount Tabor Original Free Will Baptist Church, Creswell, NC has called the Rev. Keith A. Pelletier as its pastor. Mr. Pelletier officially began his service on October 30, 1994, after recently being ordained into the ministry by the Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

Mr. Pelletier's ordination service was held on October 23, 1994 at Daly's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church in LaGrange, NC. The Rev. Harry Jones, pastor of Daly's Chapel opened the service with a hymn and welcome. The service was then turned over to the members of the ordaining council of the Cape Fear Conference. The Rev. Dewey Boling, chairman of the ordaining council, presided over the service. The Rev. Fred Baker, called Mr. Pelletier and his wife, Shirley, to the front of the church to hear the ordination sermon. The Rev. Baker then preached the ordination message from 2 Timothy, Chapter 4, challenging Mr. and Mrs. Pelletier to remain pure in their work in the ministry. Following the ordination message, the Rev. Philip

Boykin presented the ministerial charge to Mr. and Mrs. Pelletier, citing passages from the Original Free Will Baptist Covenant. A prayer and "Laying On Of Hands" then followed with the Rev. Boling leading the prayer. Other ordained ministers participating in the "Laying On Of Hands" included the Revs. Frank Harrison, Philip Boykin, Fred Baker, Edmundo Gonzalez, Bruce Dudley, Harry Jones, and Billy Reynolds. Following the prayer, a Bible was presented to Mr. Pelletier by the Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez. The Ordination Certificate was then presented by the Rev. Frank Harrison. The congregation then participated in the extending of the "Hand Of Christian Fellowship." After brief comments of appreciation by Mr. Pelletier, the Rev. Billy Reynolds closed the service with prayer.

Mr. Pelletier is a native of LaGrange, NC and a member of Daly's Chapel Church. He is a 1984 graduate of North Carolina State University with a degree in Education. He is employed by Washington County Schools as a teacher. Mr. Pelletier was the 1992 Teacher of the Year in Washington County and that same year was named Outstanding Young Agriculture Teacher for North Carolina. Mr. Pelletier is currently pursuing a degree in Church Ministry at Mount Olive College.

Mr. Pelletier was married to the former Miss Shirley Tarkington, of Creswell, NC in November 1992. They will reside in the Mount Tabor Church Parsonage in Creswell. Mount Tabor Church is a member of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

Calling All
TEENS!

BATTLE FRONT
Glenn Mills—Director 919-735-3916
Retreat Date—April 17–20, 1995

Calling All
TEENS!

Hey Teens! Are you overwhelmed by problems? Do you find yourself arguing and disagreeing with your parents and can't get along with your teachers or even adults in general? Do your friends seem unconcerned and distant? Does hanging with the "in crowd" leave you feeling empty? Does it seem that all you have is bad grades, bad days and bad ways, and you can't figure out why you feel as if the world is closing in on you?

Chances are you are experiencing "spiritual warfare." That's right. It's Satan and his army of demons that is causing you all the confusion. So what's a teen to do? Simple! You need *relief*, *help* and *direction* that Battle Front offers.

Battle Front is the name given to a four-day spring retreat at Cragmont. The event will be Monday, April 17 through Thursday, April 20. This is the week of Easter vacation when teens are out of school. What better way to spend Spring Break than growing closer to God in the mountains of North Carolina.

This retreat is open to all teens and their friends. The ages for Battle Front are 13 to 19 years old. The cost of the retreat is \$135 per person. This covers transportation, lodging and food (except lunch Monday, dinner Wednesday and lunch Thursday). Battle Front will be limited to 80 teens on a first-come first-serve basis. To reserve a spot, a \$50 deposit is required which is nonrefundable after March 1, 1995. Topics will range from "How to Recognize Satan's Attacks" to "Living the Victorious Life in Jesus." This is truly an event that teens will not want to miss. Teens interested should reply as soon as possible.

Please send your deposit and application to:
Battle Front
752 Stoney Creek Church Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534

If you have any questions, contact Glenn Mills at 919-735-3916.

APPLICATION FORM

"BATTLE FRONT"

Name _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ Sex _____ Birthdate _____ School Grade Next Fall _____

Parents/Guardians _____

Home Telephone _____

Church _____ Minister _____

Make all checks payable to 'BATTLE FRONT'

Today's Date _____ Application Fee Attached \$ _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian



**"It's a busy time of the year,"
I can hear the people say.
Running here, Rushing there
Don't get in their way.**

**We spend so much valuable time
Decorating every little thing;
We forget the meaning of Christmas
And the wonder about which we sing.**

**Why not take some time this year
As you gather with folks you know;
To remember the birth of a baby boy
And how He helped us grow.**

**Take a fresh look at Sunday School
See the difference there will be;
If you commit your life to spread the news
That Christ lives for you and me.**

**The Sunday School Board thanks each of you
For remembering our work when you pray.
May the coming year open new doors
Of opportunity everyday.**

—Mary Dudley



CONVENTION HONORS DR. RAPER

As a part of the special event honoring President W. Burkette Raper's 40 years of leadership as president of Mount Olive College, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists contributed \$500.00 to the W. Burkette Raper Scholarship Endowment Fund.

This event included dinner in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, music by the Mount Olive Singers, and honors and recognitions from the College's Board of Trustees, the student body, the Academic Community of North Carolina, Mount Olive and Wayne community, the U. S. Congress, the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the state of North Carolina and others. Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Professor Emerita of Science, also made a special presentation.

In addition to the Convention's contribution, a plaque was also presented, which read as follows:

Presented to
DR. W. BURKETTE RAPER

In recognition and appreciation for 40 years of dedicated service to Original Free Will Baptists as President of Mount Olive College.

1954—1994

FULFILLING A VISION

"Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes (Isaiah 54:2).

Presented by
The Convention of
Original Free Will Baptists
November 5, 1994

The presentations were made by the Rev. Ray Wells, president of the Convention, and the Executive Administrator.

AN OVERSIGHT

In last month's "Notes and Quotes" regarding the flood relief contributions, we failed to list the Mount Zion Church as one of the Albemarle Conference churches that contributed to the flood effort. In fact, it was the first that responded to the appeal for help.

Also, we listed May's Chapel as being of the Albemarle, which should have been Hickory Chapel. (I can't really explain that one, except for the fact that Brother Robert "May" has served the church for many years.)



Wishing Each Of You
A Blessed And Glorious
Christmas Season

Convention of Original Free Will Baptists
Headquarters
C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Article Reprinted from December 18, 1946

THE BIRTHDAY OF HOPE

Henry Melvin, Pastor
Edgemont Church, Durham, N. C.

"But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."—Galatians 4:4-5.

The past is a picture of tragedy and triumph. The present has its shadows shot through with faith and hope all because of what happened on that far off day "when." Bethlehem's manger marked a new starting point in the reckoning of years. However obscure His birth, however shadowed His life, however tragic His sufferings or shameful His death, this Man was a King. His coronation has been long delayed and may yet be far in the future. Be it soon or late, the ageless Christ is ever the dominant figure of our race. The reason is in our text!

A definite date is the first challenging thought. "When the fulness of time was come." No man knows the exact date of the world's most amazing event—the incarnation of the Son of God. The Scriptures declare the date to be very definite—a set time. It was God's time. Foretold by God-appointed messengers.

It was a time of desperate need. Roman arms had carried the Roman eagle and law everywhere—one system of government throughout the then known world. Greek culture had penetrated all centers of learning and given a common language to all. The Jews had been scattered abroad carrying their religion and their Scriptures full of startling prophecies, adding the final touch for the perfect background for the advent of Him of whom they spake. Yet with all the Roman glory and boasted justice, half the population were slaves. With all the culture of

Greece, women were little better than cattle and children were a nuisance. With all the religion of the Jews, the world stood hopelessly condemned. Something had to be done to meet the need and God did it. "When the fulness of time had come God sent forth His Son."

Suppose Christ had not come? Without a Saviour this world would be heathen—a paralyzed world—a hopeless world—a lost world.

A gracious gift is the next thought of the text: "God sent forth His Son." The keenest mind, the most understanding soul must stand baffled and abashed at the thought. Who can know what lay back of the sending—Eternal purpose? Immutable will? Immeasurable love? Yes—all of these and more. "His Son" was His gift to the world. The essence of all God is. The expression of all God thinks. The embodiment of all God feels. The revelation of all God wills—all the fulness of the Godhead. From eternity into time, from the supreme splendor of the Father's House to the sordid squalor of a way-side stable, God's glorious Son was sent.

Then look at the miraculous method of sending: "made of a woman, made under the law." No birth like this one before or since. "Made of a woman" we are told. Begotten of the Holy Spirit, thus giving us the human and the divine, born sinless under the law. It was the birthday of hope for a sinful world. "Made under the law." Subject to all the law ever written. Exempt from no test of it. He was immune from nothing but sin and drained the cup of human woe to the bitter dregs. Every demand that any law ever made, He met and fulfilled.

The passionate purpose behind it all is clearly stated: "To redeem them that were under the law." Redemption of man has ever been God's desire. Mankind lay helpless. He

had no hope. The Son of God voluntarily became one with the enslaved sons of men that He might buy us out of bondage. Imagine it! We who were slaves might "receive the adoption of sons." No longer slaves but sons! No longer aliens and strangers but citizens of His kingdom. We who were afar were made nigh. "As many as received Him, to them gave He the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name."

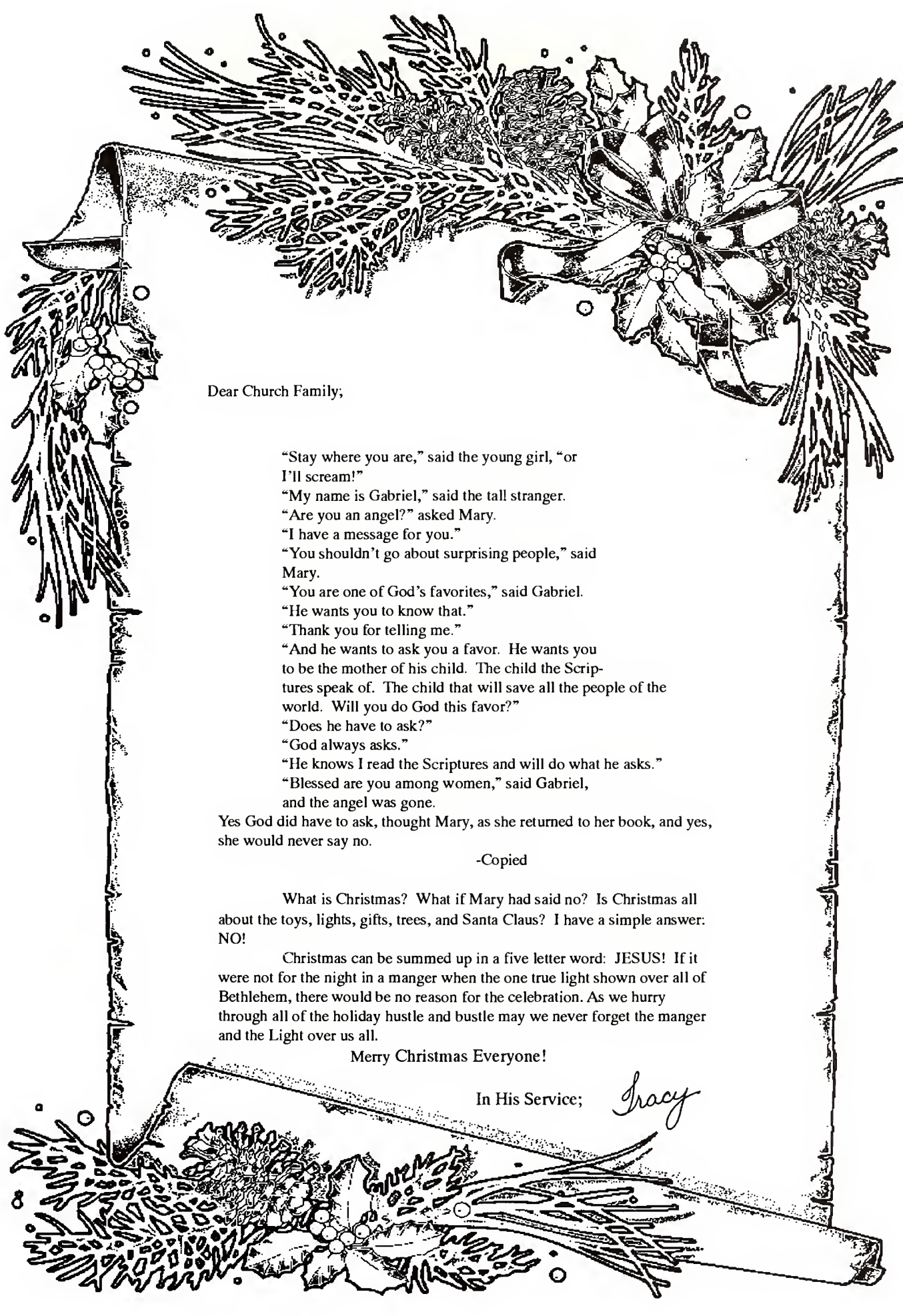
"Love built a stair from Heaven to earth
Whereon the Prince of Peace came down,
Rejoicing in the manger birth,
Refusing worldly crown."

"Love's cross replaced the golden stair
And Calvary then carved a door,
That swings to keys of faith and prayer—
Could love do more?"



*May each of you
have a
Joyous Season
and a
Blessed
New Year!*

*The Staff and
Management
of
The Free Will Baptist
Press Foundation, Inc.*



Dear Church Family;

"Stay where you are," said the young girl, "or I'll scream!"

"My name is Gabriel," said the tall stranger.

"Are you an angel?" asked Mary.

"I have a message for you."

"You shouldn't go about surprising people," said Mary.

"You are one of God's favorites," said Gabriel.

"He wants you to know that."

"Thank you for telling me."

"And he wants to ask you a favor. He wants you to be the mother of his child. The child the Scriptures speak of. The child that will save all the people of the world. Will you do God this favor?"

"Does he have to ask?"

"God always asks."

"He knows I read the Scriptures and will do what he asks."

"Blessed are you among women," said Gabriel, and the angel was gone.

Yes God did have to ask, thought Mary, as she returned to her book, and yes, she would never say no.

-Copied

What is Christmas? What if Mary had said no? Is Christmas all about the toys, lights, gifts, trees, and Santa Claus? I have a simple answer: NO!

Christmas can be summed up in a five letter word: JESUS! If it were not for the night in a manger when the one true light shown over all of Bethlehem, there would be no reason for the celebration. As we hurry through all of the holiday hustle and bustle may we never forget the manger and the Light over us all.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

In His Service;

Tracy



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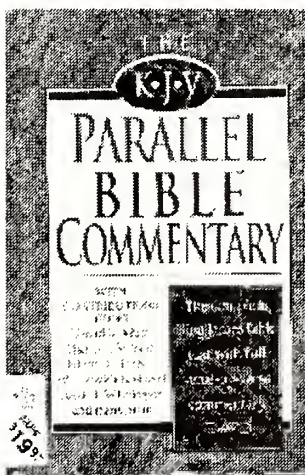
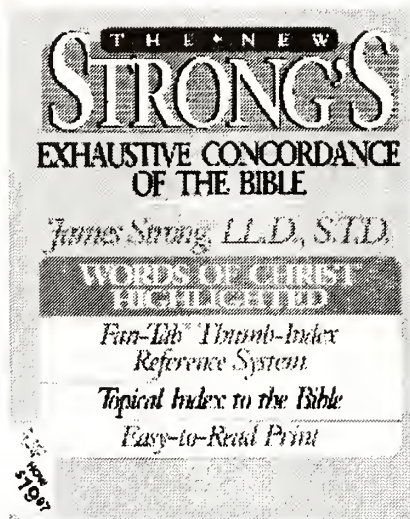
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