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The Free Will Baptist

January 1995

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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NEXT MONTH

February
is
Christian
Education
Month

January
is
Retirement
Homes Month

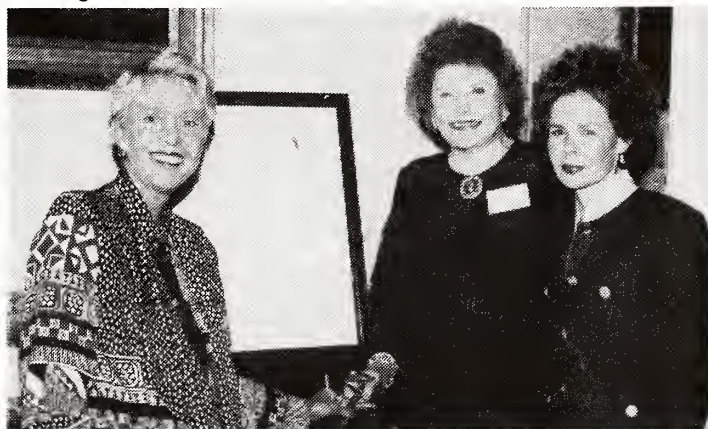
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MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE CELEBRATES ITS HISTORY AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College



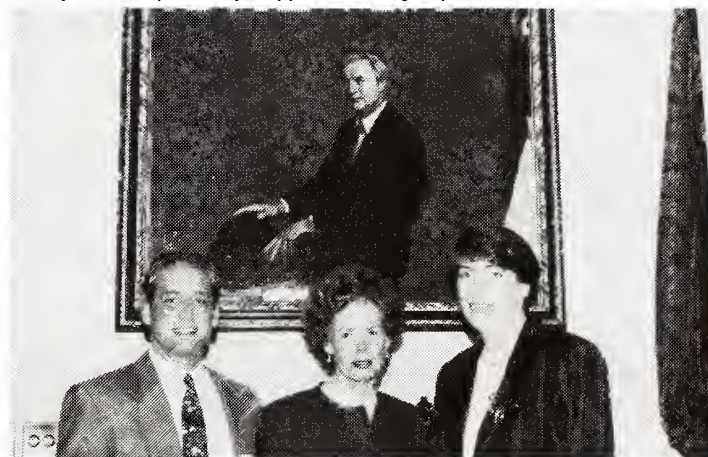
Left to right: Kim Quinn, Michelle Quinn, Gary Bailey, Kristie Bailey, John W. Welloris. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



Lee Witte's celebrative North Carolina poem was in the entrance hallway of the Governor's Mansion. Left to right: Pepper Worthington, Lee Witte, Carolyn Hunt. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



Friends of MOC from across the state attended the noon luncheon at the Governor's Mansion. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



MOC senior class president, Scott Bircher (left) stands with Carolyn Hunt (center) and MOC SGA president, Janet Corbett. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



Left to right: Cliff Witte, Governor James B. Hunt, Lee Witte, Carolyn Hunt. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



MOC Board of Trustee member Nido Qubein applauds Dr. W. Burkette Raper for his 40 years of service to MOC. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

(Continued on next page)

Rain pelted eastern North Carolina with a fury Monday night, November 21, 1994. Soaked from socks to cap, Dr. Burkette Raper joined his wife Rose to prepare for a drive to Raleigh. Eventually the two of them zigzagged through the thunderstorm from Mount Olive to the Bailey-Tucker House in Raleigh where Cliff and Lee Witte were waiting for them. The Rapers and Wittes were guests at North Carolina's official state government guest house, a two-story Georgian house at 213 E. Lane Street directly across from the Governor's Executive Mansion.

The celebration of Mount Olive College and its historical significance to eastern North Carolina was scheduled as a luncheon in the Governor's Executive Mansion the next day at noon. The Wittes were to be the guests of honor as well as sixty friends of the College.

When I awoke the morning of November 22, 1994, I jumped to look out the window. Sunshine! Warmth! I thanked the Giver of all gifts and proceeded to get ready. The noon luncheon was to be an historic occasion for Mount Olive College. Excited, I dressed to Mozart, ate oat bran, collected my wits, and headed towards Raleigh. The day ahead would be a memory. And what is history but memories? Indeed, memories are the building blocks of our past and our future.

Governor and Mrs. James Baxter Hunt Jr. were at the entrance of the Executive Mansion to greet the Wittes and the friends of Mount Olive College for the celebrative luncheon of thanksgiving. Governor Hunt was exuberant as he told an anecdote. A group of school children were visiting the Executive Mansion, and Governor Hunt asked them, "By the way, children, do you know who owns this house?"

The children said, "You do."

Governor Hunt replied, "No, you do."

Guests moved about the entrance hallway, grand in its proportions, 90 feet long with 16-foot ceilings. Visually divided by Corinthian columns, the hallway featured a free standing grand staircase, a baroque revival pier table, and portraits of former governors who have resided in the mansion.

The Celebrative Luncheon

The celebrative luncheon was held in the ballroom, an elegant room with two fireplaces, two pairs of mirrors, two Sheffield chandeliers.

Governor Hunt welcomed the Wittes and sixty friends of Mount Olive College to the historic occasion in the Executive Mansion.

"A special group of people are here today to make this a better world," the Governor said. "I am delighted to have all of you here today. This is the beginning of the Thanksgiving season and we have a lot to give thanks for. It is a beautiful day. As you leave, feel free to walk around the Mansion grounds. *Fortune* magazine has rated this Mansion as the best place in America to do business. And the Mansion belongs to all of us," said the Governor.

As the Governor stood before the guests in the ballroom, he praised the people of North Carolina. "The state of North Carolina is a place our forefathers and mothers have built up. They established freedom here, liberty here. After a recent visit to South Africa, I visited some of the shanty towns and that trip just made me aware of how much we have here in North Carolina. Today what we have here are family and friends, people from the churches which have meant the most to us. My father is here. Miss Pearl is here. My home church pastor, Ray Wells, is here," he said.

The Governor smiled.

"We are here today to celebrate, to re-establish our priorities. The most important building we have to do in North Carolina is the building of our people. We want our people not only to be smart but to be the kind of individuals God wants them to be. This country was built on that. Mount Olive College was built on that. We rededicate ourselves to that today," the Governor said.

"We give thanks to God for Mount Olive College. You all know the history of this College. You know about the great leadership of Nido Qubein, the Board of Trustees, Marvin Edwards. But the resolution to establish Mount Olive College was passed in my home church, the Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church. Mount Olive College is one of our blessings in North Carolina. I would like to say at this season that we should give thanks for Mount Olive College and all the College has meant to us, to our family, to our community, to eastern North Carolina," said the Governor.

"A lot of you have worked hard for Mount Olive College," continued Governor Hunt. "And a lot of you will work harder for the College in the future. The College is worthy of our efforts, of our inspiration. And today we celebrate. We welcome two special guests from Los Angeles, Cliff and Lee Witte. When I was out in Hollywood trying to recruit for the movie industry in North Carolina, the Wittes picked me up at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel and took me to the Los Angeles Country Club for lunch. At this club people had heard about North Carolina and Mount Olive College from them. Let me tell you, this beautiful lady, Lee Davenport Witte, has really begun to write, to discover her own talents as a poet. Her wonderful husband Cliff has encouraged her to write and to publish. Lee Witte's poetry has been published by the Mount Olive College Press. Two of her books, *Levora* and *Because I Love You*, are special to us in North Carolina. The Mount Olive College Press was fortunate to discover her and to have her come back to North Carolina. She didn't come back to North Carolina for 49 years after she left at 16. But she and her husband are back today. We are proud of her poetry. We are proud she has come back to North Carolina. Both she and her husband live in Los Angeles but their hearts reside back in North Carolina," concluded Governor Hunt.

Lunch was served. Our table of seven never lacked for conversation. In fact, over iced tea, Free Will Baptist

minister, Gary Bailey, of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, revealed how he met his wife Kristie.

"I met her at Moye Library one afternoon," he said. "I never saw her again for a year. The next time I saw her, I didn't let her get away," he admitted.

"I was serving at one of Mount Olive College's dinners for ministerial students," explained Kristie. "He kept emptying his tea glass. He called me after that. He had to get Jean Ackiss' permission first," she said with a laugh.

Their daughter, Suzanne Bailey, will be going to Mount Olive College in 1995.

Next to me was Kim Quinn, a former student of mine. He had taken a drama course under me and performed in the play, "No Connection." His wife Michelle had graduated from Meredith, my alma mater too. Mr. Quinn is currently in the cattle business and noted the decline in prices in North Carolina. According to him, beef is only drawing around 75 cents a pound while hogs are selling for 28 cents a pound. Mr. Quinn has 500 head of cattle and he was optimistic about the future as he discussed the ups and downs of the industry. His wife Michelle too was optimistic, and her part-time work in teaching and helping in her mother's shop in Kenansville make her days full.

Next to me also was a bright, alert, humorous man, John H. Wellons. Energy seemed to spill from the pockets of his navy suit and curious eyes.

"I went to the Micro Free Will Baptist Church," he said as he explained his interest in Mount Olive College. "All this was before you were born," he noted with a chuckle. "I worked for a local doctor in Micro, Dr. Milford Hinnant. He had a lot of arms. Do you know it took 100 mules to tend his farms? That's right—100 mules. Doc would ask me if I wanted to ride with him out on his calls. I went and that was an education. Know what he called maternity cases? Eternity cases," he noted with a laugh.

Mr. Wellons discussed the importance of timing in his life, because his success came as an outgrowth of buying and selling at the right time. His work diversity included Wellons' candy, real-estate building, and banking leadership. Currently he serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors at First Federal Savings Bank.

Cliff and Lee Witte

Lee Davenport Witte spoke to the group. "Gratitude opens doors," she began. In her remarks, she recalled her personal history and noted the importance of coming home to North Carolina as a way of completing the circle of her life. The warmth of her family in Creswell to her and to her husband Cliff has made them both Tar Heels at heart.

In a memory of historical significance, Cliff Witte recalled the hardships of his grandparents, Albert and Edith, in Oklahoma. The harsh Oklahoma summers and winters made his grandparents eventually leave and settle along the Gulf Coast

of Florida. There Cliff's grandfather, whom he lovingly called "daddypops," taught him the value of a dollar. His daddypops took him to a bank, introduced him to the president, and opened a savings account of one dollar. That summer young Cliff painted five houses for daddypops, saved \$19, put the money in his account, and learned the value of a dollar.

"I was a very affluent young man then. Daddypops instilled in me at my young age the instinct to husband and allocate resources that come my way," he noted.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper

Dr. W. Burkette Raper rose to speak. "I thank all of you for coming today. Governor and Mrs. Hunt, thank you for being gracious hosts today to celebrate the historical significance of Mount Olive College. Those of you here today are among the best friends of Mount Olive College. You are among the best people in America. We thank you for the values, vision, and meaning of what you represent here today. Yesterday we closed a chapter in this history of Mount Olive College. We sold our downtown campus. Governor, this building we voted to buy in September 1953. The price then was \$25,000. The Board of Trustees raised \$4,000 and we were given 11 years to pay the rest. We sold it yesterday for twice what we paid for it. This year for the first time we have transferred all of our operations to the main campus," he said.

"Mount Olive College is experiencing a metamorphosis," reported Dr. Raper. "We are a butterfly coming out of a cocoon."


Nido Qubein of High Point

Nido Qubein of High Point rose to speak. "I came 7,000 miles to attend Mount Olive College. I am proud of my alma mater. Governor, you have never said you are too busy to stand up to speak for Mount Olive College. You have stood tall for this College. Dr. and Mrs. Raper, there is not a day I don't thank you for the scholarship I got in 1966. North Carolina is the land of the free and the land of the brave. I chose to live in North Carolina though I do little business here. We are now at the beginning of a journey and we must unlock the reservoir," he concluded.

Last Words

Dr. Raper stood to say one final word. "Today has been chapter one in this new metamorphosis for Mount Olive College."

The last word came from the Governor. "Let us build the future. The best is yet to come," he declared.



COVENANT

3rd Anniversary Sing

JAMES B. HUNT HIGH SCHOOL
Saturday, January 14, 1995 7:00 PM



with Special Guests



Sallie Ard
Miss Mt. Olive



The Birchers



Steve Wilson

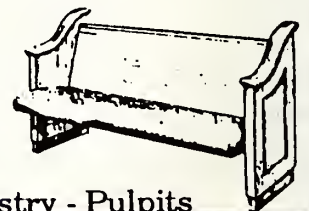
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Hello—Goodbye

Dot Pierce to Retire

Article submitted by Dot Pierce



Pictured are Lexine Davis (left) and Dot Pierce (right). Dot Pierce is retiring from the FWB Press and Lexine Davis will be taking her place. We wish Dot all the best in her retirement and welcome Lexine in her new position.

I moved to Ayden in 1966 from Fieldale, Va. I came to work at the Free Will Baptist Press in 1970. I have seen many changes, but always our intentions were to serve and promote Christian books, Christian music, Bibles and Christian literature.

I feel our dedication to our many customers has made this a real ministry to Eastern NC. I am proud to have been a part of serving the Lord in this way. Thanks to all of you who have helped to make this possible.

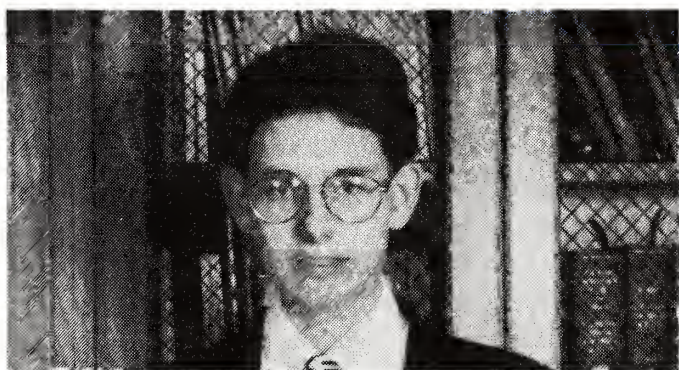
A special thank you goes to the Rev. Walter Reynolds for hiring me, the Rev. D. C. Hansley for giving me the position I am retiring from, and Cliff Gray the present executive director for his continuing support as I make this decision, and all the employees I have worked with at the Press.

My husband Burleigh Crouch Sr. died in 1981. I have three children, Burleigh Crouch Jr., Cindy Eadus, and Debby Pierce; six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

In 1987 I married Retired Colonel Sammy Pierce and acquired six step children, eight step grandchildren, and three step great grandchildren.

I plan to enjoy all the things I was not able to do while working. I like to travel. We are planning a trip to Ireland in the summer to attend a wedding and take in the sights while we are there. Visiting all the children and grandchildren will take a long time because they are scattered all over the world.

Hello to Gary Wayne Lee



Gary Wayne Lee, formally of Four Oaks, NC now resides in Middlesex, NC.

He was recently hired as Director of Church and Public Relations. Gary is a graduate of South Johnston High School and a 1992 graduate of Johnston Community College with an A.A.S. in Business Administration.

Mr. Lee, a 1994 graduate of Mount Olive College, received his B.S. in Business Administration with a major in Business Management.

His activities at Mount Olive College include being involved in Phi Beta Lambda business organization (FBLA/PBL) for three years and served as president of the Zeta Epsilon chapter at Mount Olive College. He was Senior Class Treasurer of Mount Olive College Class of 1994 as well as Resident Assistant at the College.

“I am looking forward to serving the Free Will Baptist denomination in a greater capacity. I owe much appreciation to Mount Olive College for the education I received. My faith in God and the support of my church has given me the confidence to succeed in my work.”

Mr. Lee is a member of Faith Free Will Baptist Church in Four Oaks, NC.

WHO ART THOU?

(Who We Are As Original Free Will Baptists)

by the Rev. Mike Scott

TEXT: *Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? (John 1:22).*

When John the Baptist began his public ministry he was something of a curiosity. Here was a man who made his home in the wilderness; he dressed as a nomad; he ate locusts and wild honey; he preached a radical message of repentance; he baptized in the River Jordan; and he dared to condemn the life-style of even the most upright of citizens. Some people were even debating as to whether or not he were the Messiah. John's actions were not unnoticed by the Pharisees, the religious leaders of the day, and they sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to question John as to who he was, what he was doing, and by whose authority he was doing it. In this verse these men from Jerusalem come to John and ask him, "Who art thou; what sayest thou of thyself?" They were concerned about John's opinion of himself.

Today, the world may be asking the same questions of Original Free Will Baptists. Who are we? What do we as Original Free Will Baptists have to say about ourselves? We believe that we are a church established by God, and we believe that we have an important role in His kingdom. We are convinced that God has a purpose for our existence, and that He is leading us to fulfill that purpose. But who are we really? What can we say definitely and definitively about ourselves? There are, to be sure, many answers that can be given to these questions, but I would like to suggest three statements that describe who we are as Original Free Will Baptists.

First of all Original Free Will Baptists are a Biblical people. We hold the Holy Scriptures in high regard, and as best we can, we are faithful to teach, preach, believe, and live in accordance to the teachings of God's Word. We don't seek to water down the message or to compromise Biblical principles. We stand steadfast and true on the revelation that is the Word of God.

To read our *Articles of Faith* is to take a "crash course" in Systematic Theology. We take the major doctrines of the Bible, state what we believe about each one, and then list the Scripture references to underscore why we accept these things as true. We don't attempt to speak for the Bible; rather, we allow the Bible to speak for Itself. We don't align ourselves with the liberal element that sees the Bible as contradictory and error prone. We stand on the truth of Scripture and cast our lot with those who take God at His Word. Consider our doctrinal statement concerning the Holy Scriptures—

We believe these are the Old and the New Testaments, that they were written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed word to man. We believe that they are a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service.

As Original Free Will Baptists we accept the truth of God and live by that truth daily.

Our tradition of being a Biblical people goes back to our conception as a denomination. Our founding fathers came out of the English General Baptist heritage which believed in a general atonement (God's grace is extended to all people). While many of the major denominations today trace their roots to a Calvinistic background, and to the belief that only the elect can be saved; our position has ALWAYS been Armenian and our doctrine has ALWAYS been based on salvation by grace through faith to whosoever would believe. Throughout our history we have held fast to this principle.

Secondly, Original Free Will Baptists are a BLESSED people. One only has to look at our history to see that it is only by the sovereign grace of God that we are in existence at all today. According to Dr. Floyd B. Cherry's *Introduction to Original Free Will Baptists* we came near to the point of extinction on several occasions. In 1765 the Particular Baptists made inroads into the young denomination and only 3 ministers and 6 churches remained faithful. Forty-two years later (1812) we were down to 3 ministers and 5 churches. Shortly after this we experienced tremendous growth. In a two year period (1827-1829) we added 11 churches, 14 ministers and 1100 members. The Shiloh and Bethel Conferences were formed and the future looked bright. Then, in the 1840's many of our churches and ministers were lost to the Cambellite movement. In the face of this crisis we were preserved by God, and the remnant that remained started over. Other hardships faced over the years were the loss of several ministers in the 1850's over the issue of "Masonic and Odd Fellow Orders," the loss of both ministers and churches in the early 1900's to the Pentecostal movement, and the 1961 separation from the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Peter says that we "are kept by the power of God" (1 Peter 1:5). Throughout our history God has preserved us and kept us through one difficulty after another. If it were not for

God and His blessings upon His church and His people Original Free Will Baptists would only be a memory in the minds of people. We are a blessed people. I am convinced that God has a place, a plan and a purpose for our denomination, and I am further convinced that as long as we remain faithful to Christ, His will and His Word, God will keep us here, and He will continue to bless us and to use us.

In the fifth chapter of Acts the Apostles are arrested and imprisoned for the testimony that they give concerning the work of Christ. When they are brought before the Sanhedrin and forbidden to speak anymore concerning Christ, Peter says, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). The Jewish officials were so angered by this response that they wanted to kill the entire lot of them, but one of the Pharisees, Gamaliel, allowed reason to prevail and simply suggested to allow the infant church to carry on its work. His reasoning was, ". . . if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God" (Acts 5:38-39). I believe that our denomination falls under the same guidelines. If what we do is not of God, it will simply come to nought, but, if it be of God, it will prevail. And praise God it has prevailed over the past two and a half centuries. Jesus said that He would build His church and that "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). We ARE a blessed people. Thanks be unto God for His power and for His protection.

Third of all, Original Free Will Baptists are a BENEVOLENT people. We have a history of loving service to mankind. Christ taught that His followers were to be a giving people, individuals who would sacrifice so that others might receive. Jesus said that, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35), and He set about living out that concept on a daily basis. The compassion of Christ is unmatched. Everything that He did reflected the concern that He had for others. By example He taught His followers to be a benevolent people.

One of Christ's most familiar parables is the story of the Good Samaritan. In that parable it was the Samaritan who helped the wounded traveler after the Priest and the Levite passed by on the other side. By rescuing the man from certain death, binding up his wounds, caring for him, and paying someone else to take over after he left, the Samaritan was the friend to the stranger in need. "Go, and do thou likewise" (Luke 10:36) is the point that the Master draws from this account.

As Original Free Will Baptists we have attempted to "do likewise" to the best of our abilities. We have not been afraid to venture into the unknown waters of Child Care (1915), Christian Education (1952) and Ministry to the Elderly. These

endeavors along with our Camping Programs and Missionary Efforts, both at home and abroad, enable us to do the benevolent work that God expects out of His people. Original Free Will Baptists are a loving, caring, giving people in order that the love of God in Christ might be ministered unto others.

I can't speak of other churches, but I can speak for the church which God has allowed me to pastor the past 11 1/2 years (Wintergreen FWB Church—Cove City). There is not a need in our community that we don't try to meet. It may be an elderly person who needs fuel oil for the winter, or it may be a family that has been burned out, or it may be someone who is simply passing through and need a meal or gas for the car; in all of these instances the church has been willing to give. And after all, isn't this what Christ has taught us to do? To give but "a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple" (Matthew 10:42) is to be insured a place in His kingdom. The church of God is a benevolent body of believers.

"Who art thou, what sayest thou of myself?" These were the questions asked of John the Baptist. These are the same questions that we need to ask about ourselves. Every Christian denomination has a reason for existence. God has a place and a purpose for each of us. Original Free Will Baptists are unique. We are unlike any other group of people serving God's kingdom. He has established us and He is using us, and I believe that He will continue to use us until Jesus comes again. So, who are we as Original Free Will Baptists? We are a Biblical people, a Blessed people, and a Benevolent people.

O FOR A CLOSER WALK

O that I might walk so close
To Thee My Saviour dear;
When encompassed by life's storm
I'll have no need to fear.

May your sweet Spirit guide me
On my journey here below
However hard my duty
Your will I long to do.

O may I ever share it
With all whom I contact;
Each day make me a blessing
There'll be no turning back

Give me each day re-filling
Of matchless grace devine;
That some day I may meet You
In Heaven, Precious Jesus,—Love Sublime.

Katie Roper

"A Glorious Experience"

A Biography of the Rev. C. L. Patrick

by Keith A. Pelletier

Christopher Lafayette (C. L.) Patrick was born on August 17, 1911 in Ayden, North Carolina to parents Joe and Carrie Patrick. The oldest of four children, he grew up on a farm in the country and remembers many hours spent following a mule and plow. He received his schooling in Ayden where he distinguished himself by representing Ayden High School in debating contests at Chapel Hill in 1928-29, and by graduating from the High School with high honors in 1929. In the Fall of 1929, he enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he studied for two years. However, in 1931 he fell victim to the Great Depression and was forced to withdraw from the University because he was "broke." He began to search for employment, but jobs were scarce and he was unable to find work.

In 1932, faced with the circumstances of the Depression, he decided to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. He remembers his time in the Marine Corps as "four miserable years" and says "I didn't like it at all." However, he does note that being a Marine gave him the opportunity to see places he would not have seen otherwise. He spent fifteen months in Peking, China; sailed through the Panama Canal; and served aboard the USS Augusta—the flagship of the US Asiatic Fleet—under the command of Captain, later Admiral, Chester W. Nimitz.

With his enlistment in the Marine Corps completed in 1936, Mr. Patrick returned home and in 1937 bought a farm, on credit, in the Hanrahan community of Pitt County and began farming for a living. In the summer of that same year he met Clara Smith, and three months later, on October 12, 1937 they were married. The Rev. Patrick remembers his marriage as "one of the

best moves I ever made," partly because it was his marriage that helped arouse spiritual awareness in his life. He confesses that "I never considered salvation until I met my wife." He notes that Mrs. Patrick was faithful in worship attendance and he just went along with her. He says that his wife's patience and her "Christian example and faithfulness to the church" had a lot of influence on him; "it still does" he adds. On the second Sunday in April, 1940, the Patricks attended worship at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church where the Rev. Mac Prescott was pastor. Mr. Patrick remembers that as he went to church that morning "I hadn't made plans to get saved that day," but when Mr. Prescott gave this simple invitation, "The doors of the church are open," C. L. Patrick felt the urging of the Spirit and came forward. "I was the only one who came up that day," he recalls. He remembers the "wonderful feeling that all my sins were forgiven. I cried like a baby with tears of joy." When time came for his baptism, Mr. Prescott, who was elderly and feeble, arranged for the Rev. R. B. Spencer to perform the baptism which would be done in Little Creek, only 100 yards from the Little Creek OFWB Church. Mr. Patrick remembers that R. B. Spencer "cut a pole and walked out into the creek testing the depth of the water. When he got to the right depth he beckoned to me and I went out and was baptized."

In 1944 the Patricks moved to a farm near Elm Grove and Mr. Patrick began to teach an Adult Sunday School class at Elm Grove Church. During the summer of that year a terrible drought came to the Elm Grove community and members of the church began to hold a prayer service on Sunday night to pray for rain. Because they did not have the

services of a pastor for a Sunday evening service, Mr. Patrick began to conduct the prayer meetings. He remembers that it was during those prayer meetings at Elm Grove that his call into the ministry "became clearer each day." Soon rains came to the community and C. L. Patrick came to the ministry. He was licensed by Elm Grove Church in 1946 and was soon well on his way to a long career in the pastoral ministry.

In the Fall of 1946 the pastor at the First OFWB Church of Greenville suddenly resigned. Subsequently, Mr. Patrick was called by that church to serve as their acting pastor in October of that year. He recalls telling the church that as a licensed minister just starting out "I'll do the best I can." Another interesting memory from 1946 involves Mr. Patrick's first attendance at the annual meeting of the Central Conference. That year the Conference met at Shiloh Church, and because the Conference was a great occasion for a community in those days, the church was full and the overflowing crowd filled the church yard. Mr. Patrick remembers that "everybody came to the Conference" and there was an amazing assortment of vehicles, horses, buggies, carriages, and wagons around the church and that the yard was full of people mingling around. Upon entering the church Mr. Patrick was told to "Go out and preach on the stage." The "stage" turned out to be a platform set up outside the church from which preaching could be heard by those who couldn't fit into the church. Mr. Patrick remembers that "not many people paid attention. Most folks just kept mingling around. But still, I preached at the first Central Conference I ever attended."

April 20, 1947 saw C. L. Patrick ordained into the Gospel ministry after having been licensed for one year.

When he met with the Ordaining Council, which gave him an oral examination to determine his readiness for the Lord's work, there were five men on the Ordaining Council and Mr. Patrick recalls "they shot one question after another at me." The five men on that Ordaining Council were D. W. Alexander, N. B. Barrow, L. B. Manning, J. E. Wooten, and M. A. Woodard. Mr. Patrick remembers that D. W. Alexander was "a lot of help to me. He helped me get my first revivals." Upon his ordination, Mr. Patrick was called to be the first full time pastor of the Greenville Church and he moved into a parsonage that had been purchased for the church by a member, Mrs. Sophia Hardy. While at Greenville in 1947, he took special courses for the ministry at Atlantic Christian College which gave him a ministerial tuition discount. Mr. Patrick says "I have a soft spot in my heart for the Christian Church. They were good to me." Mr. Patrick stayed at the Greenville Church for two years and during that time saw 139 members added to the congregation.

In 1948, Mr. Patrick accepted calls to serve four separate churches. During that year he served Free Union OFWB Church on first Sundays; Pleasant Hill OFWB Church on second Sundays; Dawson's Grove OFWB Church on third Sundays; and Smith's New Home OFWB Church on fourth Sundays. In 1949 Free Union Church began to hold services on third Sundays also and Mr. Patrick resigned at Dawson's Grove. In 1952 he became the full time pastor at Free Union and remained there until 1978. He remembers that he has had a good ministry in every church he has pastored but it is his work at Free Union that Mr. Patrick remembers as the "crowning achievement of my life." On Sunday, November 7, 1993 Free Union Church celebrated its 150th anniversary with activities that included the bringing of the morning message by Mr. C. L. Patrick. Also during the service Mr. Patrick's daughter, Becky Clark, was asked to

read the following tribute to her father:

"Today, there is one who served this church with dedication for many years. I thank God first for calling him into the ministry 48 years ago, and I thank Free Union Church for calling him as Pastor.

During the thirty years that he served this church many accomplishments were made to the glory of God. We went from one Sunday a month service on to fulltime services, built a parsonage, a new church, renovated our educational department, and built a new fellowship building. The Master's Men, later known as the Layman's League and a Male Chorus were organized. Also, our Women's Auxiliary branched out into five circles, along with Youth Auxiliaries, a Little League Baseball Team, and the Scouts were all organized under his leadership as our Pastor.

During the 30 years he served this church, many souls were saved, many were brought closer to the Lord. He baptized many of us, performed our wedding ceremonies, dedicated our children, and in death, he conducted the funeral service for our loved ones. He was always there to share in our joys and sorrows.

Being a member of his family, I personally know of many times he was called out of bed all hours of the night to talk with someone, listen to someone, or just be there for someone when there was a need. I've seen he and Mother leave home before day just to be beside someone who was to undergo surgery. Never have I heard either of them complain. He was always there; not only for you people, but for his family as well. His Christian example has reflected in all our lives. Today we would like to honor this man in a special way so that we all may

remember him as well as generations to come."

Also, in a church history prepared for the anniversary, the following tribute to the Rev. Patrick appeared. "Approximately 500 people attended the first church service in the new sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 21, 1957. The Easter service was followed by a revival for seven days. The Rev. Patrick conducted the revival and forty-four members were added to the church."

While pastoring at Free Union for thirty years, and subsequently as pastor at Bethany OFWB Church from 1978-1987; and as pastor at White Oak Grove OFWB Church from 1989 to the present; resigned June 12, 1994—declining health. Mr. Patrick has been extensively involved in the work of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. His records indicate that over the years he has conducted 308 revivals stretching from Norfolk, Virginia to Dothan, Alabama; hundreds of weddings and funerals; and many High School Baccalaureate services. In 1957 he started the first Layman's League in the state at Free Union Church. He has served several terms as Moderator of the Central Conference and served many years on the Ordaining Council of that Conference. On the state level, Mr. Patrick served as Vice-President of the State FWB Convention from 1960-1962, and remembers well the events surrounding the withdrawal of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists from the National Association of Free Will Baptists in 1961. He recalls the split as a bad experience because "the brethren wouldn't dwell together in unity." He remembers that there was much great and heated debate and "it was hard to conduct business." During the dispute between the State Convention and National Association; by request of the Central, Eastern, Western, and Cape Fear conferences; Mr. Patrick was asked to serve as Parliamentarian for those four

largest conferences in the state.

From 1962-1964, Mr. Patrick served as President of the State OFWB Convention and was recognized with an award for distinguished service by the Convention. He has also served as Parliamentarian of both the State Convention and the Central Conference for many years, and has been chosen to preach at the State Convention four times. In July, 1964, Mr. Patrick was named the Rural Minister of the Year for the State of North Carolina by the Progressive Farmer Magazine and the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. As far as he knows he is the only OFWB minister to ever be awarded that recognition. In January, 1970, he was named as the Free Will Baptist Minister of the Year by the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Free Will Baptists. And, in April, 1987, Mr. Patrick was honored when his children, along with help from many friends, were successful in establishing a \$10,000.00 endowment fund to help ministerial students at Mt. Olive College.

Mr. Patrick certainly feels that he has been blessed with a long, fruitful and personally rewarding ministry. In

sharing his personal views of pastoral work, he says "I've enjoyed it so immensely. It has been a glorious experience." And, though he suffered three heart attacks in 1991 and 1992 he says "I'll preach as long as I can." Concerning the nature and work of the ministry he comments that the qualities of a effective pastor are: first, a love for both God and his people; and second, thoughtful and persistent study. He believes that the work of the pastor is to: first, preach the Word "in season and out of season"; and secondly, to visit and witness. He is emphatic in his view that "A home-going pastor makes a churchgoing people" and "Unless you live among the people, you can't do a good job," he says. He remembers stopping at farms in years past, sitting down in packhouses and helping to tie tobacco—"It was a good time and place to win souls."

For young pastors, Mr. Patrick recommends study and visitation. Quoting 2 Timothy 2:15 "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Mr. Patrick would remind ministers that "you can't preach that which you don't know."

Next he advises young ministers to pursue a rigorous schedule of "soul winning" visitation.

Mr. Patrick quickly recognizes the important role that a family plays in a minister's work and he gives much praise to his own family. He says "It was largely by the witness and example of my wife that I was saved. For more than fifty-five years she has helped and encouraged me. She started and directed many Children's Choirs. She has led many to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank the Lord for her. The Lord blessed us with four children: Becky Clark of Snow Hill, Barbara Herring of Kinston, Wayne Patrick of Greensboro, and Sue Hamm of Aurora. We have also been blessed with seven grandsons, two granddaughters, two great granddaughters, and one great grandson. And best of all, all of our children are Christians."

Mr. C. L. Patrick resigned as pastor of White Oak Grove OFWB Church in LaGrange, NC, on June 12, 1994 due to declining health. He stated in his own words, his part in serving, "The Lord Jesus Christ has been, and continues to be, '... a glorious experience.'"

Consulate General of Israel to Visit Arapahoe FWB

Arye Mekel, Consul General, will be ministering at Arapahoe Church on Sunday, February 5, 1995. From the southeastern United States Consulate base in Atlanta, he will be visiting for both services. During morning worship Consul General Mekel will be teaching on Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and their lineage, specifically from a Jewish perspective. Evening worship will consist of studies concerning the country of Israel, past and present. With special visual aids and many years of experience, Consul General Mekel will grant those present a wealth of information regarding the Jewish nation and God's chosen people.

Visitors are welcomed and those interested in past and current Israel are highly encouraged to participate in this unique worship opportunity. Services will begin at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. For more information contact the Rev. David Cauley

at 919-636-3032.

A statement from the Speakers Bureau regarding the Consul General states, "Consul General Mekel was born in the USSR in 1946 and immigrated to Israel in 1949. He received a Bachelors Degree in Political Science, a Bachelors Degree in English Language and Literature and a Masters in Communication from Hebrew University, and in addition to a Masters in Sociology from Columbia University. The Consul General was trained as a correspondent, editor, and broadcaster at Israel Broadcasting Authority's Training Center in Jerusalem. Consul General Mekel also served in the Israel Defense Forces. In addition, he has served in innumerable governmental and public capacities over the years, including: Senior Correspondent and Editor for Israel State Radio, Kol Israel (1970-76); Shaliach (emissary) for the World Zionist Organization (1976-79); Adjunct Professor for the Judaic Studies Department at the University of Cincinnati (1976-79);

New York Correspondent for Israel Military Radio (1980-84); Senior Researcher for the Political Research Center in Jerusalem (1984-85); Assistant in the Bureau of the Foreign Minister in Jerusalem (1985-86); Deputy Chairman for the State Cable Broadcasting Authority in Tel Aviv (1986-88); Political and Diplomatic Advisor to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir (1986-89), and Director General of the Israel Broadcasting Authority (1989-93). Consul General Arye Mekel is now stationed at the Consulate General of Israel in Atlanta, as Israel's highest ranking diplomat to the Southeastern United States, namely Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina. Possible lecture topics include: The Middle East Peace Process, Israel and the Diaspora Jewish Communities, Mass Media and Broadcasting in Israel and the Middle East, Relations between Israel, the United States and the Middle East, and Society and Culture in Israel."

Denominational Ministries

January 1995

Retirement Homes Month

“A Caring Ministry for the Retired”
Pray for this ministry each Sunday.

Sunday, January 22, 1995

is

Retirement Homes Sunday

Your gifts and offerings
will be appreciated!

Board of Directors

Billy Hardee, Chairman

Walter J. Sutton, Executive Director

Home Missions and Evangelism

In Answer To God's Call

It is not often easy to answer God's summons to ministry, but some cases demand a more concerted effort than others. The Reverend Mouatu Mouanoutoua, president of the Lao Evangelical Church in America has a story of commitment to Christian service that should inspire every servant of Jesus Christ. It is shared here, broken english and all, just as Tu tells it in his own words and style.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF MOUATU MOUANOUTOUA LIFE'S WORK

Tu is my given name, which sounds very close to "true" in English. I was born as the fifth son of the third wife among three of my father, Mr. Mouanoutoua.

After a brief period of self-education, I passed the state teacher exam and was trained in the state teacher academy for 2 years. I was primary school teacher and principal for 13 years from 1962 - 1975. During some of this early time, I also served as reserved forces for the Laos Royal Army from 1961 - 1965 helping U.S.A. secret effort to stop communism expansion in South East Asia. I also served the L.E.C. Church as its secretary from 1962 - 1970.

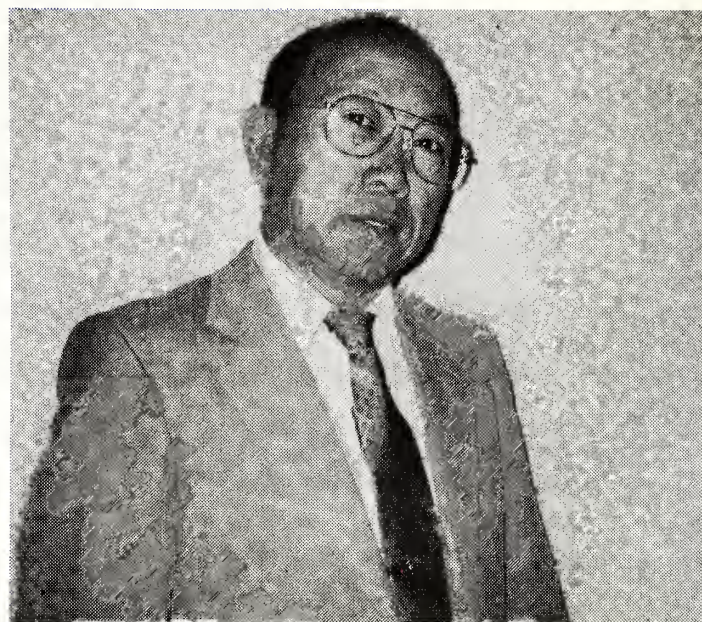
After the fall of Laos to Communist in 1975, I took my family out of the country. We lived in 3 of Thailand's Refugee camps for one year before coming to the United States in October 1st, 1976.

I was also a chairman of the Santa Ana, Lao Evangelical Church in Orange County, California from 1977 to 1984. After a short extensive ministering course, I became the president of L.E.C. National Board, head quarter in Santa Ana, California ending August 1988. Lastly, I served the Lord as the minister of L.E.C. of Fresno from 1989 - 1994

I am currently the new elected president of L.E.C., head quarter in Fresno for the next two years.

The turning point of my life took effect around February 1973, after the Royal Lao Government signed "The Agreement on the Restoration of peace and Recouncilation in Laos." I was freshly promoted to Account and Payroll Administrator for the Xiengkhouang Province Elimentary School, which at that time centered at Longchieng, also known as U.S.'s secret military base in Laos.

On April 1974, a new coalition Laos government was formed and around June the last Air America and U.S. military personel leaved Laos. Still the country was not at peace, Communist forces were advancing beyond cease fire line. Clashes and squirmishes were rampant at the front. By March 1975, general Vang Pao was ordered by the Prime Minister to stop counter attack the Communist force and retreat from the front. Two months later on May 9, 1975, the pathet Lao Communist paper Khao Xan Pathet Lao ran an article intimated the Communist Party's, "it is necessary to extirpate, down to the root, the Hmong minority."



May 12th, a mass exodus of air evacuation took place in Longchieng, an effort to safe guard some 2,500 high ranking Hmong military personels. The air lift at the base stopped on the 14th, in the afternoon I arrived at the base with plenty of time to witness the chaotic situation of a city in the mist of death. The mess of unwanted, discarded belongings piled all along and around the airport. Thousands of people scurried in many groups to ponder their fate.

I rushed to Ban Xone, some 60 miles south of Longchieng, only to see my closest relatives all but gone. At the market place I met my father in law, who had come for the rest of his family. We spent the night to discuss the possibility of where we were to go. He came to see me only after he had found out that all his sons and their families were gone. He lived in a small village about 45 miles away to the north. We prayed together that night for protection and salvation.

The next morning after he left, I was met by two strangers requested that I sell them some sack of rice. Earlier in the month, I had bought 12 sacks of rice to provide my family for the rest of the year. I was confused about their identity, they dressed in the Royal Lao army's green suit, but I had my doubt because a soldier in Laos had never go asking around to buy food. After a while of negotiation, they got the idea that I was not going to sell, and revealed themselves that they were in fact the Pathet Lao's soldier and had come to see the mayor who was my older brother, who was the mayor of Viengfa District in Xieng khouang Province. I told them that I was his younger brother and that he had gone. They wrote down what I said and left.

It immediately dawned on me that I had made a terrible mistake of revealing the mayor and my connection to him. I realized that big trouble was waiting for me, I could end up facing a false charge of not providing for the soldiers, or worse be round up to re-education (killing) camp any time soon. Either case, they were a price too heavy to pay. When I pondered about that fateful event, I was increasingly feeling uncomfortable.

Add to the fact that I am a Hmong, a soldier, an official of the former Lao government, and the news that Pathet Lao had publicized to exterminate the Hmong. I made my mind to find a quick way out of the sticky situation.

As time passed my emotions grew more uneasy, I got out of the house in the evening to the market place. I spot a small truck turned Taxi calling for customer to Vientiane. I knew right then that the Lord had answered my prayer. Afraid that there might be some other people going too, I asked the driver to spare the whole truck for me. He said I would need to come up with 35,000 kip (about \$150.00), by midnight we were in Vientiane. There I met our two stories house already filled with most of my closest relatives.

The next day May 15th, the men were divided into many small group to look for safe gate-away out of the country. We knew most of the Hmong leaders were away at some place in Thailand, and that was all that matter, we just have to cross to Thailand. About six in the evening, my nephew announced that we had to cross the river by boat. He said he had already arranged the guides, the boats, and the trucks to take our group to the mile-wide river. Due to the critical political situation and our large group, we could only cross at night as not to attract attention.

At 2:00 a.m., two large trucks came as promised and within an hour we were boarding and ready to cross over. It took three small canoe like boat making three trips each to clear all of us that night. It would be 6:30 a.m. the next day when we got to Nongkhai, a Thai town on the opposite of Vientiane. We stayed and slept on the ground of the Buddhist Temple for three days. There were already some other Hmong there before us.

At this time many Laotian were thinking that the Hmong were gone crazy, they were so ignorant of the fate that would soon befall them and Laos. Some even crossed over to laugh at us for leaving the country, many were happy that the Hmong would eventually dissappear way before any communist could actually start to exterminate us. Yet only 4 months later, they would flee after the Hmong in even larger numbers. It was so ironic, because many did not know that Hmong were dying in hundreds of thousands to protect them. It was quite an emotional issue at that time because, they had looked down on us who were doing most of the defense for Laos.

Many years later, my father in law would crossed safely to Thailand, however thousands of Hmong both Christian and non Christian were being shot and killed while trying to cross Mekong on the very spot that we did. I wondered then why did the Lord had allow such an inhuman execution happen only to the Hmong?

May 19th, 1975 we were moved to Nam Phong, an old U.S. training camp and lived there for eight months. We were again relocated to Ban Vinai Refugees Camp, just a mile off Mekong. Here many more Hmong were perished trying to exit Laos during the late 70's to the late 80's until the camp closed just over two years ago.

Mekong was a blood bath, devoured more than ten of thousand Hmong souls. A sad story of my people's suffering much liken to the red sea devouring the Egyptian with complex military tools instead of waves and wind. Only the Mekong did not spared the Homg but the commies.

It was indeed a price quite too high for Hmong to pay to take side with the U.S. and its military power. We Hmong were mass genocided with the chemical gases by the commies in the period between the late 1975 to the later part of 1992. More Hmong were perished by chemical toxins in the form of Yellow Rain, than those perished during the war. Hmong former ally, the U.S., United Nations, and the world citizen have no idea of a gentle people's suffering and their plea for help. The world's presses rarely mentioned our connection to U.S.'s with any form in any way, today they do not even acknowledge our involvement. They simply deny our very existence. Is this the lot for Hmong, the world's freedom protector?

Sadly, on the 30th, of September 1976, my family crossed the Pacific Ocean not on a canoe, but this time over the air, in a Boeing 747. We arrived in the state, the 1st of October 1976.

I praised the Lord to this day and will always for his blessing to me, my family, and my people. I pray now that any on reading this brief account of my life join me in every day's prayer for all the Hmong who continued to be persecuted with out an end. To this very minute, Hmong Refugees are being forced to repatriate back to Laos in many thousands. Many were forced back to their death, hundreds disappeared without a trace.

Our suffer is truly very great, may the Lord continued to watch over us and deliver us soon.



For more information about the Hmong people
and our ministry to them, contact:

Home Missions and Evangelism
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0039



JANUARY

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30	

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
1	2	3	4
8	9	10 + FWB Covention Executive Committe 10:00 a.m. + Press Deadline	11
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22	23	24	25 ● Mir
29	30	31 + Convention Officers 9:30 a.m.	I

G E N D

Previous/following month

Current month

- ◇ Children's Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Minister's Program
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Union Meeting
- Vandemere
- ⊕ Woman's Auxiliary

THU		FRI		SAT	
	5	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Layman's League Executive Committee Snow Hill, Elmer's Place 7:00 p.m. 	7	
	12	13		14	
	19	20		21	
Minister's Program 10:00 a.m.	26	27		28	
	2	3		4	

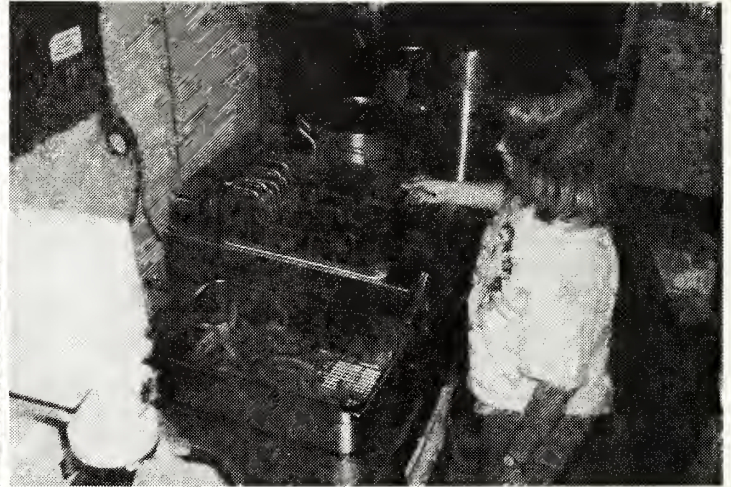
CRAGMONT HAPPENINGS



We had a great time for both Cragmont Club weekends.



Judy Rowe—Hard work sure tastes good!



Jennifer Willet cooks corn bread



"Smoking Pig"

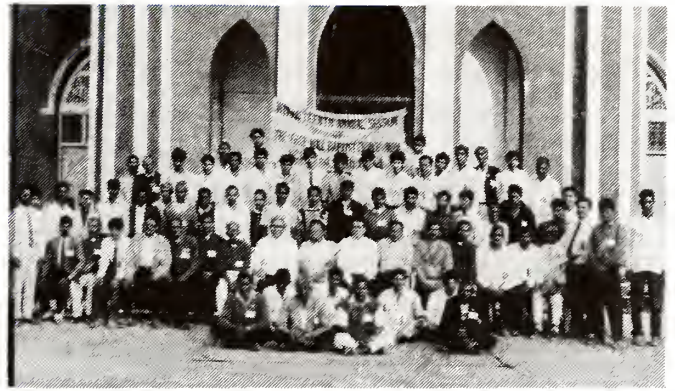


"Yum yum good pig"

NEWS FROM FOREIGN MISSIONS



Some school children at recess of Bhimbasti School in Nepal.



A group of Convention 1994 delegates.

NEWS FROM INDIA AND NEPAL

by Dr. E. M. Lall



Construction at Satpur



Our rural ministry continues



New Conversions

The past months of September and October 1994 have been of great despair in our country, especially the northern part where we live and work. There were deaths by plague, fire in railways, multiple road accidents, malaria and typhoid fever and the breaking of law and order situations rising out of job and seat reservations for certain casts in Government Departments and educational institutions. By the grace of God, none in our churches suffered due to any of these, though we lived under a constant drab, solely at the mercy of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, our activities were disrupted and slowed down, yet continued to marginal extent. The concern of our Director, the Rev. Harold Jones and the fervent prayers everywhere normalized the situation.

I made a trip to Nepal on October 29–30, 1994 to meet the congregations and also to inspect the four elementary schools at Dhangarhi, Kanchanpur, Phulwari and Bhimbasti. It was a great delight to see the progress among the congregations and the schools. Western Nepal where our work is located is utterly poor and therefore the communism is catching roots which may not be in the interest of Christian work. The country of Nepal is due for general election in a few days and there after we hope to receive agreement to work there.

The construction of school buildings is in full swing. The building at Tondalpur will be dedicated on the 14th of this month while the building at Asafpur is under painting and white washing. The building at Satpur is nearing completion while the fourth building at Shekhupura has just been started. As we look to these schools our hearts are filled with joy and gratitude to God and the Free Will Baptists in North Carolina.

The portable sports items have proved to be good assets in the English Elementary School at Agra. We thank the Lord for this provision.

Our village ministry continues in far off places and are the source of our achievement. We are expanding our work in the state of Bihar where Miss Laura Bernard worked for many years. The Rev. D. K. Wilson recently came to Bareilly with his delegates to attend the Annual Convention and we realized his needs presented him funds for two bicycles, Bibles and New Testaments and also for his travelling. The English church congregation at Bareilly helped us financially.

There were appreciable conversions and baptisms within these three months. The Kingdom of God is growing under His guidance and the Word is being preached far and near.

The Annual Convention of our denomination of both the countries of India and Nepal was held from November 3-7, 1994. It was a time of great rejoicing, retreat and fellowship together. There were 73 ministers, deacons and lay delegates. All important and regular yearly business was conducted, the progress of the church evaluated on the basis of reports received from each circuit. The reports are real encouraging and strengthening. Much more hope was visualized in the field of evangelism in the time to come. It was apparent from the meetings that our people feel greatly concerned for the cause of Christ and to expand our denominational work.

The need for raising more local support for various jobs was expressed by me and assurance was given for the same. I explicitly told the leaders of the congregations that for various odd jobs in the congregations they will have to raise funds and even provide bicycle conveyance to their ministers. I was glad to know that our preachers have become adjusted to the 2% cut from their monthly support every year. Some large congregations assured that they are already supporting their churches in respect of electricity and water charges. There are some congregations regularly paying petrol charges to their ministers who have the Moped or the motor-bicycles, also the maintenance charges.

"Rejoice Always" was the theme as contained in 1 Thessalonians 3:16. Among other resolutions was the one to our director-treasurer, the Rev. Harold Jones, thanking him immensely for the financial support for the church, especially the Convention every year. The highlight of the Convention was rededication and consecrations of life by each individual. As the Convention came to order with the Holy Communion, there was tear-shedding, repentance, confession and complete renewal mostly from the lay-delegates. Joint affirmation for increasing the work of our church was also the subject matter upheld by each one of us.

The 19th Anniversary of our church was celebrated with great jubilation. All our people had contributed for a get-together at lunch and those who paid and came for lunch were over 500 people.

PALAWAN BIBLE COLLEGE FOUNDATION DAY

by Bebs Franco

On October 10-11, 1994 the Palawan Bible College celebrated its 15th Foundation Day. God really blessed this activity with support and participation from the Missions and Administration Departments. The following teams joined in the ball games: Palawan Bible College, North District, South District, and Central District.

We started our program at 7 a.m. with chapel devotion by Pastor Antonio Sandrino.



At exactly 8 a.m., after chapel devotion, we had flag raising together with kindergarten pupils, followed by the tossing of the ball by brother Alvin Dagot (left side) and brother Nimrod Gambe (right side) and Rutchel Padrigo who was holding the ball (center).

The Palawan Bible College students had their night presentation from lower year to higher year and the second night was the activity of Kindergarten pupils. This was the Search for "Miss Little Foundation Day" and at the same time the awarding of prizes.

In spite of physical exhaustion and hardship that we encountered, we celebrated Foundation Day with cooperation and participation together with the moral support of all departments of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines. And most especially by God's power and grace that he endowed to us. "God bless us all!"

WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions
SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 10, 1995

This will be a very exciting Conference that you
will not want to miss. Mark your calendar
now and be sure to attend.

Speaker: Dr. Paul Cedar

Place: Spring Hill Church

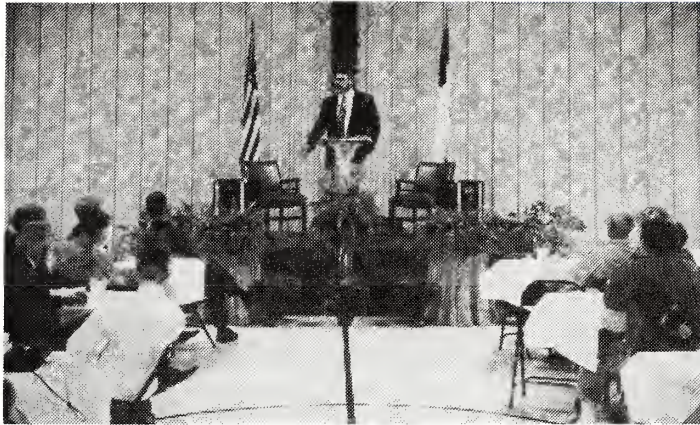
Hwy 70 West, Goldsboro, NC

Time: Two afternoon sessions beginning at 3:30

Missions Rally: 7:30 p.m.

NEWS FROM CHILDREN'S HOME

Friends of Children Day



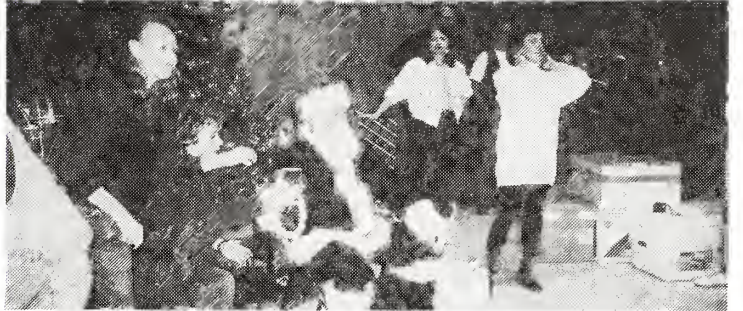
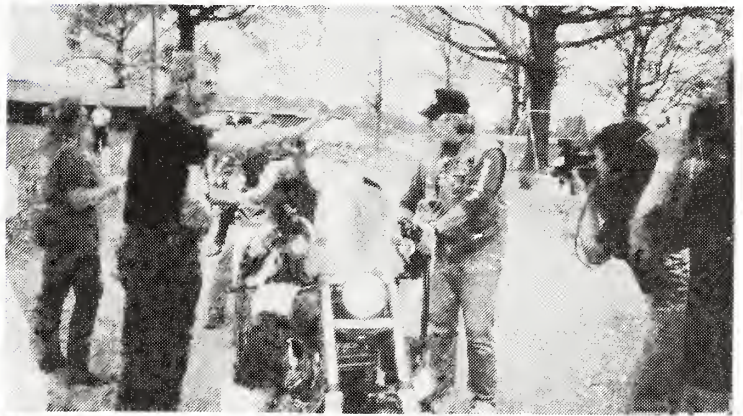
The Children's Home celebrated its annual Friends of Children's Appreciation Day on Saturday, November 19, 1994. Many of our friends from across the state attended this event. The program began with a turkey lunch catered by Wilbur's Barbecue of Goldsboro, NC. Covenant Singers performed during lunch. After lunch, a warm welcome was given by the Rev. Doug Skinner, President of the Board of Directors. Dr. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director, introduced keynote speaker the Rev. John Williams, manager of Cragmont Assembly.

The title of the Rev. Williams' message was "It's Not Over Until You Have Found Me" Mr. Williams told the audience that "We are living in God's kingdom now, we should built it up." Williams encouraged everyone to ponder on the work of the children's home and be passionate, excited and go home and tell others of the work that goes on at the home. "Find people and let them know we care until they are found. No matter how they get here. We need to find children who are lost. Don't give up, keep looking it's not over until the last one is found," Williams said.

Dr. Taylor announced upcoming Founder's Day on May 27, 1995 at the Children's Home. He encouraged everyone to 'Share the Experience' of celebrating seventy five years of service to our child care ministry.

Following the benediction visitors toured the campus and various buildings. The Children's Home is very appreciative to everyone who attended Friends of Children Day for making it a success.

Harley-Davidson Group Visits Children's Home



On Sunday, December 3, 1994, the Harley-Davidson motorcycle group visited the Children's Home. "Santa Claus" visited and each child sat on Santa's lap and made Christmas wishes. The group brought gifts to each child and the home. After refreshments were served by the group, the children were given motorcycle rides around campus. The children really enjoyed having the motorcycle group visit this Christmas season.

THANK YOU

The Children and Staff at The Free Will Baptist Children's Home would like to thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness during the '94 Christmas season. Words cannot express how much we all appreciate the responses to our Christmas sponsorsh and annual Christmas campaigns that were provided for the children. May the Lord bless you and reward you greatly for your dedicated service to our children. We love you and hope you have a great new year!

News From Mount Olive College

Report To
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 29, 1994

W. Burkette Raper, President

I anticipate that this will be my final report to the Board of Trustees. The Presidential Search Committee has completed its assignment of selecting the three candidates whom it considers best qualified for the Office of President, and the Trustee Executive Committee will report today on its progress and schedule for recommending to you the next president of Mount Olive College.

I hope that my retirement from the office of president will afford time for writing a book on the forty years I have held this position, I will be brief today.

Miss Rose

First, I want to thank "Miss Rose" publicly for the help and support she has given me since I assumed the office of president in August, 1954. She and I were married in August, 1951, just three years before our coming to Mount Olive. I was a senior in Duke Divinity School, and her first job was to help finance my education. I knew that she was a companion who would not only support but also share my ministry, but little did I realize how swiftly we would be ushered into a work that would so completely mold and shape not only my ministry but also our lives and the lives of our children.

While I would have preferred more time with my family, I do not believe the College would have survived if less time, and care, had been devoted to it. During most of its history, Mount Olive College has been suspended on a precarious thread hovering between extinction and survival. If Miss Rose had not assumed major responsibility for the family, I could not have nurtured the College during those critical years when its future hung in the balance. Some people see me as a "work-a-holic," but I see myself as one who did

what had to be done for the survival and future of the College.

Board of Trustees

Few college presidents have enjoyed the harmonious working and friendly personal relationship with their governing board that I have experienced. Of my forty years in office, 20 of these years have been with two chairmen who are here today, James B. Hunt, Chair from 1974 to 1989 and L. Marvin Edwards, Jr., Chair since 1989. I have never known two finer gentlemen or persons who had the interest of Mount Olive College more at heart.

During the early years of the College I worked primarily with the Board as a whole. As the College grew, however, and as the number of trustees increased from nine to eighteen and later to thirty members, it became advisable to activate a committee structure. Today the Board enjoys the extraordinary leadership of chairs for each of its standing committees:

Dr. Eugene M. Sumner, Chair, Academic Affairs Committee and Committee on Trustees, Dr. De Wayne Eakes, Chair, Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Nido R. Qubein, Chair, Institutional Advancement Committee, Mr. Charles W. Pittman III, Chair, Business Affairs Committee.

Through these committees, along with the Executive Committee, trustees today are more deeply involved in the life of the college than ever before, and this involvement should not only be maintained but increased as the College charts its future toward even higher attainments than have yet been experienced.

Building the quality of college that could attract the type of persons needed for the governing board has been one of our greatest challenges. We have had

good trustees through the years, but the strength of the current Board is one of the best assets Mount Olive College has today.

I would strongly encourage the Chair of the Board along with the chairs of the standing committees and the new president to re-establish a trustee development program that would assist members of the Board and senior administrators to grow in their understanding of the governance of higher education.

The Next President

The next major decision before you will be the selection of a new president, a decision this Board has not faced during the tenure of any current member. You will be the first board in the history of Mount Olive College to inaugurate a president. You are the only legal agency that can choose the president, and no one can occupy this office except by your authorization. Electing the president is the most important duty of college trustees—save one—and that is to help the person you choose to succeed.

As trustees, you are the legal entity of Mount Olive College. All authority is vested in you, and the president has only the authority you grant. Furthermore, the president holds the office only at the pleasure of the Board. As the Search Committee can verify, I have stayed outside the process of selecting my successor, and I will continue to do so during the work of the Executive Committee and the final decision of the Board. It is not that I am disinterested, only the contrary, for the future of my investment of forty years in this work is at stake.

The essential fact, however, is that selecting a president is a trustee function. You must choose the person in

whom you can have the highest level of confidence in terms of the *mission* and *management* of the College. There is an old adage that “a college is the lengthened shadow of its president.”

After forty years in this work, I believe that the most effective way to shape a college is not through regulations, policies and programs but through people for it is the people of the College, especially the president, who will ultimately formulate its regulations and determine its policies and programs.

Mission

In selecting our next president and in all other decisions, I entreat you to keep first and foremost before you the mission of Mount Olive College as 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.”

That mission, along with our statement on “The Commitment of Mount Olive College” (a copy of which is appended to this report), is our reason and justification for being. To sacrifice our mission or commitment would be a betrayal of the trust of those who founded this institution and whose investment of services and resources have sustained it. Original Free Will Baptists are a good and noble people, and I believe that their best hope for fulfilling their God-given destiny is rooted in the work of this college. Furthermore, I believe that the kind of education to which Mount Olive College is committed is critically needed in our world.

I am grateful for the privilege the trustees of Mount Olive College gave me to help establish and to develop a Christian college, for an opportunity of this kind comes to only a very limited number of people in each generation. The years have passed swiftly and much work remains yet to be done. The past forty years are written not only in the brick and mortar that is so visible about us but most of all in the lives of thousands of students who have found here expanding horizons for their lives.

The Future

I shall not seek to summarize what has been accomplished, because the vision and awareness of what remains to be done looms even larger than what has already been achieved. But at least we now have a place to stand; in the educational world Mount Olive College has attained credibility; and we have a good case to present to people of noble spirit. On this Founders Day 1994 when we celebrate the birth of our college, we also celebrate the complete transfer of all operations from our original downtown campus to our beautiful and spacious new campus.

We have not entered the Promised Land, but I believe that through hard work, severe discipline in the use of our resources, loyalty to our mission, and steadfastness to our commitment the conquest of that land is possible.

Even during our most difficult days, I have never looked back on my decision to come to Mount Olive. This work has afforded me an opportunity to meet some of the finest people in the world. My closest friends today are also among the best friends this college has, and in my new position as consultant for institutional advancement, I look forward to a continuation of these relationships. People with whom I find a kindred spirit are those who have a vision and purpose in life that extends beyond themselves and their time.

The hour for passing the torch of presidential leadership and responsibility is at hand—it is an hour I approach

with peace, joy, gratitude, and faith:

Peace, because I have done my best; I have tried to live up to the faith of those who entrusted this office to me;

Joy, because I can use my remaining time and energy in a cause which I believe represents the best hope of the human race for the good life God desires for His children—perhaps I may once again have an opportunity for a limited amount of teaching, which is the heart and soul of education;

Gratitude, for the opportunity to repay in part a debt to Original Free Will Baptists, a people whom I love dearly, and gratitude to so many people whose friendship and confidence have enriched my life beyond measure; and

Faith, because the great God who has begun a good work in us will see it through to completion.

Today, I do not look back, but rather I join hands with you as we press forward together to attain the destiny for which Mount Olive College was called into being. May God bless us all as we go forth from this time and place to do a work that will reach *beyond* our time and place.



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.

Original Free Will Baptists Contribute More Than \$319,000 Through '94 College Dinners

Original Free Will Baptist churches contributed more than \$319,500 to Mount Olive College during their 17 annual fund-raising dinners, exceeding last year's total contribution of \$308,404.

"These gifts make a tremendous difference in the lives of students who pursue an education on our campus," said Jean F. Ackiss, Director of Church Support.

"All of our counties have done exceptionally well, and we are very grateful for the support of all the donors. No matter how much they're able to give, each and every donor is very important to the work of this college," Mrs. Ackiss said.

County chairs and steering committees are especially responsible for the dinner season's success, she said.

Since the dinner program began in 1963, Original Free Will Baptist churches have given more than \$4,756,430 to the college, which is sponsored by the denomination, through the dinner program alone.

Recognized at the dinner were 1,409 Bridge Builders, who are individuals or groups who have pledged an unrestricted gift of \$100 or more through the dinner program.

At each dinner, scholarship certificates were awarded to churches for having the most members present at the county dinner, for contributing the highest amount at the dinner, for contributing the highest amount per church member, and for having the highest number of high school students in attendance. The scholarships may be granted to students from the church who now attend or plan to attend Mount Olive College.

Each year, Original Free Will Baptist churches host a series of 17 dinners throughout eastern North Carolina as a means of providing gift support for the college. In addition to financial support, the dinners provide 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. The college currently awards more than \$1 million annually in institutional scholarships.

HISTORY OF DINNER GIFTS TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

YEAR	AMOUNT	FIVE-YEAR TOTAL
1963	\$52,093	
1964	53,371	
1965	50,207	
1966	55,777	
1967	54,882	---\$266,330
1968	53,803	
1969	57,086	
1970	37,873	
1971	51,241	
1972	61,261	---261,264
1973	59,759	
1974	66,824	
1975	83,680	
1976	92,733	
1977	101,666	--- 404,662
1978	118,273	
1979	134,496	
1980	143,747	
1981	150,414	
1982	154,697	--- 701,627
1983	166,181	
1984	183,987	
1985	202,657	
1986	225,684	
1987	250,356	--- 1,028,865
1988	261,795	
1989	291,221	
1990	304,226	
1991	300,855	
1992	307,678	--- 1,465,775
1993	308,404	
1994	319,503	
TOTAL	\$4,756,430	

**1993-1994
COMPARATIVE REPORT
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS**

COUNTY	1993			1994		
	BRIDGE BUILDERS	GIFTS	ATTENDANCE	BRIDGE BUILDERS	GIFTS	ATTENDANCE
Beaufort	52	\$10,328	143	56	\$10,646	152
Carteret	59	13,475	168	75	14,231	177
Craven	65	17,314	157	67	16,293	202
Duplin	45	10,229	120	50	11,489	138
Edgecombe	30	5,554	86	33	5,765	89
Greene	88	20,982	203	90	21,714	225
Johnston-Wake	149	39,440	350	167	43,182	411
Jones	19	4,251	65	19	4,401	75
Lenoir	88	16,178	160	99	17,340	163
Nash	26	7,853	143	32	8,620	160
Onslow-Brunswick	14	3,866	93	18	4,306	100
Pamlico	28	7,130	60	36	7,455	83
Pitt	127	26,988	256	122	28,494	270
Sampson, Harnett, Cumberland	136	26,810	185	139	27,180	211
Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, Pasquotank	28	9,805	97	24	9,806	132
Wayne	165	51,345	275	188	53,070	280
Wilson	185	36,856	242	194	35,511	256
TOTAL	1,304	\$308,404	2,803	1,409	\$319,503	3,124
INCREASE				105	\$11,099	321

Our sincere appreciation is expressed to everyone who worked so diligently to make your county dinner a success. Weighing all the factors, I consider all 17 dinners to be a success. I express my appreciation to Dr. Raper, Irene Patten and the Mount Olive College Singers, Eleanor Dickinson for secretarial support, and Dianne Riley and the Admissions Counselors, who each had a major role in the success of the 1994 dinners.

Jean F. Ackiss
Director of Church Support

**HICKORY FWB CHURCH
AHOSKIE, NC
JANUARY 28, 1995
ALBEMARLE UNION MEETING**

OPENING SESSION

- | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------------|
| | Pianist | Mrs. Lucille Jones |
| 10:00 | Devotions | Rev. Robert May |
| 10:00 | Welcome | Mr. Billie W. Dilday |
| | Response | Rev. Everett Harper |
| 10:15 | The Moderator's
Address | Rev. Charlie
Overton |
| 10:20 | Roll Call of Ministers
Recognition of
Visiting Ministers
Roll Call of Churches | |
| 10:30 | Offering for Denominational
Enterprises
Announcements
Prayer Time
Testimonies (5 minutes) | |

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 & Foreign | Via Literature |
| | Report of Cragmont | Via Literature |
| | Report of Retirement
Homes | Via Literature |
| 10:50 | Report of Treasurer
Old and New Business
Announcement of Next Union | |
| 11:00 | Minutes Read and Approved | |

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 11:10 | Hymn | |
| 11:20 | Special Music | Host Church |
| 11:25 | Message | Rev. Raymond
Lagcher |
| | Benediction | |
| | Adjournment and Lunch | |

**#1 UNION OF
PEE DEE CONFERENCE
HONORS MR. FRED L. PAIT**



Mr. Fred. L. Pait

In April of 1994, the #1 Union of the Pee Dee Conference honored a long time member and worker. Mr. Fred L. Pait of Route 4, Bladenboro was acknowledged for his many years of dedicated service.

Mr. Pait is often recognized as an unselfish partner in the Christian workfield. He is a member of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, where he has attended for many years. Since 1970, he has served on the Deacon Board.

The Union meetings have also been blessed by Fred Pait's benevolent actions. He has served as Treasurer for 32 years.

As a token of appreciation to Fred Pait, he was presented a plaque that stated: "Presented to Mr. Fred L. Pait for 32 years of Distinguished Service as Treasurer of Pee Dee Union #1."

**IN MEMORIAM
CHESTER H. PELT**

by Michael Pelt



Chester H. Pelt

Chester H. Pelt was born on April 3, 1912, the third child of five sons and three daughters of Cary Joseph Pelt and Georgia Anna Sellers Pelt. He was reared on the family farm located six miles east of, Florida. According to his own words, his life was uneventful until he was converted at the age of sixteen in a revival at Marvin Chapel Free Will Baptist Church under the ministry of the Rev. Henry Melvin and K. V. Shutes in May, 1928.

Immediately following his conversion Chester was conscious of a call to the gospel ministry but did not publicly respond to this call of God until he was past the age of twenty. Before that time he was involved along with our brother, the late Daniel F. Pelt, in revival meetings as song leader and in personal evangelism among the youth of several church communities where Daniel was conducting revivals in the early 1930's.

In the fall of 1932, at age twenty, he entered Zion Bible School, near Blakely, Georgia, where he studied for two years. It was on Sunday night of the second Sunday in November, 1932, that he preached his first sermon at White Pond Church, Damascus, Georgia. The next year he was called to serve as pastor of Chester Chapel Church near Eufaula, Alabama, and was ordained to the ministry at Marvin Chapel, his home church. After two years of study at Zion Bible School he returned home to finish high school and graduated at Marianna High School in the spring of 1935. During those three years he also served as pastor at Pilgrim Rest and New Prospect churches in Alabama, at Jakin Church in Georgia, and at Marvin Chapel near Marianna.

In the fall of 1935 Chester resigned the churches he was serving in the tri-state area and enrolled at Bob Jones

College, then located in Cleveland, TN, where he studied for three years. During the summer months he conducted revivals in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. In 1938 he received a call to serve as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, NC, along with three rural churches in that vicinity. While living in that area he attended as a special student East Carolina Teachers College (now East Carolina University). Then in the fall of 1940 he entered Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) in Wilson, NC and graduated the following spring.

It was soon after he began his pastoral duties at Greenville that Chester married Mildred Watson on October 5, 1938. They worked together as pastor and wife during those early years of their marriage, serving part-time churches in Pitt County, NC. In March, 1942, Chester was called to serve as pastor of Edgemont Church, Durham, NC, his first full-time church.

At that time the nation was at war and in the spring of 1943 Chester volunteered to serve as a chaplain in the US Army. He was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the army on June 29, 1943 and entered upon active duty at Harvard University where he completed the Chaplain Orientation Course. He was assigned to the Army Air Force in which he served until June 30, 1948, and was discharged with the rank of Major. He then remained in the Active Reserve until his sixtieth birthday in 1972 when he was retired with the rank of Colonel. Chester has the distinction of having been the first minister from the Free Will Baptist denomination to serve as a chaplain in the armed forces of the United States.

During his last year of extended active duty while serving as chaplain at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina,

Mrs. Pelt gave birth to their first child, Chester Hayne Pelt, Jr., who upon graduation from West Florida University served for twenty years as a pilot in the United States Navy and is now retired. After receiving his masters degree in Psychology at Troy State University at Dothan, AL, Hayne is employed in Marianna as a counselor. Hayne has two sons, Jason and Jeffrey, both of whom are enrolled in college.

After his tour of active duty in the Army Air Force Chester joined the faculty of Chipola Junior College at Marianna in the fall of 1948, where he taught for two years before entering the graduate school at Florida State University. After four years of graduate study in Philosophy and later in Marriage and Family Education, he resumed his position at Chipola and remained until his retirement on July 1, 1973. During the years of graduate study and while teaching at Chipola Junior College, Chester served several rural churches as pastor. These included Hickory Grove, Marvin Chapel, and Liberty in Florida; White Pond, Jakin, and Colquitt in Georgia; and Goodwater, New Zion, Spring Branch and Spring Hill in Alabama. Chester was honored by Emory University and the *Progressive Farmer* magazine as Rural Minister of the Year for Florida in 1961.

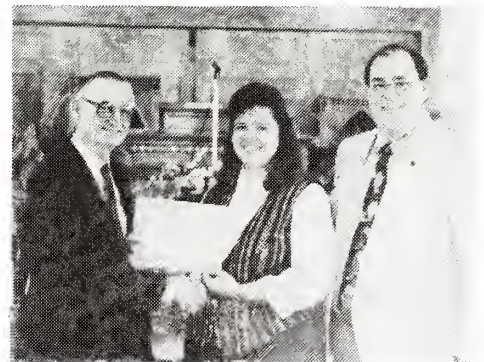
One of Chester's interests in his latter years was genealogical research, motivated by a love for his family and his role for several years as the "patriarch" of the family. His deep interest and his untiring efforts resulted in the publication of a history of the Pelt family, a work that he and his family could justly be proud of.

Since his retirement from teaching in 1973 Chester and Mildred have traveled abroad in the Middle East and in

South America as well as throughout much of the United States. They have also been involved in interim pastorates in Florida, Alabama, and Georgia. They have continued to be active in the service of Christ wherever doors of opportunity were open to them. For more than sixty years since his ordination Chester has tried to lift up the name of Jesus who so graciously called him to be his servant in the ministry. We rejoice that God has richly blessed his life and has provided so many avenues of service during his productive years as pastor, teacher, chaplain, counselor, evangelist, and author. He also has been a loving father and grandfather, a faithful husband, and a dear brother to all of his immediate family and to all those who were privileged to know him as a friend and brother in Christ.

Chester died at the age of 82 on November 7, 1994, while being treated at Flowers Hospital in Dothan, AL. His funeral was conducted at Marvin Chapel Church by the pastor and he was buried in the family cemetery.

MT. TABOR OFWB CELEBRATE YOUTH



Left to Right: Fentress Simmons, Sunday School Superintendent, Ms. Ann Phelps, Pastor—Rev. Keith Pelletier.

Mount Tabor Original Free Will Baptist Church in Creswell, NC have dedicated two recent services to the youth

of the church. On October 30, 1994 the church observed "Youth Sunday" during which the young people of the church presided over and conducted the morning worship service.

Participants included the following: Greeters—Ryan Crispin and Geoffrey Ambrose; Ushers—Paul Biggs and Luke Armstrong; Invocation—Jason Phelps; Offertory Prayer—Tyler Spruill; Special Music was offered by Jennifer Phelps who sang "A Place In This World" and Brandy Phelps who sang "Amazing Grace." The Mt. Tabor Young Ambassadors, under the direction of Ms. Susan Spruill, performed a variety of songs and skits. Members of the "Young Ambassadors" include Nicole Armstrong, Melissa Jones, Kayla Jones, Jamie Cooper, Laine Armstrong, Megan Spruill, Courtney Phelps, Chelsia Spruill, Katie Harris and Tyler Spruill. Pianists for the special service were Liza Cahoon, Jennifer Cooper, Nicole Armstrong, and Kenneth Phelps.

On Sunday, November 6, 1994, the church celebrated "Christian Education Sunday." During the service, both past and present Sunday School teachers and officers were recognized before the church. They include: Fentress Simmons, Michael Harris, Scott Davis, Brandy Phelps, Jane Phelps, Jean Crispin, Sam Spruill, Roy Williams Jr., Doug Cooper, Billy Reynolds, Susan Spruill, Iris Jean Ambrose, Carolyn Reynolds, Elizabeth Furlough, Sherry Phelps, Helen Phelps, Leroy Comstock, Buddy Cahoon, Adelia Holmes, Florence Furlough, Lorraine Spruill, Vicki Armstrong, Stacey Reynolds, Angie Cahoon, Doris Simmons, Brenda Williams, Teresa Armstrong, Teresa Cooper, Lisa Biggs, Joey Reynolds, Cheryl

Williams, Phil Armstrong, Cindy Jones, Virginia Haire, and Al Crispin.

Several public and private schools, along with their teachers, were also recognized during the service. School-aged children from Mt. Tabor attend the following schools: Creswell Elementary and High School, Lawrence Academy in Merry Hill, NC, Cabin Swamp Christian Academy in Columbia, NC, Walker Elementary School in Edenton, NC, Mother's Helper in Columbia, NC, and Hargrave Military Academy in Chatham, Virginia. Classroom teachers of Mt. Tabor children were thanked by the church. Those in attendance included Mrs. Jan Etheridge of Creswell School; along with church members Jackie Harris, Teresa Cooper, Angie Cahoon, Debbie Oliver, and Susan Spruill who all work in area schools.

As part of the celebration of Christian Education, the Sunday School classes participated in a door decorating contest, using the theme of "Christian Education." Participants were treated to an ice cream sundae party in recognition of their efforts.

Also during the service, a \$100 scholarship was presented by the church to Ms. Ann Phelps. Ms. Phelps is a Junior at Mount Olive College and a member of Mt. Tabor Church. During this presentation, Sam Spruill announced that Mt. Tabor Church had collected \$780 to be presented to Mt. Olive College. Mr. Spruill is chairman of the College fund Raising Committee at Mt. Tabor. Other members of that committee include Helen Phelps, Vicki Armstrong, and Jane Phelps. Mt. Tabor Church is a member of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

**FOR YOUR
INFORMATION**

IMPORTANT!

The Free Will Baptist League Convention is coming to May 20, 1995! Be sure you move with us because we have lots in store for YOU!! Mark this **change** on your calendar NOW!!

Do you have questions?

CALL: Becky Jo Sumner
(919) 332-6810

or write:

Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910

NOTICE

The 1995 *Devotion* for Woman's Auxiliary are in all of our bookstores.

The AFC, YFA, Cherubs will be available at the beginning of the year.

**MEMBERSHIP
MEETING SCHEDULED**

The annual meeting of the membership of the Church Finance Association will be held on Tuesday, February 14, at Mount Olive College, Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. All those representing memberships are encouraged to attend.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FAIR

The Sunday School Fair will be held on March 4, 1995 at Everett Chapel OFWB Church, Clayton, NC from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. More information in the February issue of *The Free Will Baptist*.

YOU ARE INVITED

You are cordially invited to be a part of the exciting new design of the Free Will Baptist League Convention on May 20, 1995, 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Mount Olive College.



The Saga of Tobias Jones

Good morning, children,
I'm Miss Pool
Your teacher here
In Sunday School.

Now put away your toys and games
And let me try to say your names.

Andrew, Sarah, Peter, Sue,
Todd and Bridget, Mary Lou,
Amanda, Douglas, and who's there
Hiding underneath the chair?
Tobias Jones—come join us, Dear,
I have a place for you right here.

Let's sing a song—what will it be?
Tobias, you are quick I see
What song? Oh, my! I don't think I'm
cruel,
But we can't sing *that* in Sunday
School.

Perhaps a prayer before we start,
Let's close our eyes and bow our hearts
Both eyes, Tobias! "Now, Lord begin
To help us learn of you. Amen."

Today we'll tell of Noah
And the ark he built from wood.
The animals entered two by two,
And then God sent a flood.
For forty days,—Tobias, please!
I don't know how he caught the fleas!

But, anyway, the water rose
Around that boat so big,
Until they stopped and Noah said—
Who's making those noises like a pig?
Tobias, I am warning you
What's that?! The bell—Oh, No!!
I haven't finished and it's time
For all of you to go.

Well, next week we will finish up,
Be here to start on time.
Good morning, Mrs. Jones, Tobias??
Oh, of course, he did just fine!

A Few Years Later . . .
Good morning, Juniors Boys' Class
Hear your teacher, Brother Ned,
I want to make it clear right now—
I'll have to knock some heads,
If you do like you did last week
With the spit-wads and the planes
For a small reserve of patience,
Is now all that I retain.

Just don't give me any trouble,
Do we understand teacher other?
That goes twice for you, Tobias Jones,
Since last year I taught your brother!

A Few Years Later . . .
Welcome, Junior High guys!
To your first weekend retreat,
I've come to be your chaperone,
And you can call me Pete.

We're gonna have a real good time,
We'll put you through your paces,
I'm glad your folks could pay your
way—
What with the current cost of braces.

Anyhow—one thing I'll tell you
Before you go;
The girls' side is off limits!

Did you hear me, Toby Jones?
Where *is* Toby? I just saw him
Sorting through his bag of junk . . .
Never mind—I hear a female shriek—
"Toby's lizard's in my bunk!"

And Finally. . .
Now that Senior High School Youth
Camp,
Always has at least one rebel,
Whose pranks may range from mid-
night raids
To food fights at the table.
And I'm sure you've guessed by this
time,
Where the likeliest prospect lay,
Yes—you guessed it—it's none other
Than our own Tobias J.

So you can probably imagine
Everybody's great surprised
The night Toby came to Jesus—
They could scarce believe their eyes.

But it's not quite so amazing
As it might appear to be.
You see, Toby had some teachers
Who had guided faithfully.
Through the years they'd helped to
mold him
To the man he would become,
And the best part of the story
Comes a few years later on.

In the Junior Boys' Department
Of the church at 5th and Rone
Where a young man says, "Good morn-
ing, guys!
I'm your teacher, Toby Jones!"

Jodi Braddy

(NOTE: This poem was submitted by Michael Ledbetter, member of the Sunday School Board. He has carried a copy of this poem in his Bible for years and has used it on several occasions. He wanted to share it with others.)



In behalf of your Convention's
Headquarters Staff and Personnel,
we wish for each of you a blessed

New Year

as we labor together to build and
strengthen His Kingdom.

May 1995 be the year of spiritual renewal
in each of our churches and in each of our
lives.

"For we are labourers together with God..."
(1 Corinthians 3:9)

C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family,

I think this morning at work is a prime example of what I am going to write about for the month of January. I was kept aware that Christmas is coming up soon and people were leaving to go on vacation and things needed to be done yesterday. As we all know, "yesterday" can never be re-lived even though many of us have tried to figure out how.

We have all come through one of the busiest seasons and most stressful times of the year. Did everyone like what I gave them? Did he get the same gift from somebody else? Will she really wear that shirt that I gave her? Of course, how can we forget exchanging everything after Christmas and fighting that crowd.

During this busy time of the year, we also sit around and think about all the things in our life we need to change. Do we need to lose weight, quit biting our nails, spend more time with our families, more time for ourselves, or even spend more time with God.

Maybe this January, a top resolution for all of us should be for us to re-examine our relationships with each other, families, but most importantly God. If we always put Him first, the stresses and strains of life will not be that hard to handle.

Philippians 3:14 (NIV): *I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE! MAY WE ALL PRESS TOWARD THE PRIZE DURING THE NEW YEAR!

In His service,

Tracy

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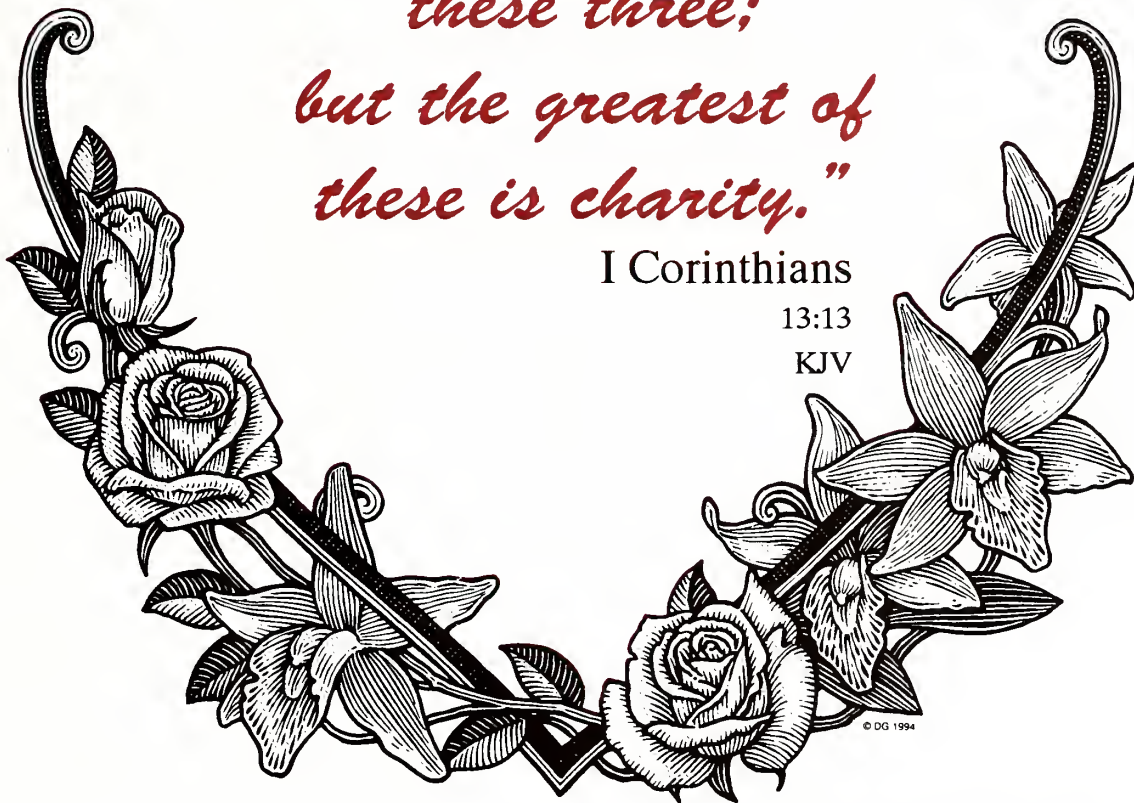


*"And now abideth
faith, hope, charity,
these three;
but the greatest of
these is charity."*

I Corinthians

13:13

KJV



The Free Will Baptist

February 1995

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February 1995 • Volume 112 • Number 2

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NEXT MONTH

MARCH
IS
FOREIGN MISSIONS
MONTH

February
is
Christian Education
Month

Pray for teachers, schools, and students

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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.

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Denominational Ministries

SING A NEW SONG

by K. David Hines, Chair

MOC Department of Religion

*“O Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm have
gotten him victory” (Psalm 98:1)*

Have you ever been moved to tears through the words and tune of a beautiful hymn? Has your heart ever been stirred by a majestic anthem? Have you ever patted your foot or clapped your hands to the rhythm of a gospel song? I hope that you have. One of the more meaningful ways we express our joy, our praise, and our concerns is through music. Singing and music is a very important part of the worship of God and the nurture of Christians. As we sing our praise to God, these words become a confessing of faith. Also, it has been my experience that singing churches are joyful, exciting churches.

There is a long history of music being connected to worship. The Psalms reflect the prayers of Israel’s faithful, but they were also songs to be sung. Some of the most beautiful music ever composed was written for the worship of God.

This introduction brings us to a question: What is “Christian” music? What makes a song a “Gospel” song? There are probably countless answers to these questions. For some, Christian music is four people singing in harmony with a strong piano rhythm and a country or southern sound. For others, it is the operatic soprano performing a work by Beethoven accompanied by a symphony orchestra and a pipe organ. Still others will say that Christian music is the light contemporary sound of a Stephen Curtis Chapman or Amy Grant. Some enjoy the hip-hop sounds of a D. C. Talk. I’ll let you in on something . . . I love it all!

If Christian music covers almost any conceivable musical style, what is it then that makes a song a *Gospel* song? **It is the message.** Here’s the flip side of this idea; not all music which claims to be “Gospel” deserves this designation, I enjoy listening to and singing Christian music. When I select songs, there are standards that I use to help guide my thinking. All too often when pastors or music directors select music for congregations or for choirs only one test is used: “Will the singers/listeners enjoy the song?” This is not a bad question to be asked. When I sing, I hope someone enjoys listening. But choosing *Christian* music is a big task. Music for worship deserves careful consideration. Allow me to share with you the criteria I use in choosing Christian music.

1. For a song to be Christian, it must be scripturally and doctrinally sound. This point is non-negotiable. Regardless of how enjoyable a song may be or how popular it is, I cannot sing music which claims to be Christian that falls short here. Several years ago there was a popular song that had this line: “He came back, He didn’t die.” I don’t believe the writer really means what he said. The fact is that *Christ did die—and rose again!* If there was no death, there was no Resurrection. If there was no Resurrection, Paul tells us we are still in our sins. This is an example of how a well-intentioned writer misrepresented a fundamental Bible doctrine. Before selecting any song to sing in worship, make sure the words are consistent with the teachings of the Bible. With so many out in the world trying to distort the message of the Bible, we Christians don’t need to be assisting them.

2. Christian music glorifies God.

A good question to ask when listening to a song is, “Does this song point me to God or to the singer?” I grew up singing a song called “I’m Feeling Fine.” I still enjoy that tune, but let’s be honest. The words are weak. The most used word in the song is “I.” Additionally, the Christian faith is more than a feeling. It is a commitment. Good Christian music turns our attention to God. One of the great hymns of the church gets this point right: “To God be the glory, great things *He* hath done.”

3. Christian music edifies the believer and urges the sinner to repentance. This is the flip side to point number two. Good Christian music will help edify (build up) believers. Good songs will encourage us to live a more Christ-like life. We will be inspired to be more effective witnesses. We will be encouraged to know that God is our strength even through times of trial.

Some songs are written to invite lost persons to Christ. Consider these familiar words:

“Come every soul by sin oppressed,
There’s mercy with the Lord.
And He will surely give you rest
By trusting in His word.”

These words from ‘Only Trust Him’ reflect Scriptural truth and make a fitting invitation to Christian discipleship.

4. Christian music is not just an appeal to the emotions. I am an emotional person. I can listen to a choir of children sing “Jesus Loves Me” and my joy will immediately leak out of my eyes. Though I have sung the song for over ten years, I am still touched by the song “I Saw the Lord” written by Dallas Holm. There is absolutely nothing

wrong with being moved emotionally by music. On the other hand, a song which is no more than an emotional appeal with no real content is not acceptable as Christian music. I know that many have enjoyed the song "Build My Mansion Next Door to Jesus." But for *me*, this song does not cut it. It reminds me of James and John coming to Jesus asking that one would be at Jesus' right hand and the other on the left. How presumptuous and selfish! Sing about Heaven, but let the focus be on God, not on us. It is OK to sing music which makes us feel good, but this should never be the only reason a song is sung in church.

5. Christian music has an enjoyable musical style. This point is totally a matter of personal preference. So if you enjoy Southern Gospel, listen to the Gaithers, the Cathedrals and many other fine groups. If you like country, listen to Bruce Carroll or Steve Gatlin. If your taste moves toward light contemporary, listen to Sandi Patti or Dallas Holm. Like your music a little more progressive, try Stephen Curtis Chaplin. If you like a little bit of it all, do like me and listen to a little bit of it all!

"This is my story, This is my song!
Praising my Savior, all the day long."

**FREE WILL BAPTIST
STUDENTS NAMED TO
PRESIDENT'S, DEAN'S LISTS**

by Cecil Cahoon, II
Director of Public Information

Several Free Will Baptist students from churches across eastern North Carolina were named to the President's and Dean's Lists at Mount Olive College for their academic achievement during the past semester.

Audrey A. Davis of Deep Run FWB Church and Deborah J. Gray of Westside FWB Church, both in Lenoir County, were named to the President's

List. Both attend classes through the College's program on Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro.

Others named to the President's List include Melanie G. Swinson of Free Union FWB Church in Beaufort County; Etheridge T. Davis of Holly Springs FWB Church in Carteret County; Christian T. Waters of Saint Mary's FWB Church in Craven County; and Dwayne S. Bailey of Stoney Creek FWB Church in Wayne County.

Those named to the Dean's List include, from Beaufort County, Amanda J. Jones of Sidney FWB and Beverly A. Thornton of Dublin Grove FWB; from Craven County, Matthew S. Bircher of Core Creek FWB and Leland G. Cox, Jr., of Wintergreen FWB; from Duplin County, Heather L. Lanier of Beulaville FWB.

Also named to the list were, from Nash County, Janet M. Corbett of Rock Springs FWB and Emily E. Wood of Stoney Hill FWB; from Wayne County, Lori L. Coates and Angela R. Morgan,

both of May's Chapel FWB, and Ryan C. Gray and Michael W. Wiggs, both of Stoney Creek FWB; and from Wilson County, Jeffrey A. Smith of Aspen Grove FWB.

The President's and Dean's Lists are announced by Mount Olive College to honor students who attain the highest academic standing possible. To qualify for the President's List, students must be attending Mount Olive full-time (enrolled in 12 or more semester hours) and have a grade point average of 4.0 for the semester just ended. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must be attending Mount Olive College on a full-time basis and have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, with no grade below a "C" in any subject.

Sponsored by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, Mount Olive College serves private, liberal arts education to approximately 1,000 students on its main campus, at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and at the New Bern Center.

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Old "Downtown Campus" Given Fond and Final Good-bye After Sale of Property



"Saying good-bye is seldom easy," explained Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive College librarian since 1965. "Especially when we must express that sentiment to something very dear to us that will no longer be a part of us except as a memory."

Barefoot's farewell remarks to the building that served Mount Olive College for forty years—a eulogy of sorts—came during Founders Day ceremonies in November.

His thoughts reflected more than an employee's fond remembrances.

As a member of the Class of 1959, Barefoot is among those who, for a time, knew the downtown campus building as the entire College.

"Last week I walked through the old building on the downtown campus with mixed feelings—nostalgia for the building and memories associated with it, but with hope and anticipation for the future of our College as this academic year marks the complete transition of all operations from the "old" campus to the "new" campus—henceforth to be "the" campus.

"In saying farewell to the old building, we are saying farewell to a part of the history of the town of Mount Olive and the history of education in North Carolina, since the building was the first public school building in Mount Olive and one of the first in eastern North Carolina.

"More personally, we are saying farewell to a part of the history of Mount Olive College, as the same building was for some ten years its primary physical plant, containing facilities for classrooms, laboratories, cafeteria, auditorium, library, bookstore, administrative and faculty offices, and even a dormitory for women.

"In nearly 50 years as a public school and 40 years as a private college, this building has witnessed the transition from slates and chalk to CD-ROMs and computers.

"On Monday, November 21, the downtown campus was officially closed with the sale of the property to a local investor. Monies from the sale will be used toward underwriting the costs of new construction presently under way on this campus—and in a way, the old will be blended with the new.

"But today we say to the old campus an official and final 'good-bye.'"

Presidential Search Committee Selects Candidates; Board to Vote

Mount Olive College's Presidential Search Committee has completed its assignment of selecting the three candidates whom it considers best qualified for the Office of President, according to L. Marvin Edwards, Jr. of Wilson, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

In the next step of selecting a successor to President W. Burkette Raper, the Trustee Executive Committee will choose one of the candidates for recommendation to the full board. Names of the candidates have not been released.

Edwards said that tentative plans are to convene a special session of the Board of Trustees in January to vote on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Raper, who announced in May his plans to retire from the Office of President, has agreed to remain in office until

the new president is elected and available to begin work.

Following his retirement from the presidency, Raper will continue his services to the College as consultant for institutional advancement with a focus on major gift support for the annual budget, plant development, endowment, and special projects, including scholarships.

Emphasis will be placed on both direct gifts and planned gifts, including estate planning, charitable trusts, annuities, pooled income investments and life insurance.

Two New Trustees Welcomed; Others Elected to Board Offices

Two new trustees were welcomed and others were elected to board offices during the board's regular meeting following Founders Day activities.

The new trustees, elected at the 1994 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists in September, are Kim Quinn, a 1988 Mount Olive College alumnus and vice president for operations of Quinn Farms, Inc., of Warsaw, and Bill Bryan, president of Mount Olive Pickle Company, Inc., since 1990.

In board elections, Chairman L. Marvin Edwards of Wilson and Secretary C. Darrell Horne of Goldsboro were reelected to their posts. Edwards became chair in 1989.

Dr. De Wayne Eakes of Lucama was elected vice chairman, succeeding the late William McLawhorn.

William L. Hennessee of Faison was reelected as one of two members-at-large of the Trustee Executive Committee. Filling the second seat will be Mrs. Christine J. Greene of High Point.

Other members of the Trustee Executive Committee include the chairs of four standing committees: the committees on academic affairs, business affairs, institutional advancement, and student development.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE REPORTS YEAR OF PROGRESS, CHARTS THE VISION FOR A NEW ERA

Marking the end of an era for Mount Olive College, 1994 reflected a period of change that refocuses the future direction of the College and sharpens the emphasis on its mission, to provide Christian education for qualified and worthy young men and women.

Four events emerge as historical landmarks:

•After forty years—thirty in transition on two campuses—Mount Olive College consolidated all operations on its main campus, bordered by US 117. The transition was celebrated as the former downtown campus, which was opened in 1954 and served for a decade as the College's entire physical plant, was sold to Mount Olive investor Doug Best in November.

The building, opened in 1905, was first used as Mount Olive's public school. With proceeds from the sale, the College began construction of a new visual communications building on the main campus, which will house faculty offices as well as computers and studio facilities for the visual communications program, the last program remaining on the downtown campus.

•At commencement exercises in May, Mount Olive College awarded its first honorary degree, a Doctor of Divinity, to the Rev. James A. Evans. The honor was given to Dr. Evans, the first full-time employee of Mount Olive College, in recognition of his lifelong service to the College and to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Also during the year, the College inaugurated the James A. Evans Lecture, sponsored by Dr. Thomas R. Morris, in sponsoring the lecture at the College, Morris said he seeks to foster the pastoral qualities he observed in Evans when the pastor served Morris' home church, Union Grove OFWB in Wayne County.

•Also in May, President W. Burkette Raper announced that after 40 years as president of Mount Olive College, currently the longest tenure of an active college president in the nation, he would retire from the office as soon as the Board of Trustees named a successor.

At the request of the Board and pending the approval of the new president, Raper said he would continue his services to the College through institutional advancement. The board voted to name Raper "president emeritus" upon his retirement. A search committee composed of college trustees, personnel, students and alumni, and leaders in education and the community, was appointed to begin the work of selecting a successor. Announcement of the succession is expected to come from the Board of Trustees in January, 1995.

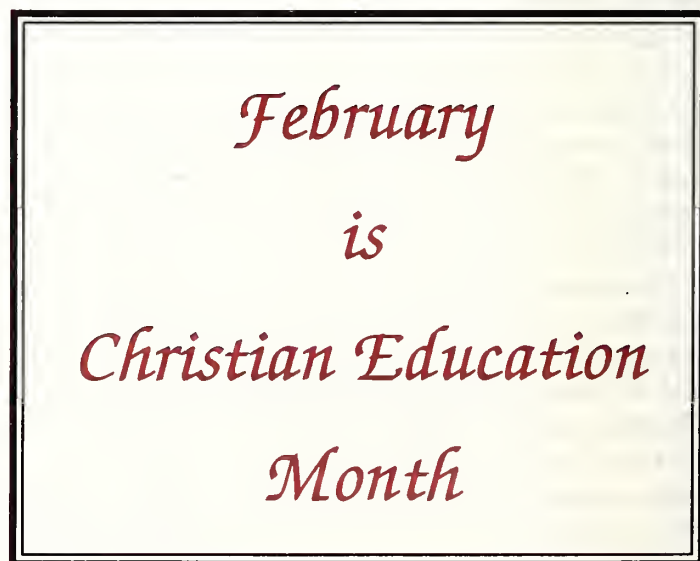
•During the 43rd annual Founders Day celebration at which Lee Davenport Witte gave the Founders Day address, the College awarded its second and third honorary degrees to Mrs. Witte, a North Carolina native and author, and her husband, Roland Ratcliffe "Cliff" Witte, both of Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Witte received the Doctor of Humane Letters, and Mr. Witte was presented the Doctor of Laws, in honor of the couple's service to America and their dedication to preserving the heritage of North Carolina through writings.

Mrs. Witte's latest collection of poetry, titled "Because I Love You," was released in an April event addressed by Governor Jim Hunt. Both "Because I Love You" and "Levora" (1990) are published by the Mount Olive College Press.

NOTE: The rest of the progress report will be featured in the March issue.



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 Fifth Annual
VIVIAN B. HARRISON MEMORIAL LECTURE
Theme: Is There A Gospel in Revelation?
Portraits of Christ in Revelation

GUEST LECTURER: DR. DONALD COOK

Professor of New Testament Interpretation

School of Divinity

Gardner-Webb University

Tuesday • February 28 • 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.
<i>Introduction: Jesus, the Mighty Son of Man</i>	
Break and Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
<i>Jesus in God's Revelation Now and Forever</i>	
Luncheon (\$5.00) and Dialogue	12:00 noon
In the Hennessee Room of the Murphy Regional Center	
Lecture Two:	1:30 p.m.
<i>The Victorious Lamb, The Conquering Word</i>	

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, Chairman, Department of Religion, Mount Olive College, 919-658-2502.

NEWS FROM FOREIGN MISSIONS

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST FOR WILLEM AND LYDIA

When the power of God is vividly demonstrated, the devil rages. On December 31, Willem and Lydia were forced to leave Bulgaria because the Government refused to renew their visa. They are now in Holland pursuing every possibility to acquire a visa to return to Bulgaria. They left the work in the hands of Teshdzyan and the young Christians there.

Please make this a matter of urgent and serious prayer. We believe it is God's will for them to return and remain in Bulgaria. We have the victory in Jesus Christ!

REFLECTIONS

by Willem van der Plas

For us it was a short and powerful visit. We needed a recharge; we needed to meet you. While visiting the churches, we were blessed, able to worship with you and to share with you how we serve in East Europe. Some of you we met for the first time; the people in the churches of Sherron Acres of Durham and Northern in Bahama.

We passed many Free Will Baptist churches where we were before, had good memories and prayed the Lord's blessings over you. We also took some time to visit in the home of some of our many friends while we were in North Carolina.



Willem talking with Jeff and Wanda Daughtry at Westside Church.

The Lord provided the beautiful house of the Moore family at Walstonburg. The nature around us gave peace and rest. Our refrigerator was filled when we arrived and in this we experienced the warm friendship and love of many.

The Lord provided prayer partners at Cragmont where we were filled with the love and the joy of many. It was a surprise to meet so many at the Mission Rally, which assured us of your interest for our ministry in East Europe.



Lydia with Dola Dudley and Alma Dale.

The meeting with the Board of Foreign Missions was encouraging and strengthened us. We still feel overwhelmed with your kindness, the interest in our task and the good questions which you brought to us.

We don't have personal problems compared with the many people around us. We praise the Lord daily for His providence to us. Our concern is for the people here. The people who have no jobs, no income or low retirement income, they have a very hard time to survive. Many of them have no personal Saviour to comfort them in that struggle.



Visiting with the Rev. and Mrs. Ed Taylor in Smithfield.

We have chosen this place and we enjoy our task here with a thankful heart. We are convinced that you will not cease to pray for the people here and that we can count on you, because you are God's children.

God is Almighty, He will provide through you. Our gratitude is great, our praises daily to our powerful Lord!

Dear Friends,

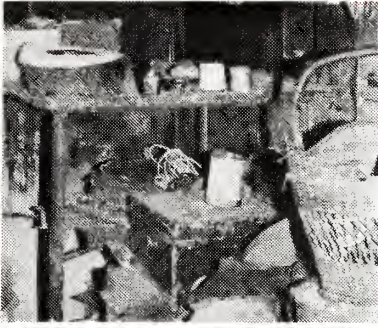
Thank you for your prayers, cards, flowers, memorial gifts and words of comfort at the death of my father, who died on December 13, 1994. (Mother died on September 12, 1994.)

Because they knew Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, we rejoice with them for now they are with Him. "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8).

Harold Jones and Family

FROM TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH

Submitted by Dr. E. M. Lall



Room in Dr. Lall's home that was destroyed by fire.



Room in Dr. Lall's home that was destroyed by fire.



Inside view of the room that was restored after it was destroyed by fire.



Old, small go down which is converted to be used as the kitchen now.

I owe my gratitude to God for helping us out of the tragedy that took place in our home early Sunday, January 30, 1994 when the major upper portion of our house was gutted by fire due to short circuit of old wiring. There had always been a vision in my mind through the preceding year of incidence that my house would be engulfed in flames. But I had neither the time or money to get the wiring redone. This incident was reported in *The Free Will Baptist*, June 1994.

As a matter of fact I truly say that the entire affair up-to-date has inspired my faith greatly. God is One who understands suffering. In Exodus 3, He said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them." Jesus Himself was to be man "familiar with suffering" (Isaiah 53). When He came, He felt the pain of the centurion for his sick servant. He felt Peter's pain for his suffering mother-in-law. He felt the bleeding woman's despair, the demon-possessed boy's hopelessness, and Mary and Martha's distress over their brother's death. When the widow of Nain walked by, His heart went out to her, and He healed her pain.

Jesus called his people to suffer, too. When He called Paul, He said, "I will show him how much he must suffer for my name" (Acts 9:16). When the gospel was preached in Acts, Paul said that "the Christ had to suffer" (Acts 17:3; 26:33). He saw the idolatry in Athens and was deeply distressed (Acts 17:16). In Romans 9, he spoke of the "unceasing anguish" in his heart for others. He wrote in 2 Corinthians that, as Christians, "the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives." He challenged Timothy to "join with me in the suffering for the gospel." God is concerned about suffering. Jesus is concerned. Paul was concerned.

My heart is full of thanks to the people who helped me. Also for the immense help from our Director of Board of Foreign Missions for their concern in the restoration of our house. The house has almost been repaired, renovated and restored to our need. From the letters I received from the Rev. Harold Jones from time to time it impressed upon me that he was more concerned about the restoration of our house than me. In his letter of June 17, 1994, he said, "Please give us an update on the restoration of your house. We are interested in your welfare and the progress you are making in rebuilding." The entire rewiring process has been done and the house has been completely renovated. There is just a little bit of plumbing work to be done, etc. We should be in our house before Christmas! Thank you for your kind thoughts, love, and concern. The Lord will reward you richly.



FOREIGN MISSIONS ANNUAL TELETHON

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 1995

**THEME: GOD'S PLAN, PARTNERS,
PROMISE, PROVISION**

This Telethon gives us the opportunity to express our thankfulness to God for His bountiful supply through prayer for revival and World Missions, and by giving to make Christ known around the world.

GOAL 1995: A total of \$100,000 in gifts on Telethon Sunday.

This goal can be reached if every church and individual gives according to God's plan and provision in Christ Jesus.

Sharing His blessings so others can know Him brings the greatest joy.

PRAY DAILY FOR THIS GOAL!

Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30. Dial (919) 746-4963. Your generous gift and call on Telethon Sunday are true expressions of your trust in Christ and obedience to His plan.

GOD IS OUR SOURCE OF SUPPLY

**"But my God shall supply all your need according
to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus"**

Philippians 4:19

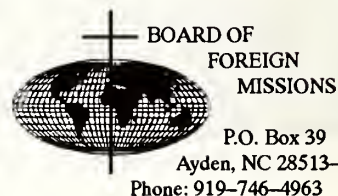
**DAY OF PRAYER FOR REVIVAL AND WORLD MISSIONS
MARCH 26, 1995**

God's plan for world outreach works best in a revived church. Revival comes when God's people trust His promise for revival.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Let us give ourselves to fervent united prayer today and believe God for true revival that will propel the church to greater ministry worldwide.

**PRAYER GOAL 1995: All churches joining together in united prayer
during the Worship Hour, March 26.
LET US PRAY!**





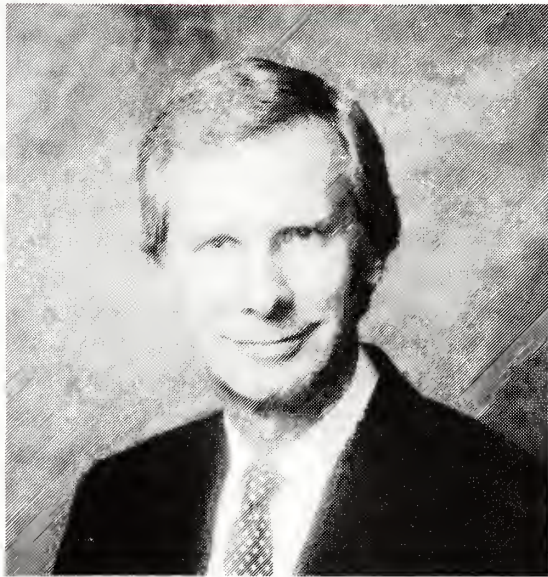
MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH 10, 1995

AND
PLAN TO ATTEND THE

Annual World Missions Conference and Rally

Sponsored by the
BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS



Speaker: Dr. Paul Cedar

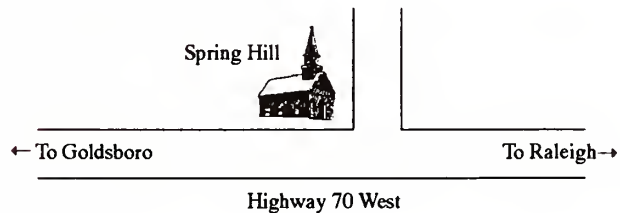
As a clergyman's son, Dr. Paul Cedar spent the first 18 years of his life living in a Presbyterian manse. After four years with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Dr. Cedar spent fourteen years pastoring congregations. Five of these years were spent as the Pastor of Evangelism and Executive Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, California, whose Senior Pastor is now Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie. Dr. Cedar's most recent church was Lake Avenue Congregational Church of Pasadena, California, where he ministered to 4,300. Besides pastoring, he served as President of Dynamic Communications, Inc.; and as adjunct Professor of Evangelism at Fuller Theological Seminary and Talbot Theological Seminary. He has extensive experience in leading seminars and workshops for local churches and pastors' groups. Dr. Cedar is now serving as President of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

PLACE: Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church,
Goldsboro

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**

Special Music by
THE RADFORDS
of Spring Hill

The Church location is convenient and easy to find!



PLAN NOW TO ATTEND AND BRING SOMEONE WITH YOU.

Pray daily for a great conference.

Board of Foreign Missions
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: 919-746-4963

NASHVILLE II

1995

LIMITED EDITION

Do you need a spring getaway? Here is one I'm sure you will enjoy but you need to sign up now—we are over half-way full. Don't wait do it today!

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's admission to Opryland Park; one night's admission to the Grand Ole Opry; a bus-guided sightseeing tour including the Ryman Auditorium—home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943—March 1974, the building is listed on the National Register of Historical Places; an unlimited shuttle pass; a visit to the Upper Room, the museum contains a collection of religious artifacts, paintings, 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; and meals at Cragmont. 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 sightseeing tour and the Ryman Auditorium.

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 on 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 freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*All money will be refunded **only if Cragmont** has to cancel.

The previously advertised “Easter in Song and Story”—an Easter pageant 1995 was cancelled by Opryland on September 20, 1994.

Help in the Hills

by David Ealy

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From whence does my help come?
²My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
³He will not let your foot be moved,
he who keeps you will not slumber.
⁴Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
⁵The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade
on your right hand.
⁶The sun shall not smite you by day,
nor the moon by night.
⁷The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
⁸The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and for evermore.
(from the RSV)

The psalm is full of hope and makes the soul rejoice: *I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth* (Psalm 121:1-2). It is the ultimate encouragement.

The Creator Himself is our helper.

We are to look to the majesty of the hills, the mountains, and remember that our Lord is bigger than the obstacles and trials we face. The LORD gives us direction and leaves us with the hope that one day our struggle in the race of life will find an end in his arms.

That is the imagery that comes to my mind when I think of Cragmont. Like so many others, I too have found a refuge and a home away from home in this place. In my own journey, God has used Cragmont to help me stay in His Way. I have experienced fellowship, testimony and love not only from my fellow staff members but also by the great numbers of people that come here week after week, month after month, year after year.

The longer I stay at Cragmont, the more I realize that it is a living ministry. It grows and changes, it reaches and adapts. Through the people that support and care for it, Cragmont will become more of a vital voice in the mountains to people everywhere, not only within the boundaries of the Free Will Baptist Church but to the communities beyond her. The wealth of conferences, the weekday and weekend groups, spiritual life retreats, touring groups and skiing retreats are all small indicators of what lies ahead for a ministry on the verge of a turning point.

Cragmont has reached a major milestone with the culmination of Jubilee: fifty years of ministry and service and the end of a long-standing debt. They are reasons for anyone to celebrate. That God would ordain and uphold Cragmont for so long is a tribute to God's grace and bounty. And to finally see the fruition of an investment is enough to instill pride and is cause for praise. But what does it all mean?

Perhaps the answer lies in the Psalm that has been Cragmont's theme for so long. Perhaps the future of the ministry lies in the help it brings to people. Maybe it lies in the task of upholding the faith of our founders, not only in the Free Will Baptist tradition but the Gospel of the Author and Finisher of our faith. Maybe we are at the point where we must more completely define Cragmont's definitive role in leading the Youth. Maybe Cragmont's place in the minds of church leaders needs to be reevaluated. Maybe Cragmont should be taking a more prominent position in equipping our lay-people. The end of Jubilee will bring a new beginning for Cragmont's ministry as we are compelled to think again about its future.

Whatever direction our prayers and searching brings to the work here, may Cragmont always continue to be a help in the hills.

May it be a reminder . . . that *the LORD* is our keeper.

CHILDREN'S HOME HAPPENINGS

From Gary Lee, *Director of Church and Public Relations*



Joe Ratcliff, Pastor and Youth



(Left to Right) Dr. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director, Agnes Corbitt, Auxiliary President, Elizabeth Pittman, Virginia Yawn, and Carolyn Penzer.

FREMONT FWB YOUTH VISIT

On December 17, the youth from Fremont FWB church visited the children's home to deliver pennies. The youth group had been collecting pennies since May for the Children's Home. During a lock-in at the church on December 16, the youth counted and rolled the pennies to be presented.

UNION GROVE LADIES AUXILIARY

On December 5, the Ladies Auxiliary from Union Grove FWB visited and presented an offering to the Children's Home. Dr. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director, answered their questions to broaden their knowledge of the child care ministry during a brief meeting. Afterwards, the auxiliary toured the campus and various buildings including Dean's cottage that is undergoing renovations.

Founder's Day

Look for details
in upcoming issues
on how you can be a part
of the Founder's Day celebration
on May 27, 1995.
Celebrating seventy-five years
in child care ministry.

—TOUCHING LIVES CORPS—



Michelle Bartlett

OUR MAIDEN VOYAGE

By: Tina Wetherington



Tina Wetherington

Our journey began in two totally different places, but through the gracious Will of God, Michelle and I have ended up on the same path with one common goal, which is: To win the lost for Christ. As we take you through our journeys, bear in mind that this has evolved over the last six months. Let's begin with Michelle.

Michelle Bartlett is a member of Antioch Original Free Will Baptist Church in Wayne County. She is employed by the Pitt County School System as a Resource Teacher. Her journey actually originated over two years ago when she was involved with Campus Crusade for Christ while attending East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina.

Now let's hear from Michelle:

"When I first became involved with Campus Crusade for Christ, I was overwhelmed at the amount of enthusiasm which dwelt in the hearts of those around me. There was something uniquely different about this 'electrified' bunch. I wanted to know how to get hold of some of the 'real peace and joy' that they displayed. I remember sitting in a huge convention center in Atlanta, Georgia, with about 1,200 Christian college students. The speaker began talking about making a difference for the world. The one statement he made which always sticks out in my mind is: '...if not you then who, if not now then when'. These thought-provoking statements made me realize that as a Christian I had both a privilege and a responsibility to make myself available for the service of the Lord."

Michelle was now focused in what she had to do. Her next step was to find where the Lord wanted her. I guess that is where I came into the picture.

My name is Tina Wetherington. I am a member of Moseley's Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church in Craven County. I am employed by the Craven County School System as a Teacher's Assistant. Unlike Michelle, I was totally unaware that my journey had begun. I was visiting Hillside Original Free Will Baptist Mission in Grifton, during their Vacation Bible School. During

a break in the commencement exercises I began talking to the Reverend David C. Hansley, Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism. After he realized I worked in the school system and had a summer vacation he began to tell me of a new ministry (now called TLC: Touching Lives Corps) that was in the early stages of development. Mr. Hansley told me about a young lady (Michelle Bartlett) who was eager to begin working in the TLC program but needed a partner. Once he finished talking, I knew the only answer I could give him was yes. I was not about to turn down God's will for my life. After all, God is omniscient.

Now that our individual journeys have united into one clear voyage, Michelle and I would like to conclude with a few verses of Scripture that guide us daily to seek God's will for our lives.

**Psa 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD;
trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.**

**Prov 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine
heart; and lean not unto thine own understand-
ing.**

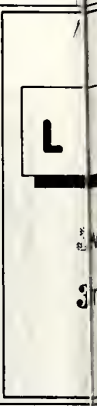
**Prov 3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and
he shall direct thy paths.**



Home Missions and Evangelism
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039



FEBRUARY



SUN	MON	TUE	
4	5	6	1
5	6	7	8
12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
19	20 President's Day	21	22 Washing
26	27 ▲ Cragmont Board, Stoney Creek, 6:00 p.m.	28	1

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRES

G E N D

Previous/following month

Present month

- Sunday School Board
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Minister's Program
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- ✿ Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Retirement Home
- ✿ Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
	2 ◆ Layman's League, Promotional Meeting, Elmer Harrell Office, Snow Hill 7:00 p.m.	3	4 ○ Sunday School Church Board
	9 ● Minister's Program Seminar, Kinston	10 + Press Deadline	11
	16	17 ★ Eastern Conference, Cabin FWB Church, Supper 6:45, Meeting 7:30	18
	23	24 ■ Retirement Home Board	25
	30	31	1

birthday

Frontiers of Character

by Tommy Denton

Reprinted by permission of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Sitting erect in the brown metal folding chair, the boy gazed wide-eyed at the two men who sat before him in similar chairs. The small, spare, dimly lit room was a little stuffy as the boy waited for the interrogation.

His Boy Scout shirt was tucked neatly into his trousers, and the fresh innocence of his boyish face successfully disguised—for a few moments, anyway—the urge to make mischief that lingers near the surface of all well-adjusted 11-year-olds. The board of review, which would test his readiness to advance in rank along the Scouting trail, was about to begin.

"Tell us the twelve points of the Scout Law," the first inquisitor asked. After a moment's quick mental ordering, the boy answered, his response flowing faultlessly in memorized precision: "A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." Then followed a similarly crisp recitation of the Scout Oath and an example of how he could exemplify the Scout motto, "Be Prepared." He discussed the need to be "physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight" to avoid the dangers, such as drugs and gangs, facing so many youngsters his age.

When asked why he should be proud of his Flaming Arrow patrol and what that designation represented—an unexpected question that required an unrehearsed response—he paused only briefly and answered: "The flaming arrow is straight and swift. It is powerful. I guess you could say it is invulnerable."

Yes, he really said "invulnerable." Not a bad answer off the cuff from a kid with only eleven years of life experience behind him, but such answers should not be surprising from youngsters who are encouraged and expected, as Scouts are, to embrace and live by a code of integrity, character and honorable conduct.

Being a Scout—for girls as well as boys—isn't always easy. Peer pressure and ridicule from classmates and friends who consider Scouting "uncool" can be frustrating and even painful. In addition, rigorous demands of advancing in rank—culminating, for Boy Scouts, in the ultimate achievement of Eagle—present a challenge of enormous effort and self-sacrifice.

The spirit of Scouting began in the earnest imagination of Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, England, in the early years of this century. Baden-Powell had participated in the British campaigns of the Boer War in South Africa, although without particular personal military distinction.

Yet, the experience of discipline and order in the field aroused in Baden-Powell memories of his own youth—camping, exploring, tracking, and other arts of the outdoors that he referred to as "woodcraft."

In 1907, he organized the Scouting movement, of which he was the figurehead until his death in 1941.

He devoted his personal energies to Scout training for boys, but he was an ardent and public advocate of the program for girls, which was established soon after his own. His devotion was to all youth as the hope of the future.

The social milieu in the England of 1907 caused Baden-Powell to doubt that youngsters were sufficiently prepared to handle civic responsibilities. He dreamed of creating a "revolution in education" through Scouting that would reinforce and extend young people's preparation for the burdens of productive citizenship.

In the preface to his handbook, *Scouting for Boys*, he wrote: "The fact is true, however, that it aims for a different point than is possible in the average school training. It aims to teach the boys how to live, not merely how to make a living. There lies a certain danger in inculcating in the individual the ambition to win prizes and scholarships, and holding up to him as success the securing of pay, position and power, unless there is a corresponding instruction in service for others."

Baden-Powell may have been blessed with a prophetic vision, allowing him to peer across the Atlantic and eight decades into the future:

"With this inculcation of self-interest into all grades of society it is scarcely surprising that we have as a result a country divided against itself, with self-seeking individuals in unscrupulous

rivalry with one another for supremacy, and similarly with cliques and political parties, religious sects and social classes, all to the detriment of national interests and unity."

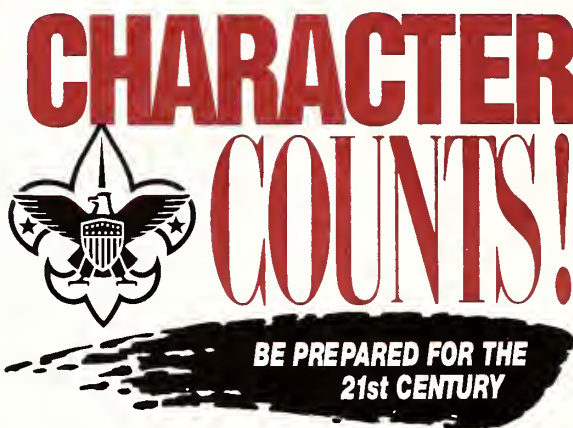
His proposal for addressing these dysfunctions ring just as authoritatively and true in 1994 as they did when they were penned for an earlier era:

"Therefore the aim of the Scout training is to replace Self with Service, to make the lads individually efficient, morally and physically, with the object of using that efficiency for the service of the community. I don't mean by this the mere soldiering and sailing services; we have no military aim or practice in our movement; but I mean the ideals of service for their fellow men."

Such ideals represent a special commitment to timeless and enduring values more elevated and noble than some ages appear able or willing to nurture. Yet, free societies fail at their own peril in their common efforts to sustain them.

Those efforts are necessarily led by unselfish adults devoted to the proposition that the future depends on how well they prepare the next generation—especially by their own example—to advance the cause of human decency and freedom.

Socrates, whose wisdom resonates out of antiquity, espoused a truth just as urgent today as when he wrote it 2,400 years ago: "No man goes about a more godly purpose than he who is mindful of the right upbringing not only of his own, but of other men's children."



DIPLOMACY USED FOR GOD

(The following article was submitted for reprint by *The Timemachine*,
an Occasional Newsletter of Georgia FWB Historical Society)

With his kind, understanding way, the Rev. E. C. Morris, won the hearts of the people of Georgia. He did much to lay the foundation for the State structure that we have today. He worked consistently, patiently to unite our state, through the Unified Program, at a time when there was much distrust and suspicion. He certainly deserves our praise for the work he did from 1947 to 1961 as the Promotional Secretary.

The following are tributes from some who remember him.

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matthew 24:21, 23).

"Matthew 25:14-23 presents a graphic and dramatic picture of faithfulness in service to the Lord Jesus Christ and the reward that follows such service. Four phases of exemplary stewardship are contained in this account:

1. The wisdom of the Lord of the stewards in handing out responsibilities.
2. The willingness of the stewards in accepting the respective assignments.
3. The zeal and energy with which the stewards discharged their responsibilities.
4. The faithfulness and fairness of the Lord in rewarding the stewards.

"In every sense of the word, the Rev. E. C. Morris was a good steward of Jesus Christ. His record verifies this fact. Those of us who knew him so well and with whom he served for so many years can testify to this fact.

"His 60 years of unbroken service in the Free Will Baptist ministry are proof of his sincerity and perseverance. Brother Morris answered the call to preach the gospel at the age of 25. His pastoral ministry took him into three states: North Carolina, Texas, and Georgia. Wherever he served as pastor, he was loved and appreciated. A fine Christian gentleman at all times, he was loved and appreciated, as a man of God. He preached the Word of God with authority and concern. He was a student of the Bible and filled his pulpit with dignity and respect. He was a friend and counsellor to young and old. His heart was tender and compassionate and he had a fervent desire to lead people to Christ. He was a good pastor.

He came first to Georgia as a visitor to a session of the State Association meeting. Following this visit, he accepted a pastorate in the State. In 1947, he was elected to the position of Promotional Secretary/Treasurer of the State Association. This was a first in Georgia and also a first in the entire denomination at that time. He accepted this new responsibility willingly and worked at it from the very beginning with characteristic energy and enthusiasm. He met with many obstacles and reverses but was undaunted. Patiently and lovingly he kept on working.

Little by little he broke down the barriers of reluctance and suspicion, and after 14 successive years in the office, the Lord had used him to perform a miracle. The growth in every department of the State Association's program was phenomenal. The name of E. C. Morris had become a household name to be respected among the Free Will Baptist people in Georgia. Those men who have succeeded him in this office have found a rich legacy left to them because E. C. Morris was there before them.

"At the age of 85, Brother Morris was summoned by his Lord to come home. Tired and worn, but still strong in the faith and unashamed of his record, he gladly answered the summons and kept his trust with the Great Steward. There can be no doubt concerning the welcome he received into the presence of Him whom he had served so lovingly and efficiently. It was as the Master has always rewarded the faithful servant: "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."

—the Rev. C. B. Dowdney
Georgia Executive Secretary 1973-1981

"The Rev. E. C. Morris was a prince of a man. He was a pastor's pastor. Brother Morris could be counted on. Although he was a perfectionist, he was easy going. He was a diplomat in every sense of the word, he knew how to say the proper things at the proper time.

"He was a good preacher and more than that was a good teacher. Best of all for Georgia, he had the State work at heart and gave his all for it."

—the Rev. James Ursey, Pastor and Co-Worker

"Brother Morris was a jewel of a man. He was calm in his dealings with people. His soft-spoken, kind manner was like oil in settling problems. The first years of his ministry as Promotional Secretary was very hard in more than one way. In trying to promote the Unified Program he faced a lot of opposition. Our people had not been taught the importance of missions or anything outside the local church. But his patience and faithfulness laid a foundation for what we have now. And he did not get much money for all his efforts. Mrs. Morris sold cosmetics (Avon?) to help with finances. He was instrumental in getting me involved in the State work which led to my being the Georgia Board Member to the Alabama Children's Home. I feel the many years I served in this position was a highlight in my Christian service."

—Mr. Curtis Gay, Deacon and Co-Worker

"I first met the Rev. E. C. Morris when he visited the 1934 General Conference of Free Will Baptists. This was the Conference of Free Will Baptists east of the Mississippi River. Brother Morris stayed in our home during the Conference which met in Jakin, Georgia. My husband was pastor of the church at the time.

"My husband, K. V., had gotten acquainted with Brother Morris when he attended the Free Will Baptist College at Ayden, North Carolina.

"In his early years of ministry, Brother Morris did a lot of evangelistic work and was known as a powerful preacher. While in Georgia he was faithful to every phase of the Free Will Baptist ministry including the camp and minister's retreats. He did a good job as Promotional Secretary which the job was called back then."

—Mrs. Lora Shutes, Former Pastor's Wife

"The Rev. E. C. Morris was an easy person to work with and I liked him. He was this pastor's pastor. He was kind and soft spoken. In all of his dealings he was very diplomatic."

—the Rev. Lamar Parrish, Pastor and Co-Worker

ON THE MOVE WITH THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE

Scenes From State Meeting at Bethany Church November 4, 1994



The Honorary Advisor and Outstanding Friend and Supporter of the Layman's League: The Rev. C. L. Patrick.

Scenes From Eastern Conference at First FWB, Kinston November 21, 1994



Rev. David Charles Hansley gives message at Conference.

Scenes From Central Conference Meeting at First FWB, Tarboro December 5, 1994



Fellowship at Central Conference Layman's League Meeting.



Some members of the Layman's League Promotional Board.



Eastern President presenting gavel to President of Memorial FWB Church, Chocowinity.



Fellowship at Central Conference Layman's League Meeting.



Fellowship at the State Meeting.



Eastern Conference Meeting at First FWB, Kinston.



Fellowship at Central Conference Layman's League Meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 2—Promotional Committee, Elmer Harrell's Office, Snow Hill, 7 p.m.

May 5—State Meeting, Time and Place to Be Announced.

May 27—Spiritual Life Retreat, Eagles Nest, Mount Olive College.

CURRENT EVENTS

Bethany FWB Church Laymen are making an enclosed walkway from their sanctuary to their fellowship building.

Free Union FWB Church (Central Conference near Walstonburg) just recently had a pancake supper to help raise money to put a sound system in their fellowship building.

Laymen, what are you doing at your church?
Please send pictures and/or information to
Randy Beaman (State Publicity)
(830-5592)
1105 Grovement Drive, C-3,
Greenville, NC 27834
— or —
Elmer Harrell (State President) (747-2894)
502 Southeast Third Street,
Snow Hill, NC 28580

DAVID PARKER CONCERT AT BLACK JACK CHURCH

by Randy Cobb



Black Jack FWB Church recently welcomed contemporary Christian artist David Parker. From his home in Dallas, David visited Greenville for an evening of energetic music and worship. The concert and ministry time that was shared with David serves as an example of Ephesians 3:20.

The thing that impressed me most about David Parker was one characteristic—simple sincerity. I have been around few people who have the meek, humble, yet deeply dedicated character found in David. With a radical drive which leads him to be true to the call, he carries himself in a genuine manner. David's biography states, "God has given David a special anointing in his ability to share the Gospel of Christ in a way which is both unique and relevant to students and adults alike. His deepest desire is to point people to Jesus and encourage Christians to walk an uncompromising walk with Him." Black Jack church and concert visitors witnessed the depth of truth found in these statements.

Above and beyond the encouragement and excitement in the Lord that I experienced was that which the youth found themselves—and finding themselves involved is exactly what happened. Concerts never have this level of participation. From the youngest to the oldest (and some present were pretty old) each seemed to have had a spectacular time of enjoying strong, but easy listening music, with a biblical message while simultaneously listening to the voice of God and knowing His presence. In the words of some of the youth present.

"The David Parker concert was awesome. It was the best concert I've ever been to. His singing was great. The message really got down deep into my heart. The concert really was a good influence if you didn't know God. The concert was just GREAT."—Jason Heath (age 11)

"I liked the concert because it had a good beat. My favorite song was 'I Will Sing A New Song.' There was nothing wrong with the concert. One thing I liked about the concert was you got a poster. Something else I liked about the concert was David Parker gave his signature. I saw a lot of people. I saw a lot of fun. Another thing I saw was people (enjoying themselves) and I saw hands clapping. I would like David Parker to come back and sing at Black Jack Church."—Jenna Whitehurst (age 8)

Plans are for Jenna to get her wish. Black Jack announces with great anticipation that David Parker will once again be visiting Greenville. Saturday, September 23, 1995 is the date. Black Jack Family Life Center is the location. You are invited to be the guest. Details are forthcoming—mark your calendar. You will not want to miss it!

Special thanks to all those who contributed to make the concert possible. Sincere gratitude goes to the over fifty-five staff members! Thanks also goes to each church which was present to enjoy the evening with us: Arapahoe, Dilda's Grove, Greenville First, Mount Olive College, Reedy Branch, Saint's Delight, Westside and many others. Most importantly honor and glory goes to the Lord for giving us the opportunity to have stewardship over such a great event and for His using it to introduce seven new members into His family—may the Lord be praised!

“Peek at the Past” of Camping in Eastern, North Carolina

by Ralph Sumner

An interest in camping has been expressed for many years in North Carolina. It's not my intent to give an extensive history of the camping movement, but just a “Peek at the Past.”

The first records of camping was in June, 1935 when the Central Conference Sunday School and Leagues made plans for a week of camping at Neuse Forest Camp near New Bern, NC. Miss Elizabeth Warren was the corresponding secretary. However, this camp was called off because of the Infantile Paralysis epidemic.

The League Convention, however, appointed a committee in 1935 to secure a camp, if possible, for 1936. The committee was: the Revs. J. R. Bennett, R. T. Godly, and Henry Melvin. The camp did materialize and was held at Camp Leach June 4–11, 1936. The director was Miss F. McCoy Tripp of Winterville, NC. The registration was by Miss Jessie Roland Brewer.

Camping continued for several years each summer at Camp Leach with such directors as: “Papa Henry Melvin, L. E. Ballard, Clarence Bowen, and others.

As early as May, 1936, the Executive Committee of the State Convention showed interest in securing property for camping purposes, giving a committee details as to the kind of facilities needed.

The Sunday School Convention and League Convention of the Eastern Conference showed great interest in camping. Committees were at work trying to locate something in eastern North Carolina. They reported that they had looked for property at Catherine's Lake, The Watering Ponds and other places.

In the early 1940's, the State Convention in cooperation with the Sunday School Convention, the League Convention and the Woman's Auxiliary Convention, as joint owners, purchased property in Black Mountain for camping purposes. However, the idea did

not die for a camping facility on the coast.

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference began a project they called “The Assembly Grounds.” Talk was to have conventions, unions, vocal unions and camp meetings with all the churches cooperating. The Fifth Union also had a project to have a similar place. However, this project changed views after seeing the results of some retreats conducted by the writer, Ralph Sumner. These retreats started as a local church retreat on the Neuse River and then other churches and pastors joined for one. From this the Fifth Union Youth Rally joined and a whole weekend was planned for August 2–4, 1968 at the Presbyterian Camp near Morehead City. It was at this Retreat that the first public offering was received for Camp Vandemere.

During the Eastern Conference in 1967, a campground committee was appointed. On July 26, 1968, this committee, along with Ralph Sumner and Jerry English met with the Executive Committees of the conference to report that property in Vandemere, NC was available. At the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the campground committee was asked to get the Fifth Union to secure the option until after the conference in October. This was agreed to and the option was purchased. At the conference in 1968, everything was passed and a board of directors were appointed. The Board was: Bruce Dudley, D. W. Cleve Jr., Ralph Sumner, advisor and treasurer, John Gillikin, and Earl Holton.

For the first years camp was housed in tents, then in 1974 the dorm and dining hall/kitchen were completed.

During these 25 years, we have seen the camp grow from a dream to a reality. Only God could have done it through working with His people in the Free Will Baptist churches. We owe a great deal of gratitude to all the faithful supporters and especially those who

have given of their time and money sacrificially in the endeavor. Without the prayers of our people and the dedication of all the members of the Board of Directors and the help of God, we would not have a camp. May God continue to use you in helping the camp to “Send Out Thy Light and Truth” (Psalm 43:3).

**Mid-Year Spiritual
Life Banquet
March 3, 1995
6:30 p.m.
at
Lee's Chapel
Dunn, NC
Willis Wilson, Speaker
Meal: \$7.50 a person
\$15.00 per couple
Ministers and
their wives invited!
To make reservations,
contact:
Secretary of
Ministerial Association
Philip Boykin
Route 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC
(910) 892-7855 (Church)
(910) 892-6350 (Home)**

HAVE THE ELDERLY BEEN FORSAKEN?

by Mrs. Rose G. Bowen

This is going to be a controversial article, I am sure, but the Lord and I are writing it as the Holy Spirit leads me to write. I disobeyed the Lord for several months, but I can't anymore. I have prayed much over this and I decided to obey the Lord.

I can't speak for every retired person because I do not know their circumstances. I can only speak for myself. My husband and I suffered long and hard for many years. One reason is that we went back to school after we got married. If it had not been "depression days," we could not have made it. I ran Campbell College Bookstore, and made a grand salary of five dollars a week, but never saw it because the office kept it for my eating in the dining hall. Mr. Bowen, who worked as an assistant to Dr. Skaggs, a Sociology professor, made ten dollars which was kept and paid on our college bill. Yes, I finished business school, music, and voice, and Mr. Bowen finished in Latin and English. We went to work in Durham while Mr. Bowen went through Wake Forest. Upon leaving there, we moved to Nashville where together we worked for sixty dollars a week—he pastored, and I worked in an office. He received his M.A. in English and History, then when he lacked only a little on his Ph.D., he was told he would have to live on campus at Vanderbilt. Of course, he did not do this because he had a wife and a five-year-old son in Nashville.

Psalm 37:25 states, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Also, Psalm 71:18 states, "I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come." Mr. Bowen and I tried to live by these verses.

He died with a love for the Lord's work. He had just left a Foreign Missions service, and on his way home had a heart attack.

The young ministers evidently do not know how they got where they are today. We begged churches to not leave young ministers stranded. Together Mr. Bowen and I really stood for the younger men. We were the first to insist that better salaries, payment on homes, love care, etc. be given to the ministers that came after us.

When my husband died on January 22, 1984, churches and friends came to my rescue and I really appreciate it.

Governor Jim Hunt, who was and is a personal friend, has tried to find help for me. I believe, eventually, help will come.

The thing that let me know that Jesus was really leading me, happened on August 9, 1994. A social service worker came to talk with me. She knew that I needed help, but said she had searched everywhere to find help for me but the only thing that she came up with (if she could even get that), was ten dollars in food stamps each month. I told her God had taken care of me so far, and He would continue.

I have been in the emergency room five times this year—each time expecting to die, but Christ brought me through. I believe my Lord is going to let me live until He returns, when I will have a brand-new body. I told several preachers that I had fasted and prayed many times, sometimes as long as three days. It did not hurt me because I did it with the Lord's help and drank fluids.

My doctor, Don Rebeiro, has changed my life completely. He got a physical therapist, an East Carolina professor, to work with me through Hospice. Together, Dr. Ribeiro and the therapist, with the Lord's help, brought me from death to life.

I have also been through persecution as well as financial trouble, but I do not care to discuss this because as a Christian I have tried not to hurt anyone, friend or foe.

The devil has really tried me ever since Mr. Bowen died, but he has only

made me determined to serve my Lord more and to be even more consecrated to Him. Several friends, whom I really love, have stood by me. Three or four can't carry my burdens, and I do not wish them to.

Please do not shelve the older Free Will Baptists because they aren't able to work anymore! Please pray for those of us that need help, and God will bless you!

Note:

Soon after Mr. Bowen's death, Mrs. Bowen applied for residency with the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes in February 1984. Retirement Homes purchased the residence where she lives in the spring of 1984. Upon her application's approval, she moved in the residence located at 411 North Lee Street, Ayden, NC.

Since that time Mrs. Bowen has received the same schedule of benefits that Retirement Homes offers to all in its care. These benefits are: 1. community-based home or apartment, 2. all utilities, 3. all home appliances, 4. all repairs, 5. all yard maintenance.

In return she has paid to Retirement Homes each month 30% of her retirement income.

We extend our thanks to all good, loyal Free Will Baptist people and churches who continue to provide these services for our retired.

*Director of FWB Retirement Homes
Walter J. Sutton*



THANK YOU

Kay Jones wishes to thank everyone for all her cards and visits during the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. E. C. Morris, of 500 Pickwick Trail, #248, Durham, NC, 27704, wishes to thank all of her friends in the churches, auxiliaries, and Sunday Schools in North Carolina and Georgia, for all their cards, gifts, love, and prayers during 1994 and during this special Holy season. She wishes to express her thanks and love to each one of you.

PASTOR AVAILABLE

The Rev. Charles Petit is available for pastoral services. He can be contacted at 2014 Penny Lane, Clayton, NC 27520 or phone, 919-553-5741.

THANK YOU

The Rev. Clyde W. Cox wishes to thank his many friends and churches for their prayers and many other acts of kindness shown to my family during the recent illness and death of my dear wife, Mary.

PASTOR AVAILABLE

The Rev. Clyde W. Cox is available for interim pastor, or full-time pastoral work. He can be contacted at P.O. Box 240, Micro, NC 27555-0240; phone, 919-284-1048.

NEW ADDRESS

The Rev. Roy Clifton
1031 Governor Moore Road
Clinton, NC 28328
Phone: 910-592-6485

PASTOR NEEDED

May's Chapel FWB Church is looking for a pastor. The church is located in Dudley NC (Wayne Co.) (Eastern Conference).

If interested, contact:

Robert Overman
518 Bryan Blvd.
Goldsboro, NC 27530
Phone: 919-734-4807

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH HONORS
WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

On Sunday, November 13, 1994, the Woman's Auxiliary of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church honored its Woman of the Year. The selection of the person to receive this honor was made by the circle and auxiliary members of the church and the presentation was made during the morning worship service. The honoree, Marice DeBruhl, was presented with an arrangement of red roses and a life membership in the Woman's Auxiliary. At the request of the local auxiliary, Dianne Riley, a state officer, and close friend of the honoree, gave the tribute and special music. The life membership award was presented by Laurel Smith, President of the Auxiliary, and the prayer of dedication was given by Ralph Casey, a deacon at St. Mary's and president of the Sunday School class which the honoree co-teaches.

**1994 WOMAN OF THE YEAR
NOVEMBER 13, 1994**

Presented by Dianne Riley

Today we honor a woman from our auxiliary and in doing so, I thought it fitting to step back in history for a moment and reflect on our heritage. The Free Will Baptist denomination is the third oldest in North Carolina; its beginning dating back to the early 1700's. In those early years women were quieter; they were to be supportive and backers of their husbands.

In the early 1900's things began to change. The Woman's Auxiliary was formed to get the women out of the pew and into the action of active Christian service. In 1908, the first Women's Home Mission formed for fellowship, supplying the needs of the church, helping the needy and aiding in spiritual development. In October 1908, the first

Ladies Aid organization was founded here at St. Mary's by Mrs. Alice Lupton and it was later called the Dorcus Society. It was in 1912 that the first Woman's Home Missions Convention was organized and the first meeting was here at St. Mary's. Mrs. Alice Lupton served as president of the convention. The first Woman's Auxiliary circles were developed at St. Mary's, also first called Woman's Home Mission, then Ladies Aid Society and finally Woman's Auxiliary. In 1927 the first state Woman's Auxiliary Convention was held, according to Mrs. L. E. Ballard, and Mrs. Alice Lupton of St. Mary's was its president and was recognized as the "first Lady of the Woman's Auxiliary."

For 86 years Woman's Auxiliary work has been a part of this church and its work has ranged from selling chicken salad to raise money for the needs of the church, to serving meals to bereaved families, teaching Sunday School, serving as youth leaders, and sharing the gospel plan with others. On the altar table today we have a portrait of Mrs. Alice Lupton, the first lady of Woman's Auxiliary work and an arrangement of red roses in honor of our 1994 Woman's Auxiliary Woman of the Year.

The person we honor today is a graduate of New Bern High School who continued her formal education as a student at Campbell University, then Campbell College. While at Campbell she was a dorm officer and was very active in the college touring choir that gave concerts in schools, colleges and Southern Baptist churches throughout the southeastern United States.

Our honoree's education and care-free teenage life was interrupted 38 years ago by the sudden death of her father; a man who was a pillar of this church; respected and admired, a

deacon who was always available to perform any function from serving as an officer of the church to being available at the church door to help couples with their children. The chimes in our church tower were given by friends and local citizens in memory of his faithful and loving service to this church.

At the death of her father, our Woman of the Year came home to be with her mother; also an active member of this church who has served as a Sunday School teacher for children, served on the music and parsonage committees and who is still an active member of our Woman's Auxiliary.

Our Woman of the Year, just as early auxiliary women, believed in active Christian service and began her Christian service as a young woman. Let me share just a little of her life.

1959–1962—Secretary of The Free Will Baptist League

1959–1993—Served as teacher or associate teacher of Sunday School classes ranging in age from teenage to young adult and adult.

1994—Is currently serving as co-teacher of Discipleship Class.

1965–1967—Served as member of the Church Historical Committee

1966—Selected to serve as a member of Finance Study Committee that evaluated thoroughly every avenue of the financial responsibilities and obligations of the church and that resulted in the formation of a rotating finance committee, the hiring of a church secretary and the set up of a complete finance accounting and record keeping system.

1969–1974—Served as Church Clerk
1986–1990—Served as Church Treasurer

1991–1993—Served as Chairman of the Church Finance Committee

1960–1993—Served on and off the

church General Board as a result of other offices held; served a term as board secretary.

1982–1984—Served on Christian Education Committee and as Assistant Chairman.

1981–1984—Served as member of Church Renovation Study Committee that resulted in major improvements to physical plant.

1984–1994—Served in various offices of the Woman's Auxiliary including Secretary and Vice President and is currently serving as Program-Prayer Chairman.

In addition, the lady we honor today has served on a number of Church Nominating Committees, and was a member of the Chancel Choir for over 30 years. She also served as a member of the Pulpit Committees that brought Marvin Waters to St. Mary's in 1981 and Craig Simmons to St. Mary's in 1991.

Reaching out, we look at her gifts and their usages.

Her Gift of Leadership

She served on the Task Force 2000 Committee for Church/College Relations at Mount Olive College and has chaired the Craven County Dinner for Mount Olive College for over 20 years. She served two terms on the Free Will Baptist Press Board and has been an avid supporter of all denominational ministries.

Her Gift of Speaking

She has taught Study Courses in the Eastern and Central Woman's Auxiliary Conferences and has prepared and led Women's Retreats for churches in surrounding counties. She has been the speaker for numerous Woman's Auxiliary Banquets and joined Toastmaster's International in order to sharpen her

speaking skills; being honored by her local club as Toastmaster of the Year in 1984.

Her Gift of Writing

She has delighted in writing many letters of reference for young people and adults in this church who were seeking employment, were candidates for scholarships or were applying for college entrance and law school. She was very pleased to have had a small part in writing and working in behalf of one of her Sunday School students who sought and received a congressional appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

She has written numerous programs for the state Woman's Auxiliary Program guide "Devotion" and many of us in this church today have been the recipients of her notes and letters of concern and encouragement.

Her Gift of Caring and Curiosity and Question Asking

This gift has enabled our Woman of the Year to . . .

Assist in the uniting of a mother and her fifty seven year old son who had been adopted at birth and had been searching for his mother for a number of years.

Assist in restoring broken relationships between friends and acquaintances.

Assist older church members and shut-ins in maintaining self-esteem and confidence.

Give comfort and support to families in bereavement and crisis.

Her Gift of Good Work Ethics and Responsibility

This gift has led to a long term of employment and added responsibility in her secular work as well as leadership responsibilities in her church.

Her Gift of Learning

Has led to the formation of an extensive personal library that she uses for the enrichment of her personal life and growth and in the preparation of Sunday School lessons and Bible studies that she shares with others. The hours that she spends in Sunday School teaching preparation exemplifies her care for the salvation and growth of her students. Some of you here today accepted Jesus Christ in your heart and life because she presented the gospel plan to you in class or one on one. This love of learning has resulted in her current participation in a city-wide luncheon Bible Study each week that is taught by clergy from all major denominations.

Many have come and gone from this church in the last 57 years but the person we honor today has stayed. The Apostle Paul encouraged us "to walk worthy of our vocation" and the person we honor has taken his words seriously in serving her church and community. Therefore, I'm reminded today of what was said about another auxiliary woman whose roots go deep in our denomination; Bertha "Ma" Griffin.

Values—which tell us that the measure of life is not in things but in people

Values—which tell us that the measure of life is not in what we gather but in what we give

Values—which tell us that the measure of life is not in having our vanity inflated by being served, but in humble and unselfish service to others.

Values—which tell us that the measure of life is not in physical and emotional sensations but in the development of a soul in the likeness of the God who made us in His image.

This year's Woman of the Year was voted on and selected by the circle and auxiliary members of St. Mary's Church and it is only fitting that, as the bells in the tower of our church ring today, that they ring for Wayne DeBruhl's favorite daughter, Marice.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION



Wendy Davis, church pianist and choir director of Mount Tabor Original Free Will Baptist Church in Creswell, NC, is shown accepting a framed certificate of appreciation from pastor, Keith Pelletier. Mrs. Davis was presented the certificate on December 11, 1994. The congregation of Mount Tabor extended their appreciation to Mrs. Davis for five years of service to the church. Mrs. Davis is married to Scott Davis of Route 1, Roper, NC. They have two children, Channin and Michaela.

Mrs. Davis is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Billy Reynolds, also of Roper, NC.

HOLLY SPRINGS FWB CHURCH

The Women's Auxiliary from Holly Springs Church in Newport has concluded the 1994 membership drive with heavenly results. As you may remember, the ladies decided to boost attendance with a contest designed to encourage each member to bring as many guests as possible. The team with the most visitors would win the contest and make a financial donation to one of the Denominational Ministries.

The 15 members of the "even" team had a total attendance for the year of 138, while the 13 members of the "odd" team had an attendance of 111. Of this number, 109 were first time visitors and guests. Ava Clark brought the most visitors with 15.

The contest was good Christian fun; 8 visitors went on to join the Auxiliary! Five of the visitors were men. And best of all the Children's Home received \$45.75 from the special collection as part of the contest.

For 1995 the contest has begun anew. At the end of this year either Camp Vandemere or Foreign Missions will receive the donation. The Lord's work is being done at Holly Springs Church Women's Auxiliary.

CAPE FEAR DISTRICT YOUTH MEET

The Cape Fear District Youth met with Bethel Church, January 7, 1995, 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Fred Baker did the Installation Service for the 1995 Officers. The first place winners for Cherub Talent were Jay Lancaster, vocal from Lanwood Chapel Church and Pleasant Grove Church, Cherub vocal. February Youth Rally will be held at Lee's Chapel Church, Dunn, 6:30 p.m. AFC and YFA Talent Competition will be held. The 1995 State project is Cragmont (sound system for Chapel) \$150.00 per church. Please turn in by March Youth Rally.

CHRISTMAS 1994 AT HOLLY SPRINGS FWB CHURCH NEWPORT, NORTH CAROLINA

Submitted by Peggy Horrell

Photos by Susan Davis

On December 10, the Ladies' Sunday School class held its Christmas dinner in the church fellowship hall. Approximately 56 class members and guests enjoyed barbecued pork and chicken, along with delicious vegetables, rolls, and desserts. The Rev. Jody Yates and his wife, Doris, were honored. The Rev. Yates retired in July, 1994. Doris Yates is a member of the Sunday School class. Class member Pat Gurganus and her husband, Hilton, were also honored; December 10 was their 64th wedding anniversary.

The senior citizens of the church were honored by the youth with a Christmas party on December 11.

The adult choir presented "The Gift" on December 16 and 18. The cantata was created and arranged by Dennis and Nan Allen and directed by Jo McCabe. "The Gift" is the Christmas story in song and action through the eyes of Marcus, a Roman census-taker. The part of Marcus was played by David Miller. Mary and Joseph were portrayed by Martha and Eric Bryan. Other actors were Sullivan Bryan as Baby Jesus, Larry Mason as the innkeeper, and Nancy Browne as the midwife.

On Christmas Eve, the youth of the church presented a very special Christmas program. The children acted out the Christmas story as their youth leaders sang. Hearts were touched as two little angels, Jamie Smith and Annie Chisenhall, sang "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Annie has a brain tumor and underwent surgery in April, 1994. Although she still has the tumor and is wheelchair bound, Annie hasn't allowed her illness to slow her down or dim her faith in God. Both were evident as she bravely took part in the play and sang so sweetly with her cousin, Jamie. The grand finale was when the lights were dimmed and a birthday cake was presented to Jesus. The congregation in singing "Happy Birthday" while the candles glowed in the darkness as a reminder of what Christmas is all about.



December 11, 1994—The youth honored the senior citizens with a Christmas party.



December 16 and 18, 1994—The adult choir presented "The Gift."



"The Gift" portrayed the Christmas story through the eyes of a Roman census-taker named Marcus. Mary and Joseph were played by Martha and Eric Bryan. Marcus (seated) was played by David Miller.



December 10, 1994—Former Pastor Jody Yates, and his wife, Doris, were honored at the Ladies' Bible Class Christmas dinner.



December 24, 1994—The youth presented a special Christmas program. A touching moment was when two little angels, Jamie Smith (top row, left) and Annie Chisenhall (left, in wheelchair), sang "Let There Be Peace On Earth."

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

Sunday School Charms



Coming March 4, 1995

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL FAIR
the annual S.S. Institute

Workshops
Minister
Performing Groups
Field Activities
Clowns
Christian Education Displays
Arts and Crafts
Puppets
Good Food
Telegraph

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
at
Everett Chapel
Original Free Will Baptist Church
Clayton, North Carolina

For People of All Ages

Sponsored by the Convention Sunday School Board



PROJECT SOLUTION UPDATE

Project Solution's Task Force Committee met on December 5, 1994, at Marsh Swamp Church. This was only the second meeting of the committee. Much of the discussion centered on the necessity of involving our pastors and churches in the evaluation (which is the ultimate purpose of the Project) of our denomination. This involvement will include the setting up of statewide meetings with all our ministers, at which time Project plans will be shared. These meetings will be worshipful and meaningful to all our ministers, and it is our hope and prayer that they will serve as a focal point of the beginning of spiritual renewal throughout our denomination.

The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for January 16, 1995. At this meeting a survey form will be compiled and a denominational mission statement will be written.

It has been about a year since Project Solution was presented and subsequently adopted by the Convention's Executive Committee. As expressed previously in *Notes and Quotes*, many of our ministers and church leaders have expressed deep concern about the future of our denomination. All of us agree that many good things are taking place among Free Will Baptists; however, we also realize that there are also weaknesses and shortcomings. In spite of growth in ministries and administrative functions, as a denomination we are not growing numerically. Instead, there has been a gradual decline in overall membership; but the most drastic decline has been in church and Sunday school attendance. While many churches have had steady growth, many others have not. Various factors have played a hand in this. We need not blame anyone or any special program, etc.; all must assume the responsibility. The road to spiritual renewal can only be traveled when there is love and unity to the extent that we are willing to bring all our potentials together in the building of a Kingdom.

As with any self-evaluation, there is always some discomfort, and indeed there needs to be as we move along in the process.

Each Free Will Baptist church is a part of the denomination. The same is true regarding the ministers. There is no place for disharmony. As with any successful endeavor, all must work as a unit, with the goal of advancing the cause of Christ among men. In this we are fulfilling His command to make disciples. Thus, it is my prayer that if the Project accomplishes nothing else, it will result in the unification of our efforts to the extent that many lost souls will be born into the Kingdom of God.

In a recent meeting with a group of Western Conference ministers, there was the common conviction that we must more seriously carry out the work of evangelism. As expressed in this meeting, there is a wind blowing; hence, we must move into position to catch that wind.

Now Available



Provides a Brief Look at each of the Ministries of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists
Aquaints the Interested Person with a Basic Background of each Ministry's History and Purpose

\$1.00 per copy
\$9.00 per dozen

May be ordered from the Convention Headquarters,
P. O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513;
or may be purchased from the
Free Will Baptist Press' bookstores.

Original Free Will Baptist Cookbook

The FWB Press plans to publish a cookbook containing recipes submitted by members of Original FWB Churches. The publishing date will be announced as soon as a sufficient number of recipes has been received by the press. You may submit as many recipes as you wish.

Listed below are the guidelines we request you to follow in order to prevent mistakes.

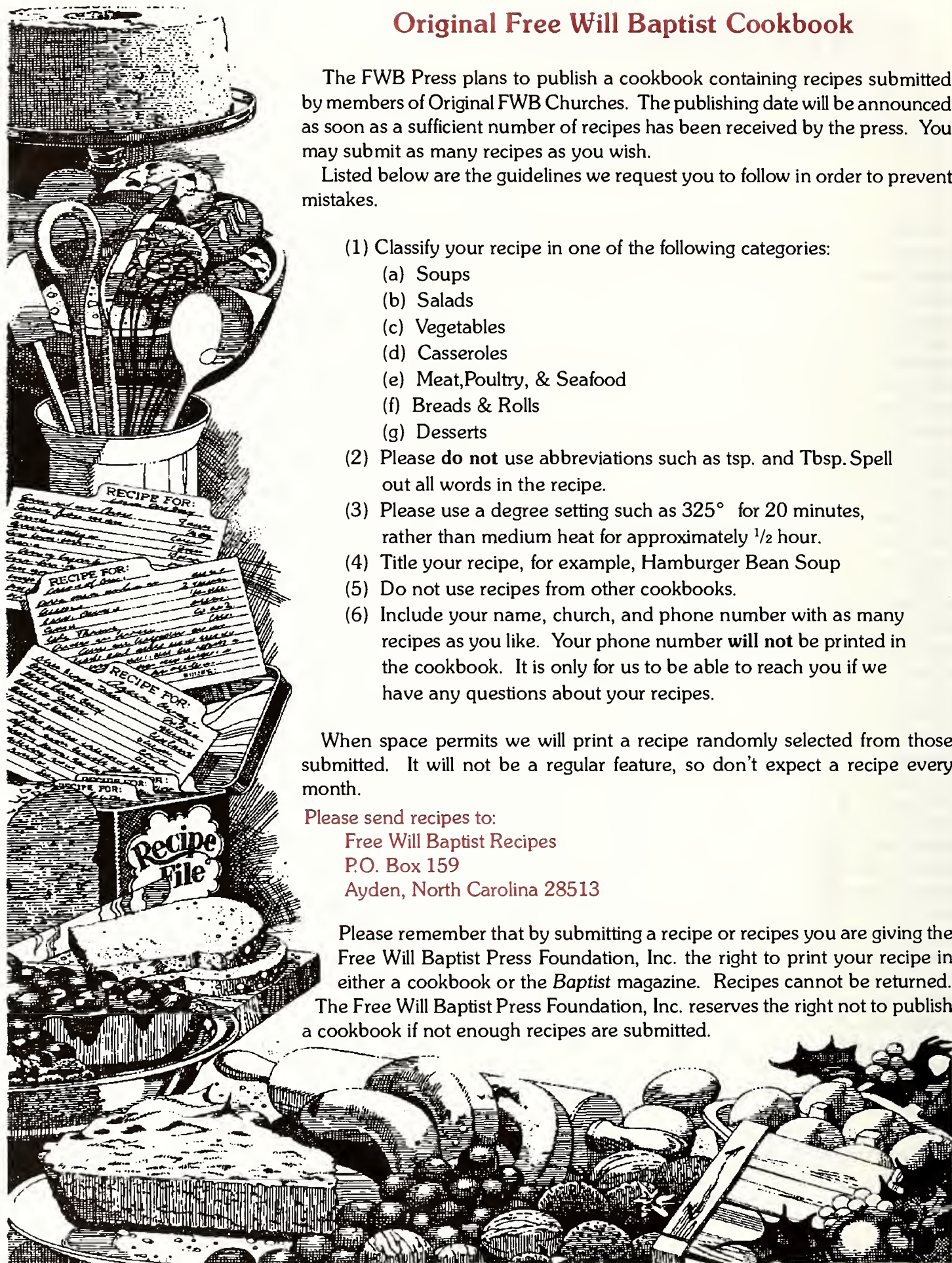
- (1) Classify your recipe in one of the following categories:
 - (a) Soups
 - (b) Salads
 - (c) Vegetables
 - (d) Casseroles
 - (e) Meat, Poultry, & Seafood
 - (f) Breads & Rolls
 - (g) Desserts
- (2) Please do not use abbreviations such as tsp. and Tbsp. Spell out all words in the recipe.
- (3) Please use a degree setting such as 325° for 20 minutes, rather than medium heat for approximately 1/2 hour.
- (4) Title your recipe, for example, Hamburger Bean Soup
- (5) Do not use recipes from other cookbooks.
- (6) Include your name, church, and phone number with as many recipes as you like. Your phone number **will not** be printed in the cookbook. It is only for us to be able to reach you if we have any questions about your recipes.

When space permits we will print a recipe randomly selected from those submitted. It will not be a regular feature, so don't expect a recipe every month.

Please send recipes to:

Free Will Baptist Recipes
P.O. Box 159
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Please remember that by submitting a recipe or recipes you are giving the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. the right to print your recipe in either a cookbook or the *Baptist* magazine. Recipes cannot be returned. The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. reserves the right not to publish a cookbook if not enough recipes are submitted.





from the

Editor

Dear Church Family,

“...and the greatest of these is charity.” **Charity** is a word that is used sometimes to replace the word more commonly known as **love**.

When looking up the word “charity” in the dictionary, its first meaning is Christian love, or the benevolent goodwill toward humanity.

I began to realize that the dictionary was the last place I needed to look for the meaning of “charity” or “love.” The best “love story” is found in the Bible. The author is God and the main plot is portrayed by several characters but His lead role is played by His Son, Jesus, and we are the audience He is writing to.

Jesus showed compassion to all people. He did not show favoritism toward any one race, gender, class, or age group.

February is often seen as the month filled with hearts, flowers, and candy. We seem to take the extra time to make sure that the people we are closely associated with are shown an extra amount of attention.

Why should February be any different? Should we not try our very best to act like Jesus did to everybody at all times?

Until next month... “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. ...If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:22–23, 25).

In His Service,

Tracy

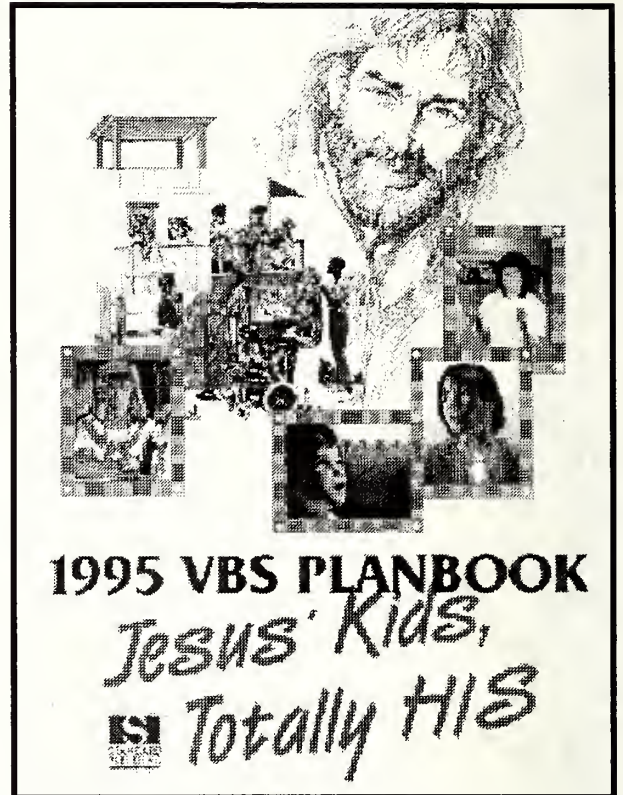
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presentation / workshop
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The Free Will Baptist

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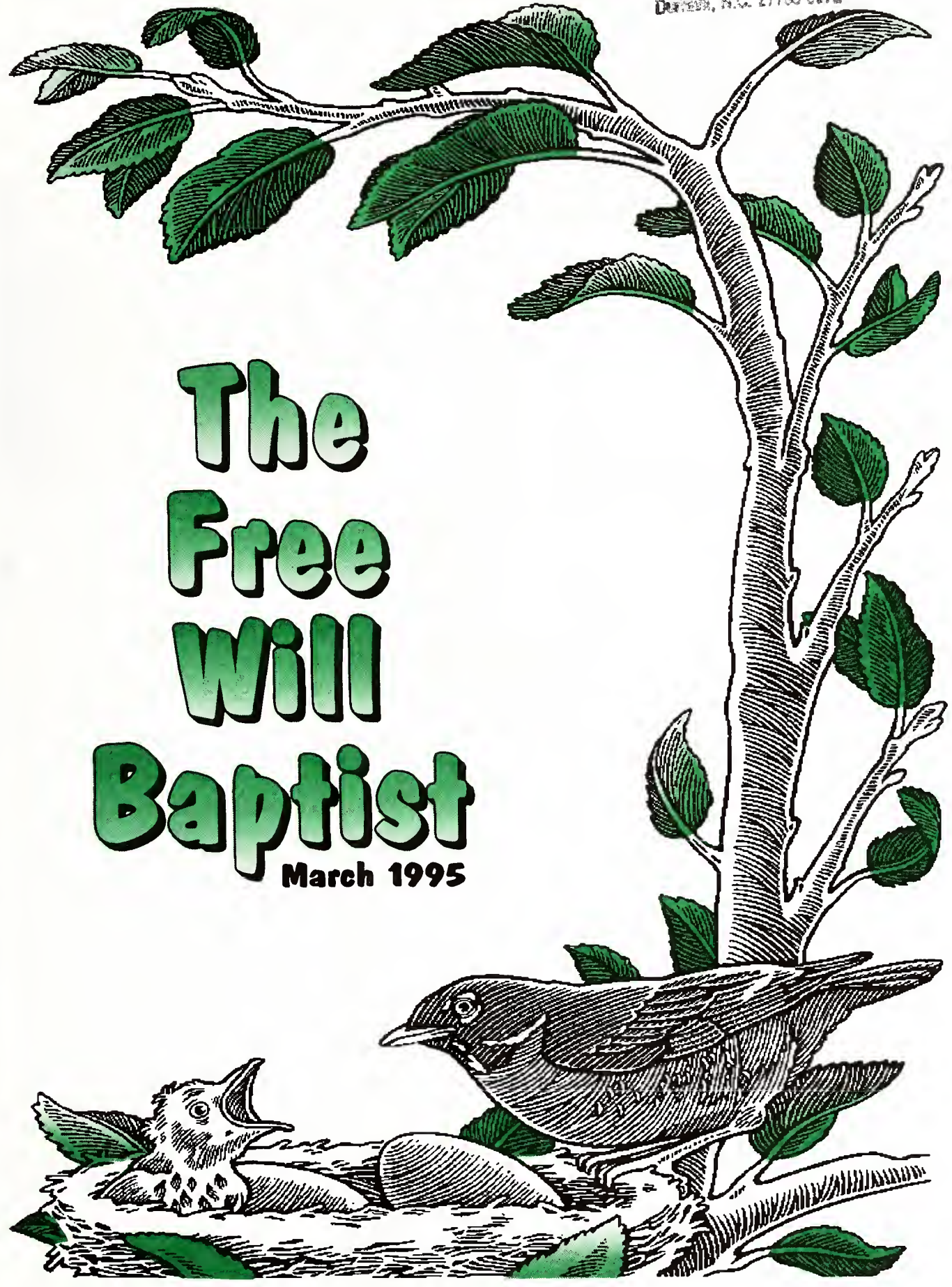
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The Free Will Baptist

March 1995



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NEXT MONTH

*Home Missions
and
Evangelism*

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 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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Denominational Ministries

PALAWAN BIBLE COLLEGE KINDERGARTEN EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIP by Adelia Cuba



“Train up the child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6).

Palawan Bible College firmly believed that education is a must for every individual person. As a training ground, it also believes and accepts that education will not only be acquired through classroom instructions, but in many other ways.

On October 8, 1994, the Kindergarten class of the Palawan Bible College held its educational field trip. For small kids, it was a special day to see many wonderful and exciting places with their parents and teachers as well.

First, we took the Children to the Children’s Park where they played with their parents. The teachers were excited to see the parents, children and friends playing together.

After the “play period,” the company proceeded to the Palawan Port area, where the children enjoyed seeing motor boats, small bancas, which are boats run by one or two people using wood paddles. There were also passenger boats transporting people from Palawan to Manila, from Palawan to Iloilo, and to some other parts of Palawan.

Following these we went to Asia World Hotel, one of the biggest and leading first class hotels in Palawan. Some students, as well as their parents, were glad to enter the place for the first time. Other kids enjoyed shouting inside hoping to hear their voices echoed.

From the hotel we went to former Speaker Ramon Mitra’s residence, the students enjoyed playing on its beautiful playground. After this we visited the RP—Japan crocodile farm, where children gladly and amazingly enjoyed seeing live crocodiles crawling.

From the crocodile farm, the group proceeded to Balsahan Spring to spend some time seeing the place and to eat our

lunch. After lunch some took rest, others talked with friends, while others spent a few minutes swimming.

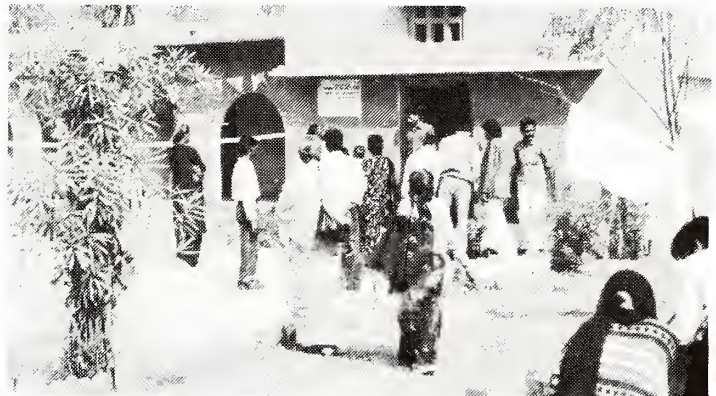
After Balsahan we went to “Radio ng Bayan,” one of the leading radio station in Palawan, located at Santa Monica, Tiniguiban, Puerto Princesa City. Some kids were very excited to speak, sing and talk on the radio, but their excitement was hindered due to power breakdown, so the group decided to go home.

It was almost dark when we returned at Palawan Bible College. God was so faithful on this educational trip, guiding us around the city. We believe it will greatly benefit our little children.

Please pray with us as we teach the children in the fear of the Lord believing what King Solomon once said that training must begin at a very early stage of life.

NEW VENTURE OF TONDALPUR SCHOOL

Submitted by Dr. E. M. Lall



We are grateful to God for helping us in all our needs, the credit of which goes to the Free Will Baptists in U.S.A.

In the wake of our church activities, in places where the Word was not even conveyed, we prepared 24 Sikh families and preached to them about the Lord Jesus Christ, the Salvation through Him and the eternity of those who love Him. These families gradually accepted the Lord as their personal Saviour.

The need for a proper worship place arose. Through our personal efforts, the funds were collected within the country. In a period of three years, a church building was built in 1984. The congregation of about 82 people provided some of the needs for the church such as electricity. They hold regular worship services with their pastor the Rev. Sanjay Johnson who is supported by the Board of Foreign Missions.

Subsequently, however, a pressing need was felt for a school because there is no educational institution close by. The children of this congregation were going without edu-

cation. The Rev. Harold Jones, our Mission Director, visited this remote place together with a group from North Carolina in January 1994. The local congregation and other people of the village came together requesting the Rev. Jones for starting a school at Tondalpur. Although he did not say definitely, he said he would do his best and would take the need to his people in North Carolina.

The funds were received for four school buildings. The Rev. Jones suggested that a building at Tondalpur should be built. Even though the cost of building material has gone much higher and construction of a school building under the specification of state laws is much more than what we thought, we are delighted that we were able to complete this school building. The enrollment is being done this month so that regular classes will begin in January 1995. Three teachers have been appointed at a dollar 35 each which will be an additional burden upon the Board of Foreign Missions. We hope that the Lord will fulfill this need also.

The people of Tondalpur congregation are very happy over this progress made to them by the people of North Carolina and heartily convey their thanks to the Mission Board.



for your **FYI** information

SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Lay speaker available to meet any speaking needs of your church. Contact Willie Coleman, Faith FWB Church, Morehead City, (919) 726-7559 after 5 p.m.

DON'T FORGET!

Sunday School
Board Worship
March 4

9a.m.—3 p.m.

Everette's Chapel
Clayton, NC

For more information
contact:

Mary Dudley

568-3311

After 6 p.m.

PASTOR NEEDED

Unity Free Will Baptist Church is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested, should send resumés or contact:

Chairman of Deacons

Charles Rogers

P.O. Box 241

Kenly, NC 27542

GREENVILLE FIRST

IS

LOOKING FOR

A

YOUTH DIRECTOR

FOR MORE

INFORMATION

CONTACT:

The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

at

756-6600



FOREIGN MISSIONS ANNUAL TELETHON

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 1995

**THEME: GOD'S PLAN, PARTNERS,
PROMISE, PROVISION**

This Telethon gives us the opportunity to express our thankfulness to God for His bountiful supply through prayer for revival and World Missions, and by giving to make Christ known around the world.

GOAL 1995: A total of \$100,000 in gifts on Telethon Sunday.

This goal can be reached if every church and individual gives according to God's plan and provision in Christ Jesus.

Sharing His blessings so others can know Him brings the greatest joy.

PRAY DAILY FOR THIS GOAL!

Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30. Dial (919) 746-4963. Your generous gift and call on Telethon Sunday are true expressions of your trust in Christ and obedience to His plan.

GOD IS OUR SOURCE OF SUPPLY

**"But my God shall supply all your need according
to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus"**

Philippians 4:19

DAY OF PRAYER FOR REVIVAL AND WORLD MISSIONS

MARCH 26, 1995

God's plan for world outreach works best in a revived church. Revival comes when God's people trust His promise for revival.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Let us give ourselves to fervent united prayer today and believe God for true revival that will propel the church to greater ministry worldwide.

**PRAYER GOAL 1995: All churches joining together in united prayer
during the Worship Hour, March 26.**

LET US PRAY!



BOARD OF
FOREIGN
MISSIONS
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039
Phone: 919-746-4963



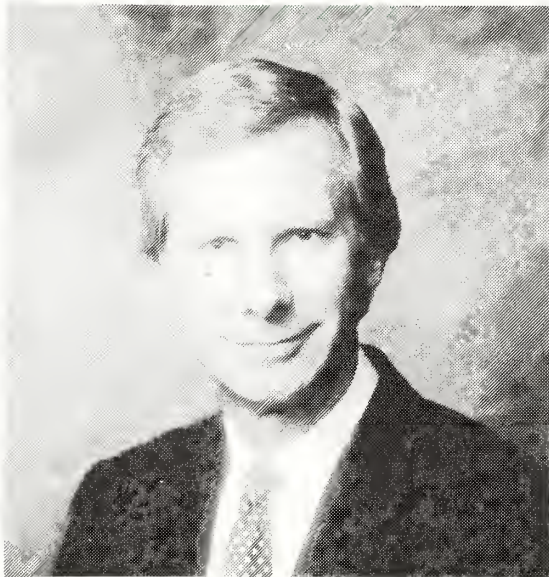
MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH 10, 1995

AND
PLAN TO ATTEND THE

Annual World Missions Conference and Rally

Sponsored by the
BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS



Speaker: Dr. Paul Cedar

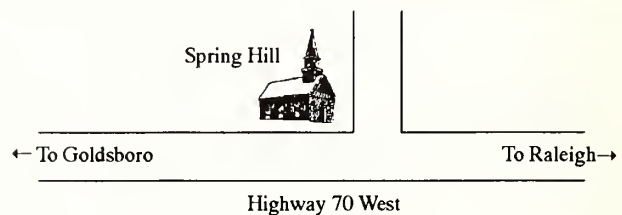
As a clergyman's son, Dr. Paul Cedar spent the first 18 years of his life living in a Presbyterian manse. After four years with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Dr. Cedar spent fourteen years pastoring congregations. Five of these years were spent as the Pastor of Evangelism and Executive Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, California, whose Senior Pastor is now Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie. Dr. Cedar's most recent church was Lake Avenue Congregational Church of Pasadena, California, where he ministered to 4,300. Besides pastoring, he served as President of Dynamic Communications, Inc.; and as adjunct Professor of Evangelism at Fuller Theological Seminary and Talbot Theological Seminary. He has extensive experience in leading seminars and workshops for local churches and pastors' groups. Dr. Cedar is now serving as President of the Evangelical Free Church of America.

PLACE: Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church,
Goldsboro

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

Special Music by
THE RADFORDS
of Spring Hill

The Church location is convenient and easy to find!



PLAN NOW TO ATTEND AND BRING SOMEONE WITH YOU.

Pray daily for a great conference.

Board of Foreign Missions
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: 919-746-4963

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is pleased to announce our

FOUNDER'S DAY

celebration on May 27, 1995.



In 1913, The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist decided to build a home for children as the first state wide project. During the second annual convention in 1914 a resolution was discussed and adopted. This was the beginning of what is today the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex, North Carolina. As our ancestors saw the need to provide a home for needy children the home strives to continue its service by providing "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls."

You can become part of this effort as you join us to celebrate 75 years in child care ministry and help us reach our goals.

GOALS

\$20,000 IN GIFTS

Every church group is encouraged to give \$75.00 to commemorate our anniversary. This includes Sunday Schools, Ladies Auxiliaries, Layman's Leagues, Youth Groups, and Individuals. Churches are asked to take a special offering during the month of May and bring it with you. During the program each group will present their celebration offerings at the designated time. Gifts will be used for cottage renovation projects.

Everyone is invited to come and bring your friends as we celebrate 75 years as your child care ministry. This will be one of the biggest events in the history of Free Will Baptist.

Please participate and help us reach our goal of 750 guests on our campus.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Lunch at Noon in the Center of Campus

Program will follow in the Whitley Center with Keynote Speaker, Rev. Ray Wells.

Celebration Offerings presented at a special time during the program.

Tours of all buildings on the campus.



Cragmont Camp Schedule For 1995

Morning Star

April 21-23
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

June Women's Auxiliary Conference

June 5-10
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

Minister's Conference

June 12-15
Philip Boykin—registrar
Rt. 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

Christian Cadet Conference

June 19-24
Gary Bailey—registrar
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)

June 26-July 1
Scott & Janie Sowers—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)

July 3-8
Frankie Baggett—registrar
Rt. 2, Box 214
Nashville, NC 27856

General Youth Conference II

July 10-15
Chris Singleton—registrar
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

General Youth Conference I

July 17-22
P.O. Box 266
Cove City, NC 28518
Bryant Hines—registrar

Young People's Bible Conference

July 24-29
Donald Mason—registrar
P.O. Box 672
Newport, NC 28570

August Women's Auxiliary Conference

July 31-August 5
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

Cragmont Camping Program

Cragmont has a summer program that provides young people a unique opportunity. By attending a week of camp, they can experience recreation in a Christian atmosphere and hear the Word of our Lord proclaimed in many unique ways. A typical day at Cragmont includes classes in Christian living in the morning, recreational activities in the afternoon, and worship services in the evening. When attending a week of camp at Cragmont, they are away from their normal everyday activities allowing uninterrupted opportunities for God to use. The ministry of Cragmont to the young people of the denomination is more than just evangelism—it is one of teaching them how to live the Christian life. Please contact the director listed with the week for information concerning that camp week. We want your youth. Please encourage and support them in a Cragmont camp adventure this summer.

Cragmont Assembly, Inc, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone (704) 669-7677 or (704) 669-5224 Fax (704) 669-1463

NASHVILLE II

1995

LIMITED EDITION

Do you need a spring getaway? Here is one I'm sure you will enjoy but you need to sign up now—we are over half-way full. Don't wait do it today!

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's admission to Opryland Park; one night's admission to the Grand Ole Opry; a bus-guided sightseeing tour including the Ryman Auditorium—home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943—March 1974, the building is listed on the National Register of Historical Places; an unlimited shuttle pass; a visit to the Upper Room, the museum contains a collection of religious artifacts, paintings, 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; and meals at Cragmont. 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 sightseeing tour and the Ryman Auditorium.

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 on 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 freeing you from the hassle of planning and driving.

*All money will be refunded **only if Cragmont** has to cancel.

The previously advertised “Easter in Song and Story”—an Easter pageant 1995 was cancelled by Opryland on September 20, 1994.

THE KEEPER

Cragmont Assembly • 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711
(704) 669-7677 or (704) 669-5224 • FAX: (704) 699-1463

F E B R U A R Y 1 9 9 5

REPAIRS CUT INTO GENERAL FUND

In 1994 some expensive repairs and maintenance projects cut into our normal operating funds:

- 30 yards of sand for the Volleyball court
- 30 yards of sand for the baseball field
- 12 loads of gravel for the driveway
- new showers for Dorm B
- new paint for Dorm B
- and an engine overhaul for the tractor

Some of these were planned for in the budget. Others were unexpected. This year we already know of some projects that must be done, such as a new roof on the Main Building. As always others will crop up as the year progresses. The bottom line is HELP!! †

BEYOND JUBILEE: DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE

For some time now we have studied and dreamed about the future. Here are some of our ideas.

Renovate the main bldg.

- a private bath for each room
- built-in dresser units
- new carpet and wall-paper throughout
- lights over the sinks in the rooms

Renovate the motel



- make it usable in winter
- new bath fixtures
- new carpet throughout
- new walls and ceilings

While we will not be announcing our exact plans until State Convention time, please note that we are going to be asking for your financial help on this new project. We will need the help of every FWB church in our denomination. †

Cragmont: THE STATE YOUTH CONVENTION PROJECT

Here is a way you can help your youth. Each year the State youth Convention selects a ministry of the denomination. Funds are raised for a specific need that the ministry has identified. The youth project for Cragmont is a much needed sound system. Get behind your youth in this project. Each church is challenged to give \$150. †

NEW SPRING



LIMITED TRIP!

A spring Limited Edition trip to Nashville, Tenn. is slated for April 6-11, 1995. Some of the highlights of the trip include:

- three nights at the Opryland Hotel
- One day admission to the Opryland Theme Park
- One night admission to the Grand Ole Opry
- Dinner on the General Jackson riverboat
- and more!

The price of the trip is \$475 per person. For more information call: (704) 669-7677 or (704) 669-5224. †

NEW STORE ITEMS!

- Heavy Youth sweatshirt with "CRAGMONT" in Navy Block lettering — \$20
- Polo shortsleeve shirt with Jubilee logo on left chest, navy and forest Green \$25
- Adult sweatshirts, four colors — \$30
- Longsleeve hooded 'T' ;Navy, Cardinal and Forest Green — \$22

If you are interested in any of these items we will ship them directly to you for the cost plus shipping. †

CRAGMONT
1945
1995
JUBILEE

CEREMONY OF INVESTITURE:

Beginning A New Era In The History of Mount Olive College

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

More than 350 people entered Rodgers Chapel, January 31, 1995 to honor the Mount Olive College transfer of presidential office from the retiring president, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, to the newly-elected president, Dr. J. William Byrd.

A bright sunshine, gentle breeze, and new day seemed to echo the spirit of appreciation and celebration among the people who attended the ceremony of investiture.



Many Free Will Baptists attended the luncheon to celebrate the appointment of the new president, Dr. J. William Byrd. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Dr. W. Burkette Raper began his service as president of Mount Olive College on August 2, 1954. Committed to the College until January 31, 1995, Dr. Raper is the longest tenured college president in the nation as recognized by the American Council on Education (ACE). Now Dr. Raper has chosen to move into a redefined course of service to the College where he can focus on institutional advancement which includes building the College's endowment. Dr. Raper has said that after 40 years as president, he believes it is time for there to be a younger person in the office of the presidency. Now is the time to plan for the next era of the College.



From left to right, the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, Dr. J. William Byrd, L. Marvin Edwards Jr., the Rev. Frank R. Harrison (at pulpit), the Rev. Ray Wells, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, the Rev. David Charles Hansley, Dr. Joseph Ingram. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College Campus Minister, presided at the Ceremony of Investiture. In the invocation, the Rev. Harrison stressed the greatness, power, glory, and mystery of God in all the Heavens and the earth. He prayed for God's presence to be in the ceremony and for Christ's goodness and grace to be among us in our lives.

The Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, member of the first Board of Trustees, read from Isaiah 54:1-5.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley, Executive Director of the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, led the responsive reading from the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant.

The Mount Olive Choir and the Mount Olive Singers



The Mount Olive College Choir and the Mount Olive Singers celebrate the event with "Hallelujah Amen." (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Following the responsive reading of the Free Will Baptist Covenant, the Mount Olive College Choir under the direction of Burkette Raper Jr. and the Mount Olive College Singers under the direction of Irene Patten joyfully sang "God of Our Fathers" and "Incline Your Ear, O Lord." Delight filled the hearts of listeners as this ebullient, earnest, energetic choir sang, "Jubilate! Jubilate Deo!" Mr. Mark Gourley played both the piano and organ while Miss Julie Wetherington accompanied.

The Mount Olive College Choir and the Mount Olive College Singers have become recognized for their talent, gaining them the prestigious invitation to sing at the National

Prayer Breakfast in the Washington, DC Hilton on Thursday, February 2, 1995. President Clinton and the First Lady, the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, and members of Congress were in attendance, along with more than 3,000 people. Students at Mount Olive College make a difference as they grow and serve, using their developed gifts to represent not only Mount Olive College but the established purpose of the College as stated in the Charter: "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."

Ceremony of Investiture



Dr. W. Burkette Raper resigns as president of Mount Olive College. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

L. Marvin Edwards Jr., Chair of the Board of Trustees, recognized Dr. W. Burkette Raper, who gave his farewell address. Poignantly he began, "I have come today to thank God for giving me a mission in life, a vision and the strength to do it. The College is a place for us to enlarge the place of our tents, to lengthen our cords, to strengthen our stakes."

He paused, looked to the front row where his wife, Rose, sat. His voice quivered. "I want to thank Rose," he said as he looked at her. "I want to thank her especially for being with me during the difficult days, for believing in me even in moments of despair."

"I want to thank the Board of Trustees, the Friends of the College, the Free Will Baptists who have supported the College and have trusted me. I have tried to be faithful to that trust. I have tried to help you build the kind of College you needed, one guided by Christian faith, rooted in Christian values. I have tried to help our church fulfill its reason for being," he said.

"I have tried to make our College be a door of opportunity for students regardless of financial circumstances," he added. "Each student is a child of God. And our College seeks the vision of what a student's life can be under God. Here I have tried to foster the union of learning and living, work and faith, excellence in all dimensions of human life," he said.

"Now," he added somberly, "the future of the College hangs in the balance. God's strength has never failed. I

have always been sustained not by what Mount Olive College *was* but by what Mount Olive College *can become*. But it is time for me to leave the office of President," he stated.

To place his tenure of 40 years and six months in context of the human seasons of life, Dr. Raper noted the moving lines from Ecclesiastes 3:1-14:

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under Heaven:

- a time to be *born* and a time to *die*,
- a time to *plant* and a time to *uproot*,
- a time to *kill* and a time to *heal*,
- a time to *tear down* and a time to *build*,
- a time to *weep* and a time to *laugh*,
- a time to *mourn* and a time to *dance*,
- a time to *scatter* stones and a time to *gather* them,
- a time to *embrace* and a time to *refrain*,
- a time to *search* and a time to *give up*,
- a time to *keep* and a time to *throw away*,
- a time to *tear* and a time to *mend*,
- a time to be *silent* and a time to *speak*,
- a time to *love* and a time to *hate*,
- a time for *war* and a time for *peace*.

Dr. Raper then asked a series of questions and made comments:

What does the worker gain from this toil?

I have seen the burden God has laid on men.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live.

That every man may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil—this is the gift of God.

I know that everything God does will endure forever, nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it.

Transfer of the Academic Mace

Turning to L. Marvin Edwards Jr., Dr. Raper picked up the Academic Mace. Because affairs of the presidency are governed by the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, the Ceremony of Investiture is conducted by its chairman, L. Marvin Edwards Jr.

In the Ceremony, the Academic Mace of the College symbolizes the title and office of the presidency. As Dr. Raper presented the Mace to Mr. Edwards, he said:

"*Mr. Edwards*, all who love Mount Olive College are indebted to you for the wisdom and commitment which have characterized your leadership as Chairman of our Board of Trustees.

"On August 2, 1954, your predecessors entrusted to me the title and office of president, but the time has come for me

to end the longest current tenure of any American college or university president.

“George Bernard Shaw once wrote:

‘I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatsoever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for it’s own sake. Life is no ‘brief candle’ for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

“Mr. Chairman, I now return to you the title and office of president of Mount Olive College, symbolized by this mace, for you to confer them upon the person chosen by the Board of Trustees.

“I pledge you and my successor my service and whole-hearted support for the continued advancement of Mount Olive College toward the destiny for which God called it into being.

“May God Bless Us ALL!”

Acting on behalf of the Board of Trustees and affirming that the Board voted in session on January 19, 1995, to elect Dr. J. William Byrd to the presidency, Mr. Edwards bestowed upon Dr. Byrd the title and office of the presidency as he handed him the Mace. Accepting the Mace, Dr. Byrd completed the transfer of office.

The New President, Dr. J. William Byrd



Dr. J. William Byrd holds the Academic Mace of Mount Olive College which symbolizes the title and office of the presidency. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

As the new president of Mount Olive College, Dr. Byrd declared, “I accept this icon and I pledge my best effort to serve the causes of Mount Olive College.”

Given an opportunity to address those in attendance, Dr. Byrd said, “I wish each of you might have been here last evening. An audience of students gathered to see ‘Globe Works,’ a Shakespearean performance that had such vitality and skill that excitement ran through the whole room. The College is the place where our heritage is given vitality, where we might know the path from which we come and prepare for the future lies ahead. Mount Olive College did not get to

this point by just being here but *by the efforts of many*. The struggle of this College has been born out of an urge to do better. The evolutionary process does not end today, he stressed. “Nor tomorrow. The mantle of leadership goes on into the future as I one day may pass on the Academic Mace. My vision and intense loyalty are born not only out of what Mount Olive College is but what it can be in the future. I am grateful to the founding fathers of the Free Will Baptist church. I am grateful to the tenacity of people, their faith in God, their willingness to go the extra mile. The story of Mount Olive College is a story of *inspiration* and *perspiration*,” he insisted.

“I also want to pay tribute to the faculty and staff who have been here when the College’s future was not always expected. So many have contributed—Lorelle Martin, Mildred Council and others. The members of the Board of Trustees have had leadership. The Board has had four Chairs in its history: the Rev. David Hansley, Robert Morris, James Hunt, Marvin Edwards. So few Chairs is a tribute to the quality of leadership they have provided for us. This College has also had many illustrious friends in the history we have had. Now we envision a great future,” he said.

Dr. Byrd paused. He looked across the audience and added, “I have thought about the responsibility of being the president. I am overwhelmed in part by the vast number of responsibilities. I am overwhelmed by young people such as the Mount Olive Choir and the Mount Olive Singers. They serve so many groups of people. In being overwhelmed, I hope I may also be forgiven. I am somewhat intimidated as I think of the heritage passed to me. I think of the person who has led our College for so many years. The College has a challenge ahead and one can be intimidated but one can rejoice in what has been done in the past. Now is an exhilarating opportunity to work with so many people. Becoming president is a very humbling experience, for this is a service that few people enjoy. This College has the potential to make a difference to lives both in traditional liberal arts ways as well as to non-traditional students. We are reaching out to larger groups of students than ever before,” he explained.

“This Spring 1995,” he announced, “we have the largest number of students enrolled in the history of the institution. There is vitality here. We have a future ahead,” he proclaimed.

“I hope in the future weeks to affiliate myself with many Free Will Baptists. I shall be in your churches so that you may know more about me and where I come from. We all serve one God. I see my role as president as one of cooperation. Our role at the College is to provide a forum through which ideas might be discussed. And there are other special publics out there. Our College will always be ready to serve the region,” he stated.

“I am very grateful to the Board of Trustees for confidence in electing me to this honorable work. I say to them

and to all who are gathered here today that the work of Mount Olive College is the work of many, many people. I shall have a role to play, but *all of us* will have a hand in shaping the future of this institution. Together we will be able to stay on that path Dr. Raper has spoken of and we will continue to spread our tent," he declared.

Prayer of Dedication: The Rev. Ray Wells

The Rev. Ray Wells led the prayer of dedication. He said, "As we come to this important occasion of the life of Mount Olive College, we stand in awe of the miracle you, Lord, have performed in this place. You have provided 40 wonderful years of leadership for the College. We are grateful. The challenge now before us is with our new president. Our prayer is that you would bless him with vision and strength. We dedicate ourselves to work hard in hand with him as he dedicates himself to work with us. May we too see the vision fulfilled. Thank you, Lord, for the leadership in the past. We look now to the leadership in the future. To this we dedicate ourselves to the task," he prayed.

Benediction: Dr. Joseph Ingram

Dr. Joseph Ingram, president of Carolina Bible Institute, led the Benediction. He prayed, "Eternal God, as we come to this moment to close this part of history, as we approach a new era, we ask for your guidance. Give us your strength, Lord, so that we fulfill your mission in our lives.

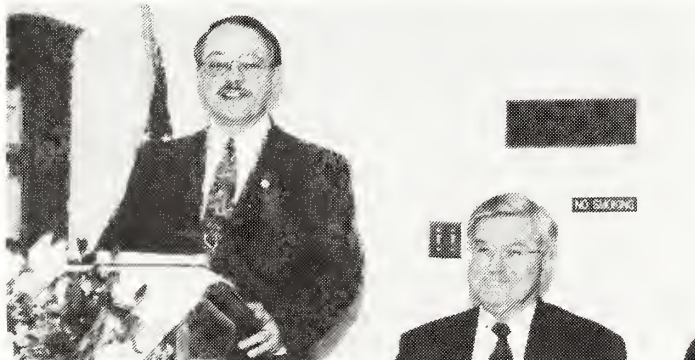
Celebrative Luncheon

Dr. De Wayne Eakes began the celebrative luncheon honoring the new president by saying, "I am already disappointed in Dr. Byrd. He has already said he would not serve 40 years!"

Everyone laughed.

During the festive time together, Dr. Raper rose to recognize his family, only to leave out "Miss Rose." Dr. Byrd too forgot to introduce his wife. They both admitted they would pay for it later. "Miss Rose" told her husband the night before the transfer of office, "I have slept with a college president for the last time."

Again, everyone laughed.



Dr. De Wayne Eakes introduces the new president of Mount Olive College at the luncheon following the Ceremony of Investiture. Left to right: Dr. De Wayne Eakes, Dr. J. William Byrd, Mrs. Byrd. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

The Rev. Dennis Goodwin's Remarks

The Rev. Dennis Goodwin of the United Methodist Church spoke for the Mount Olive community. As president of the Mount Olive Chamber of Commerce, he said, "On behalf of this community, Dr. Byrd, I promise to support you, your faculty and the College. We have enough doctors here in Mount Olive to look after the students at this College. As your neighbor and friend, I vow to you to be there. I want you to know that you always have an ear with me. I pray God's blessings upon you and your wife," he said.

Dr. Eakes' Remarks

Dr. Eakes held forth with his analogy of great leaders who stood at the edge of a new era. He reminded us of Moses passing the mantle of leadership to Joshua, of John the Baptist preparing the way for the Messiah, of Jesus preparing his disciples.

Amy Medlin's Remarks

Amy Medlin, vice-president of the Student Government Association, welcomed Dr. Byrd to his new office. She said, "We know your success is our success. We too experience the mission and purpose of this College. We pledge our support to you. We pledge to you our challenge to keep the vision." She then presented an Irish toast to him, wishing that the wind will always be at his back.

Dr. Jim Coats' Remarks

Dr. Jim Coats spoke on behalf of the faculty to congratulate Dr. Byrd. He noted, "None of us have any illusions that your job or our job will be easy, but we will be willing. We pledge our very best," he said.

The Rev. C. H. Overman's Remarks

"I was on the scene when the College was in its embryonic stages. The struggles and the growth of this College are typical of the struggles and growth of any worthy cause. I pledge to you our prayers and our support on behalf of the Free Will Baptists," he said.

Dr. J. William Byrd's Remarks

"I'm looking forward to being out there with you," Dr. Byrd declared. "I'm at the grand age of 58 and I still think I have good mental health. I believe my life is in the hands of the will of God. I pledge to you no change in direction of this College, no slack in the ties with the Free Will Baptists. I am fully aware of the challenges that confront Mount Olive College. I appreciate and applaud all the good things that happen here. We will be more constant in our purpose and in our roots," he pledged.

“TOUCHING LIVES FOR A LIFETIME”

APRIL

HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

MONTH

Sunday, April 23, 1995 – Home Missions and Evangelism Sunday

You Can Help: In these three ways!

- Promote – April 23, as Home Missions and Evangelism Sunday in your church.
- Pray – During this special promotion, have an altar prayer for this ministry.
- Participate – Give your people the opportunity to make a **SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION** for our **ANNUAL FUND**

It is clear that the commitment of **Original Free Will Baptists** to *Home Missions and Evangelism*, have made this ministry possible. Further, we need your continued support to meet the challenges of this year's commitment to our **LORD** and **His** mission.

Our Annual Fund Goal for this year is

\$ 50,000.00

Please! Help! — “Touch Lives for a Lifetime”

HARVEST 2000



MARCH



SUN		MON		TUE	
2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31

GEN D

Previous/following month
 Present month

- Sunday School
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- ✚ FWB Convention News
- ✚ FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- ✿ Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Vandemere
- ✿ Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 ◆ Executive Board Elmer Harrell's Office 7:00 pm	3	4 ○ Sunday School Fair Everett's Chapel
8	9	10 ● World Mission Conference ✚ Press Material Deadline	11
15	16	17 ◆ Central Conference Ladies Night Harrell's Chapel 6:30 pm St. Patrick's Day	18
22	23 ✿ Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Smith's New Home, Deep Run	24	25 ✿ Central Woman's Auxiliary Grimmsley, Snow Hill
29	30	31	

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

OFWB Youth Convention 1995

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mount Olive College

Friday, May 19

- 5:00 p.m. • Registration, College Hall
- Lodging, Meals, Banquet, Christian Writing, Arts & Crafts
- 7:30 p.m. • Talent Search, College Hall
- 10:00 p.m. • Devotions:
YFA — Murphy Center, AFC — College Hall, and all others in dorms
- 11:30 p.m. • Good Night! Everyone in their rooms.

Saturday, May 20

- 7:30 – 8:30 • Breakfast, Murphy Regional Center
- 8:30 a.m. • Registration for new arrivals, College Hall
- 9:00 a.m. • General Assembly, College Hall (everyone)
- Convention will dismiss for the following:
 - Bible Bowl finals, Chapel
 - Lesson Presentation, Henderson Building Room 113
 - Public Speaking, Henderson Building Room 209
 - Arts & Crafts, College Hall Room 202
 - Cherubs meet in Hart Lounge
 - YFA's with Joey Williams, Fine Arts Center
 - AFC's with Mike Ledbetter, College Hall
- 11:30 a.m. • League Convention meeting, Hennessee Room
- 11:30 – 12:00 • Choir Practice, College Hall
- 11:30 – 1:00 • Lunch, Murphy Regional Center
- 1:30 p.m. • Workshops for Cherubs, AFC's, YFA's, and Leaders. Locations to be announced!
- League meeting, Chapel
- 3:00 p.m. • Recreation Time: Softball, Tennis, Volleyball
- 6:00 p.m. • Banquet and Awards Program (no shorts)
- Performance by last years Talent winners
- 8:00 p.m. • Saturday Night Alive!
 - District Tug-of-War, District Beach Volleyball, Dunking Booth, etc.
 - Devotions: Chapel
- 11:00 p.m. • Good Night! Everyone in their rooms.

Sunday, May 21

- 8:00 – 9:00 • Breakfast, Murphy Center
- 10:00 a.m. • Morning Worship, Rodgers Chapel
- 11:30 a.m. • Cleaning and check-out

READ ALL ABOUT IT !

- Complete the registration form to the right and return no later than May 1st.*
- Rooms will be assigned in the order that registration forms are received.
- Guests will need to bring their own pillow, blankets, linens, bath cloths, towels, soap, casual and dress clothes, beach towel, athletic equipment, money for meals and snacks, Bible, notebook, and pen or pencil.
- Meals must be purchased Friday from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. at costs of:
 - Breakfast — \$2 to \$3
 - Lunch — \$4
 - Banquet — \$5.
- A Sunday Buffet will be provided for \$5.95 per person.
- The State Project is a sound system for the chapel of Cragmont Assembly. Please give as much as you can, however, \$150 per church will help in meeting our goal.**
- All 1994 First Place Talent winners are to perform Saturday night at the Awards Banquet.
- First Place Public Speaking winners will deliver their presentation during the Sunday Worship Service.
- The Mount Olive College Bookstore will be open on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Youth Convention T-shirts will be available at \$8, \$10, \$12 and \$14.

1995 Theme: *Prepare With Prayer*



Please Return This Portion By May 1, 1995

Church _____

District _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Home Phone (____) _____

Work Phone (____) _____

**Registration Fee is \$25 per church
(after May 1st, \$35)***

Total number of youth & adults lodging overnight:

<i>Friday</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>
Male Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Female Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
<i>Saturday</i>		
Male Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Female Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____

Total Lodging _____

*Registration Fee (per church) _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

*** All Registration Forms and Fees should be sent by May 1st to:**

**Judy Harris
Route 3, Box 36
Ayden, NC 28513
919-746-4320**

**** All State Project money should be sent to:**

**Martha Parsons
2317 Bayside Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28306-8803
910-486-4636**

Features

SERMON PREACHED AT THE 246TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1994

by Gary M. Bailey

I love to preach and I love being a pastor. I value preaching, although the world calls it foolishness. Preaching is ordained of God for the spreading of His Word.

I think we ought to take preaching seriously, and I think we ought to laugh during our preaching.

It has been suggested that when we preach we are to address people's needs. Paul Powell in his book, "Building An Evangelistic Church" said "Pastoral preaching is specific in that it attempts to deal with where people are in their lives. One brother said, "We are not interested in pie in the sky by and by, we want chicken in the kitchen tonight. I want ham where I am today!"¹ That is what preaching is supposed to do.

I think we ought to laugh as we enjoy the preaching. Spurgeon used humor effectively when he preached. One day Spurgeon was teaching a preaching class and talked about how important it is to coordinate facial expression and speech. He said, "When you speak of heaven, let your face light up, let it be irradiated with a heavenly gleam, let your eyes shine with reflective glory. But when you speak of hell—well, your ordinary face will do."²

I want to share with you some thoughts about trusting God and putting your faith to work. I want to challenge each of us to trust God in a greater way.

I hope that at the end of this sermon you will resolve yourself to trust God in ways that will constrain you to live and to rely on God in such a way that will cause your church and your ministry to flourish and grow.

I believe with all my heart that God wants every person in the world to be saved. I believe He wants Original Free Will Baptist to have a strong church and a strong outreach. I think He wants us to do that in Jerusalem, and in Judea and in Samaria and in the uttermost part of the world.

In 1 Kings 17:2–16³ we read a story that contains much beauty and encouragement. Verse two says *And the word of the LORD came unto him, . . .*

I see here that God instructs. He did then in the prophet's day. He does now. We have to listen to God if He is going to speak to us. God does speak. He speaks so specifically.

God does not just speak to us in generalities. When He spoke to Elijah He said "I want you to leave where you are. I want you to go eastward." God told Elijah exactly where He wanted him to hide. He said there is a brook there that you can drink from. "I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."

God promised to provide for Elijah. Elijah did what the Lord instructed. That is reflected in verse five. Remember, now, after Elijah followed God's instruction, God did what he promised. He always does. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening.

It has been suggested that the ravens found the bread and meat that they brought to Elijah on King Ahab's table. Those cooking for the King would set the food on tables in a courtyard. It is possible that the ravens would swoop down and take bread and meat from the King's table. Isn't it just like God to feed Elijah from King Ahab's table? In

verse seven we read *And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land."*

The brook did not dry up all at once. It was not like one day somewhere upstream someone dammed up the water and it just stopped flowing. One day Elijah notices that the brook was not running as fast as it once did. Later he noticed that the brook was not as wide as it use to be. I wonder if Elijah did not begin to think "Is God forgetting me?" Some apprehension must have come over him.

The slower the brook ran, and the more narrow it became, the louder the old devil talked to Elijah. I'm sure the devil told Elijah that God could not be trusted. The devil said things like "He told you to come out here, and He told you to stay here, and now look, the brook is getting smaller and smaller. Don't you know Elijah, you cannot trust God?"

Can you see that Elijah possibly did have doubts and fears as the brook became slower and smaller? Is there any one of us that cannot identify with Elijah? Have you not seen changes coming over your surroundings and over your circumstances? Can you identify with Elijah? Have you ever begun to doubt God's provisions for you? Maybe if not for long, for just a moment you entertained those thoughts. Has the devil ever whispered into your ear that the Lord cannot be trusted? Have you ever heard the devil shouting that God does not love you anymore, and that if He did He would not let the things happen to you that are now happening? Have you ever heard

the devil tell you that you are not in God's will when you know you are doing exactly what God told you to do? We have to fight constantly that doubt and that fear, for things do change. Elijah was exactly where God told him to be doing exactly what God told him to do when the brook dried up.

Verse eight says *And the word of the LORD came unto him . . .*

The Lord spoke again. He always does. He never leaves us alone forever. How refreshing it must have been for Elijah to hear God speak. How refreshing it is for us to hear God speak to us in our time of need, trial and affliction. God's Word came to Elijah when the brook dried up. We should praise the Lord because He speaks to us in the midst of drought.

This is what God said in verse nine. *Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food.*" That was His Word of assurance. "Elijah, I'm still in control" God was saying, I've got another plan for now.

Here the story becomes thrilling to me. In Verse 10 we see that Elijah got up and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the gate of the city he found the widow immediately. The Bible says she was gathering sticks so that she might prepare a meal for herself and her son.

Elijah came to her with a very simple request. "Would you share with me a cup of water?" he asked. This was a very reasonable request. The widow was about to share water with a thirsty man from the desert. As she was going to get the water Elijah called back to her saying "Would you do one more thing? Along with the water would you bring me a little piece of bread?"

I think the woman might have thought to herself, "Why did he have to ask me that? I was happy to share the water, but now he has asked me for bread?"

The woman's reply in Verse 12 tells us something. She said, *As surely as the LORD your God lives*, she replied, *I don't have any bread—only a handful*

of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.

It looks as if this widow did not know, or understand that she was to feed Elijah. Verse nine tells us clear that God said "I have commanded her . . ." but she did not comprehend it yet. God's plan was for her to feed Elijah. This woman was not ready to cooperate or participate.

I believe we as Christians, and we as the Church, the Body of Christ, have been given great responsibilities that we have not comprehended nor understood. We have not yet grasped the idea. We have been given the responsibility of spreading the Gospel throughout the world. "Go ye into all the world" Jesus said. We sometimes think maybe that verse does not apply to us.

We have been given the responsibility of telling the world about Jesus. We have been given the responsibility of loving others. We have been given the responsibility of providing for others, a place to worship, a place to learn, a place to belong.

But maybe we have not understood that God has commanded us to do these things. Maybe we have understood and yet we are still afraid. Maybe we are afraid because we do not trust.

The woman was honest with Elijah when she said "I do not have any bread to give you. I've got this little bit of meal or flour in this little barrel here. My son and I are going to eat it and we are going to die."

I do not believe this woman was hard hearted. She just did not realize that she had anything to share. She was rich, but was living as a pauper. She was not selfish. She really did not mean to be miserly. I do not believe for a moment, Christians today are hard hearted and selfish. I do not believe that Christians today are greedy or that they are not concerned about people.

Christians today often live in spiritual poverty, not because God had not provided, but because we simply do not understand all the spiritual power that

is available to us. We fail to act like children of God because we do not recognize that we are the children of the God of Heaven and earth.

We fail to do all we are supposed to do, and be all we are supposed to be, because we are afraid we do not have the power or resources. The widow was afraid. Simply afraid. Afraid that she did not have enough to share.

Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and your son." Elijah went on to say, "The barrel of meal will not be used up and that little cruse of oil is not going to be empty until God sends rain upon the earth."

How could this possibly be? How could a little jar of flour and a little jug of oil continue to last without fail for weeks and months? How? By the power of the Lord.

Verse 15 says, *And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.*

The woman obeyed. Look what happened. Verse 16 tells us . . . *And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.*

God Can Be Trusted. Remember even when you are doing exactly what God has directed you to do you can still have trouble. Sometimes in the middle of God's will the brook goes dry. God will not forget you. God will speak. We need to listen for His voice.

God has commanded us to tell the world, beginning with our neighborhood, about the love of Jesus Christ. If we will do what He has commanded, He will continue to provide what we need.

One thing that I find most disturbing is the apparent willingness of our ministers and churches to follow the widow's first intent. Her intent was to eat what little she had and die.

She could have done that. If she had

not followed God's will she could have eaten that last little bit of meal and died. Sometimes we spiritually want to do the same thing. We want to sit down and say we do not have much, we are going to use what we have and then we're going to die.

We all too easily set our minds on sitting down to eat what little we have and then being content to say this is all God has provided, and we die. We have resolved ourselves that what we have is so small that all we can do is die. We have concluded that what we have and what we are is so insignificant that all we can do is die. We have begun to believe that we are inferior as Original Free Will Baptists and we just as well resign ourselves to die.

I call upon Free Will Baptist churches and Free Will Baptist ministers to trust God. Do not be content to die, but trust in God to provide for us while we are working and showing the world that we trust Him. He will do it. We have received the call to carry out the great commission of Jesus Christ. Often in our churches, it appears that the churches are willing to follow the widow's first plan.

Sometimes in our Free Will Baptist churches I hear people say "We are just a small Free Will Baptist church sitting beside the road out in the country and we do not have the resources nor the people to be a growing church. We might as well sit down and die."

Sometimes we hear people in our churches say we are little, we are inferior, we are out in the country and there is nobody out here. Truthfully, there are more people in the country now than there has ever been.

Sometimes we hear in our churches things like "We are poor, uneducated Free Will Baptists and cannot reach other people like some denominations have. Why don't we just sit down, eat what little we have and wait to die?"

Far too often we hear "We have tried in the past and it did not work, and we have stopped trying. We do not think that there is any use of trying anymore.

We might as well sit down and die. We've got enough for one more meal, we'll make this a last supper, in an attempt to make it spiritual. Then we will sit and wait to die.

How many times have we heard Free Will Baptists say "We are not like other congregations or churches. They have more advantages than we do. Maybe the others are in town where more people are. Other churches have more resources than we do. Their people are wealthier than our people are, they can do more. They are in a much better location and we cannot do anything where we are located."

I want to ask sometimes why don't we just eat our little meal, and sit down and wait to die? I need to be careful not to criticize any church or congregation for being small, but we ought never to be satisfied being small either.

If we win people to Jesus Christ, we will grow. If we remain little, it is because we are not winning people to the Lord. At Stoney Creek we have accepted the challenge to have a baptism every month this year. God has blessed, and every month since June we have had a baptism. There is no sweeter sound in any church than water running in the baptistry.

If you are winning people to the Lord your church will grow. Sometimes people are upset as a church begins to grow. People will sometimes say "All these new people coming in are changing everything." Christians resent sometimes new people coming in and changing old customs and old ways.

We've not only got to make room in our parking lot and in our Sanctuary for people, we must make room in our hearts for people. Too often we see people come into the church, and then leave a few months later. If people do not find someone in the church that loves them they will not stay and be active.

I hear people complaining occasionally that they have a new pastor that has won so many people to the Lord and brought all these new people in and

he is about to destroy the church. I say, we need more churches destroyed like that.

Our churches ought not to be afraid of new people. Sadly it appears that some would rather sit down and be small, and eat their little bit of meal and die rather than make room for other people.

They see new people coming in and changes result from that. They begin to resent the new Christians because they are changing old customs and old ways. Instead of being resentful, we need to be joyful.

In fairness to the churches we ministers must accept our share of the responsibility. We have been called to preach, pastor, teach and lead. There is no greater call than the call to preach. I can say with Paul in 1 Timothy 1:12 (KJV). *And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; . . .*

Samuel Chadwick said "I would rather pay to preach than to be paid not to preach." He also said "Preaching has its price in agony of sweat and tears. No calling has such heartbreak, but preaching is a calling an archangel might covet."⁴

In view of such a call and such a command, we have a great responsibility. Pastors, you and I bear a great responsibility of the condition of our churches today, and for their future tomorrow.

Pastors sometimes like to blame the congregations for the lack of growth. They sometimes like to blame the congregations for the lack of vision, and the lack of discernment. Pastors sometimes may wish we could point the finger at our congregations and tell the world that our failure is the responsibility of the people, but my brothers, you and I as pastors are responsible for much of the weaknesses in the church. If there is a problem in the church one of the first questions that is always asked is "Who is the pastor over there?" That question may not be asked if

something good is happening, but if there is trouble it will be raised. Pastors, we are responsible, and we must not agree that we might as well sit down, eat what little we have and wait to die!

Pastors can blame the congregations all they want to and call them dumb sheep, but let me remind you that we are the undershepherds. They are dumb sheep, and they must be lead. They must be loved tenderly and led gently. They must be fed every day. As dumb sheep they will not remember what good you gave them last year, you must renew it week by week. The sheep are not only the ones that do not remember, none of us remember very much. Pastor, do you remember what you preached Sunday before last? If you do not remember, how do you expect your people to know? They are just sheep, and if you do not remember, how will they?

One young man said, "If it were not for the people, I would enjoy being in the ministry." I do not remember who first said it but it really is true . . . If you do not like the smell of sheep you ought not be a shepherd.

I have heard preachers blame the church but we ought to be careful. We are responsible. Some of us in our inability to lead have said, "We might as well sit down, eat what little we have and wait to die!"

I've heard preachers say "The church doesn't pay enough for me to live, therefore, I cannot give to God and to the church all that is required." It seems to me that far too often there is an attitude seen in our ministers that says . . . "I am not willing to give up anything or sacrifice in order to lead the church."

I see sometimes where ministers can make much more money doing part-time pastoring and full-time work than they could do in full-time pastoring. Lest I am crucified for criticizing the bi-vocational pastors, and I do not mean to do that, we need to see that we can trust God. We can! There is a critical need for full time pastors in the Free

Will Baptist church. Our churches that are hurting the worst are those churches that are willing to pay for full time pastors, but cannot find pastors willing to serve full time. We have many more ordained ministers that we have churches, but still we have empty pulpits. It ought not be! We get the idea sometimes that we ought to just sit down and die.

Sometimes our ministers settle for less than excellence. We do not expect or achieve excellence because we also share the idea that we are poor Free Will Baptists sitting beside some country road. Pastors ought to be leading our people away from that.

We need to be fighting for excellence. We ought not be content with our little bit of meal, to sit and eat and die.

Our good people need good pastors, and good administrators and good preachers, and good leaders. Pastor, in your living let your people see that you are trusting God whole-heartily.

In our preaching, preach to people's hearts. R. G. Lead once said . . . "Aim at people's head and you might miss. Aim at their heart and you'll hit them every time. There is a story of a sailor who told his chaplain "That was a great sermon, preacher." "Tell me," said the chaplain, "just why you think it was a great sermon." The sailor replied, "It was a great sermon because you took something from your heart and put it in mine."⁵

Paul Powell in **BUILDING AN EVANGELISTIC CHURCH** said that when we preach we should put our whole selves into the sermon. He told how a young preacher was having no success in his church, so he asked the Bishop what was wrong. The Bishop asked him, "Are you tired when you get through preaching?"

The young man replied, "No, I feel fine and relaxed."

The Bishop said, "Young man, when you preach, somebody gets tired—either you do or the people do."

Powell says "The weariness that fol-

lows heartfelt preaching does not result from pulpit gymnastics or contrived enthusiasm. A weariness of the soul, it results from carrying eternal truth in earthen vessels."

Sometimes preachers, we just want to quit, just to give up. We would just like to take our little bit of meal and our two sticks and have our final supper and just sit down and let God take us to Heaven. But we cannot quit. We have to trust God, and if we trust God we cannot quit.

A page from John Wesley's Diary reads as follows:

"Sunday morning, May 5, preached in St. Ann's, was asked not to come back anymore.

Sunday p.m., May 5, preached at St. John's, deacons said, "Get out; and stay out."

Sunday a.m., May 12, preached at St. Jude's, can't go back there wither.

Sunday p.m., May 12, preached at St. George's, kicked out again.

Sunday a.m., May 19, preached at St. somebody else's, deacons called special meeting and said I couldn't return.

Sunday p.m., May 19, preached on the street, kicked off the street.

Sunday a.m., May 26, preached in meadow, chased out of meadow as a bull was turned loose during the services.

Sunday a.m., June 2, preached out at the edge of town, kicked off the highway.

Sunday p.m., June 2, afternoon service, preached in a pasture, 10,000 people came to hear me."

How many preachers would have given up before that last afternoon service? Think about our Scripture lesson. Elijah said to the widow "would you give me a little bit of bread first?" The widow said "I do not have any, all I can do is to cook what I have and my son and I are going to die." She could have done exactly what she expected. If she had not shared with Elijah by God's Word she and her son would have sat there and starved to death. We are

wrong to follow that example. We can trust God.

How many times have we read Phillipians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." "Whatever we may substitute for "Christ" fails to fit the statement. Let's try several.

"I can do all things through *drugs*." No.
"I can do all things through *education*." No.

"I can do all things through *money*." No.
"I can do all things through *success*." No.

"I can do all things through *friends*." No.

"I can do all things through *positive thinking*." No.

"I can do all things through *political office*." No.

Nothing else fits . . . only Christ.⁶

But if you say I can do all things through Christ you are right.

We do not need to sit down and die. We need to trust God.

Often in our churches, and in our ministries, and often in our ministers it appears that we are following the widow's first plan.

Instead of acting in faith and trusting God, we take stock of ourselves and our abilities and our means. Sometimes we become totally frustrated and afraid. That is when we realize that we are inadequate and we cannot do anything except trust God.

We do not need to throw up our hands. We simply need to trust. We need to trust God.

It may sound as a mute point to be speaking to ministers and delegates concerning our trusting God, but when you take a survey of what is happening within the Free Will Baptist churches there must be some problem. It appears clear to me some of our problem is simply a failure to trust God for what He has promised us.

If God has called us to serve him in the various capacities, He will enable us to do that. Our greatest failure in all of this is to have a lack of faith in trusting Him to provide for us. We have to show the world that we trust God and that He is honest to provide for us.

Then the world will see that it can trust Him too!

I have had the great privilege of serving in the same church for the last fifteen years. The Lord has blessed me in those years. But they have not been without their ups and downs.

I remember in one of my low moments, I heard of W. A. Criswell retiring from the pastorate of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas. He was independently wealthy because he owned oil wells. He retired as pastor of the church in Dallas after serving there for thirty years. Upon his retirement he wrote a check to the church that covered every penny they had paid him in salary for the entire thirty years and gave it back to the church.

I heard about that and I prayed one day in my study . . . "Lord, I wish I had an oil well and I wish I was independently wealthy. If I were, I wouldn't have to worry about what I preach and how it's received, and I wouldn't have to worry about being turned out on my ear without any income. Lord, I wish I was like Brother Criswell."

I was feeling so sorry for myself, having a private pity party, when the Lord spoke to me. He said, "Gary, Gary, Gary . . . wait a minute. You have so much more than an oil well. You've got a lot more than a big bank account. You've got me, and you do not have to worry about anything else."

That changed the way I preach and the way I minister. I have learned that you can trust God to keep the barrel full and the bottom of oil flowing.

Sometimes we have to scrape the bottom of the barrel and give it all away. That's when we really trust Him.

There were two men standing face to face. One was a big man, standing six feet six inches tall. He weighed nearly 300 pounds and it was all muscle. The other man weighed about 110 pounds and stood almost five feet tall. The little man looked at the big man and said. "You know what, if I were as big and strong and tough as you are I'd go out in the woods and I'd find

the biggest bear there is in the woods and I would beat him and drag him out here to show everybody."

The big man looked down at the little man and said, "There are some little bears in the woods too you know."

There are some bears your size. Trust God!

¹Paul Powell, BUILDING AN EVANGELISTIC CHURCH, Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1991.

²Ibid.

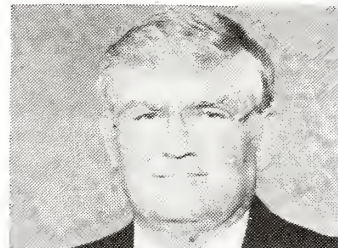
³Scripture quoted in this article are from the King James Version and/or the New International Version.

⁴Paul Powell, BUILDING AN EVANGELISTIC CHURCH, Annuity Board of The Southern Baptist Convention, 1991.

⁵Ibid.

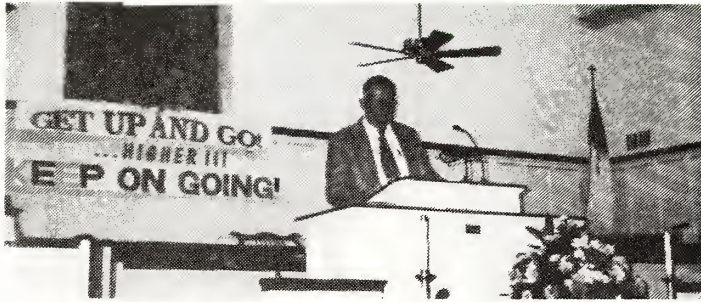
⁶Charles R. Swindoll, LAUGH AGAIN, Word Publishing, 1992.

HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM GETS NEW BOARD MEMBER

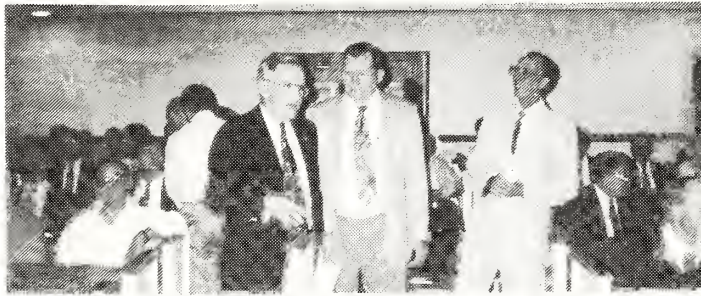


The Rev. T. C. Farmer of Smithfield, North Carolina has become the newest member of the *Board of Home Missions and Evangelism*. Brother Farmer replaces the Rev. Dean Kennedy, who resigned effective December 31, 1994. A native of South Carolina, He came to North Carolina in 1974, joining the Eastern Conference where he served prior to moving to the Cape Fear where he presently serves. He is pastor of Steven's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Benson, North Carolina and is also a Chaplain with the Johnston County Civil Air Patrol and Johnston Memorial Hospital.

Scenes From Layman's League



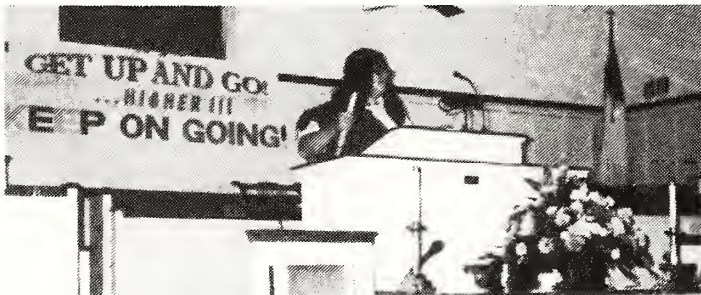
Central Conference President, Henry P. Beam, at Tarboro Free Will Baptist Church, December 5, 1994.



Henry P. Beaman, President—center, Delano Wilson, Secretary—left, Central Conference Meeting, December 5, 1994.



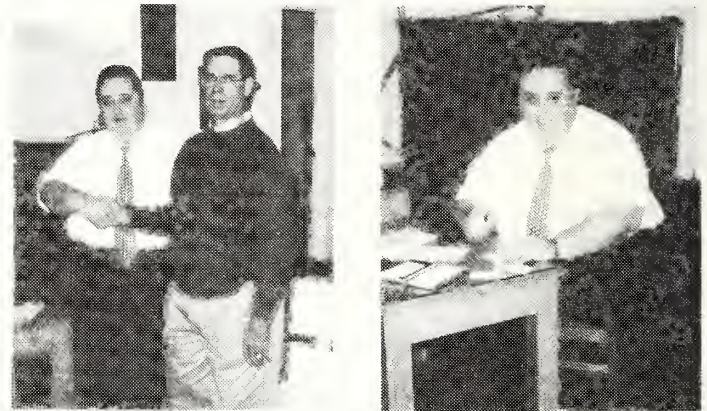
Some of the men who attended the Central Conference meeting at Tarboro Free Will Baptist Church, December 5, 1994.



Look what can happen when the Lord moves with the Layman's League—Guess Who?



State President Elmer Harrell meeting with the Cape Fear Layman's League.



State President Elmer Harrell gives thanks to the Rev. Al Markuson (Genesis Church) for his assistance in organizing the Cape Fear Conference.

Working for the Layman—the Rev. Al Markuson, Cape Fear (Genesis)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2—Executive Board, Elmer Harrell's office, 7 p.m.

March 6—Central Conference, Layman's League, Kings Cross Road Free Will Baptist Church, 7 p.m.

March 17—Central Conference Ladies Night—Harrell's Chapel FWB Church, 6:30 p.m.

May 5—State Layman's League, Time and Place—TBA

May 27—Spiritual Life Retreat, Eagles' Nest, Mount Olive College

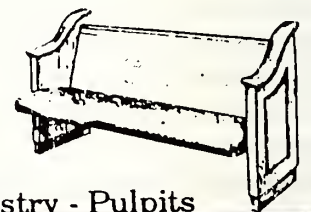
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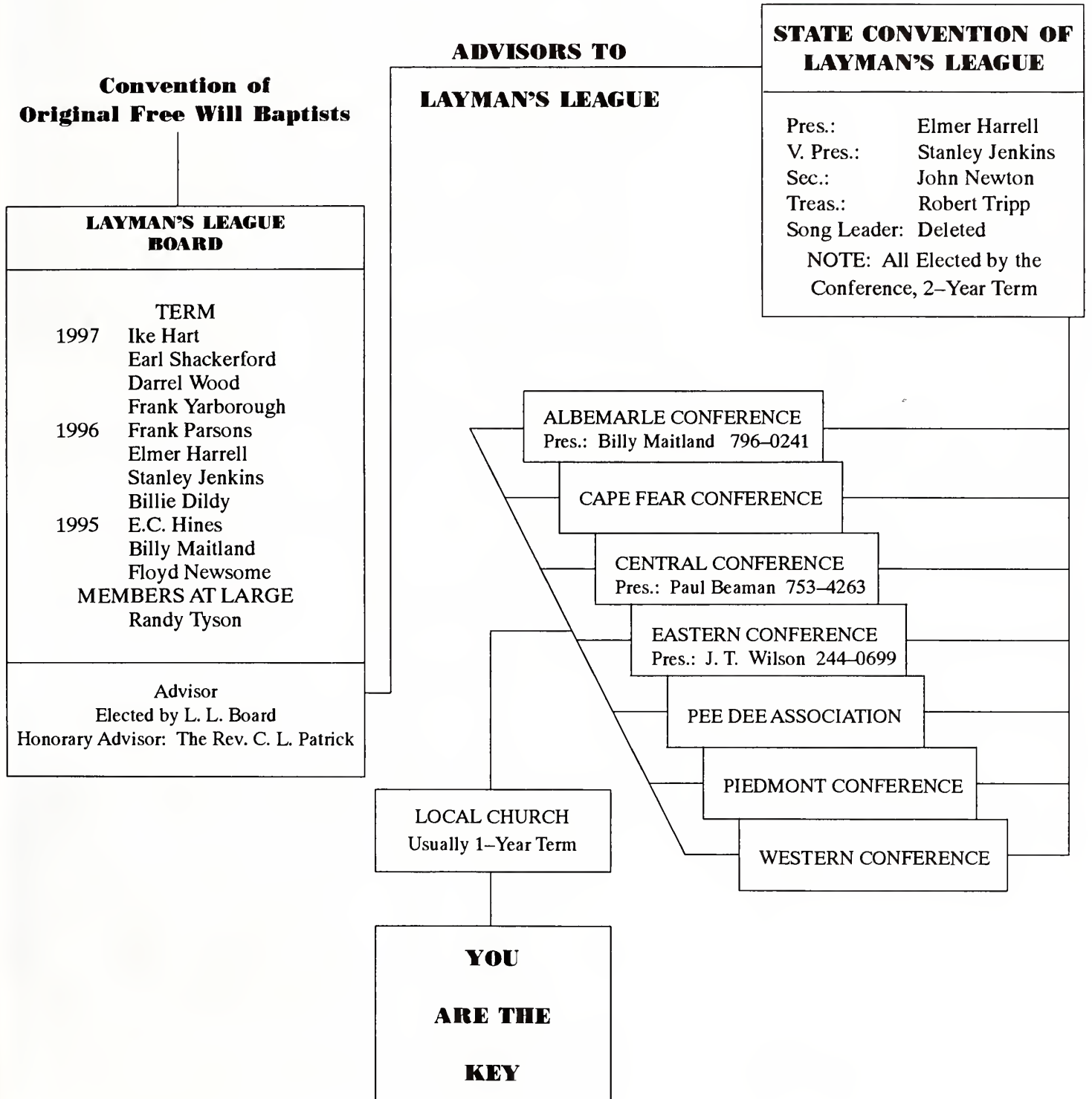


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**FREE WILL BAPTIST LAYMAN'S LEAGUE
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

Who's Who?

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



ATTENTION: EASTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARIES

It's time to collect your 40¢ per capita dues before the Spring Convention. Of this, 20¢ promotes District work and 20¢ supports State work.

When you receive your District Annual Report, please fill in all the blanks. Please take time to fill it in and return it whether or not you attend the Convention, and whether or not you have an Auxiliary. We need the information for our records.

The report should be sent to the new secretary:

Mrs. Nina Grace Register
604 Rountree Sreet
Kinston, NC 28501

The Eastern District Women's Auxiliary will meet on March 23, 1995 at Smith's New Home FWB Church, Deep Run, NC. The theme is "Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever." The Scripture will be taken from Hebrews 13:8. The schedule is as follows:

ORDER OF SERVICE

- 9:30 Registration
- 10:00 Call to Order, Lorraine Garner, Vice-President
Prayer for Convention
Hymn, "Face to Face"
Welcome, President, Smith's New Auxiliary
Response, Sheri Noonan, Holly Springs Auxiliary
- 10:10 Scripture/Prayer, Verdee Hill, Smith's New Home Auxiliary
- 10:20 Special Music, Terry Wood and Kay Daugherty
- 10:30 President's Remarks, Happy Taylor
Business Session
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Appointment of Committees
- 10:45 Camp Vandemere Report, Judith Kennedy
Convention Offering, Camp Vandemere

- 10:50 Ministry Reports
- 11:00 Hymn #116, "Tell It To Jesus"
- 11:10 Pen Award
- 11:15 Special Music, Terry Wood and Kay Daugherty
- 11:20 Worship Service, Annie Ruth Parrish, Smith's New Home Auxiliary
- 11:45 Hymn #157, "The Lily of the Valley"
- 12:10 Miscellaneous Business
Treasurer's Report
Committee Reports
- 12:20 Lunch Announcement
Benediction, the Rev. Walter Sutton, Pastor, Smith's New Home FWB Church

Fall Convention—Saint Delight Free Will Baptist Church,
September 21, 1995

Music Director—Terry Wood
Pianist—Kay Daugherty

WESTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY CONVENTION TO MEET

The Western District Auxiliary Convention will be held on April 5, 1995 at Pleasant Grove FWB Church, Pikeville, NC. The theme is "Walk In The Light." The Scripture will be taken from 1 John 1:7. The schedule is as follows.

ORDER OF SERVICE MORNING SESSION

- 9:15 Registration
- 9:45 Hymn
Devotion, Alma Dale
Welcome, Tempie Jones
President's Remarks, Jean Marlowe
Hymn
- 10:15 Hymn
News from our Denominational Ministries, the Rev. C. H. Overman
Special Music, Pleasant Grove Church
Youth Report, Virginia Joyner
- 11:00 Hymn
Convention Offering
Special Music, Pleasant Grove Church
Message, Joan Howell
- 12:00 Lunch, Sarah Herndon

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15 Hymn, Sarah Herndon
Devotion and Memorial Service
Life Membership Award
Cragmont Report, Donna Holland
Business Session
Installation of Officers
Closing Hymn

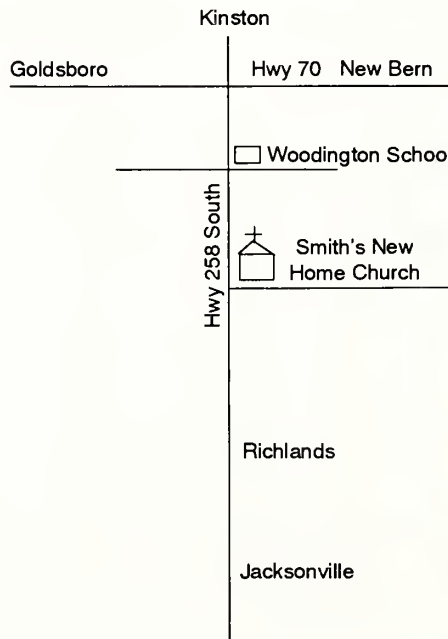
MOUNT TABOR CHURCH FAMILY IS GROWING by Keith Pelletier



Shown are Mt. Tabor's pastor, Keith Pelletier (left) and deacon, Phil Armstrong as they prepare to baptize Laine Armstrong. Miss Armstrong is the deacon's daughter.

(Continued on next page)

MAP
SMITH'S NEW HOME
ORIGINAL FWB CHURCH
(9 miles south of Kinston on Highway 258)



During the last three months, Mount Tabor Original Free Will Baptist Church in Creswell has seen its church family grow by sixteen persons. The additions to the church began in December when new pastor Keith Pelletier and his wife Shirley, became members of the church. Later, on December 18, five couples came before the church to have their children presented in a Parent-Child-Church Dedication service. During the service, five children were anointed with oil and prayed for by the church. Each received a commitment from their parents and the church to be surrounded by Christian love, example and witness as they continue through their childhood. The children presented included: Micheala Brooke Davis, age 2 months, daughter of Scott and Wendy Davis; Zachary Thomas Cuthrell, age 3 months, and Betsy Ann Cuthrell, age 10, children of James and Bonita Cuthrell; Austin Blake Jones, age 2, son of Cecil and Cindy Jones; and McKenna JoNee' Elizabeth Fuller, age 1, daughter of Jimmy and Teresa Fuller. Also, during the same service James and Bonita Cuthrell were received into membership with the church.

In the month of January, members of the Mount Tabor family saw seven persons make new or renewed commitments to Jesus Christ. During the month, four persons came before the church with public professions of faith and asked to be baptized by immersion. In a special service, held at the Assembly of Praise Church in Columbia, on the evening of January 29, those four persons were baptized. They were Megan Spruill, Laine Armstrong, Ruth Phelps, and Phillip Phelps. Assisting Pastor Pelletier in the baptismal service were deacons Sam Spruill, father of Megan, and Phil Armstrong, father of Laine. On the same day, three persons made public rededications in their

spiritual relationship with Christ. Those persons were Elbert Spruill, Teresa Furci and Helen Phelps, Helen, who is the wife of Phillip Phelps, was also rebaptized as a testimony to her renewed commitment.

Mount Tabor Church is a member of the Albemarle Conference of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The church is located on Mount Tabor Road in Creswell. With an active membership of 85 persons, the church has a variety of worship and fellowship opportunities for the whole family, and regularly supports the work of the FWB denominational ministries.

FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD PRESENTED



Pastor Keith Pelletier (left) is shown presenting a FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD to Mrs. Florence Furlough (right) of Mount Tabor OFWB Church in Creswell.

Mount Tabor Original Free Will Baptist Church, in Creswell, recently presented a FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD to Mrs. Florence Furlough, a lifelong member of the church and resident of the community. Mrs. Furlough has served the church in a variety of capacities over the years, and currently maintains the plants and flowers in the church sanctuary. She, with the help of her daughter, Mrs. Edna Spruill, provides and arranges flower assortments for the church each week. Mrs. Furlough is now in her sixth year of serving in this role.

The FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD is presented monthly to a person in the church. Selected by the Pastor and Deacons, the recipients of the award are selected based on their love, witness and work for our Lord Jesus Christ. Those recognized have consistently shown an unselfish concern for others, and a willingness to be of service to others.

Mount Tabor Church is a member of the Albemarle Original Free Will Baptist Conference.

WINTERGREEN YOUTH REVIVAL YIELDS GREAT RESULTS

The Wintergreen FWB Church, Cove City, sponsored a Youth REVIVAL, February 3-5. Approximately 150 people attended each service, with the majority being teenagers and younger. Several churches participated including Baptists, Methodists, and Disciples of Christ.

On Friday evening, February 3, the Second Edition Quartet out of the Antioch FWB Church presented a service of Gospel Music. These young men presented song and testimony with sincerity, honesty and dedication. The result was three first time decisions for the Lord as well as numerous rededications.

On Saturday morning, March 4, the Fifth Eastern Union Youth For Christ Rally joined in the service. Brother Glenn Mills, Youth Minister of the Stoney Creek FWB Church brought an interesting and inspiring message. Through humor, Scripture and spirit-filled preaching he presented the Gospel in such a way that the youngest person present could understand the message. When the invitation was given, the altar area was filled. Sixteen young persons were saved by the amazing grace of God.

The REVIVAL services ended Sunday morning with Brother Stephen Prescott delivering the morning message. His text was from 1 Samuel 17, and his message was on David and Goliath, with emphasis on the fact that we also can overcome the giants that we face daily.

The Wintergreen congregation is rejoicing over the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit that was experienced over the entire weekend. We are praising God for the precious souls that were borned into His kingdom, and we are believing God for an even greater harvest in the days that are yet to come. Jesus said that if He were lifted up, He would draw all men unto Himself (John 12:32). It is our prayer that Christ will continue to be manifested that souls might be brought to the knowledge of salvation.

SIDNEY FWB CHURCH



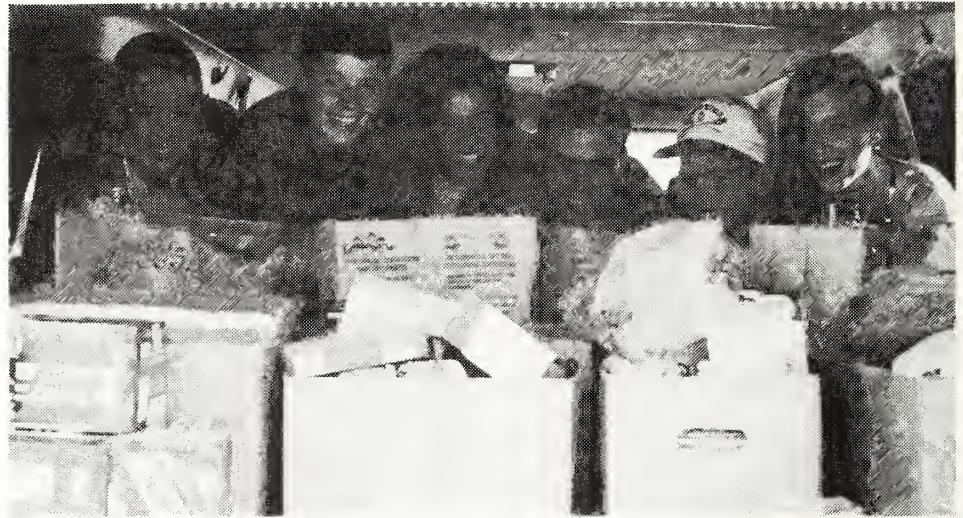
Ray and Valerie White (pictured) recently ministered at Sidney FWB Church for both the Sunday School and Children's Church services. Ray is a messianic Jew and is currently in training to become a Jewish Rabbi and recently obtained the title of Talmadim (Hebrew for disciple).

Their recent visit marked the second time the Whites have ministered at Sidney. Topics that have been covered in Ray's teaching include Jewish festivals and feasts, and temple worship. Ray would welcome the opportunity to

visit your church to explain Jewish tradition and history and how it pertains to the life of the Gentile, etc. Currently he is planning to provide a seder (Passover Supper) demonstration for the Sidney congregation near the time of the Jewish Passover.

Ray and Valerie also provide a unique ministry for youth. Jewish heritage and worship are portrayed in word, song, and dance. The Whites live in Washington, NC and attend Harvest Church. To contact Ray White, call 919-975-3881.

YOUTH REACH OUT WITH LOVE



From left to right: Kelly Williams, Josh Bisette, Dana Watson, Brian Batchelor, Wes Williams, Lori Lamm. YFA Leaders: Vickie Johnson, Don Williams, Richard Holmus.

"Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do." (Galatians 2:10) In this Scripture Paul reminds us of our duty as believers to care for the poor. But often we overlook the poor in trying to meet our needs and desires. We must see that the world is filled with poor people that need help. We must try to help them.

That is exactly what the YFA of Milbournie Free Will Baptist in Wilson did during the holidays. The YFA sponsored a food drive in order that they may be able to help some needy families in their community.

The week before they were to deliver the food, a couple of the youth met at the church to divide the food for four needy families. However, within the boxes of food was an envelope that had a very generous donation. This gift allowed the YFA the opportunity to shop for one more family and buy turkeys for each family, as well as other food that might be needed.

On December 20, six YFA members met at the church and piled into "Big Blue," a van borrowed from the Williams family. The youth then went on a shopping spree at the local Food Lion. After they had filled each box with a Christmas card, a turkey and other goodies, they began delivering the food. It took two days before they finally delivered all five boxes to the needy families. The experience was a very rewarding one for the Milbournie YFA. One member remarked, "It makes me feel so good to be able to help these people. I love it!"

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

Sunday School Charms



by Mary Dudley

Some few weeks ago I was preparing for a Sunday School workshop when I ran across a reading by Dr. T. Robert Taylor. Because of my sincere concern for the future of Original Free Will Baptists, I would like to share a portion of his *Fifty Excuses to Guarantee Mediocrity*.

- *We tried that before.
- *It costs too much and will run up our overhead.
- *We're too busy to do that.
- *It's too radical a change.
- *We're too small.
- *You can't do that. It just won't work.
- *Let's get back to reality.
- *I don't like your idea.
- *We're not ready for that.
- *They're not our kind of people.
- *We don't have equipment or room for that.
- *That's not in our budget.
- *You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
- *Sounds good but it's impractical.
- *They'll laugh at us.
- *Let's form a committee and study it for awhile.
- *That's too much trouble.
- *We've always done it this way. Why change?

Have you heard yourself or someone else in your church or Sunday School make one or more of those statements lately? If you have, the destination of your group may have already been decided.

As Original Free Will Baptists, we have a biblically sound doctrine and a heritage which dates back to the early 1700s. What are we doing with both of them? If we are proud to be Original Free Will Baptists, then why are we afraid to say so? Are we embarrassed for one reason or another? Are we afraid of growth? Are we afraid we might have to make some sacrifices? Are we afraid we might have to spend a little money?

In Romans 1:16, Paul said he was not ashamed of the gospel for it is the power if God for salvation to every person who has faith. Also, in Romans 12:2, we find more of Paul's words. **Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

Growth is never easy. It requires sacrifices, blood, sweat, and often tears from the people growing as well as those who are directing the growth process. It demands a continuous renewal of our minds in order to do what is acceptable to God. In order to renew our minds, we must not only know who and where we are but where we have been and where we wish to go. We should learn from our mistakes as well as our successes.

As a denomination, I feel we are at a fork in the road. On one hand, we could mask our heritage and forge ahead without care or regard for our future or we could be reminded of our heritage and allow it to lead us to be the best disciples for our Lord that we can be. While we have had some bad times, we should be reminded of the circumstances of those times and not allow ourselves to fall prey to the lure of a feel-good religion to the exclusion of a lasting faith.

As I study trends in our society with regard to church and Sunday School growth, there are waves of self-satisfaction, self-righteousness, petty jealousy, instantaneous pleasure, spectator religion rather than participatory faith, and complacent attitudes engulfing our very being. Are we going to allow these waves to destroy us or are we going to renew our minds and search for the truth which will carry us forth? Are we visualizing a lasting growth or instant pleasure/gratification?

These remarks are in no way intended to pronounce doom on our work. They are, however, intended to make us think about our direction in the coming years. The Sunday School Board has for the past two to three years been attempting to share methods which could cause us to renew our minds. Therefore, help us by keeping our Sunday School work in your prayers. Consider putting feet on those prayers and assist us in getting the word out. We would invite our ministers to lead our people in the Christian education effort. **Don't just talk about Sunday School. Experience it! Don't just invite people. Go and get them.** However, be sure that you have a strong, biblically sound program to keep people there. We have too many revolving doors in our Sunday Schools. We sincerely ask that your church send a regular contribution to the Sunday School Board which would be used to bring educational workshops to your church. Invite the Board members to come to your church and talk to your people about our Sunday School work. We would be glad to arrange a workshop especially for you and your needs. In order to implement these plans, we need funds to provide materials which would be most effective.

Where are we as a church headed? Only you can answer that question. While we all may walk to the beat of a different drum, we can be sure we are marching in the same parade. That would be to celebrate Original Free Will Baptists and their beliefs and a strong faith in God and His principles not a religion which boasts of faith in God only if His principles are the same as ours.

There seems to be one of two roads we can follow into the next century. They are **NOW** or **NEVER**. Which one will you and your church/Sunday School take? It's up to you!!!!



“Given to One Another”

The first paragraph of the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant prefaces a binding contract for members of the Free Will Baptist Church:

“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.”

Beginning with faith in Christ, and with the word of God teaching and instructing us, we have given ourselves to each other. Then we promised to love and obey Him, to separate ourselves from that which is evil, and to develop ourselves spiritually. We have promised “... 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 bond 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.” In this we are fulfilling the “giving of ourselves to one another.”

Christian principles and obligations are of the highest priorities in this covenant, with our most important task of making Christ known in the world. A most important fulfillment of the “giving of ourselves” to each other is expressed in the next to the last paragraph:

“To this end we agree 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.”

Within the body of Christ—the Church—there must be unity of purpose. In ‘making Christ known,’ we not only proclaim the good news, but we also commit ourselves to His work, or building up of His kingdom here on earth. This is accomplished within the body of Christ—the Church.

We have chosen to bind ourselves together in Christian love and unity, both within the local church, and also beyond as it relates to the work of our conferences and especially our Convention, which is the agency under which our ministries operate. Again, this is a part of the “giving of ourselves to one another.”

At different times in our history as a denomination, we made the decision to minister, to establish the institutions and enterprises which we now refer to as “Ministries.”

We have agreed that there is a need for these ministries, and we have promised to cooperate in promotion of them. Each has its own entity, yet combined they complete the circle of service to which we have committed ourselves.

Our obligation to promote and support our ministries is not only expressed in our Covenant, but also in Section 4 of our Articles of Faith and Rules of Church government. Our Convention was organized in 1913 for the purpose of extending the denominational program. “It is a coordinating body working for the cooperation of the churches, conferences, ministers, and institutions of the Original Free Will Baptists.

“The Convention is both an inclusive and exclusive body. It is inclusive in that it is made up of all bodies and institutions of Original Free Will Baptists who accept the usage, custom, and practices reflected in the *Articles of Faith*...”

Each minister and each local congregation is bound together in this work of ministry. Not only is the pastor to promote the spiritual interest of the church which he serves, but he is duly bound to “...promote all denominational institutions, enterprises, and programs.... (see page 70 of the *Articles of Faith*...). On pages 76 and 77 we read: “It is the duty of each congregation to pay into its treasury sufficient funds to support local church programs and the entire denominational program.” In addition, “...each congregation shall make financial contributions to the denominational ministries, institutions, and benevolent work.”

Free Will Baptist churches are not independent congregations in the sense of operating separate and apart from all others. Rather, we have chosen to organize into conferences and in a larger body, our Convention. There is representative government, and through this government we have chosen to form ministries and other functions of ministry within the larger bodies. Thus, there is that binding

thread wherein we are under obligation to serve Him in the “giving of ourselves to one another.” The future of our denomination rests upon our commitment to the truths, the work, and the practices which we have adopted. Are we truly given to one another in the accomplishment of His will and purpose?

Task Force Committee

Project Solution’s Task Force Committee met on January 10, 1995 at Marsh Swamp Church. In addition to this meeting, the committee met on February 7, 1995 at Robert’s Grove Church. Another meeting is scheduled for March 14. The mission statement has been completed, and the next task will be the drafting of survey forms.

Now Available



Provides a Brief Look at each of the Ministries of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists
Aquaints the Interested Person with a Basic Background of each Ministry’s History and Purpose

\$1.00 per copy
\$9.00 per dozen

May be ordered from the
Convention Headquarters,
P. O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513;
or may be purchased from the
Free Will Baptist Press’ bookstores.

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family,

What do you do when life hands you lemons? When things do not go exactly as you have planned them, do you give up; pack up your bags and go home? The best thing to do is to make do with what you have.

A recent weekend with my church and another church proved that exact point. Our annual ski weekend to Cragmont included skiing on Friday, Saturday and returning home on Sunday.

The group skied on Friday just as planned. Saturday was a different story. We woke up to a ground blanketed with snow and roads covered with ice so that no one could get to the lodge. What were we to do?

Many decided to head back east before the conditions got worse. There were a few brave souls that stayed at Cragmont for the duration of the storm. Honestly, we had more fun "snowed in" than we would have had at the ski lodge. The children, as well as the adults, grabbed what sleds we could find, cut some trails, "skied Cragmont", threw a few snowballs, and caught colds together.

Even though things did not go exactly to plan 'A', plan 'B' provided just as much excitement and adventure.

Whether it is to spend time with people we usually do not, take some time for ourselves, or have a few minutes with God, there usually is a reason for God sending a plan 'B'.

So to answer the question, "What do you do when life hands you lemons?" Make a glass of lemonade and watch out for the snowballs. Until next month... "In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:6).

In His Service,

Tracy

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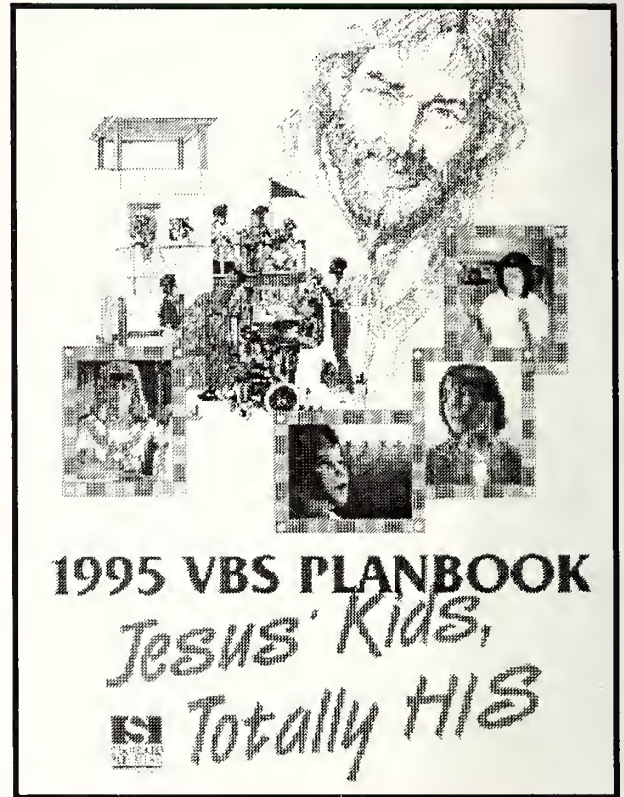
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The Free Will Baptist

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



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“And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.” Mark 16:4 (KJV)

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April 1995 • Volume 112 • Number 4

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NEXT MONTH

*Children's
Home
Month*

*April
is
Home Missions and
Evangelism Month*

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.

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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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Denominational Ministries

Happenings Concerning Home Missions and Evangelism

KIDS CRUSADE



The Young People of Soundside Original Free Will Baptist Church of Columbia, NC participated in a Kids Crusade under the direction of the Rev. and Mrs. Terry Ellis. On Friday night the program was object lessons and videos by Terry and Sandy followed by a hayride. Saturday night the Willis Family of Rock Springs Original Free Will Baptist Church, Bailey, NC brought their puppets to assist the Ellises. The Crusade concluded on Sunday morning with the Rev. David C. Hansley presenting an object lesson entitled: "Is Your Attitude Showing?" More than 130 young people participated on Friday evening and the church was full for every service.

WESTERN AUXILIARY CONVENTION



In its Fall meeting the Convention raised \$2,000, to support Michelle Bartlett on her upcoming summer mission with T.L.C. Ms. Bartlett is a member of Antioch Original Free Will Baptist Church, the Rev. James Owens is the pastor. The officers of the Western District Auxiliary are shown in the photo above with Ms. Bartlett: Alma Dale, Program Chairman; Nadine Crocker, Treasurer; Ms. Bartlett; Jean Marlowe, President; Clentis Capps, Vice-President.

T.L.C. is Touching Lives Corps, which is made up of volunteers who raise their own support to go and work on a Home Missions and Evangelism project. Michelle Bartlett and Tina Wetherington are going on a summer mission to Georgia and Florida.

NEW SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER



Mrs. Andrea W. Cox of Dover, North Carolina has joined the Department of Home Missions and Evangelism as secretary/bookkeeper. She is a member of Wintergreen Original Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, where the Rev. Mike Scott is pastor. She is married to Robert Neal Cox, who was recently licensed as a minister by Wintergreen Church.

Andrea is a graduate of West Craven High School and has an Associate in Applied Science Degree with a major in Business Administration from Pitt Community College, with a grade point average of 4.0. She has done further studies in Business Computer Programming, also at Pitt Community College.

Further, her range of work experiences make her particular suited to the needs of the Home Missions and Evangelism office. She is learning quickly and adjusting very well to the new position.

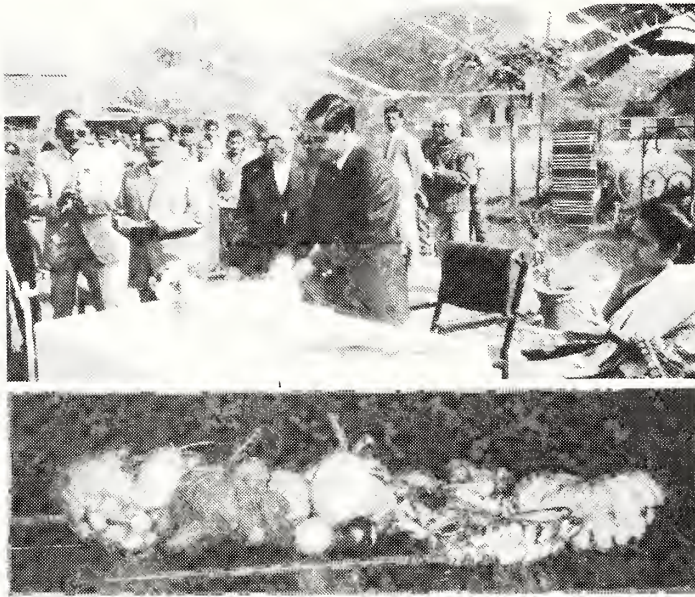
ROBERT'S GROVE COLLECTS PENNIES



The Young Peoples' classes of Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Dunn, NC collected over \$800 in pennies for Home Missions and Evangelism. The photographs show the Young People and some of their "penny posters" as well as a giant check in the amount of \$844.80. The check, dated October 23, 1994, was received by the Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism from the young people led by Ms. Susan Faircloth, Youth Director.

THANKSGIVING DAY—PHILIPPINES

by Elsie Carpeso



The Puerto Princesa Free Will Baptist, for the first time in its church history, celebrated "Thanksgiving Day" on November 28, 1994. Churches from Buncag, Liwanag and some nearby congregations joined in the celebration that made it more lively and colorful.

Almost everyone, though not all, tried their best to bring an offering to the church as an expression of their love and gratitude to God for the abundant blessings received the whole year. Most offerings were in kind, such as apples, mango, pamelos, bananas, gabi, buko (young coconut) and the like, locally found in Palawan. One by one the gifts were brought to the altar as each church was called.

On the altar were 12 boxes labelled with the names of the months. Everybody's birthday was announced by the preacher. As the month was mentioned, everyone born on that month had to go up to the altar and place their offering in the boxes prepared for the purpose while the congregation, with Pastor Joel dela Rosa on the piano, sang the Happy Birthday song. On and on the singing continued until everyone had the chance to bring their gift to the altar. The celebration was highlighted by the message of God given by the Rev. Antonio Samones Jr.

Everyone felt the meaning and joy of the occasion and look forward to another "Thanksgiving Day." The money generated is intended for the new church building fund. Everyone is excited to see the church finished. The tithes and offering increased as a result of the occasion.

Hopefully we trust that each Filipino Free Will Baptist will be more aware of God's overflowing blessings and be more expressive of the gratitude to God in return. We are anticipating more spiritual awakening.

REMEMBER THE HISTORY OF THE SHALOM FWB CHURCH, MEXICO

by Antonio Escobar



On the last week of November 1994, our church and pastor gathered together to thank and praise the Lord for helping us in the work that was realized a long time ago, through His great power.

Pastor Aguero and his family fought the good fight all these years and their work has not been in vain. We remember when they came to our city there was no Free Will Church established. He began looking for a place to start the work. A small room was found and rented for this purpose.

Today there is a Free Will Baptist Church in Nueva Rosita because of the faithful work of this pastor. There is much joy among the people of this congregation and they look to the future with great anticipation. They have plans to extend their missionary work, far beyond their city in the years to come. Please pray for the Shalom Church, that it will continue to be a blessing to the people in Mexico.

VAN DER PLAS UP-DATE

Willem was able to re-enter Eastern Europe for a period of six weeks on a Tourist Visa. (Lydia remained in Holland.) He will return on March 28. We will have more news to share after this trip is completed. Please continue to pray for a visa to be granted so they can return on a permanent basis. Even though there is opposition and persecution the work is progressing. The Church always flourishes in times like these. We have the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

BAPTISMAL SERVICE—PHILIPPINES

by Dario S. Basingil



Last September 1994, the North District conducted the Ebanghelismo Bayanihan (Evangelism Outreach Program). I was invited to conduct the Baptismal Service at Centro, Taytay in the river almost three kilometers away from the residence of Nehemias Pepito. Those baptized: Brother Villaren, Sr. and Arante Villaren.

The Rev. Alex Lahao-Lahao, pastor of the Caroroy Church, invited me to conduct a Baptismal Service in the Lagoyloy River. The following seven persons obeyed the Command of Jesus Christ: Juanito Ebela, Lourdes Ebela, Enocencio Bayabado, Adelaida Bayabado, Micheil Cortez, Ramon Recaplaza and Josephine Paresan.

In John 14:15 we read, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Please continue to pray for these new believers, for spiritual and physical strength.

NEWS FROM INDIA AND NEPAL

by Dr. E. M. Lall

Our school and congregations at Dhangarhi, Kanchanpur, Phulwari and Bhimbasti are progressing rapidly in the country of Nepal. The Rev. Balram Bhatt, in charge of our work at Dhangarhi has moved to Kathmandu, the capital of the country on a government job. He told me that while in Kathmandu he would like to constitute a congregation at Okhalgunda near the capital. The church at Nepal has been left with only four deacons among whom Deacon Prem Joshi is exclusively looking after the four schools.

Now it seems imperative that more effective leadership is needed to look after our work in Nepal. Nepal is under the reign of a Communist Government which is discouraging Christian preaching through foreign nationals and is averse

to conversion of Nepalis. The Nepal Government wants to impose border controls with India. Possibilities are being explored to raise effective indigenous leadership. It would be possible only when we post some responsible church leader from India on the border town so that frequent visits and communications will provide better opportunities to prepare men of Nepal to work among their people.

The field of work in Nepal is tremendous and we have few people to cope with. In fact the work in Nepal needs reorganization by a competent person living close to Dhangarhi which is the headquarters of our work in that country.

We are happy that the congregation of English Service of Bareilly has become realistic to support the work of Evangelization in the State of Bihar. Most of the members of this congregation are from well paid jobs. We have Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels of the Army who are members of this congregation. The Minister, the Rev. A. G. Joseph, is doing fine with his people. Efforts are being made that our rural congregations should also learn to give for the support of the church.

The highlight of our Christmas activities were above our expectations. The Sunday School children played a drama about the Birth of Christ. The adults exhibited the manger scene. There were recitations of Poetry by non-Christians on Christmas who were presented a New Testament by Mrs. Inez Lall. The English congregation conducted the Candle Light Service and the Christmas service on Sunday, December 25, 1994 was full of music and a thought-provoking sermon. Some of the local Indian Newspapers produced the photographs with the program. The Commissioner of Bareilly Division came to meet our congregation. He is the highest officer of four districts. He cut the Christmas cake and was very happy to see our people and the church.

What is more exciting to report than on this Christmas Day four highly qualified and well placed individuals had accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Among whom is one Mrs. Chopra, wife of Active Lieutenant Colonel of the Army, and her daughter. We are extremely grateful to God for this achievement. It is indeed the result of many prayers offered at your end for our work.

We enjoyed the dedication ceremony of Junior High schools built at Asafpur while I cut the ribbon. There were many people including the local people who spoke at the occasion, thanking the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina for providing this great need. The youngest son of our Minister in charge of Asafpur area was also dedicated by me.

Some of our ministers came to celebrate my birthday and made me cut the cake. Our Executive Secretary and Treasurer the Rev. Pramod March gave the lunch. I was extremely thankful to the Lord for keeping me fit until now that I am involved in the expansion of His Kingdom.

Following the New Years' service at Bareilly, we rushed

to a rural church of Sagalpur and had a good fellowship with our people who are underprivileged. They were inspired and felt encouraged. They are the people for whom God appeared in flesh in the name of Jesus!

WORLD PRAYER CONGRESS

by David R. Cauley

The World Prayer Congress, an international event, will be a week-long (May 21–27, 1996) sequence of intensive prayer experiences on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. This gathering is in spiritual preparation for “the gospel of the kingdom to be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then the end shall come,” (Matthew 24:14). The World Prayer Congress is open to all Christians. The purpose of this meeting is to come to Jerusalem to “prepare the way of the Lord” and to pray with one voice, “God have mercy on home, church, and country, and send revival. Prepare me for Your glory—the essence of Your Presence.”

The World Prayer Congress in May 1996 has historical and spiritual significance—it is the 3000th anniversary of King David’s establishing his throne and making Jerusalem his capital city. It is also the time of the Feast of Weeks, (Feast of Pentecost). It is also part of JESUS 2000 which is a year long celebration of the life of Jesus Christ.

Some planned events for the World Prayer Congress are: afternoon prayer gatherings on the Mount of Olives, symbolic reenactments, tours to Biblical site, and prayer watches that will be held at the time of the evening sacrifice, when Jesus gave His supreme sacrifice. Some special events include: a dedication of Service to the Lord, a Communion Service, a Service of Thanksgiving, a Service of Commitment, and a Consecration Service. Special emphasis will be placed on praise offerings to the Holy One of Israel who inhabits the praises of His People, (Psalm 22:3).

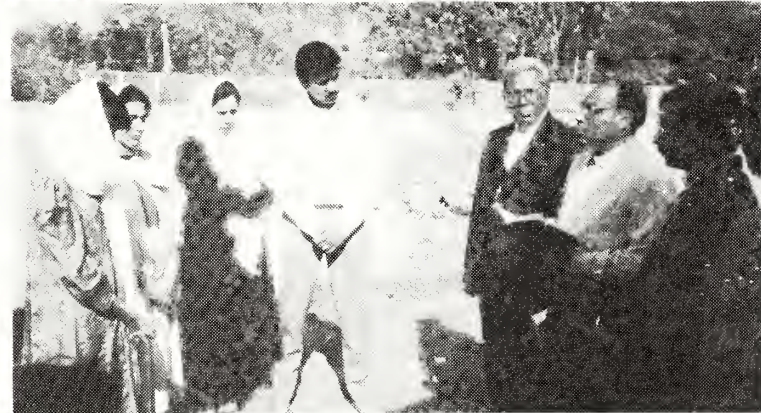
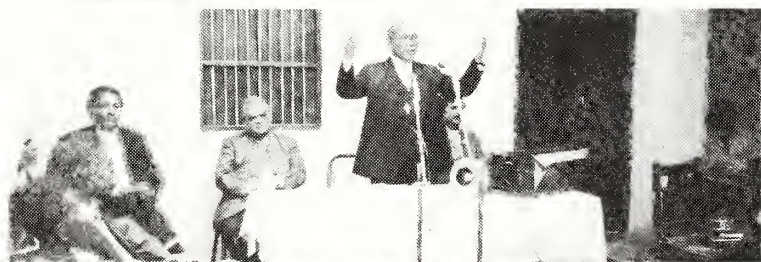
The following are a few of the leaders of the World Prayer Congress: Roberta Hromas (chairman), David Aikman, Honorable Roger Jepsen, Dee Jepsen, Dr. Vincent Synan, Dr. C. Peter Wagner, and Dr. Mary Ruth Swope. The leadership of JESUS 2000 includes: Ed Steele, Wayne Shepherd, Richard Dingman, the Rev. Duke Hergatt, Dr. Jerry Falwell, Dr. Brandy Gutavson, Kay Cole James, Drs. Tim and Beverly LaHaye, and Josh McDowell.

The World Prayer Congress is developing a network of intercessors. Intercessors are asked, before the Lord, to commit to and fulfill a threefold responsibility: 1) to pray daily for God’s Eternal plan for the World Prayer Congress, to be fulfilled. 2) to fast one day a month. 3) Share the inspiration of God by communicating to the committee any Scriptures the Holy Spirit reveals to you.

Our greatest hope is that you will catch a glimpse of what the World Prayer Congress will be like. You are invited to join this network of intercessors. In addition, you are invited to join the Official 12-day pilgrimage to Jerusalem for The World Prayer Congress.”

We serve a “Mighty God.” When I was asked to be the Preparation Prayer Team Chairman for the United States for the World Prayer Congress (in February of 1994), I had no idea what Father had in store for me. I thought, “God, there must be a mistake, I know You can find someone else.” I praise Father that He doesn’t look at our failures or achievements but at our hearts.

If you would like information about The World Prayer Congress, Prayer Team Leaders or the pilgrimage to Jerusalem, please contact David R. Cauley at: 6008 Stern Court, New Bern, NC 28560 or phone, 919–636–3032, Fax, 919–636–3260.



Cragmont Camp Schedule For 1995

Morning Star

April 21-23
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

June Women's Auxiliary Conference

June 5-10
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

Minister's Conference

June 12-15
Philip Boykin—registrar
Rt. 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

Christian Cadet Conference

June 19-24
Gary Bailey—registrar
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)

June 26-July 1
Scott & Janie Sowers—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)

July 3-8
Frankie Baggett—registrar
Rt. 2, Box 214
Nashville, NC 27856

General Youth Conference II

July 10-15
Chris Singleton—registrar
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

General Youth Conference I

July 17-22
P.O. Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523
Bryant Hines—registrar

Young People's Bible Conference

July 24-29
Donald Mason—registrar
P.O. Box 672
Newport, NC 28570

August Women's Auxiliary Conference

July 31-August 5
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

Cragmont Camping Program

Cragmont has a summer program that provides young people a unique opportunity. By attending a week of camp, they can experience recreation in a Christian atmosphere and hear the Word of our Lord proclaimed in many unique ways. A typical day at Cragmont includes classes in Christian living in the morning, recreational activities in the afternoon, and worship services in the evening. When attending a week of camp at Cragmont, they are away from their normal everyday activities allowing uninterrupted opportunities for God to use. The ministry of Cragmont to the young people of the denomination is more than just evangelism—it is one of teaching them how to live the Christian life. Please contact the director listed with the week for information concerning that camp week. We want your youth. Please encourage and support them in a Cragmont camp adventure this summer.

Cragmont Assembly, Inc, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone (704) 669-7677 or (704) 669-5224 Fax (704) 669-1463

General Youth Conference

July 17-22, 1995

It's time to begin making summer plans for Cragmont, and we would like to tell you about **General Youth Conference**.

Who we are: A week of summer camp for youth ages eight to eighteen.

What we do: Enjoy a week of Christian camping filled with instruction, recreation, music, fellowship, friendship, and just plain fun. We will also be taking a trip to "Carowinds" in 1995.

How we do it: 1. With continuity and experience. Some of the ministers on our staff have worked together for fourteen years. 2. With dedicated support staff. Many of our staff counselors have been with us seven years or more. They are committed and caring. 3. With organization. Each day is structured to include a balance of instruction, music, recreation, and worship.

And NEW this year: GYC is open to college students age 18-21! Yes, a great experience can be had in the mountains with GYC in 1995!

If you desire more information or would like to get on the mailing list when registration forms go out in April, please fill out the form below and return to Bryant Hines at PO Box 266, Cove City, NC 28523—or call 919-633-2683.

See you at camp!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Church Name: _____ City: _____

1995 Young People's Bible Conference Cragmont

July 24-29

\$160 (plus spending money)

\$50 Registration Fee

Ages 8-19

DONALD MASON
PO BOX 672
NEWPORT, NC 28570
919-726-3142

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AGE _____ CHURCH _____

() GIRL () BOY

APPLICATION MUST BE RETURNED BY JULY 1, 1995

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is pleased to announce our

FOUNDER'S DAY

celebration on May 27, 1995.



In 1913, The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists decided to build a home for children as the first state wide project. During the second annual convention in 1914 a resolution was discussed and adopted. This was the beginning of what is today the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex, North Carolina. As our ancestors saw the need to provide a home for needy children the home strives to continue its service by providing "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls."

You can become part of this effort as you join us to celebrate 75 years in child care ministry and help us reach our goals.

GOALS

\$20,000 IN GIFTS

Every church group is encouraged to give \$75.00 to commemorate our anniversary. This includes Sunday Schools, Ladies Auxiliaries, Layman's Leagues, Youth Groups, and Individuals. Churches are asked to take a special offering during the month of May and bring it with you. During the program each group will present their celebration offerings at the designated time. Gifts will be used for cottage renovation projects.

Everyone is invited to come and bring your friends as we celebrate 75 years as your child care ministry. This will be one of the biggest events in the history of Free Will Baptists.

Please participate and help us reach our goal of 750 guests on our campus.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Lunch at Noon in the Center of Campus

Program will follow in the Whitley Center with Keynote Speaker, Rev. Ray Wells.

Celebration Offerings presented at a special time during the program.

Tours of all buildings on the campus.



*The Board of Directors
 Invite You and Your Guests to
 Our Luncheon Celebration
 for
 Founder's Day
 May 27, 1995, 12:00 Noon
 Free Will Baptist Children's Home*

NAME _____ PHONE _____

There will be _____ in my party for lunch.

PLEASE RETURN BY MAY 22, 1995

YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND:

**MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
 SINGERS**

"SPRING FLING"

Irene S. Patten, Director

**Thursday, April 6
 8 p.m.**

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

No Admission Charge

**MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
 CHOIR**

"SPRING CONCERT"

Burke Raper, Director

**Tuesday, April 11
 7:30 p.m.**

Rodgers Chapel

No Admission Charge

AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The Rev. Charles W. Crisp who served as past director of Home Missions and Church Extension, and also served as pastor of several FWB churches died on March 5, 1995. At the time of his death he was pastor of Creekmont General Baptist Church, Smyrna, Tennessee.

A memorial fund has been established in his name for his widow, Louise Crisp. Those wishing to contribute to this fund are asked to send it to:

**General Baptist Home Missions
 100 Stinson Drive
 Poplar Bluff, MO 63901**

Be sure to earmark it for Mrs. Louise Crisp.

Features

Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church's Dramatic Musical for Easter, **THE CHOICE**

The drama and meaning of Easter took on new significance for the members of Marlboro Church, Farmville, NC in 1994. For months, the congregation worked and prayed in preparation for their rendition of the musical, "The Choice." Following is a review written by Dr. Pepper Worthington of last year's production.

The evening of Easter Sunday, 1994 unfolded with an unknown excitement as I drove through God's country to reach Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church by seven o'clock p.m. The back roads from Snow Hill to Farmville spread across acres of farm land with houses scattered in the distance as if the earth had more land than the population explosion admitted. From these rural spaces I knew that an entire Free Will Baptist church had rallied around a dramatic effort to give a gift to people at Easter.

The Production of *The Choice*

The production of the dramatic music, *The Choice*, had started out as a small idea, according to the director, Janie Jones Sowers. However, the idea of a small production soon catapulted into the idea of a wonderful, if not forever memorable, production. Members of the church began to make the costumes—not an easy task with the long robes, head pieces, decorative cloaks, sandals, Roman metal-like wear, swords, Centurion helmets. Excitement grew as interest mushroomed. Lighting became an issue. How could the church get professional lights so that all sorts of effective devices of lightning, shadows, highlighting, and close-ups could be used to make this not just a *small* dramatic musical but a *cherished, memorable, magnificent* production?

Choices were constantly being made—choices about costumes, casting, wiring, sandals, light, staging, sets. A special spotlight had to be found for the inside of the tomb so that the angel (Ivy Beaman) who came out to sing "Why Do You Seek The Living Among the Dead?" could be highlighted.

Imagine an idea that seems small growing into an idea that embraces an entire congregation.

Such is the magic of Easter.

One life, one gift, one Cross, one tomb, one mystery make magic. The entire world is different today because of one small life with one small idea of the Kingdom not of man but of God.

Such is the magic of Easter.

When I arrived at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, the sanctuary was packed. For three performances, one Friday night, one Saturday night, one Sunday morning, the sanctuary held 170(+) people. Tonight was the last performance and the tide of people flooded the pews. I snuggled in a corner of the front pew to watch the magic of Easter.

The stage created the illusion of a marketplace in Capernaum. Scattered trees, greenery, a light blue backdrop (as if the open sky), and two sets of stairs to give elevation to the marketplace made the mind follow Coleridge's willing suspension of disbelief.

We were willingly taken back to Capernaum two thousand years ago. As the entire chorus came on stage, I felt a certain sweep of electricity in the air as if the space in the sanctuary was wired for the unseen as well as seen.

The Marketplace Scene

Some forty members of the chorus opened the dramatic musical with the song, "The Marketplace." They told us in a Jewish harmony similar to sounds from *Fiddler on The Roof* that they lived in the middle of Israel where nothing really happens, nothing really changes. The background music of a first-rate orchestrated soundtrack made the stage seem large, full, magnificent.

The chorus, representing Jewish people who energetically buy and sell goods, celebrate their sameness of life, their traditions. Though a Roman squadron moves through the crowd, bartering still continues. In the music we hear a recurrent longing of the Jews—the hunger for a Messiah to set them free. Their desire is part political, part economic. Until the great Messiah frees them from outside political control and creates for them an economic kingdom of power, they will remain true to their traditions of bickering, bartering, haggling. The Jews long for a Messiah of miracles, military might, immediacy. Never did their hunger and thirst for a Messiah include a simple love, a painful Crucifixion, nor a Kingdom not of immediacy but of eternity. No. The Messiah must be an emblem of Jewish power, or else the man would be no Messiah. The Jews had suffered enough. Their hunger was for freedom from suffering, freedom from political tyranny, freedom for the day at hand, never mind eternity.

After the opening song, we meet the seasoned married couple, Rachel (Dawn Garner) and Asa (Scott Sowers). Dawn Garner's portrayal of the outspoken snappy, even nagging wife is effective, especially as she clips her words for emphasis. Scott Sowers as the wise husband has a bearded face and a long wig. His slow speech and volume make his lines clear, concise, crisp. The force of Rachel and Asa magnify their granddaughter Hannah's (Beth Meeks) dilemma. Hannah is in love with a Roman Centurion, Marcus (Wayne Harris). The conflict of their love echoes Romeo and Juliet as well as other star-crossed lovers in fiction. Marcus is castigated by his comrade, Octavius (Eddie Meeks), just as Hannah is rebuked particularly by her grandmother Rachel.

What draws Marcus to the marketplace in Capernaum is the illness of Hannah's Uncle Amaziah. Marcus loves his servant, Amaziah, and wants to find a way to heal him. Of course, Marcus wants to see Hannah, to talk to her, to look into her eyes. Love knocks down walls.

Both Marcus and Hannah sing the love song, "*Could He Be the One?*"

The Roman Garrison Scene

A day later Hannah leaves the marketplace and walks to the Roman garrison to tell Marcus that her Uncle Amaziah is dying. She tells Marcus that she knows a rabbi who might be able to save her uncle. Octavius fumes over Hannah's presence and warns his military leader that Jesus of Nazareth is trouble just as the pretty little Jewish girl is trouble.

Trouble seems everywhere.

Enter soloist Jason Tyson. He sings "*Could He Be the One?*" The song switches from the love question between Hannah and Marcus to the Messiah question among the Jews—a clever double entendre. As the full forty-voice chorus sings "*Call Him Messiah,*" we once again feel the force of electricity crisscrossing the sanctuary.

The Appearance of Jesus

When we first meet Jesus (Bobby Harper), we hear his words, "Blessed are the poor." Immediately we are alerted to the reality that the voice of Jesus is not what the Jews sought. Jesus *blesses* the poor, the meek, the powerless. What is this voice all about?

Meanwhile the chorus sings "*By Faith*" and the song in Capernaum reflects a wonderful Jewish flavor. The power of the recorded orchestration heightens the impact of the choral voices.

The Conflict Between Marcus and Hannah

The conflict between Jewish Hannah and Roman Marcus increases. Hannah rebukes Marcus, fusses at him and all the Romans who have taxed the Jews into poverty. As they stand center stage, their argument echoes the cultural conflict between the Romans and the Jews. How can the walls that

separate these two cultures be knocked down? We wonder. We wait.

Marcus finds himself separated from Hannah when he receives his promotion to the Governor's Court under Pontius Pilate (Robin Brady) in Jerusalem. Marcus faces the choice to stay near Hannah or to accept the command in Jerusalem. He has risked his life for a command in Jerusalem, so he makes his choice. He will serve Pontius Pilate.

Two years pass.

The Growing Popularity of Jesus

We find ourselves in a crowd in Jerusalem and we hear the chorus sing "*Here He Comes.*" Palm leaves and fresh greenery serve as greetings to Jesus who comes to Jerusalem during Passover. His popularity has increased so that the Pharisees are jealous, disturbed, angry. Their hostility rises when Jesus sends away the moneychangers at the temple. The chorus sings "*Den of Thieves*" with a thunderous impact, making this scene of Jesus' anger and the crowd's mania for money sharp. The wrath of Jesus is scathing, and Hannah is terrified as she hides behind a tree. The feverish, frantic gold exchanges at the temple steps are a sacrilege. Now Jesus assumes the authority to rebuke and the Pharisees sing "*Something Must Be Done.*"

The Anger of Caiaphas

Most angry is the Pharisee Caiaphas (Jeff Harrison). Much effort in Caiaphas' outfit is apparent as Jeff Harrison stands in his jeweled white hat, white robe, elegant blue, white-tasseled cloak with multicolored rectangled jewels. Power to persecute Jesus begins with Caiaphas.

The Garden of Gethsemane's scene is poignant with Bobby Harper as Jesus kneeling, his head bowed, his hands gripped in agony. Soloist Lori Harper sings with the chorus "*Thy Will, Not My Will.*" The lighting effects of shadows and close-ups in the Garden enhance the scene. The use of a real flame as Judas betrays Jesus at night is one more example of how the cast chose to make their production magnificent.

Enter Robin Brady as Pontius Pilate. His odd accent, clipped words, and sarcastic tone were stunningly effective in creating a character. His gold-like crown, gold necklaces, and mocking voice created the worldly sense of power.

The Crucifixion scene on the hill of Golgotha was presented offstage with the sounds of nails being hammered into Jesus' hands. The Greeks used the device of reporting a scene offstage, especially one too painful to see. Director Janie Jones Sowers does this also with the Crucifixion scene. The anguish of the Crucifixion is felt, nonetheless, and we hear Jesus' solitary words, "My God! Why hast Thou forsaken me?"

Special efforts of lightning and a storm follow the Crucifixion. The curtain trembles, the trees shake, the thunder rumbles, the lightning flashes furiously.

The wrath of God is epitomized in the wrath of Nature.
Two centurions guard the tomb, only to find themselves unconscious on the third day. When they awake, the tomb is empty.

The Choice

At the end of the production, Marcus steps to center stage to sing "I Choose Jesus." Later the full cast sings the finale—a powerful statement of faith.

Why does Marcus choose Jesus?

Why do the Jews choose Jesus?

They sing the reason for the choice they make. They choose Jesus not for miracles but for loving them, not for the power of Bethlehem but for Calvary, not for a day but for eternity.

The Rev. Scott Sowers came forward and said, "This is our final production of *The Choice*. God has been good to us. Marcus chose to follow Jesus. I hope you too have chosen to follow Jesus. Before you leave tonight, you can choose Jesus. You can choose to follow him not only here and now but for all eternity. Sitting in your pew, you can renew your commitment," he said.

"And," he concluded, "anyone in this cast will be happy to share with you how you can follow Jesus."

Such is the magic of Easter.

The 1995 production of *The Choice* has been scheduled for April 14–16, 1995. The play will begin at 7:30 each evening. The members of Marlboro Church cordially invite everyone to join them for this special holiday drama. Because of seating limitations, a ticket system is being used. (Tickets are free.) For tickets or more information about the play, call (919) 753–2185.



Members of the cast pose for a photo before calling it a night (photo by Pepper Worthington).

for your **FYI** information



WANTED

A used piano at a reasonable price (or donated) for church services at the Washington County Corrections Unit at Creswell, NC. Call Lloyd Jones at 793–3832.

SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Lay speaker available to meet any speaking needs of your church. Contact Willie Coleman, Faith FWB Church, Morehead City, NC, 919–726–7559 after 5 p.m.



Traveling the Gospel Road

The Reverend James A. Evans—A LIFE IN REVIEW

written by C. H. Overman

(compiled by C. H. Overman and J. B. Narron)

It has been said that the training of a child begins with at least the two previous generations; that is, with the grandparents and parents. The Apostle Paul recognized this truth in reference to Timothy: "When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also" (1 Timothy 1:5)

The road of Christian commitment to the call of God was evident in the early life of James Alphonso Evans. Born November 10, 1905, at Lucama, North Carolina, his early life was greatly influenced by those who valued spiritual training. In those days, families often moved from place to place. Thus, in 1912, the Evans family moved to Aberdeen, North Carolina, and then to Pine Bluff, North Carolina. Jim's first remembrance of Sunday school was in a Presbyterian church. The teacher offered a prize to the first one to recite the Ten Commandments, which Jim did the next Sunday. For his achievement, he received, in booklet form, the New Testament and Psalms. This was in 1911.

In 1914, the Evanses moved back to Lucama where they attended the Methodist church. Jim remembers that he and his sister, Patsy, would carry their brother, Alfred, on their shoulders to Sunday school. He remembers receiving a card each Sunday which was important to him because it was something to "take home." (At this early age, Jim became known as a "pack rat.") Early in his life, he remembers that he felt good about the church and Sunday school.

Jim says that his mother, Nettie Moore Evans, was persistent regarding attendance in church and Sunday school. He began to attend Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church in Lucama. The Reverend Cyrus Johnson was the pastor and he asked Jim to conduct prayer meeting, which for a youth was quite an undertaking. He accepted the opportunity.

At the age of 14, while in the ninth grade, Jim had the opportunity to go on a trip to Fayetteville, North Carolina. His ninth grade teacher was interested in his class and worked toward getting the class together. This was his first trip away from home, and it was made in a Model "T" owned by Adrian Hooks. The class attended a football game, which was a first for Jim. The class was "farmed out" for the night—they stayed in different homes.

Jim's profession of faith came at the age on 15. The pastor of Little Rock Church, at that time, was the Reverend R. F. Pittman. The Reverend Aria Waterman was the speaker. For some time, Jim had been interested in reading and studying his Bible, a paper-backed copy he kept in his room.

At the age of 15, he felt the call to the ministry. The first person he shared his call with was an 8th grade teacher who told him, "You will need to go to some school." He later went to the Reverend Bob Self in reference to answering the call to preach. (He was licensed to preach by Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church on December 15, 1923. He was ordained on January 16, 1925.)

Believing that a call to the ministry is a call to prepare, he enrolled in Ayden Seminary from 1923-26. The Reverend R. F. Pittman was the Bible teacher and also the pastor of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. Jim was struck by a magnitude of study, which was the combination of high school and seminary training. A student would move on into the college level after the high school phase. One course of study that meant more than any course over the years was in New Testament Greek that was taught by Kenneth S. Weust. (From 1936-1940, Jim attended Rural Church Institute, Duke University). While enrolled at the seminary, he worked as the night clerk in the Ayden Hotel, sleeping on a cot behind the desk when things had settled down.

Mr. Evans notes that many changes have taken place in our churches since he began his ministry. In those early years, churches did not have Sunday school rooms and most of the churches had services only one Sunday per month (quarter-time). Vacation Bible School was unknown. There was a shortage of pastors. A youth group from Corinth Free Will Baptist Church near Plymouth, North Carolina, Evans recalls, started what was the beginning of the Free Will Baptist League. Parsonages were practically unheard of.

"Uncle Jim's" (as many of us call him) pastoral ministry covers more than six and a half decades, from 1925 until the late 1980's. He has served churches in ten North Carolina counties, beginning with Fremont Free Will Baptist Church (1925-1926). He has also served churches in Florida and Texas. A major standout in his pastoral ministry was the First Free Will Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida, for it was there that he met Miss Ethel Faye Andreu, granddaughter of the chairman of the church board. Miss Andreu and Mr. Evans were married on February 18, 1928. Four daughters were born to them—Ann, Nettie Elizabeth (deceased), Lorraine, and Kay; one son, J. Arthur. (Mrs. Evans passed away in January 1984.)

In addition to his pastoral ministry, Mr. Evans has always been actively involved in the work of the denomination, which is evident in the denominational offices he has held over the years. These include: Moderator of the Western Conference, 1935-40 and again in 1955-57; Chairman of the Western Conference Board of Ordination; Chairman of North Carolina Mission Board; Director of the Free Will Baptist Press Board 1938-41; Superintendent Free Will Baptist Orphanage, 1940-49; President (Co-founder) Church Finance Association, 1940s; Chairman of Cragmont Assembly's first board of Directors; 1940 (proposed the leasing of Cragmont for the start of Mount Allen Junior College, 1954); Public Relations Director (Registrar) Mount Olive College, 1954; Vice-President North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, 1958-59; Vice-President Texas Free Will Baptist Association; President of Free Will Baptist Historical Association; Vice-President, Ayden Seminary—Eureka College Alumni Association; President, Minister's Institute, Davis, North Carolina; member of Treatise Revision Committee, 1948.



A P R I L



SUN		MON		TUE	
1		2		3	
2	Daylight Saving Time Begins	3		4	+ Convention Officers Headquarters 9:30 am
9	Palm Sunday	10	+ Press Material Deadline	11	+ Convention Executive Committee Headquarters 10:00 am
16	Easter	17		18	
23		24		25	
	30				

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PR

G E N D

ious/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
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Vandemere
- * Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
	5	6	1 * Pee Dee Woman's Auxiliary
s Auxiliary	6	7	8 * Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary
* Woman's Auxiliary	13	14 Good Friday	15 * Piedmont Woman's Auxiliary Passover
	20	21	22
	27	28	29

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

In 1972, he was recognized as Minister of the Year. During the same year, the Eastern Conference honored him for 58 years of service to Free Will Baptists, and during a special service, he was honored by the Mount Olive College Board and President. Over the years, within his pastorates and denomination, "Uncle Jim" has received honors and awards befitting his dedication to the Lord's work.

Mr. Evans' love and devotion for his Lord and the Free Will Baptist denomination prompted him to actively promote all phases of ministry; however, his involvement in three of the Free Will Baptist ministries was with their inception. One of these was Cragmont Assembly.

Several years before the purchase of "Craigmont," Free Will Baptist youth groups utilized Camp Leach on the Pamlico River in North Carolina. In the early 1940s, more and more interest was shown for a denominational camp. Through a special committee known as the "Assembly Grounds Committee," the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (known then as the State Association of Churches of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina) authorized the search for a suitable "assembly grounds" site for denominational use of the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. In its session of 1945, the Convention's Assembly Grounds Committee reported that property has been located near Black Mountain, North Carolina, known as Craigmont Sanitorium. Mr. Evans was asked to investigate the property, which he did. He reported that the property could be purchased for \$10,000.00, and that he felt it would "meet the needs for a camp for Free Will Baptist young people and other groups." Uncle Jim served as chairman of Cragmont's first board of directors. A campaign to raise funds for the purchase of Cragmont was devised by Mr. Evans, and with a committee to assist him, the drive was launched. Many Free Will Baptists back in those years remember Mr. Evans' fund-raising efforts for Cragmont. Churches, individuals, and church groups responded with \$100.00 donations, with many being memorials. The December 19, 1945 issue of *The Free Will Baptist*, carried the heading, "Cragmont Campaign Completed." The report given by Mr. Evans was described as a "glowing report." His interest and support for Cragmont has never waned, continuing to this day.

Mr. Evans served as Superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Orphanage from May 15, 1940 until July 1, 1949, which was a very difficult time. The country, for the most part, had just recovered from the depression years. The base number of children cared for was seventy-five. Since the Orphanage consisted of farm operations, some of the food was grown, harvested, and canned by the children and orphanage staff. Much of the food and clothing was donated by the Free Will Baptists. Mr. Evans remembers receiving food ranging from "canned goods from the mountains and potatoes from Columbia." While superintendent, the old barracks were moved from Camp Butner and became, after renovation, known as "Albemarle Cottage." Land was purchased near Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church from which timber was used for building.

On the day a new superintendent was installed, Mr. Evans was installed as Field Director-Treasurer for the Home. In this capacity, he was assigned the responsibility of "... raising funds for the operation of the Orphanage, studying and investigating applications for the admission of children into the Home, and assisting in the education and employment of the children upon their leaving the orphanage." (*The Free Will Baptist*, July 27, 1949)

From this same issue, the following tribute was written by W. Burkette Raper concerning Mr. Evans:

"It is altogether fitting that we pause to pay tribute to the Reverend Evans for the strenuous work he has rendered during the nine years he served as superintendent of this Home. Perhaps the highest compliment that can be paid to any man is to recognize him as having a vital part in the ongoing of an institution which must never cease to be and which finds its basis of existence in the Christian faith."

Not only did Mr. Evans play a major role in the development of the Children's Home, he also was instrumental in the establishment of the Church Finance Association. In fact, he was one of its co-founders. The year was 1940 and as its first board chairman, he was "to formulate this cooperation" of financial aid to Free Will Baptist churches. The need for such aid arose out of a financial crisis in one of the leading Free Will Baptist churches at that time. Mr. Evans recalls:

"The Convention officers were called together in a meeting at Goldsboro. Jack Tyson was president of the Convention. Lloyd Vernon was vice-president. Brother Vernon called me and asked me to talk to P. T. Grady about setting up such an institution. I was advised that it could be done. All of the legalities were properly set forth and the loan institution became a reality. Chester Pelt was given the responsibility of selling certificates of memberships in the corporation."

Mr. Evans has maintained a vital interest in the Church Finance Association since that day in 1940 when he, along with other denominational leaders, envisioned a financial institution that would be able to provide financial aid for its own.

Another denominational ministry that Mr. Evans has been directly involved in from its beginnings is Mount Olive College. Having attended Ayden Seminary, and then to experience its demise, he never lost the hope and vision that one day a new college would arise out of the dust and ashes of the past; and for this he had prayed.

Mr. Evans recalls that before the founding of the Free Will Baptist College under the National Association of Free Will Baptists, denominational leaders in North Carolina were considering the establishment of a school at Smithfield. The Reverend J. C. Griffin was to be its teacher. These plans, however, never materialized. A few years later Mount Olive College was born beginning as Mount Allen Junior College located at Cragmont Assembly near Black Mountain, North Carolina.

Many Free Will Baptists felt that the College should be located in eastern North Carolina. Thus, in the 1953 session of the State Convention, the decision was made to purchase property in Mount Olive for the College's relocation. The property consisted of an old abandoned school building. The purchase price was \$25,000. A board of directors was elected and the Reverend David W. Hansley was elected as chairman. Other officers were the Reverends Earl H. Glenn, vice-chairman; R. N. Hinnant, secretary; and M. L. Johnson, treasurer. Plans were made to open the college in 1954. In order to do so, funds were needed. A full-time director was needed and Mr. Evans was hired to fill this office.

One of the most important steps facing the newly-established College was the securing of a president. Board members joined together in prayer regarding this most important matter, after which the name of the Reverend W. Burkette Raper was submitted to the board by Mr. Evans. This decision was not without previous thought and planning.

Mr. Evans recalls the following incident:

"While attending the Minister's Conference at Cragmont in 1954, about 2:00 A. M. one morning, J. O. Fort (editor of The Free Will Baptist Press) was talking with Burkette Raper. Burkette said, 'Joe, why not take the job?' Joe reversed the question and asked Burkette, 'Why don't you take the job?' Shortly after Brother David Hansley was appointed to talk to Burkette. The rest is history."

At the time Mr. Evans became the Public Relations Director, he was living in Wilson. His most important task was fund raising. Needing advice, both he and Burkette met with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to discuss ways of promoting the College, and especially the raising of funds.

Mr. Evans reflects on his decision to work with the College:

"There were mixed feelings because I had worked on a plan to develop Bible classes through Atlantic Christian College while I was serving as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson. The President of the College had endorsed the plan. Upon learning of the plans of the Board of Christian Education to recommend the establishment of a denominational college, I withdrew my proposal to the Atlantic Christian College officials. It should be noted that I had suggested to the officials earlier on that we had our own man who would do the teaching, for it was at about this time that I shared with my mother that the one I had in mind was Burkette.

"I supported the efforts to establish our own school wholeheartedly, and especially the decision to locate in Mount Olive. When the property at Mount Olive was secured, I was approached by R.H. Jackson, S. A. Smith, and M. L. Johnson, about assuming the responsibility of Director of Public Relations, with an office in Mount Olive, a salary, and mileage for official travel. After much praying, I requested a meeting with the Board of Christian Education. At this meeting I presented a plan for such a position, which I had not accepted at that time. My concern was the need to recruit students and raise money as soon as possible. I then accepted the position. An office was set up, a phone was installed, and a part-time secretary was hired. Mr. first action was to develop an itinerary for a group of girls consisting of a musical trio, along with a director. Soon they were on the field, visiting in churches. Both students and money began to come in. I registered the first student and that gave me a feeling of joy and humility.

"At this point, I felt I had accepted the biggest challenge of my life; but I believed that in order for our denomination to survive Mount Olive College has to be successful. The Lord opened the door to many unusual blessings during that summer and fall. I had no doubt that God was leading my life at this point. The response from both ministers and churches was most gratifying."

In citing the highlights of his ministry, Mr. Evans mentions the following (not in order, but as he recalls them):

His part in the establishment of Church Finance Association;
The acquiring of Cragmont Assembly property;

Serving as Superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Orphanage and beginning the integration of the students into the public schools;

The building of Memorial Chapel at the Orphanage;
Serving as pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church, Bryan, Texas



Pictured are: Jim Evans and his daughter, Ann. This picture was taken at the 1992 Convention at Mount Olive College.

His part in entertaining the National Association while serving at the Orphanage which was during World War II;

Enrolling Burkette Raper at Duke University, and especially his saying to them, "I'm sending you a Free Will Baptist, and I want him to return a Free Will Baptist;"

The establishment of Mount Olive College which was an answer to his prayers, the registering of the first student there and seeing the College develop into a four-year school;

Sharing in the influencing of the lives of Odelle J. Thompson, and Earl Tippitt;

The bestowing of an honorary Doctorate of Divinity Degree last year (1994) by Mount Olive College. Of this event Mr. Evans states: "The upcoming event on May 14 is the most rewarding of any recognition I have ever received and it is beyond my fondest dream."

Regarding the future for Free Will Baptists, Mr. Evans envisions a time when we develop into what we should have been twenty-five years ago. He sees, however, a shortage in leadership as a crisis for Free Will Baptists.

Mr. Evans is presently living with his daughter, Ann Haddock. He would be happy to hear from his fellow ministers and friends. You may write to him at the following address:

Dr. James A. Evans
c/o Mrs. Robert Haddock
2464 Dunbarton Road
Chesapeake, VA 23325
Phone: (804) 424-1246

A Personal Tribute

by C. H. Overman

It was not until I entered the ministry that my association with "Uncle Jim" took on a deep and lasting friendship. Previously he had served as pastor of Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County, North Carolina (1932-40). Being much younger then, actually about 10 years old when "Uncle Jim" ended his ministry at Union Grove, I can't recall very much about his ministry there; however, my parents gained a deep respect and love for him. My daddy, who is ninety-four at the time of this writing, speaks with much respect and love for Mr. Evans. Other friends and family possess the same feelings.

To me, Uncle Jim was my "Paul" and I was his "Timothy." As the Apostle stood ready to help and to encourage the younger and inexperienced Timothy, so was Uncle Jim ready to help and encourage me.

I entered the Free Will Baptist Bible College in January of 1950. Mr. Evans was serving as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson. My first wife, Janice (now deceased), was enrolled in the Wilson School of Nursing. Thus it was that Janice and I found our way to many of the services at First Church. I soon found my way into the Evans home where I was always welcomed as one of them. I remember well the Scripture readings and prayers at their table and the friendship that developed.

My association with Uncle Jim deepened as he took a special interest in me as a young minister, sometimes assigning me to tasks around the church, such as operating the mimeograph machine. Whatever the assigned task, he always made me feel that it was important.

During this time he also opened the door for me to participate in other services and activities. One such occasion was at Free Union Church, Pinetown, North Carolina. Brother Evans was the revival speaker for the week and the church was also having Vacation Bible School during the day. Through his influence, I was invited to help out in Vacation Bible School and also in the revival services. I will always remember these days. During most of the week, I stayed in the community in the home of Mr. Levi Keech. There were other times when I was granted the opportunity to serve, to learn and thus gain experience, because of Brother Evans' interest in me.

The highlight of such experiences came in the summer of 1951. Home from college for the summer months, my daddy was planning on my help on the farm. Brother Evans, however, had other ideas. Weekly camps at Cragmont Assembly were being developed and Cragmont had also purchased a bus. A driver was needed and also an instructor to assist during the camp weeks. Thus, it was that Brother Evans came to our house to talk the matter over. Daddy needed me on the farm; Brother Evans needed me for Cragmont and convincingly pointed out that this was a great opportunity for me and that it would allow me to meet many of our ministers, youth, and church leaders. Daddy gave me up for the summer and I embarked on what proved to be a very hectic summer. For the most of the summer, I drove the Cragmont bus and taught classes pertaining to Sunday school and League work. Brother Evans was right, for throughout the years, I have met

many of our people who remember the bus rides from down east to the mountains, or some other event pertaining to the summer of '51 at Cragmont.

My first week as Cragmont bus driver was for the Minister's Conference, June 4-8, 1951. The Reverend M. L. Johnson was in charge of the bus route and also the list of ministers and where they would meet the bus. When we reached Smithfield that morning, Brother Johnson read from his list: "Brother Evans will meet the bus in Smithfield. He'll come in the back way and be a little late." Over the years, Mr. Evans established the reputation of "going the back roads" and running behind schedule. I've always remembered that incident with humor.

The next summer proved to be even more eventful. This was the summer that Janice and I were married and Brother Evans performed the ceremony at Pleasant Grove Church.

I was ordained in 1952. The examination was given at First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson. Mr. Evans was serving on the Ordaining Council of the Western Conference.

I had completed two and one-half years of college and was undecided about returning. It was through his connections that I was introduced to the Pulpit Committee representing three Tyrrell County churches—Soundside, Malachi's Chapel, and Gum Neck. Incidentally, Mr. Evans arranged for me to preach "a trial sermon" in a morning revival service at Malachi's Chapel. I well remember that eight preachers were present, including Mr. Evans. The three churches cooperatively worked together in securing a pastor. Thus it was that I was extended the call as pastor of these churches, a call that I accepted.

Over the years, I have maintained a close relationship with "Uncle Jim." He has been a part of my life and ministry. I am thankful that he helped to open the door of opportunity for me and has always played a vital part in my life. I am convinced that every young minister needs an "Uncle Jim," just as young Timothy needed an experienced Apostle Paul.



A Daughter's Assessment

Mrs. Ann Haddock, Mr. Evans' eldest daughter, describes her father's style of accomplishing his purposes and aims as well as anyone possibly could:

"Daddy has been the kind of man who doesn't handle things 'full steam ahead.' He does things quietly, very diplomatically. You don't even know you've had a full force of what he believes until after you've had it and you realize later on what has happened."

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

Camp Vandemere, NC

June 3, 1995

Isaiah 55:4: ". . . I have given him for a leader to the people"
 Theme: "The Call to Leadership"

Friday, June 2, 6 p.m.	Fellowship and Sharing Time
Saturday, June 3	
9:00– 9:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
9:30–10:15 a.m.	"The Call to Leadership", The Rev. Mark Hogan
10:15–10:45 a.m.	Recreation and Fellowship
10:45–11:30 a.m.	"The Characteristics of Leadership," Mr. (Brother) Jim Skipper
11:30– 1:00 p.m.	Lunch and Recreation
1:00– 1:45 p.m.	"Consequences of Leadership," the Rev. Chuck Owens
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 (Layman's League President, Elmer Harrell)

.....
 Recommended Reading: (Paperback) *Love Not the World* by Watchman Nee
 (This book may be ordered through the Free Will Baptist Press)

Registration For Layman's League SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT, June 3, 1995

Each person planning to attend the retreat is requested to complete and return this form by May 27, 1995:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

CHURCH: _____ CONFERENCE: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BLANKS:

_____ I plan to attend the retreat at Camp Vandemere on June 3, 1995.

_____ I plan to stay at Camp Vandemere Friday night, June 2, 1995.

Please return this form to:
 ELMER E. HARRELL
 502 S.E. 3rd Street
 Snow Hill, NC 28580
 Telephone: 919-747-2894

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

June 3, 1995

All sessions on Saturday will be at Camp Vandemere.

If you plan to stay overnight at Camp Vandemere, bring your sleeping bag and whatever else you will need to stay overnight.

Bring your Bible with you. You will need it on Saturday.

The Rev. Mark Hogan is pastor of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church.

Mr. Jim Skipper is a lay leader and member of Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church.

The Rev. Chuck Owens is pastor of Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE PROMOTIONAL COMMITTEE



Promotional Committee



Elmer Harrell State Layman's League President greets the American Legion Post 94 and The VFW Post 9841 to Harrell's Chapel Church for morning service.

1994 MOC BRIDGE BUILDER'S CELEBRATION

THE CHALLENGE OF WATERSHEDS

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

Let us imagine for a moment that all of us are lost. We are hot, hungry, humiliated. We are in a wilderness near Mount Sinai, and Moses is our leader. We argue, pout, rebel. For a moment let us close our eyes and imagine entering into the mood of the weariness of the wilderness and the desire for the Promised Land.

Now, let us wake up!

We have been with the Israelites and Moses in the wilderness. The movement from the wilderness to the Promised Land was a watershed for the Israelites.

What is a watershed? It is a crucial dividing point or line. Ecologically, a watershed is a region or area bounded peripherally by a body of water parting and later draining to a body of water. The hope to enter the Promised Land was a watershed point for the Israelites. Yahweh had promised Abraham the land "from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the River of Euphrates" (Genesis 15:18). Now that's a magnificent slice of land. The Promised Land to Abraham and his descendants was renewed in the time of Moses. God spoke to Moses and declared, "And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage: I am the LORD" (Exodus 6:8). Unfortunately Moses did not make it into the Promised Land. The Promised Land was not fully realized until David completed the conquest in the tenth century B.C. (2 Samuel 8).



Rev. Bruce and Mary Dudley of Deep Run (Home Missions) and Grady Tucker of New Bern, pastor of White Hill FWB, Aurora.



Rose Lupton and Worth Overman of Pikeville.

The Wilderness Experience As A Watershed

Two realities stand out as watersheds before the Israelites were able to enter the Promised Land. First, they had to experience the wilderness. What does this mean? The Hebrew *Midbar* is the word for "wilderness" or "desert." The word originally meant a "place of herding." The wilderness is a place where we experience hunger, thirst, deprivation, trials, weariness. In Psalm 107 we read: "They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way: they found no city to dwell in. Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them" (Psalm 107:4-5).

The wilderness experience involves an unsettled anxiety, a sense of the darkness of the universe (Jeremiah 2:6). The wilderness is haunted by beasts and demons (Deuteronomy 8:15). Above all, the wilderness experience involves a tension between God and human beings.

To enter the Promised Land, we must experience the wilderness. The wilderness experience in our lives is a watershed. Each of us can document the wilderness experience in our personal lives. We can perceive this condition of hunger, thirst, unsettledness, anxiety in our nation as we try to wrestle with the maze of problems from health care to violence to atheism. Our globe is experiencing the wilderness watershed from Rwanda to Bosnia to Haiti.

Individually, collectively as a college, a nation, and a globe we want to reach the Promised Land. What are we to do to get out of the wilderness?

A second watershed emerges in this powerful story—the watershed of the covenant. The Hebrew word for covenant is *berith* or "bond," "agreement." Entrance into the Promised Land demands a bond or agreement between humanity and Yahweh. The Promised Land will belong to the Israelites, i.e. to all humanity, once loyalty to Yahweh is established. The land becomes a gift in return for faith and obedience. Imagine a covenant to us, to our college, to our nation, and to the globe as a watershed moment. If we human beings honored the faith and obedience to divine power, to transcendent BEING that lifts us from the wilderness experience into the Promised Land, peace might be possible.

What does all this have to do with Mount Olive College and Bridge Builders in particular? How does the Promised Land with its wilderness experience and covenant apply to us and to our college tonight? What watersheds do we share?

The Watershed of Education

Mount Olive College is one of 32 independent colleges in North Carolina. In the end of this century, the mission of education here must be clarified to survive. Why should our Free Will Baptist college continue to stretch, grow, and evolve into the 21st century? What does education mean to this

college, to us? What is the vision of education that is a covenant watershed for us as we move through the wilderness experience of survival?

Education at Mount Olive College is facing a watershed. Our college has evolved from the great traditions of Western civilization. We have embraced the historical evolution of education from early Greece to John Dewey. In 387 B.C., Plato founded The Academy, the first university of the Western world. The Academy was named after the garden near Athens where Plato taught. The garden was named after the hero Academes. Plato's Academy lasted for nine centuries until it was closed by Justinian in A.D. 529.

Without Plato's Academy, our concept of education would be different. Likewise, the Middle Ages (A.D. 500 to 1500) gave us the seven branches of learning—a curriculum format, if you will. Two divisions were established: the trivium (logic, grammar, rhetoric), and the quadrivium (arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, music). Today our college demonstrates ties to this historical division through our own curriculum requirements for a broad base general knowledge.

By the time the Renaissance appeared in Italy (A.D. 1300 to 1700), the term liberal arts emerged as a watershed concept. In Renaissance thinking just as in today's educational ideology, liberal arts are those studies which liberate the mind, develop the whole person, free the thought process. The stress is upon the whole person rather than the more restricted view of learning a vocation or skill only.

The 18th century brought another watershed to education by introducing scientific inquiry. The 19th as well as 20th century has split educational focus from vocational training only to liberal arts only.

We face a watershed in educational vision. What is unique about Mount Olive College so that you give to this college as you have done over the past year?

Uniqueness of Mount Olive College

If I may be so bold, I would claim that Mount Olive College has five unique characteristics. Some of you may favor or not favor these unique traits, but each of these five traits is linked to the Christian, liberal arts as well as career orientation of the College. Mount Olive College not only offers an education but also a future. Become whole today in order to serve tomorrow.



Velma and Vera Morris of Vanceboro, Juniper Chapel FWB.

In the Middle of Nowhere

The first unique trait of our College is that it is located in the middle of nowhere. The reality is that practically no one west of Raleigh has ever heard of the town of Mount Olive. The remoteness of our College in eastern North Carolina introduces a new watershed. We must become known yet remain in the middle of nowhere.

Think about it, to be located in a small town can offer distinct advantages, students are not bombarded with distractions. Time to read, to walk, to talk is available. Remoteness provides serenity as in Plato's Academy. The College is hidden like a secret patent a genius is not ready to release.

The watershed reality is that patent must be released. We need to become known in order to grow. We need to get the word out that Mount Olive College is a fully accredited four-year liberal arts institution located on a 110-acre campus.

Outreach Programs

In 1990, the College established Project EAST as an outreach. We are beginning to draw attention to our facilities by bringing onto our campus projects that concern the economics, achievement, success and technology of the EAST.

Our outreach extends to the Seymour Johnson Air Force Base program, successful today more than ever in the history of the College because Dr. Opey Jeanes has developed a caring, conscientious procedure of curriculum guidance for the 300 plus students enrolled in Base courses. I have taught students there from security guards to weather reporters to F15 pilots in Desert Storm.

Our outreach has taken us to New Bern with pilot programs under the energetic leadership of Frank Cizerle. He reports today that Mount Olive College has 80 students in this program.

With the Mount Olive College Press launched in 1990 as an outgrowth of Project EAST, our outreach has extended beyond the boundaries of our small campus in a small town. To date, the MOC Press has published 28 publications and established cosponsorships with North Carolina groups (Neuse Regional Library, North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, *Sandhills Review*, *North Carolina Literary Review*, *Pembroke Magazine*, North Carolina Writers' Network) as well as national groups (College English Association, Phi Kappa Phi).

We are at the watershed of the future, however, and our outreach efforts are crucial for our evolution into the 21st century.

NOTE: This is Part One of this article. Due to the length of this piece and amount of space available, the second part will run in May's issue. Thank you.

ALBEMARLE UNION MEETING TO BE HELD

The Albemarle Union Meeting will be held on April 29, 1995, at Malachi's Chapel, Columbia, NC. The schedule is as follows:

- OPENING SESSION**
 Pianist, Mrs. Lucille Jones
 10:00 Devotions, Rev. Paul Grubbs
 10:10 Welcome, Rev. Royce Reynolds
 Response, Rev. Everett Harper
 10:15 The Moderator's Address, Rev. Charlie Overton
 10:20 Roll Call of Ministers
 Recognition of Visiting Ministers
 Roll Call of Churches
 10:30 Offering
 Announcements
 Prayer Time

- 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 & 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
 Five-Minute Testimonies
 11:25 Message, Rev. William Mobley
 Benediction
 Adjournment and Lunch

MOC ALUMNUS



Mount Olive College alumnus, Dean Walter Worthington, shifted into the

Baylor University undergraduate program and was voted by the Baylor faculty as the Most Outstanding Student from the College of Arts and Sciences in the December 1994 graduating class at the university, located in Texas. "Mount Olive College prepared me for further undergraduate work at Baylor. I particularly remember Dr. Hines as a great teacher," he said. Worthington is now a graduate student in the Masters of Theological Studies (MTS) program at Harvard University. He is the son of Dr. Pepper Worthington, professor of English at Mount Olive College.

PAUL LEE BENEFIT DINNER HELD AT FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH WARSAW, NC

Submitted by the Rev. A. B. Bryan



Paul Lee, a retired private school teacher, and his wife Catherine have lived in Duplin County for more than thirty years. For several years Paul and Catherine have been active members of the Warsaw church, along with several members of their family. One daughter and two grandchildren received their college educations from Mount Olive College.

Paul has served as a deacon for the past two years; however, his health has failed during the past year. Paul's church and past life is very unique. Paul

moved from Atlanta, GA to Gastonia, NC in 1950 where he met his wife-to-be. He became a Free Will Baptist minister and attended the Piedmont Bible Institute (FWB). He served as an instructor there for a while after graduation.

In the middle fifties Paul and his family moved to Eastern North Carolina for pastoral work. He served White Oak Hill, Rock Springs, and Barnes Hill churches, in the Western Conference. Then Paul accepted the St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church of Elizabeth City, NC. While at the Elizabeth City church the Rev. Lee became interested in funeral-director work along with burial insurance. In the early sixties the Rev. Lee moved to Morehead City in connection with his work. In 1965 as an inactive Free Will Baptist minister the Rev. Lee moved to Duplin County and worked funeral insurance and cemetery work until retirement. Paul and Catherine have five children, eleven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. The Warsaw First Church is well pleased with the leadership of Paul and Catherine in the church work. Since he has become unable to attend the church services, he has been missed very much. He has been very active in the work.

Paul, at present, is practically inactive and confined to the home. He is being treated by Duke Medical Center for surgery and post complications therewith. The church requests your prayers and support during this difficult time.

The Lee's address:

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lee
 P.O. Box 176
 Kenansville, NC 28349
 Phone: 910-296-1534

NOTE: The benefit dinner was held on January 21, and was well supported.

CHILDREN'S HOME DONATION

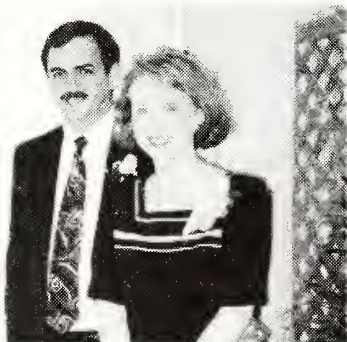


Greg Perry and the Rev. Frank Grubbs

Greg Perry of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex says "thank you" with a hand shake to the Rev. Frank Grubbs, pastor of the Selma Original Free Will Baptist Church. The Rev. Grubbs had helped Mr. Perry load a van with many boxes of bath towels, washcloths, bed linens, clothing and toys that were donated to the Children's Home by J R Tobacco Company in Selma.

Our sincere thanks to J R's for remembering the Children's Home with these wonderful gifts.

REV. AND MRS. FRANK GRUBBS HONORED DURING APPRECIATION DINNER



On August 27, 1994, members of the Selma Original Free Will Baptist

Church honored the Rev. and Mrs. Frank Grubbs with an appreciation dinner for their six years of dedicated service.

It was also the 20th anniversary of the Rev. Grubbs' Ordination.

The fellowship hall of the church was decorated with the colors representing the Christian Flag.

Approximately 80 guests shared the dinner consisting of grilled breast of chicken, baked potato, string beans, slaw, and dinner rolls. The members of the church had prepared the meal.

Don Lassiter, Chairman of the Deacon board presided at the after dinner festivities and gave members and guests an opportunity to express their thoughts and appreciation.

Special guests were Dr. and Mrs. Vernon Wall of Wilson, Attorney and Mrs. Bob Spence, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Hooks of Smithfield and Lola Dixon and Teresa Garner of Selma.

Communications were read from the Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Waters and family of Durham; Selma's Mayor Joe Moore; Selma Police Department; The Day by Day Treatment Center and Selma Area Ministries. The Rev. Frank Grubbs is Chaplain for the Police Department and is active in different capacities with the different organizations.

Linda Lassiter sang a special song to honor the Grubbs.

A gift of appreciation from the church was presented by Kathleen Hinnant. Some comments used in her presentation to honor the couple were: "Elizabeth Browning once said to Charles Kingsley—"What is the secret of your life? Tell me, that I may make mine beautiful too," and he replied 'I had a friend.' And Henry Ward Beecher said, 'Do not keep the alabaster boxes of your love and tenderness sealed up until your friends are dead—fill their

lives with sweetness. Speak approving cheering words while their ears can hear them and while their hearts can be thrilled by them.' A quote from Woodrow Wilson—"Friendship is the only cement that will hold the world together." Also 'A real friend is one who helps us to think our noblest thoughts, helps put forth our best efforts and be our best selves."

As Mrs. Hinnant presented the gift, she told the Rev. Frank Grubbs, "It is because of your friendship, leadership, love and compassion that we want you to have this gift as a reminder of our appreciation for you serving as our pastor. Your life exemplifies the verse from Proverbs 25:11. "A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."

The evening was concluded by the Rev. Frank Grubbs and Karen cutting the Appreciation and Ordination cake and serving it to those sharing the occasion with them.

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

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 cents per member per year.

Send these dues to your District Treasurer: she will keep .20 cents and send .20 cents 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

ATTENTION NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1995 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 11, 1995 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, NC. The church is located at 2426 South Charles Street. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 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. We hope, however, to see you there.

CAPE FEAR WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held on April 12, at Hopewell FWB Church. The theme will be "The Power of the Holy Spirit." The Scripture verse is: *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth* (Acts 1:8). The schedule is as follows:

MORNING SESSION
9:30 Registration
10:00 Hymn 131, "Breathe On Me"
Devotion, Kathy Markuson, Genesis Mission
Welcome, Helen Floyd, Host Church
Response, Bessie Woodall, Casey's Chapel

Greetings, Claudette Lane, President

BUSINESS SESSION
Chorus Time
Report of Denominational Ministries, Rev. C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator

MORNING WORSHIP
11:15 Hymn 1, "Holy, Holy, Holy"
Offering
Special Music, Host Church
Convention Message, Rev. Harold Jones, Director of Foreign Missions
12:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:00 Hymn 138, "Break Thou the Bread of Life"
Memorial Service, Kaye Ward, Johnston Union Church
1:20 Miscellaneous Business
Installation of Officers, Carolyn Jernigan, Shady Grove Church
Hymn 349, "Have Thine Own Way Lord"
2:00 Adjournment

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS PRESENTED



Eunice Boykin, Woman's Auxiliary President (left), Nona Pope, Life Membership Award Recipient (center), Rebecca Latham, Life Membership Award Recipient (right).

Woman's Day at Wilson First Free Will Baptist Church was held on Sunday, February 26, with Woman's Auxiliary Life Membership Awards being presented to Nona Pope and Rebecca Latham.

During this worship service Auxiliary members greeted, ushered, provided special music and various other devotionals. Deborah King directed the congregation and an all woman's choir in lively music including the call to worship, entitled "The Woman's Auxiliary Happiness Song" written to the tune of "Happiness Is The Lord" and the Choral special, "Testimony Medley," a medley of songs of dedication and service. A trio sang, "To Be Used of God."

Hilda Sasser gave the message, "For Such A Time As This," about women who have been used of God in special ways from the Old Testament until the present time.

Twenty-one women who have previously received Life Membership certificates were recognized.

Mrs. Eunice Boykin, president, listed the accomplishments of this year's recipients. Not only are both active Woman's Auxiliary members but they work in other areas of the church as well.

Nona Pope has been on the Banquet and Nominating Committees of the church for several years. She presently serves as secretary of the Missions Committee. She is completing her ninth consecutive year as treasurer of the auxiliary. Nona is a member of the Faith Circle and coordinates the monthly cottage prayer meetings. She is also secretary of the Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

Becky Latham is a member of the Chancel Choir and the Ladies Trio. She is president of her Sunday School class and is a past president of the Woman's Auxiliary, and has served as Circle chairman as well as other offices. She is currently serving as treasurer of the Love Circle. She is completing her fourth consecutive year as recording secretary of the Auxiliary.



Reflections From the Fair

by Frank Grubbs, *Sunday School Board Vice-Chairman*

One of the most inspiring messages that the Sunday School Board received at the Sunday School Fair at Everett Chapel on March 4 was from the *number* of people who attended. By your presence, you let us know that you appreciate the work the Sunday School Board is doing and that you appreciate the fact that the Board is trying to minister to your needs. The Sunday School Fair was a direct result of the evaluation forms that were turned in at the last Sunday School Institute. Last year we had approximately 150 in attendance at the Institute. This year we had over 300 in attendance at the Fair! I suspect that this number is a record for any gathering for a Sunday School event for the Original Free Will Baptist denomination! (I know it is in recent history.) This number should continue to grow because the Board is committed to offering quality opportunities for your Sunday School.

By your presence at the Fair you also let the Board know that you realize that your Sunday School plays an important role in the overall success of your church's ministry. Statistics support this realization. 70 to 80% of those who make a profession of faith and are baptized into the church come through the Sunday School. The primary outreach arm of the local church is the Christian education opportunities offered to the community she is called to serve. It is good that we realize that any goal of Christian education should be centered around the fact that people need to know, love and follow Jesus Christ. The Sunday School Board is committed to offering programs and services to assist you in accomplishing these goals.

The good people at Everett Chapel are to be commended for a job well done in hosting the Sunday School Fair. Like the Board, they too were not sure how many people would be in attendance, but as you kept coming in, they adjusted as if it were second nature to them. The ease at which they handled the seating, the class room arrangements, and the meal was very impressive. Everett Chapel, THANK YOU for your wonderful hospitality!

Some of you did not have the opportunity to fill out and turn in an evaluation form. Perhaps you would like to make suggestions for future workshops or denominational Sunday School events. The Sunday School Board would welcome your comments and suggestions. You should send any comments or suggestions in regard to the Sunday School Fair to THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD, Post Office Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513-0039. Some, I am told, did not receive a certificate of participation at the Fair. Let us know if you did not receive a certificate, because we do not want you to miss these valuable points toward certification (see *The Teacher and Superintendent Certification Program* brochure). Also please let us know if we can be of any assistance in your local Sunday School.

OFWB Youth Convention 1995

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mount Olive College

Friday, May 19

- 5:00 p.m. • Registration, College Hall
- Lodging, Meals, Banquet, Christian Writing, Arts & Crafts
- 7:30 p.m. • Talent Search, College Hall
- 10:00 p.m. • Devotions:
YFA — Murphy Center, AFC — College Hall, and all others in dorms
- 11:30 p.m. • Good Night! Everyone in their rooms.

Saturday, May 20

- 7:30 – 8:30 • Breakfast, Murphy Regional Center
- 8:30 a.m. • Registration for new arrivals, College Hall
- 9:00 a.m. • General Assembly, College Hall (everyone)
- Convention will dismiss for the following:
 - Bible Bowl finals, Chapel
 - Lesson Presentation, Henderson Building Room 113
 - Public Speaking, Henderson Building Room 209
 - Arts & Crafts, College Hall Room 202
 - Cherubs meet in Hart Lounge
 - YFA's with Joey Williams, Fine Arts Center
 - AFC's with Mike Ledbetter, College Hall
- 11:30 a.m. • League Convention meeting, Hennessee Room
- 11:30 – 12:00 • Choir Practice, College Hall
- 11:30 – 1:00 • Lunch, Murphy Regional Center
- 1:30 p.m. • Workshops for Cherubs, AFC's, YFA's, and Leaders. Locations to be announced!
- League meeting, Chapel
- 3:00 p.m. • Recreation Time: Softball, Tennis, Volleyball
- 6:00 p.m. • Banquet and Awards Program (no shorts)
- Performance by last years Talent winners
- 8:00 p.m. • Saturday Night Alive!
 - District Tug-of-War, District Beach Volleyball, Dunking Booth, etc.
 - Devotions: Chapel
- 11:00 p.m. • Good Night! Everyone in their rooms.

Sunday, May 21

- 8:00 – 9:00 • Breakfast, Murphy Center
- 10:00 a.m. • Morning Worship, Rodgers Chapel
- 11:30 a.m. • Cleaning and check-out

READ ALL ABOUT IT !

- Complete the registration form to the right and return no later than May 1st.*
- Rooms will be assigned in the order that registration forms are received.
- Guests will need to bring their own pillow, blankets, linens, bath cloths, towels, soap, casual and dress clothes, beach towel, athletic equipment, money for meals and snacks, Bible, notebook, and pen or pencil.
- Meals must be purchased Friday from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. at costs of:
 - Breakfast — \$2 to \$3
 - Lunch — \$4
 - Banquet — \$5.
- A Sunday Buffet will be provided for \$5.95 per person.
- The State Project is a sound system for the chapel of Cragmont Assembly. Please give as much as you can, however, \$150 per church will help in meeting our goal.**
- All 1994 First Place Talent winners are to perform Saturday night at the Awards Banquet.
- First Place Public Speaking winners will deliver their presentation during the Sunday Worship Service.
- The Mount Olive College Bookstore will be open on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Youth Convention T-shirts will be available at \$8, \$10, \$12 and \$14.

1995 Theme: *Prepare With Prayer*



Please Return This Portion By May 1, 1995

Church _____

District _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Home Phone (____) _____

Work Phone (____) _____

**Registration Fee is \$25 per church
(after May 1st, \$35)***

Total number of youth & adults lodging overnight:

<i>Friday</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>
Male Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Female Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
<i>Saturday</i>		
Male Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Female Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____

Total Lodging _____

*Registration Fee (per church) _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

*** All Registration Forms and Fees should be sent by May 1st to:**

Judy Harris
Route 3, Box 36
Ayden, NC 28513
919-746-4320

**** All State Project money should be sent to:**

Martha Parsons
2317 Bayside Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28306-8803
910-486-4636



Promoter

It was several months ago that we announced our plans for the publishing of *The Promoter*. These plans were finally realized on March 1 when the first issue was mailed to our ministers and church clerks. A copy was included in the 1995 *Yearbook* mailings. An additional 200 copies were mailed to those ministers who did not receive the *Yearbook*.

Many other issues of *The Promoter* will follow. At this time, however, we do not know how often, how they will be distributed, or how the cost will be covered. These are matters that we will decide on within the next few weeks.

On page 2 of the first issue, the purpose is stated: "The purpose of this publication is to advance, promote, and increase the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists." Future issues will focus on this purpose. As its format and contents are developed, we will solicit your help and input. In fact, we hope to hear from many of you pertaining to the first issue. Send your comments, suggestions, etc., to: *The Promoter*, P. O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.

1995 YEARBOOK

As previously mentioned, the 1995 *Yearbook* was mailed on March 1, 1995, which is the earliest date for its mailing during the years that I have been serving this office. Copies were mailed to the ministers who registered at last year's Convention. Two copies were mailed to each of the church clerks. It is suggested that one of the copies remain in the hands of the clerk and the other be placed in the church library or office. Any clerk or minister who has not received a copy who was due one, please let us know. Copies can be ordered from the Headquarters for \$10.00 per copy.

A BREAKDOWN OF SUPPORT

About three years ago I reported on the breakdown of giving to the ministry of this office, which revealed that some churches have not been giving any more than they did twenty-five years ago. Thus, it perhaps

will be beneficial to give the breakdown of giving again, which is now about one and one-half years into the operation of this office full time. The giving does not include registration at the 1994 Convention; it only includes contributions made this fiscal year, beginning in July of 1994.

Churches giving between \$0-\$20: 21
Churches giving between \$21-\$50: 54
Churches giving between \$51-\$100: 25
Churches giving between \$101-\$500: 62
Churches giving between \$501-\$1000: 14
Churches giving over \$1000: 1

Total Churches supporting: 177

During the next few months, many churches will prepare their church budgets. All ministries should be included, and increased giving is important.

If a church has not increased its support for the work of the Convention, or has not meet the challenge of \$5.00 per person based on the average Sunday morning worship attendance, please do so. Your support is essential.

NOTES AND QUOTES

Out of the Past

This Notes and Quotes was written by the Reverend J. C. Griffin and was printed in the May 22, 1940 issue of The Free Will Baptist.

Why I AM A FREE Will Baptist

I was not brought up in the Free Will Baptist church. I am a Free Will Baptist of my own free will and accord. I waited a good while after I accepted Christ as my Savior before I made a real choice as to church relationship. When I did become a member of the Free Will Baptist church I was satisfied that it was the nearest to the New Testament church, or any organization, in its doctrine. I am still satisfied with that decision. The doctrine of the church is of God. A minister said to me some years ago, on learning of our doctrine, "If you people had put your money into the mission field as you might have done, you would have converted the world to Jesus Christ before now," or words to this effect. Until I find a doctrine that is nearer to Christ in teaching

than the Free Will Baptist Church, you can count on me remaining a Free Will Baptist. I believe what I preach, and I preach what I believe. When I say "conversion" I mean "salvation thru the shed-blood of Jesus Christ." When I say "sanctification" I mean a life that is perfectly yielded to Christ, thus being "set apart, wholly unto the service of God." When I say "baptism" I mean baptism, not sprinkling nor pouring. When I say the Lord's Supper I mean it the original way as instituted by Jesus Christ and referred to by all four of the Gospel writers and by Paul the apostle. The whole work complete—bread, wine, and the washing of feet. "If ye know these things happy are ye if you do them" (John 13:17). If John had just meant "feet washing" he could not have said "things." He would have said "this thing." Well, I am a Free Will Baptist and am proud of it, from the standpoint of doctrine. I am ashamed of the work being done by many who claim to be Free Will Baptist—the work that keeps the denomination from reaching the heights that it might reach. So doctrinally I am satisfied, denominationally I am ashamed of our progress.



Provides a Brief Look at each of the Ministries of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists
Acquaints the Interested Person with a Basic Background of each Ministry's History and Purpose

\$1.00 per copy
\$9.00 per dozen

May be ordered from the Convention Headquarters,

P. O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513;
or may be purchased from the
Free Will Baptist Press' bookstores.

Editor's Notes...

HE IS RISEN!



In His Service,

Tracy

(Doesn't this say what this season is all about?)

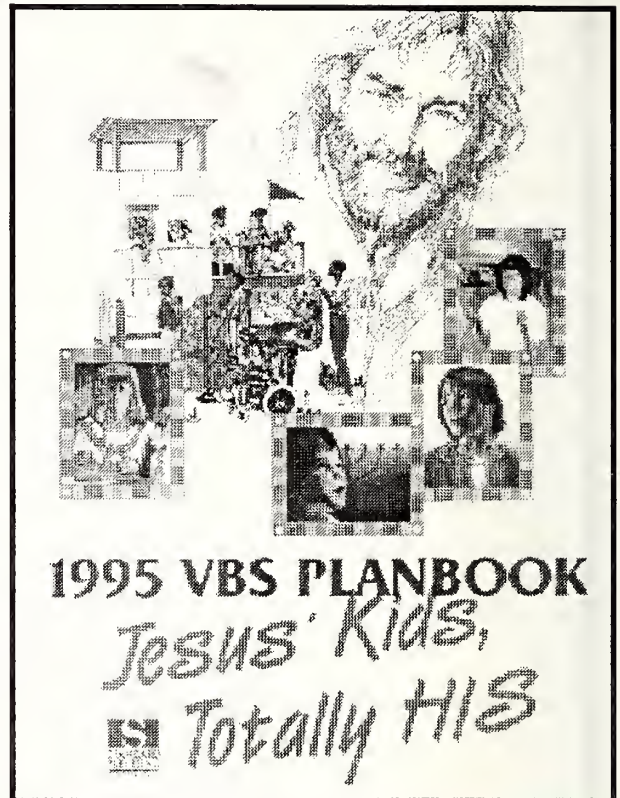
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Ayden Bible & Bookstore
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by Child Evangelism Fellowship

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The Free Will Baptist

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Editor, *The Free Will Baptist*
PO Box 159 • Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

Dorothy L. ...
Dorothy L. ...
Dorothy L. ... 27768-0872



The Free Will Baptist

May 1995

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May 1995 • Volume 112 • Number 5

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NEXT MONTH

Cragmont
1945
Assembly
Month
1995
JUBILEE



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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Denominational Ministries



**Thank you, The Free Will Baptist Denomination,
for 75 years of support to this ministry.
May we continue caring for God's children
through your financial support,
but most importantly your prayers.**

*The Board of Directors
Invite You and Your Guests to
Our Luncheon Celebration
for
Founder's Day
May 27, 1995, 12:00 Noon
Free Will Baptist Children's Home*

NAME _____ PHONE _____

There will be _____ in my party for lunch.

PLEASE RETURN BY MAY 22, 1995

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is pleased to announce our
FOUNDER'S DAY
celebration on May 27, 1995.



In 1913, The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists decided to build a home for children as the first state wide project. During the second annual convention in 1914 a resolution was discussed and adopted. This was the beginning of what is today the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex, North Carolina. As our ancestors saw the need to provide a home for needy children the home strives to continue its service by providing "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls."

You can become part of this effort as you join us to celebrate 75 years in child care ministry and help us reach our goals.

GOALS

\$20,000 IN GIFTS

Every church group is encouraged to give \$75.00 to commemorate our anniversary. This includes Sunday Schools, Ladies Auxiliaries, Layman's Leagues, Youth Groups, and Individuals. Churches are asked to take a special offering during the month of May and bring it with you. During the program each group will present their celebration offerings at the designated time. Gifts will be used for cottage renovation projects.

Everyone is invited to come and bring your friends as we celebrate 75 years as your child care ministry. This will be one of the biggest events in the history of Free Will Baptists.

Please participate and help us reach our goal of 750 guests on our campus.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Lunch at Noon in the Center of Campus

Program will follow in the Whitley Center with Keynote Speaker, Rev. Ray Wells.

Celebration Offerings presented at a special time during the program.

Tours of all buildings on the campus.

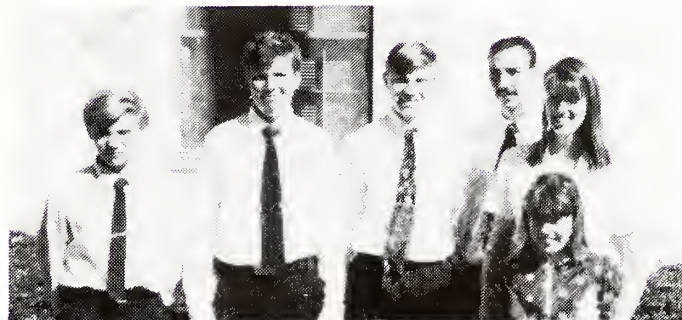


Happenings . . .

. . . with the **Home Missions and Evangelism** sphere.

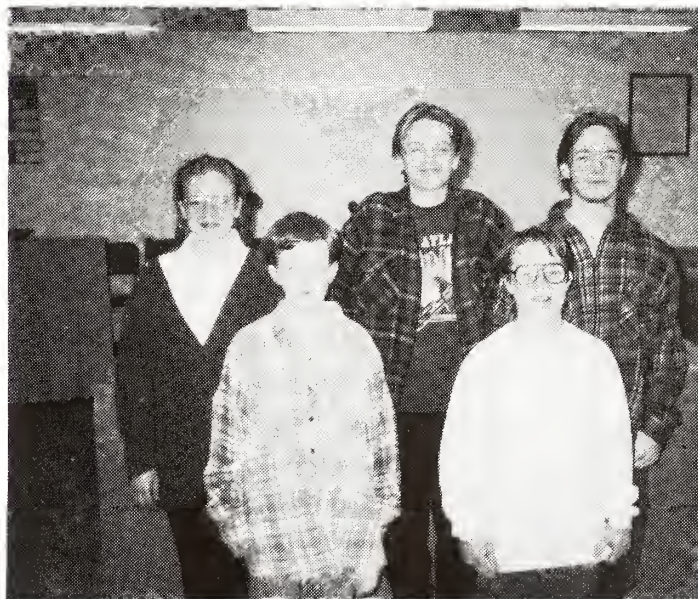
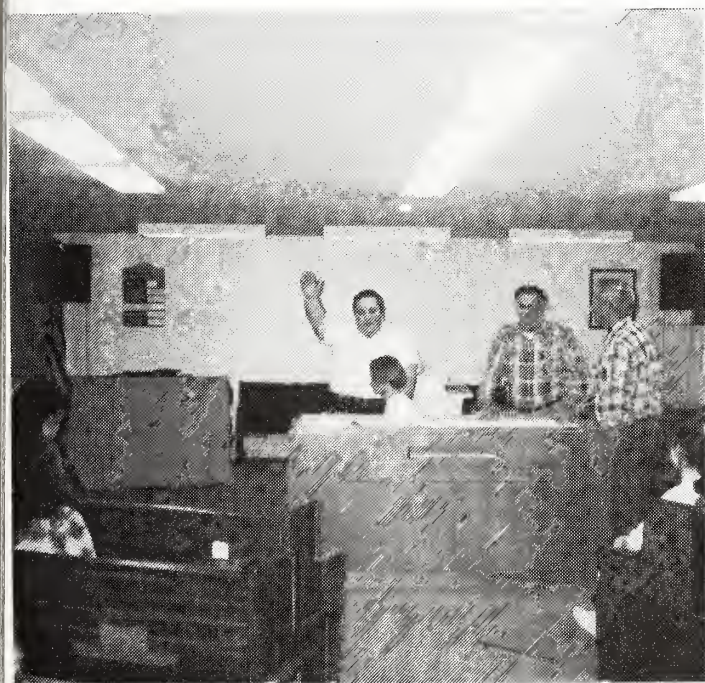
Our Profile states that Home Missions and Evangelism is people. People finding and serving God, people finding and helping each other. Charity Mission in Whiteville saw six young people, from eight to nineteen years old, find Jesus Christ on March 5, 1995, and five of them were baptized on March 12. On March 20, the young people competed in the Pee Dee District Youth Rally and the Charity Quartet will represent the District at the State Youth Convention. Several of them will also compete on an individual level at the State Youth Convention. They are pictured at right.

Genesis Mission is also involved with people activities. Recently, they had five young people come to the Lord. Below, Director/Pastor, Al Markuson, is preparing to baptize one



Charity OFWB youth who competed in District: (L to R): Daniel Ward, Woodwork (AFC), Stevie Long, Painting (YFA), Thomas Ward, Other (YFA), Henry Berry, Woodwork (YFA), Janie Long, Christian Writing (YFA), and Mary Long, Woodwork (Cherubs).

young person and all five are pictured immediately following the baptismal service. This was the first time Genesis had been able to baptize on their own premises. The Hillsberry Church in Clinton loaned them the portable baptistry.

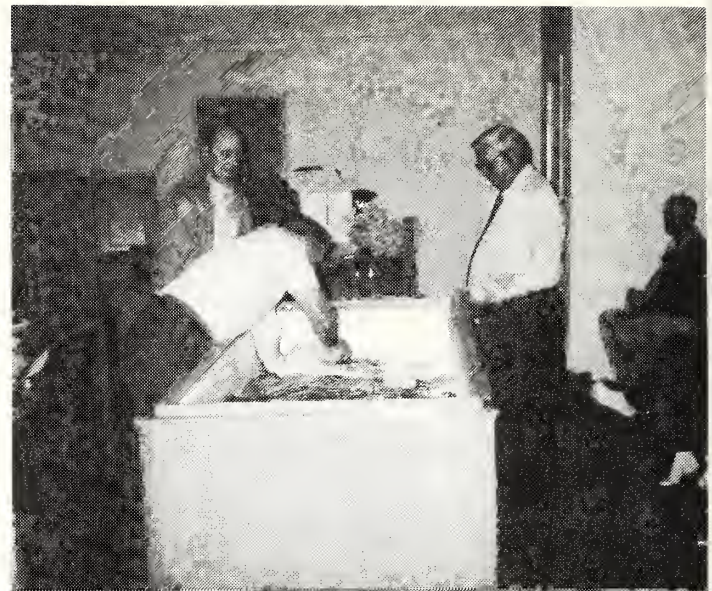


Antioch Original Free Will Baptist Church in Wayne County also borrowed the portable baptistry from Hillsberry Church. The Rev. James Owens, member of the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, is the pastor of Antioch Church. They are involved in a growth program through our Evangelism Department and our "Touching Lives Corps." They recently baptized five persons as shown in the photographs on the next page.

It is particularly rewarding to see some results of our mission efforts. The renewed growth at Charity and every increase is a blessing from the Lord, but it also requires our diligent effort. Director/Pastor Kim Barnes, at Charity has a vision and a purpose to share with his people. It is the perseverance of Director/Pastor Al Markuson that guides the Genesis family to labor continually for our Lord. The hope and commitment of Pastor James Owens is the motivating factor for Antioch. Each of these brethren should serve as an inspiration to all of us. It is extremely important to continue the work of our Lord in the task and challenge of Home Missions and Evangelism, but we must all recognize that three or five or even a dozen can meet the responsibilities of Expanding the Kingdom. It will require the devotion, prayers, and financial support of every Free Will Baptist.



These three photographs show Brother Owens as he prepares to baptize a lady, as he immerses another lady and as he brings a man out of the water. This account, in photos, shows much of the process of baptism and may help some people to better understand the process and something of the symbolism. The pastor and congregation of Antioch and the Director/Pastor and congregation of Genesis express their appreciation to Hillsberry Church for the use of the portable baptistry. It would be very nice if, perhaps, another unit could be made available for the use of Original Free Will Baptist Churches.



Pictured at left are several H'mong students at Mount Olive College, Mrs. Sylvia Hansley, Mr. John Taylor and the Rev. Frank Harrison. The bicycles have been provided for the use of the students to travel around town and campus. They were provided through Home Missions and Evangelism by several Original Free Will Baptist Churches and individuals.

NEWS FROM FOREIGN MISSIONS

CHURCH DEDICATION AND BAPTISMAL SERVICE

SAN JOSE FWB CHURCH, DUMARAN, PALAWAN

by the Rev. Dario Basingil



Last September 4, 1994, I dedicated the building at San Jose Free Will Baptist Church, Dumarán, Palawan. We praise God for the commitment of Brother Ludevico Antanozo and the unity of the members of this new church.

Brother Atanozo is a volunteer worker under the Missions Department of the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines. Our hearts overflowed with joy as we saw the wonderful way the Lord is using this dedicated servant. Please pray that the Lord will continue to bless him and the members also.

During our visit, I was privileged to have a Baptismal Service. Those being baptized were Jerry D. Lizardo, Cecil B. dela Torre, Sergio Dangan and Edilberto F. Dajan. These are the fruits of the volunteer worker.

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

THERE'S NOTHING GOD CANNOT DO

by Pastor Rey Manlangit

It is our prayer, wish, and dream that the church inside the school campus of Palawan Bible College be transferred somewhere outside the campus. The reason for this is so the brethren could freely visit the church and the pastor even during school days, to seek advice or discuss with the pastor things

concerning the church improvement. This was answered when the college plan to open a Kindergarten. It was agreed that the old church building be turned into a Kindergarten. Praise the Lord construction on the new church building was started last year. But since there was not enough money the work stopped for almost a year.

“My God is rich,” is what we often heard and say as well. As a pastor of the church, at first I was bothered. One song goes “My God is so big, so strong and so mighty, there's nothing that He cannot do.” I was one time singing this song while meditating upon His goodness and watching the unfinished church. It seemed to be hopeless! But then I started to gather my church officials: Sister Elsie Carpeso, president; Brother Celestino Peralta, vice-president; Sister Rossana Briones, secretary; Sister Vevien Adia, treasurer; Sister Helen Ferriol, auditor; Sister Ping Rodriguez, Pastor Fidel Presto and Pastor Elmer Garcellano, members. In our meeting, we agreed to have an officer's meeting every Friday evening from 8–10. We need to ask the help of God because we are incapable to finish the church financially speaking. After almost three months of prayer God answered our prayer. Our joy could never be measured, our tongue could not utter, but a simple “Praise the Lord!” Is there anything too hard for the Lord? Is there anything God cannot do? Think about it! You might be one of His instruments! So . . . never regret.



"THE EMPTINESS WITHIN— NEEDS PEACE AND SALVATION"

Submitted by Dr. E. M. Lall



India has severe problems. The neglect of basic public health in a country that launches rockets is scandalous; the rottenness of the political apparatus is a tragedy; the persistence of child labour is an outrage. India has the world's sixth largest economy and, given political will, it possesses the resources to act. But the nature of politics sends a message to the country that low standards of propriety and levels of compassion are acceptable.

In India, there is a case of attempted suicide every minute while every seven minutes, someone succeeds in taking his/her life. And, for every recorded suicide, there are three that go unreported.

Across the world, more than 2,000 people kill themselves every day. The latest statistics reveal that the suicide rate has almost doubled over the last 10 years. While 40,245 persons killed themselves in 1981, 78,450 suicides took place in 1991. Estimates suggest that by the turn of the century it could overshoot the 100,000 mark. Studies have mentioned that three times as many women as men try to end their lives though fewer women succeed. Men tend to kill themselves with guns, by hanging or by jumping from a height. Women by poison or burning. Psychiatrists say that 60 percent of the people who commit suicide are below 30 years of age and above 40 percent below 18.

What prompts an individual to end his life? Experts reveal that the commonest causes for suicide are family disputes, unrequited love, failure in examination, unemployment, ill-treatment by in-laws, marital discord, and financial insecurity. By the time you are through with this article, someone would have ended his life in the country.

In India twenty-five percent of the 12 million female children born every year do not live to see their 15th birthday, according to the National Foundation of India. Approximately one quarter of India's population of 900 million comprised girls up to the age of 19 years but despite being biologically stronger than boys, almost 300,000 newborn girls die annually mainly due to gender discrimination.

Though only 15 males are born for every 100 females, the high rate of female deaths in early childhood result in 105 boys per 100 girls by the age of four. The sex ratio further

declines to 957 girls per 1000 boys and the figure keeps declining through the childhood. Out of 8,000 abortions performed in a hospital in Bombay, India, in 1984 only one was a male fetus.

We, on the globe personally witnessed the desperate situation in the country of USSR where worship in the churches was banned for years. I had predicted the wrath of God upon our country of pagans. In our Hindu State under the umbrella of Hindu Governments the Hindu community is being killed for creating vote banks on casteism violating our Sacred Constitution in this world's largest democracy.

We constantly and sincerely pray for the welfare of our nation and covet your fervent prayers too.

The need of the time at this hour of despair, dismay and sheer agony, the message of peace and salvation is the only alternative which can alone bring reconciliation and harmony. All our preachers are realistic to this cause which transpires vehemently good result. However, our church as a whole desperately lack highly educated English speaking preachers, which refrains our ministry among the 33 percent of the total population in Northern India. If we maneuver this hazardous task and impart short term Bible training with special emphasis in English speaking to a couple of young graduates of our churches the impetuous will be great and will make our ministry more effective in this section of people and is likely to yield unexpected tremendous success.

Let us come out into the open and face the world with its doubts, its anxieties, its troubles and sufferings, looking to God's grace and His mercy to find new spiritual and material resources within ourselves for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.

NEWS FROM WILLEM AND LYDIA

Willem was able to enter Eastern Europe for a period of six weeks and continue his ministry. He, however, had to be extremely cautious. The country is in a very tense situation at this time. The work is progressing in the midst of this wave of persecution. One Gypsy girl was reported by a fellow student for reading her Bible during school lunch break and was interrogated by the teacher and school psychologists for over three hours.

Willem made some good contacts regarding their visas. He believes they will be granted a visa in September. In the meantime, Lydia will enter on a "tourist visa" around the first of May. Willem cannot reenter for ninety days. He will remain in Holland and reenter the end of June to begin the visa process. Please pray for them during this critical period. Pray for the safety of Lydia and for a visa in September.

Cragmont Camp Schedule For 1995

Morning Star

April 21–23
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96–B
Grifton, NC 28530

June Women's Auxiliary Conference

June 5–10
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96–B
Grifton, NC 28530

Minister's Conference

June 12–15
Philip Boykin—registrar
Rt. 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

Christian Cadet Conference

June 19–24
Gary Bailey—registrar
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)

June 26–July 1
Scott & Janie Sowers—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

Ambassadors For Christ (AFC)

July 3–8
Frankie Baggett—registrar
Rt. 2, Box 214
Nashville, NC 27856

General Youth Conference II

July 10–15
Chris Singleton—registrar
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

General Youth Conference I

July 17–22
P.O. Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523
Bryant Hines—registrar

Young People's Bible Conference

July 24–29
Donald Mason—registrar
P.O. Box 672
Newport, NC 28570

August Women's Auxiliary Conference

July 31–August 5
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

Cragmont Camping Program

Cragmont has a summer program that provides young people a unique opportunity. By attending a week of camp, they can experience recreation in a Christian atmosphere and hear the Word of our Lord proclaimed in many unique ways. A typical day at Cragmont includes classes in Christian living in the morning, recreational activities in the afternoon, and worship services in the evening. When attending a week of camp at Cragmont, they are away from their normal everyday activities allowing uninterrupted opportunities for God to use. The ministry of Cragmont to the young people of the denomination is more than just evangelism—it is one of teaching them how to live the Christian life. Please contact the director listed with the week for information concerning that camp week. We want your youth. Please encourage and support them in a Cragmont camp adventure this summer.

Cragmont Assembly, Inc, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone (704) 669–7677 or (704) 669–5224 Fax (704) 669–1463

General Youth Conference

July 17-22, 1995

It's time to begin making summer plans for Cragmont, and we would like to tell you about **General Youth Conference**.

Who we are: A week of summer camp for youth ages eight to eighteen.

What we do: Enjoy a week of Christian camping filled with instruction, recreation, music, fellowship, friendship, and just plain fun. We will also be taking a trip to "Carowinds" in 1995.

How we do it: 1. With continuity and experience. Some of the ministers on our staff have worked together for fourteen years. 2. With dedicated support staff. Many of our staff counselors have been with us seven years or more. They are committed and caring. 3. With organization. Each day is structured to include a balance of instruction, music, recreation, and worship.

And NEW this year: GYC is open to college students age 18-21! Yes, a great experience can be had in the mountains with GYC in 1995!

If you desire more information or would like to get on the mailing list when registration forms go out in April, please fill out the form below and return to Bryant Hines at PO Box 266, Cove City, NC 28523—or call 919-633-2683.

See you at camp!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Church Name: _____ City: _____

1995 Young People's Bible Conference Cragmont

July 24-29

\$160 (plus spending money)

\$50 Registration Fee

Ages 8-19

DONALD MASON
PO BOX 672
NEWPORT, NC 28570
919-726-3142

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AGE _____ CHURCH _____

() GIRL () BOY

APPLICATION MUST BE RETURNED BY JULY 1, 1995

**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 12-15, 1995**. This is our annual Ministers' 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 \$35. (This is a \$10.00 increase for the new scholarship.) This money will cover your membership in the Association and your picture for the week.

Make all checks payable to **NORTH CAROLINA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION** and mail to:
Phillip Boykin
55 Lee's Chapel Church Rd.
Dunn, NC 28334

Please return this form by **June 1, 1995**.

**PRE-REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
JUNE 12-15, 1995**

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:

_____ CHECK HERE IF YOU PLAN TO EAT SUPPER AT CRAGMONT ON MONDAY JUNE 12TH. The staff at Cragmont needs this information to help them not to waste food on Monday.

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 \$30 membership dues to: PHILLIP BOYKIN, 55 LEE'S CHAPEL CHURCH RD., DUNN, NC 28334.



CAMP



Summer

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE YFA WEEK

Cragmont Assembly
June 26 — July 1
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 be traveling to Cragmont Assembly to attend the 1995 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 June 26 — July 1.

This year's theme focuses on friendship. Our program will feature concentrated Bible study and an emphasis on discipleship, recreation, missions/evangelism, and much more. The week will be a friendship/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 a \$75 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 \$175. 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.

**1995
Youth Frontier Conference
(AFC)
July 3-8
New Beginnings
Ages 8-12**

AFC camp is a time of learning about God, yourself and others. There will be plenty of fun, excitement, music, recreation and new and old friends. Come and experience the new beginnings of AFC camp this year.

Cost: \$160 (plus spending money)

Send application and \$60 registration fee to:

Frankie Baggett
Route 2, Box 214
Nashville, NC 27856

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Church: _____

Please make checks payable to: AFC Conference

for your **FYI** *information*



SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Lay speaker available to meet any speaking needs of your church. Contact Willie Coleman, Faith FWB Church, Morehead City, NC, 919-726-7559 after 5 p.m.



NEWS FROM MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

DR. RICHARD G. ZYNE APPOINTED VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MOUNT OLIVE—Dr. Richard G. Zyne of Richmond, VA, has been appointed Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Mount Olive College, President J. William Byrd announced this week. Zyne's appointment began on Monday, April 3.

Zyne most recently served as director of the annual fund, alumni affairs and foundation relations and assistant to the vice president for development at Virginia Union University.

As Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Zyne's work will include coordinating the offices of development, alumni affairs, support services, public information, sponsored programs and the Trojan Club, in cooperation with the Director of Athletics. The Development Office coordinates and carries out private gift support activities for the college.

In announcing the appointment, Byrd noted Zyne's 18 years of experience in administration, planning, financial development, board management and public relations. Prior to his work at Virginia Union University beginning in 1991, Zyne held development positions with Volunteers of America/Virginia, Inc., Richmond Children's Museum and Spectran, Inc., a nonprofit organization serving the elderly and handicapped.

Holding an undergraduate degree in architecture from the Pratt Institute and graduate degrees in planning and development and ministry from Pratt and Virginia Union University, Zyne has participated in Total Quality Management training and programming and taken courses in the National Association of Church Business Administration and the National Planned Giving Institute.

Zyne has served since 1993 as an instructor in management for ministry,

church administration, leadership development and stewardship at the School of Theology of Virginia Union.

MINOT ELIJAH AND LOU BELL WEST GODWIN ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED BY LINDA MURPHY AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MOUNT OLIVE—President J. William Byrd, Dr. W. Burkette Raper and Linda Godwin Murphy of Rose Hill announced Sunday the establishment of the Minot Elijah and Lou Bell West Godwin Scholarship Endowment at Mount Olive College. The endowment memorializes the parents of Mrs. Murphy.

The announcement was made at a reception in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center before more than 150 family members and friends of Mrs. Murphy and the late Rev. and Mrs. Godwin.

Minot Elijah Godwin and Lou Bell West met at Eureka College in Ayden in 1926 and were married in 1930, the same year Godwin was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister. The couple raised four children and served churches throughout eastern North Carolina until 1976. In addition to pastoring churches, the Godwins' service included work with the Free Will Baptist Orphanage in Middlesex.

Describing his friendship with Minot Godwin, Raper said, "I saw in Minot Godwin the dignity of human labor, but I also saw in him reverence for God and compassion for humanity. Through the years, I have remembered Minot Godwin as a gentleman, a Christian minister, and a friend."

Lou Bell Godwin played piano, taught Sunday School classes and organized Ladies Auxiliaries, Raper noted.

The endowment provides for a scholarship of up to \$4,000 to be awarded to one new student per year, beginning with the 1994-95 academic year. By

the 1997-98 academic year and beyond that year, Raper said, there will be four Godwin Scholars enrolled.

In addition, a Presidential Scholarship of up to \$1,000 will be added to the Godwin Scholarship Award. The combined award will provide up to \$5,000 a year, or a potential \$20,000 over a four-year period.

The purpose and eligibility requirements of the scholarship were announced during the reception. The scholarship is intended to provide educational opportunities for worthy and qualified students who offer demonstrable evidence of a commitment to academic excellence; to provide enriched and expanded learning experiences and to relate these experiences to citizenship development, career preparations, and service to the college, the church and to humanity; and to memorialize the lives of the Godwins.

In awarding the scholarship, preference will be given to high school graduates of Hobbton and Midway High Schools in Sampson County, North Carolina. Recipients must demonstrate evidence of good character, a commitment to attaining an education, of being hard-working, self-reliant, self-motivated, diligent and having academic promise.

The endowment was formally established in December 1993 and the first scholarship recipient, Yolanda Hargrove of Newton Grove, was enrolled in 1994. Miss Hargrove and her mother, Alice Hargrove, were also recognized at the reception.

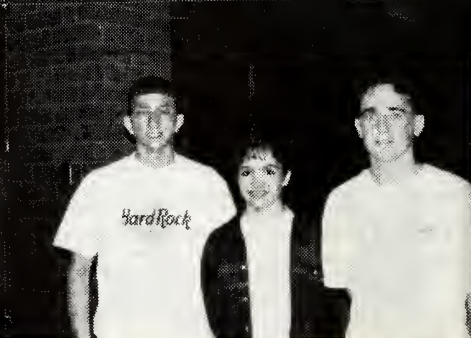
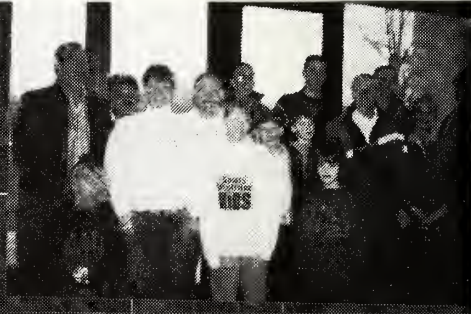
Mount Olive College is a private, four-year liberal arts institution dedicated to the total development of its students in an environment nurtured by Christian values. Sponsored by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, it now serves more than 1,000 students on its main campus, at the Seymour Johnson Air Force Base Center and the New Bern Center.

MEETINGS WITH DR. BYRD, PRESIDENT OF MOC

Meeting With Ministers and Lay People in February



Meeting at Church Basketball Night at Mount Olive College



Saint Mary's FWB Church
New Bern, NC
Invites You To Their First Annual



May 15, 16, 17 . . . 7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 15

Values In The Christian Family

Dr. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director

FWB Children's Home

Tuesday, May 16

Struggles In The Christian Life

Rev. Gary Bailey, Pastor

Stoney Creek FWB Church

Wednesday, May 17

Stewardship In The Church

Rev. Frank Harrison, Chaplain

Mount Olive College

For more information: contact: Rev. Craig Simmons at (919) 637-3485

OFWB Youth Convention 1995

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Mount Olive College

Friday, May 19

- 5:00 p.m. • Registration, College Hall
- Lodging, Meals, Banquet, Christian Writing, Arts & Crafts
- 7:30 p.m. • Talent Search, College Hall
- 10:00 p.m. • Devotions:
YFA — Murphy Center, AFC — College Hall, and all others in dorms
- 11:30 p.m. • Good Night! Everyone in their rooms.

Saturday, May 20

- 7:30 – 8:30 • Breakfast, Murphy Regional Center
- 8:30 a.m. • Registration for new arrivals, College Hall
- 9:00 a.m. • General Assembly, College Hall (everyone)
- Convention will dismiss for the following:
 - Bible Bowl finals, Chapel
 - Lesson Presentation, Henderson Building Room 113
 - Public Speaking, Henderson Building Room 209
 - Arts & Crafts, College Hall Room 202
 - Cherubs meet in Hart Lounge
 - YFA's with Joey Williams, Fine Arts Center
 - AFC's with Mike Ledbetter, College Hall
- 11:30 a.m. • League Convention meeting, Hennessee Room
- 11:30 – 12:00 • Choir Practice, College Hall
- 11:30 – 1:00 • Lunch, Murphy Regional Center
- 1:30 p.m. • Workshops for Cherubs, AFC's, YFA's, and Leaders. Locations to be announced!
- League meeting, Chapel
- 3:00 p.m. • Recreation Time: Softball, Tennis, Volleyball
- 6:00 p.m. • Banquet and Awards Program (no shorts)
- Performance by last years Talent winners
- 8:00 p.m. • Saturday Night Alive!
 - District Tug-of-War, District Beach Volleyball, Dunking Booth, etc.
 - Devotions: Chapel
- 11:00 p.m. • Good Night! Everyone in their rooms.

Sunday, May 21

- 8:00 – 9:00 • Breakfast, Murphy Center
- 10:00 a.m. • Morning Worship, Rodgers Chapel
- 11:30 a.m. • Cleaning and check-out

READ ALL ABOUT IT !

- Complete the registration form to the right and return no later than May 1st.*
- Rooms will be assigned in the order that registration forms are received.
- Guests will need to bring their own pillow, blankets, linens, bath cloths, towels, soap, casual and dress clothes, beach towel, athletic equipment, money for meals and snacks, Bible, notebook, and pen or pencil.
- Meals must be purchased Friday from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. at costs of:
 - Breakfast — \$2 to \$3
 - Lunch — \$4
 - Banquet — \$5.
- A Sunday Buffet will be provided for \$5.95 per person.
- The State Project is a sound system for the chapel of Cragmont Assembly. Please give as much as you can, however, \$150 per church will help in meeting our goal.**
- All 1994 First Place Talent winners are to perform Saturday night at the Awards Banquet.
- First Place Public Speaking winners will deliver their presentation during the Sunday Worship Service.
- The Mount Olive College Bookstore will be open on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Youth Convention T-shirts will be available at \$8, \$10, \$12 and \$14.

1995 Theme: *Prepare With Prayer*



Please Return This Portion By May 1, 1995

Church _____
District _____

Contact Person _____
Address _____

Home Phone (____) _____
Work Phone (____) _____

**Registration Fee is \$25 per church
(after May 1st, \$35)***

Total number of youth & adults lodging overnight:

<i>Friday</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>
Male Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Female Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
<i>Saturday</i>		
Male Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Males (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Female Leaders	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (12 & under)	_____ x \$7 =	_____
Females (13 & up)	_____ x \$7 =	_____

Total Lodging _____
*Registration Fee (per church) _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

*** All Registration Forms and Fees should be sent by May 1st to:**
 Judy Harris
 Route 3, Box 36
 Ayden, NC 28513
 919-746-4320

**** All State Project money should be sent to:**
 Martha Parsons
 2317 Bayside Drive
 Fayetteville, NC 28306-8803
 910-486-4636

Original Free Will Baptist Cookbook

The FWB Press plans to publish a cookbook containing recipes submitted by members of Original FWB Churches. The publishing date will be announced as soon as a sufficient number of recipes has been received by the press. You may submit as many recipes as you wish.

Listed below are the guidelines we request you to follow in order to prevent mistakes.

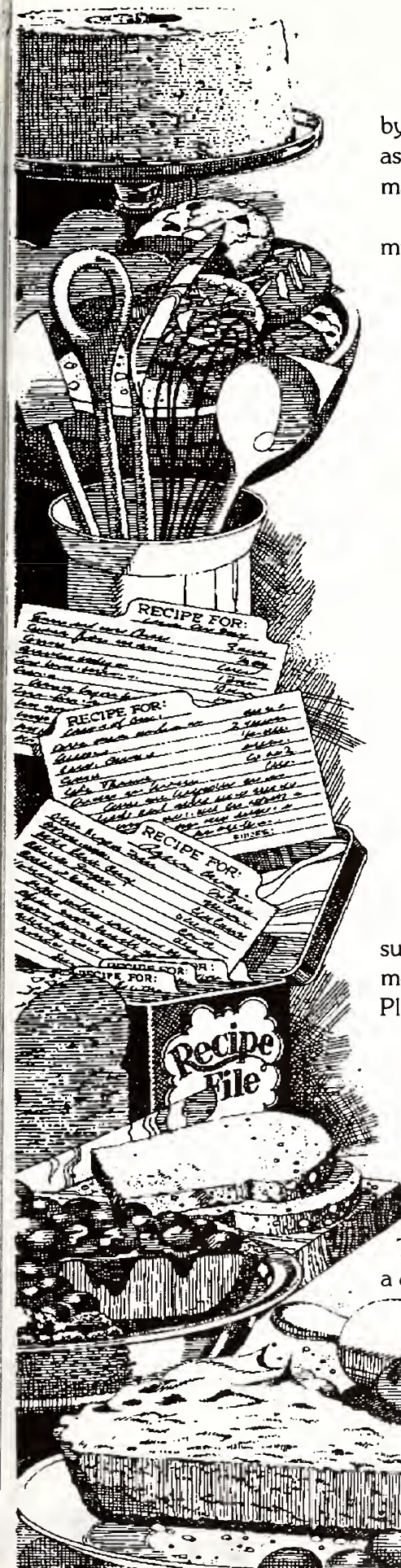
- (1) Classify your recipe in one of the following categories:
 - (a) Soups
 - (b) Salads
 - (c) Vegetables
 - (d) Casseroles
 - (e) Meat, Poultry, & Seafood
 - (f) Breads & Rolls
 - (g) Desserts
- (2) Please **do not** use abbreviations such as tsp. and Tbsp. Spell out all words in the recipe.
- (3) Please use a degree setting such as 325° for 20 minutes, rather than medium heat for approximately 1/2 hour.
- (4) Title your recipe, for example, Hamburger Bean Soup
- (5) Do not use recipes from other cookbooks.
- (6) Include your name, church, and phone number with as many recipes as you like. Your phone number **will not** be printed in the cookbook. It is only for us to be able to reach you if we have any questions about your recipes.

When space permits we will print a recipe randomly selected from those submitted. It will not be a regular feature, so don't expect a recipe every month.

Please send recipes to:

Free Will Baptist Recipes
P.O. Box 159
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Please remember that by submitting a recipe or recipes you are giving the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. the right to print your recipe in either a cookbook or the *Baptist* magazine. Recipes cannot be returned. The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. reserves the right not to publish a cookbook if not enough recipes are submitted.





May



SUN	MON	TUE	
6	1 ★ Western Conference Ministers' Meeting 9:30 a.m. C.B.I.	2	3
7	8	9	10 + Pr
14 Mother's Day	15	16 ■ Retirement Homes Board Meeting 7:00 p.m., Headquarters	17
21 Youth Convention of Original Free Will Baptist May 19-21 Ends 12 Noon Today	22	23	24
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31

LEGEND

us/following month

at month

- Children's Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- ✚ FWB Convention News
- ✚ FWB Press Deadline
- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- ✿ Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Retirement Homes
- ✿ Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
	4	5 ◆ State Layman's League Rose Hill	6
	National Day of Prayer		
Deadline	11 ✿ Woman's Auxiliary Convention First Greenville	12	13 ✿ Mount Olive College Graduation, College Hall
	18	19 Youth Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Start 6:00 p.m. May 19 and Ends 12 Noon May 21 Mount Olive College	20
	25	26	27 ○ Founder's Day, Children's Home ▲ Cragmont Board Cragmont, 9:00 a.m.
	<small>1954</small>	<small>1954</small>	<small>1954</small>

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

Features

The Children's Story

by Mrs. Lelia Fielder Hines

(This story was originally printed in January 1948)

Believing there are some of you dear boys and girls, who often have felt the desire to accept Christ as your Saviour, and have failed to do so because you were afraid you couldn't be good enough; I am giving you a few thoughts to think over.

When my daughter was between five and six years of age, she was given a pair of roller skates. She was real proud of her new skates; but if she had taken and said she knew nothing about skating, and was afraid to try because she might get a few bumps, she never would have learned to skate. This girl received these skates with the determination that she would learn to skate. So she put on the skates and with a stick for a guide she went on the sidewalk to master the art of skating. It is true she got a lot of bumps, but each time she rubbed her bumps and got up more determined each time not to fall again. It was her determination to stick to the task until she learned to skate without falling that helped her to become a good skater.

Now this is just how each of us will win the race as a Christian: we have got to be determined we will win and make a start sometime. When you start out as a Christian, you will know very little about it, and there will be many times along this journey that you will become discouraged. But just as the little girl used her guide stick, you open the bible, (your guide) and read it. It will help you over the rough places of life, and each time you read it you will become a stronger Christian.

Think back over the years when God placed you in the arms of your loving mother. You were a helpless infant and if left alone to depend on yourself, you would have died. It took the patient care of a loving mother to help you become the fine boy or girl you now are.

When you were at the age to begin trying to walk, your mother knew you would get many a fall, but this didn't keep her from letting you pull up by the furniture and try again. Each time you would fall she would pick you up and give you a loving caress and tell you to try it again. It was your mother's faith in you, and your determination that helped you to walk.

Now this is simple enough for a small child to understand, and God intended it to be like this for Jesus loves the little children. Don't let anyone make you believe you are too young to accept Christ as your Saviour. All big people have to accept Christ just the same way a little child does (Matthew 18:3). It is a beautiful picture to see a boy or girl accept Christ as their Saviour, because they are giving a life to God. If they let God use this life for His glory, many other lives will be saved through their witnessing along this journey of life.

Yes, it is true that sometimes you may get discouraged, but just remember it is you who have failed and not God. Just as mother keeps on loving you after you have disobeyed her, so your Heavenly Father still loves you, even after you have disobeyed Him at times. All believers have to do when they feel they have disobeyed God is to confess their mistakes and repent of them to God in prayer. God will restore into your life the joy that went out when you sinned. Always remember that Christ comes into your heart as an invited guest.

All you have to do to accept Christ as your Saviour is: (1) Seek—Isaiah 55:6; (2) Confess—1 John 1:9; (3) Repent—Luke 13:3; (4) Believe—Romans 10:9; (5) Receive—John 1:12.

—by Mrs. Lelia M. Fielder. P.S. Get Mother to read these verses to you.

*The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.*

1994 MOC BRIDGE BUILDER'S CELEBRATION (Continued)

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

NOTE: This is the second part of an article that was featured in the April issue.

Unique Combination of Liberal Arts and Career Orientation

A third uniqueness about Mount Olive College is its unique combination of liberal arts and career orientation. We want students to become thinkers, to expand their perceptions of themselves and the world, but we also seek to integrate their learning to a career choice. For example, one girl who wants to work in church music sang a solo in chapel. She was wonderful. When I complimented her, she said, "I couldn't have done it without Irene Weldon." Irene Weldon is the kind of faculty member who works quietly behind the scenes, stretching voices and students in music.

A ministerial student told me that Dr. David Hines stimulated him and gave him a deeper awareness of biblical studies. My own son Dean found in Dr. Hines a man who could become both mentor and friend. With the blend of liberal arts and covenant career commitment, Dr. Hines led my son out of extreme fundamentalism into a more balanced perception of dogma. When Dr. Hines privately baptized my son, he demonstrated the absolute uniqueness of this college: a place where liberal arts and career orientation merge under the umbrella of grace.

Last Spring a student called me about some of her poetry. She had once been a student of Lucy Mooring of the Department of Language and Literature. Lucy Mooring had inspired this student, given her a sense of self-esteem that led her to explore with language.

Stories about students and their personal ties to teachers are everywhere. The effort to stress the liberal arts purpose of educating the whole person combined with the modern demands of

career orientation is a watershed moment for our College.

The Uniqueness of Being Founded and Chartered by the Original Free Will Baptists

The historical fact that Mount Olive College was founded and chartered by Original Free Will Baptists might send terror through the heart of a Brooklyn kid but hope to his parents. Our denominational roots are strong and integrated into the ultimate mission of Christian education. The tie to the Free Will Baptists is a healthy tie, one which seeks to aid the denomination, by bringing new ministers of academic excellence to the pulpit. The commitment of the College to Free Will Baptists is everywhere from scholarship programs to Tuesday chapel to seminars, workshops, weekend sessions.

The world outside is tough. Watersheds are happening everywhere from the fall of the Berlin Wall to communism in the Soviet Union. Our College is rooted in a mission to draw out, develop, and deliver Christian values in our campus life. Modern society has become so fragmented, even dangerous, that the uniqueness of the Free Will Baptist heritage offers students a ground of being upon which to stand. The spirit of Original Free Will Baptists is wonderfully energetic, diverse, and prayerful. My trip to the Philippines and India with Alma Dale, Mike Scott, Delbert and Lib Scott, Paul Anderson, Harold and Sandra Jones gave me an inside, day-by-day view of the astonishing strength of Free Will Baptists. Dr. Emmanuel Lall of India demonstrated the courage of this denomination as he walked us through the Muslim streets where his Bareilly home is located.

Free Will Baptists are brave, bold, beautiful people who love the Lord, seek to act in the modern world, search

for ways to love. My roommate on this Philippine-India trip was Alma Dale. When I found myself unable to get out of bed the day we all were to ride to Nepal, I moaned and groaned and told Alma I did not think I could make it. She came over to my bed, patted me on the shoulder and sang, "God is so good."

I went to Nepal.

The Uniqueness of Being A College Capable of Change Yet Firmly Grounded

Mount Olive College has changed from its early days in the old education building downtown to the \$15-million dollar campus of today. For 40 years, Dr. Burkette Raper has been a Moses in the wilderness. The College opened in 1954 in a small, dilapidated building in downtown Mount Olive with 22 students enrolled in a two-year curriculum. Today the College offers 18 major fields with approximately 1,000 students. He had lead us from building to building, faculty to faculty, two-year to four-year status. He has had to jump hoops, hurdles, heartaches. And he has not reached the Promised Land. He leaves entrance into the evolving College of the 21st century to another.

Continuously our College has demonstrated the nerve and guts to change to meet the new watersheds. With each change, one reality has remained constant—a groundedness in Christian values and beliefs.

We face the need to evolve now as we stand before three new pressing watersheds. We seek *financial stability* through a hefty increase in our endowment base. We seek a *broader base of students* on our main campus as well as in our outreach programs. We require an *upbeat morale* to enter the 21st century.

Now is the time to face the watersheds of our College history. We must stretch to transcend the storms all watersheds create. We must hug, grip, dance with, celebrate our mission, our *raison d'être*, our special uniqueness. Such transcendence demands a religious fervor Original Free Will Baptists have. Dorothy Whitley has this fervor as she steers us in her position as Academic Dean with the main campus program. Her dedication, discipline, and humor place her in a crucial position at the watershed junctions.

Ability to dance with our special uniqueness demands a certain detachment and wit that Vice-President Dr. William Byrd demonstrates. The clarity of mission and the watershed challenge of financial stability demands a certain fighting realism and apocalyptic faith that Dr. Burkette Raper has. As our president for 40 years, he leaves center stage in order to accomplish his commitment to building the endowment base.

The upbeat morale needed to enter the 21st century is here on this campus with Jean Ackiss, Happy Taylor, Frank Harrison, Nelda Smith, Anthony Hatcher, Irene Patten, Dr. Ray Taylor, Dr. Richard Bounds, Dr. Sarah Clere, Dr. Jim Coats, Lillian Grubbs, and so many others.

And of course our entry into the 21st century needs the support of all of you here tonight. You, the Bridge Builders of this College, have generously demonstrated over and over again your willingness to dig deep into your pockets and give of your resources. We could not survive without that commitment.

The Promised Land

For Mount Olive College to enter the Promised Land, we need to know what exactly is this Promised Land?

In reality, the Promised Land is a land where security, faith, and covenant co-exist. Such would be the blending of economic, religious, educational, and mission strengths.

The Promised Land is not just a

place, but a condition of spirit. It is ultimately a place of inner peace, home rootedness, and meaning in the work we do and the words we speak. For Mount Olive College to enter the Promised Land, the College must journey through the wilderness to discover the hard-won inner peace. The College must face its watersheds in order to acquire a sense of home so that souls feel that here is where we belong, here is where we build our bridge to invite others to cross over and be with us. The College must face its watersheds in the work to be done and in the words we speak. We must take unto us our struggles to be better than who we are. We must embrace the war to become better than what we are. In our yearnings we must be able to embrace our struggles and limitations and seek to sit together under the umbrella of grace.

We must never forget that the essence of our College is more than its parts—more than its location, buildings, faculty, curriculum, administrators, trustees. The essence is what happens when *all these forces combine* in the students' experience of themselves, who they are, where they are going. All these forces must combine in us, the parts, so that we accept the essence of education.

Education is from the Latin *educare*, "to lead out." As we seek to be led out of the wilderness into the Promised Land, we seek to be led out from our old self to an evolving self under the umbrella of grace.

We seek to be led out of our fragmented self to discover our unified self. We seek to be led out across the bridge to join others all under the umbrella of grace. We seek to be led from innocence to experience which brings its own edge of sorrow. Aeschylus has his Chorus in "Agamemnon" declare: "Against one's will comes wisdom."

We seek to be led out from chaos of wilderness wandering to the fruitful, faithful uncertainty ahead under the umbrella of grace.

We seek to be led out from the reality of death in war, disease, famine, and

evil to the hope, the faith, the commitment that good will prevail. Aeschylus in his drama "Agamemnon" calls out to us: "Cry, cry upon Death, but may the good prevail."

We seek the Promised Land—that state of inner peace, home rootedness, meaning in work and words. What all of you have worked so hard for in establishing your Free Will Baptist College is glorious. You have built your College with your roots, your values, your longing for academic excellence in the new world of the 21st century.

Your mission has not been in vain. The bridge has been built through 40 years of digging deep down in your pockets to support your college. The wilderness is about to be crossed. The future beckons.

The future will be what you and all those standing together for the College will make it to be. What we make our College become is rooted in our mission. Our mission to bring our souls out of the wilderness into the Promised Land is a dream. Our mission is a vision that pushes the limits of reality. Our mission is a vision that demands of reality more than reality wishes to give.

Our vision is one that hopes until hope creates from its own wreck the thing it contemplates. Now is the watershed time for all of us to embrace our unique mission and cross the bridge together into the 21st century.

SOURCES CONSULTED

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- King James Version of the Bible.
- Lifton, Robert Jay. *The Protean Self*. New York: Basic Books of Harper, 1992.
- Metzger, Bruce M. and Michael D. Coogan, editors. *The Oxford Companion to the Bible*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1993.
- Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary*. Springfield, MA: Merriam, 1965.

ON THE MOVE WITH LAYMAN'S LEAGUE



The Rev. Ralph Sumner, pastor of the host church, Layman's League February meeting.



Richard Potter, newly-elected Secretary of the Eastern District Layman's League.



Steve Gamer, new President of the Eastern District Layman's League.

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

Camp Vandemere, NC

June 3, 1995

Isaiah 55:4: "... I have given him for a leader to the people"

Theme: "The Call to Leadership"

Friday, June 2, 6 p.m.	Fellowship and Sharing Time
Saturday, June 3	
9:00- 9:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
9:30-10:15 a.m.	"The Call to Leadership", The Rev. Mark Hogan
10:15-10:45 a.m.	Recreation and Fellowship
10:45-11:30 a.m.	"The Characteristics of Leadership," Mr. (Brother) Jim Skipper
11:30- 1:00 p.m.	Lunch and Recreation
1:00- 1:45 p.m.	"Consequences of Leadership," the Rev. Chuck Owens
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 (Layman's League President, Elmer Harrell)

Recommended Reading: (Paperback) *Love Not the World* by Watchman Nee
 (This book may be ordered through the Free Will Baptist Press)

Registration For Layman's League SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT, June 3, 1995

Each person planning to attend the retreat is requested to complete and return this form by May 27, 1995:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

CHURCH: _____ CONFERENCE: _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BLANKS:

_____ I plan to attend the retreat at Camp Vandemere on June 3, 1995.

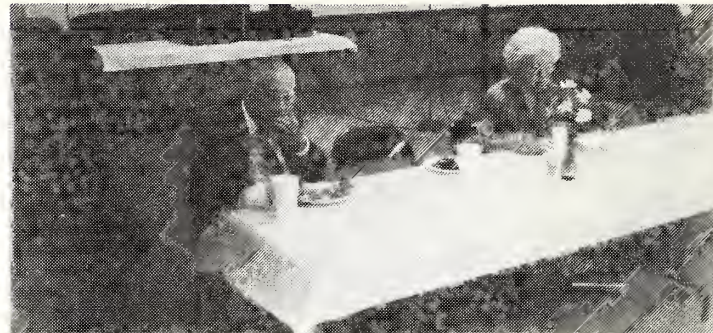
_____ I plan to stay at Camp Vandemere Friday night, June 2, 1995.

Please return this form to:
 ELMER E. HARRELL
 502 S.E. 3rd Street
 Snow Hill, NC 28580
 Telephone: 919-747-2894

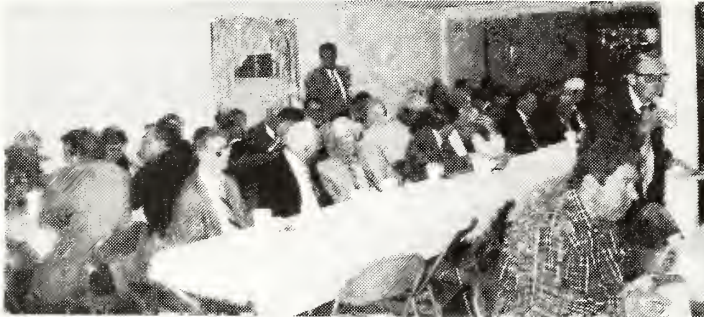
On the Move With the Layman's League



Ministers of Central Conference Layman's League



Ladies' Night



Central Conference Layman's League



Paul Beamon, President of Central Layman's League



John Newton, Secretary and Elmer Harrell, President



Central Conference Layman's League



Ladies' Night



Ladies' Night

COMING EVENTS

- May 4: Executive Board, Elmer's Harrell's Office, Snow Hill, 7 p.m.
- May 5: State Layman's League Meeting, Rose Hill FWB Church, 7 p.m.
- Directions to Rose Hill FWB Church
 Leaving Ayden: Hwy 102 East, 4 miles to Venters X-rds, left turn north on County Home Road, two miles on left, Haddock's X-rds.
- Leaving Greenville: On Arlington Blvd. to County Home Road and proceed 6 miles south through Worthington X-rds, Church approx. 4 1/2 miles on right
- May 11-13: Cragmont Shingle Project
- May 15: Eastern Conference, Croatan FWB Church (near New Bern), 7 p.m.
- May 19-21: State Youth Convention—MOC
- June 1—Promotional Committee, Elmer Harrell's Office—Snow Hill, 7 p.m.
- June 2-3: Spiritual Life Retreat, Camp Vandemere
- June 5: Central Conference, Little Creek FWB Church, 7 p.m.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL VIVIAN B. HARRISON MEMORIAL LECTURE: IS THERE A GOSPEL IN REVELATION?

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

“The theme of the Book of *Revelation* is crucial. Though the power of Rome seems overwhelming to the people around 100 A.D., John proclaims that Rome’s power is only apparent and will pass away. The power of God, however, may not be forcefully demonstrated during Rome’s tyranny, but God’s power is *real* and *will be victorious*,” began Dr.

Donald D. Cook, guest



Dr. Donald E. Cook, guest lecturer for the Vivian B. Harrison Memorial Seminar, presented stimulating arguments for the gospel of Christ in *Revelation*. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Donald D. Cook, guest lecturer for the Fourth Annual Vivian B. Harrison Memorial Lecture.

Dr. Cook’s own academic background provided him with insight into the portraits of Christ in *Revelation*. Currently he is a Senior Professor of New Testament Interpretation at the Gardner-Webb University School of Divinity. Dr. Cook received his Ph.D. from Duke University. He also holds degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Furman University.

About the Vivian B. Harrison Lecture

The Vivian B. Harrison lecture was established by the Rev. 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 the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Beamon and the late Mr. Charlie T. Beamon of Walstonburg, North Carolina.

The Rev. Frank Harrison is a graduate of Mount Olive College, Barton College, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has completed two years of postgraduate 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.



The Vivian B. Harrison Memorial luncheon was held in the Hennessee Room of the Murphy Regional Center at Mount Olive College. Many Free Will Baptists attended. From left to right: Walter Sutton, director of the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc.; C. H. Overman, executive administrator of the Original Free Will Baptists; Dr. De Wayne Eakes, pastor of the Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County; Ray Wells, pastor of the Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County; Norwood Futrell, pastor of the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort County; David Hill, pastor of the Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County. Standing is Frank Harrison, MOC campus chaplain. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

John and Revelation

Who wrote *Revelation*? Why? Dr. Cook believes that the *Gospel of John* and *Revelation* were both written by John. What John? The John of the Gospel? Yes. This John who wrote *Revelation* was on the Isle of Patmos to witness for God. Patmos was a penal colony and perhaps John was cast there because of his Christian faith. Though there were many historical dangers around 95 or 100 A.D., John proclaims the ultimate victory of Jesus.

What dangers existed during Roman rule around 100 A.D.? Dr. Cook spoke of numerous problems. Christians were being persecuted. Political dissension and chaos has torn the Roman Empire into tempestuous factions. Unity was lacking. Chaos ruled. How then could a Roman emperor such as Diocletian (284–305 A.D.) or Caligula (37–41 A.D.) bring the divisive elements of the empire into a cohesive unity? Suddenly the Roman government hit upon a principle—a common religious loyalty to unify the empire.

Dreadfully, the Roman government settled upon a common fealty to the Roman Emperor as Lord. All Asia must be required to acknowledge the Emperor as Lord. Now this posed a problem both to the Christians and Jews.

John then writes *Revelation* to the seven churches of Asia. If we were to look at a map of Turkey, in the southwestern

corner lay a peninsula which is a circle of the seven cities of the seven historical churches of concern to John. What John wants to proclaim is that the power of Rome is only temporary, while the power of God is forever. John knows that in 95 to 100 A.D. that Christians are in real danger. To give Christians some assurance of God's power, John describes his faith through his visions.

"John had a series of visions," explained Dr. Cook, "and while he was receiving these visions, he comes to grips with the basic reality of his faith. Jesus becomes a part of the Christian's present experience, past experience, and future experience. Jesus is the Lord of all yesterdays, todays, and tomorrows," he declared.

Dr. Cook read *Revelation* 1:4: "JOHN to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne.

Revelation then becomes not a book of the future only, but it rises in time dimensions to become a book of the past, present, and future.

"It strikes my fancy," said Dr. Cook, "that *Revelation* covers all three dimensions of time. The very sophistication of the understanding of time in *Revelation* indicates the author had a profound understanding of the nature of God. The sacred word for God becomes—ONE WHO IS, ONE WHO CAUSES TO BE, ONE WHO GIVES LIFE," he explained.

In other words, John (probably of the Gospel of John) places the presence of Jesus in the here and now—an important reality in any time of raging historical danger. The importance of Jesus defining himself as—I AM—draws us into the moment. Dr. Cook emphasized God's answer as to His identity in the burning bush episode with these words: "I AM has sent you."

Likewise when the disciples were afraid while Jesus walked on the water, Jesus turned towards them and spoke, "Fear not, I AM."

Dr. Cook insisted, "The phrase, I AM, is a predicate form for saying the name of God. I AM is an affirmation of deity. In the *Gospel of John* we read, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

To clarify the importance of Jesus in a time dimension that embraces the past, present, and future, Dr. Cook elaborated. "The description of God is super-temporal. God in *Revelation* is in the same way supra-temporal. He is above the Scriptures of the time and at the same moment he is in the heart of the Christian tradition by affirming Jesus in time," he said.

The Role of John's Visions in *Revelation*

John had a series of visions in *Revelation*. In the process of his receiving and thinking through these visions, he grasps the reality of the faith of Jesus in the present experience of the church. According to Dr. Cook, John's visions combine

memory, experience, and hope—a triadic archetype of the Christian reality.

In John's first vision, he sees the Son of Man. As he stands on the edge of eternity, he observes the Word of God on a white horse. Battle must follow. The person is Jesus the Messiah. Every point of reference in this first vision points to the structure of Jesus coming to do battle.

Is this a battle of the past or present or future? What kind of battle is John talking about anyway? Dr. Cook believes this is the basic battle between good and evil, a battle that emerges in all time dimensions. The word *Revelation* translates in Greek to "apocalypse." In the mind of the Hebrews, the apocalypse connotes struggle. The Jews historically had struggled against Alexander the Great (336–323 B.C.) and the Ptolemy II rule (309–246 B.C.). The Jews struggled during the Maccabean Revolt (160 B.C.). In essence, the apocalypse is the struggle for liberty and freedom to profess and proclaim faith in God. "John in *Revelation* mobilizes language as a weapon," declared Dr. Cook. "He fought the Greeks with apocalyptic language just as Winston Churchill rallied the English language as a power in the Battle of Dunkirk (1940). "What is at issue," continued Dr. Cook, "is the need for a new sense of power, the need for a vision, a rapture, a presence of God in the midst of the terrible struggle. When Winston Churchill knew the British did not have enough guns, tanks, or weapons to defeat the Nazis, he went on the radio with a series of speeches. No one can forget the power of his words when he challenged the British soldiers as he said: 'We will fight them in the cities. We will fight them in the countryside. We will never give in.' Churchill, like John, mobilized language in the great struggle between good and evil," claimed Dr. Cook.



From left to right: David J. Cunningham, Frank Harrison, Terry Louis Gainer, Bryan C. Hardy. These three MOC students with the campus chaplain, Frank Harrison, found the all-day seminar intriguing. Bryan Hardy noted, "The resurrection of the body refers to Christ and that resurrection is through Christ. The resurrection of the body is only possible for Jesus, but through Him we experience the resurrection of the soul. If Jesus wanted to resurrect our bodies, He could." David Cunningham added, "The topic today about a gospel in *Revelation* hit me." Terry Gainer declared, "The lecture this morning was refreshing. How Christ is intertwined all through *Revelation* and how this same thread is intertwined through the Bible is a new approach." (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

John of the Gospel of John and John of Revelation

Dr. Cook believes the author of the *Gospel of John* and *Revelation* is the same man. To substantiate his thesis, he provided an intriguing comparison between the language of the two books in question. He noted similar images in John's letters to the seven churches and *Revelation*: seven stars, first and last, sharp two-edged sword, Son of Man, feet like burnished bronze, seven Spirits of God, faithful witness, and others.

Dr. Cook indicated the language similarities in *Revelation* and the seven letters to the churches of Asia; however, he admitted the certainty of the authorship of *Revelation* had not been clarified.

Nonetheless, he continued to draw attention to some similarities in linguistic phrases. In the beginning of the *Gospel of John*, we read these words: "IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." In *Revelation* 19:13 we read: "And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God."

Dr. Cook also indicated that *John 2* and *Revelation 12* are similar. In *John 2* Jesus drives out the moneychangers from the temple because God's house is not a place for merchandise. In *Revelation 12* Michael fights the dragon in Heaven and cast him out. God's power is preserved, victorious, unconquerable.



Dr. Donald E. Cook, speaker for the Vivian B. Harrison Seminar, talks with several ministers during the break after the morning lecture. From left to right: Dr. Donald E. Cook, Dr. De Wayne Eakes, Michael Warning, and Ray Wells. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

The Number Seven in Revelation

The number seven appears frequently in *Revelation*: seven seals, seven trumpets, seven signs, seven letters, seven churches, seven promises, seven horns, seven eyes, seven spirits, seven flaming torches, seven golden lampstands, and others.

What is the significance of the number seven? Is seven symbolic?

"The number seven symbolizes perfection or wholeness," explained Dr. Cook. "Seven reflects the perfect square. Seven reflects the purpose of God. Seven announces God's

ultimate sovereignty in the battle of good versus evil. And in God's court, there is no court of appeal. In *Revelation* we see not only the number seven but also multiples of seven. The lion which turns out to be the lamb has a multiple of seven—seven—seven; whereas, the beast has a multiple of six—six—six," declared Dr. Cook. "The parallelism here is that the lion-turned-lamb has conquered and is therefore worthy. The lamb is slain; his conquest ends in his own death. The key to the progress in *Revelation* is death, burial, and resurrection. The lamb is worthy to open the Scroll because the seven seals reflect the judgment of the cross," he said.

"The lamb and his followers become Christ and His followers," noted Dr. Cook. "A new song is sung by the 144,000 who have been redeemed from the earth. Those who follow the lamb wherever he goes have been redeemed. The emphasis then is upon the Cross. The number seven symbolizes perfection itself, completeness, wholeness. What John wants us to experience is that the end of the whole battle in history is victory for God. The beast is thrown into the lake of fire and has no future," he said.

Where Is God In Suffering?

Dr. Cook met a Jewish survivor from the Holocaust. The man talked about the fear his grandfather experienced, the horror and terror of the Nazis. His grandfather was a rabbi who lived in Germany. He and his grandfather one day went to the synagogue to get the Torah scrolls in order to bury them and thus protect them. The whole world was coming apart. The Jewish survivor asked Dr. Cook, "Where was God?"

What could Dr. Cook say? He thought of an elderly lady named Mary who could not read or write. She was confined in a nursing home, her body tired but her spirit faithful. Mary loved to sing hymns. Rarely did she speak, but when the name Jesus came up, Mary would say, "He is always with us. He goes all the way."



Dr. Donald E. Cook answers questions during the question and answer session held in the Hennessee Room. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Dr. Cook paused. He tried to explain. "I don't know how I answered my Jewish friend about where was God during the Holocaust, because I share his horror and fear of the Nazis of this time. But perhaps Mary's simple answer—"He goes all the way"—is the answer. Mary understood who God is, where God is, and how God manifests Himself to us in the world. God is here and He goes all the way with us. He goes every step of the way. No one in our family can go all

the way with us, but God can and does. And *Revelation* is really about faith that God will win with us in the great struggle between good and evil. God tells us over and over to fear not, HE IS. His presence emerges as I AM. God's name is His presence, His BEING with us. Fear not, God tells us. God is the Alpha and Omega, the past, present, and the future. He was once dead but now is alive forevermore," he said.

NOTES & QUOTES

notes and quotes

C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator



Convention
of
Original
Free Will Baptists

OVERMAN RESIGNS

The following resignation was presented to the Executive Committee of the Convention on April 11, 1995.

This is to give official notification of my resignation as the Executive Administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, to become effective on October 1, 1995.

It has been a highlight of my ministry to serve my denomination and my Lord in this capacity. I am grateful for the support and cooperation that has been extended to me during these six years.

In Christian service,

C. H. Overman

C. H. Overman

(Comments will follow in the next Notes and Quotes)

EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION AT SMITH'S NEW HOME

by Nina Grace Register

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention held its Spring 1995 meeting Thursday, March 23, 1995, with Smith's New Home Church. In keeping with their centennial celebration, host members wore "old-time" clothes: long skirts with bonnets, or overalls with straw hats. The church was decorated with spring flowers, and on display were old pictures, literature, books and other historical items of the church.

The Men's Quartet from Deep Run opened the meeting with several numbers, including "Everybody Sing Praise to the Lord," and "My Tribute." The members, the Rev. Adrian Grubbs, Johnny Braxton, Gregg Smith, and Bill Hawkins, were accompanied at the piano by Debbie Miller.

Vice president Lorraine Garner called the meeting to order and led in prayer. Music director Terry Wood, accompanied by Kay Daugherty, led the congregational music throughout the day and also presented special music. District AFC Talent winner Casey Marshburn also sang, accompanied by his mother, Kim Marshburn. He sang, "Revival In the Land."

Verdie Hill, of the host auxiliary, used the day's theme and Scripture, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever" (from Hebrews 13:8) as the basis for the opening devotional and prayer.

President Happy Taylor reported that 16 churches and about 300 people represented at the Youth Convention at Christian Chapel March 11; the Fall convention will be at Camp Vandemere September 16.

She recognized two auxiliaries representing for the first time: Dublin

Grove and Memorial. Also recognized were ministers, officers, delegates, and visitors. Five State officers were present.

Study Course chairman Lillian Grubbs announced that a District study course on "Evangelism" will be led by Dr. K. David Hines, using his book, *Church Growth and Evangelism*, on a Saturday at First FWB Church in Kinston. The time and date will be announced later.

The Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference will be Monday to Friday, June 19-23; and will be directed by Audrey Quinn and Betty Wood. Judith Kennedy gave the Camp Vandemere report. The freezer will be purchased soon; we have a mixer; bunk beds have been constructed but need mattresses; some recreation equipment has been given; and curtains for the sun room have been made and will be hung in June. Besides mattresses for the bunk beds, other needs include a slaw cutter and life vests for the canoe(s).

The Ministries Reports were given by the Rev. C. H. Overman. He introduced Gary Lee, director of Church and Public Relations of the Children's Home; Andrea Cox, secretary of Home Missions and Evangelism; and Tracy McCoy, editor of the FWB Press.

Judith Kennedy received this year's Life Membership Award. It was presented by Judith Kennedy and pinned by the president.

Speaker for the worship service was Annie Ruth Parrish, a member of the host church. Her text was Psalm 103:1-17 with Hebrews 13:8. She recounted some history of the church, and emphasized that we can prove in our lives that Jesus Christ is the same today as He was to our ancestors and He will be the same for our descendants as He has been to us.

In miscellaneous business, the sec-

retary reported that 44 auxiliaries reported 737 enrollment with an average attendance of 496. Smith's New Home reached A-1. The Deep Run Church invited the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention on May 9, 1996. The Fall Eastern District Convention will be with Saints Delight on September 21.

The treasurer's report was read and approved. The Registration Committee reported 10 ministers, 75 visitors, 32 delegates, and 12 officers, for a total registration of 139.

Janet Brown read the report of the Resolutions Committee, which was adopted.

The Rev. Walter Sutton, pastor of the host church, made lunch announcements and gave the prayer of benediction and blessing on the food.

Lunch was served in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

FIRST TREASURES

Submitted by Mary Jo Stancil

First Treasures is a collection of articles spanning 25 years in the making by free lance writer, Nancy Edwards Matthews. A native Johnstonian, she has lived her adult life in neighboring Wilson County. She and her husband are presently living on the family farm in the Hickory Cross community of Johnston County.

Using the vehicle of letters, Mrs. Matthews begins with a letter from an unborn child to his parents, outlining their role in his life.

Other letters describe growing up on the farm where money was scarce, but experiences were bountiful; public education at Kenly High School in the fifties; raising a family, and others. Included is a thank you to Uncle Sam for a great life in the United States. One letter gives a surprise secret for a healthy, happy marriage.

Her writings veer back and forth from humorous to serious, creating a unique balance.

Though *First Treasures* has a poetry section, she makes no claims on being a poet. She declares she doesn't even understand most poetry. But some thoughts are better conveyed in poetry form.

She weaves lessons into her short stories which include Bible Stories, present day situations, and fantasy. Their link is that every situation whether adult or juvenile, is viewed through the eyes of a child.

Completing the book is a section of short thoughts and one liners that convey sound truths.

Mrs. Matthews was a regular contributor to *The Free Will Baptist* during the seventies and eighties. Her column, *New Growth* appeared weekly. Many of the selections for *First Treasures* were published during this period. Others included feature articles, short stories, and short thoughts.

Mrs. Matthews' other writings include puppet plays, stage plays, skits, many of which have been produced by Wilson First Free Will Baptist Church, her home church.

She created puppets, a frog and a tadpole, and a series of plays, "Sam and Andy Learn About Jesus" which were produced with Vacation Bible School literature by Standard Publishing.

Her stage play, "Easter—The Beginning," has been in print 19 years by Lillenas Publishing, and has sold approximately 15,000 copies.

Mrs. Matthews, a bookkeeper, and her husband Royce, who is retired have been married for 37 years. Their sons, Ricky and Jay, live and work in Dallas, Texas and Washington, DC respectively.

A book signing tea is being sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary in the Fellowship Hall of Wilson First Free Will Baptist Church on April 2 from 2-3 p.m. All proceeds from *First Treasures* will be placed in the church building fund. The public is invited.

NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION OF OFWB

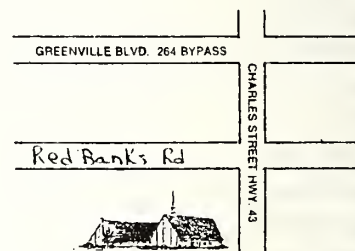
The Sixty-eighth Annual Session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be hosted by the Central Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Greenville First Church, Greenville, North Carolina, on May 11, 1995. The theme is Refresh . . . Reach out . . . Revitalize. The Scripture is *I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 3:14). The schedule is as follows:

- 9:30 Registration
- 10:00 Hymn #155: "Take Time to Be Holy"
Devotions and Prayer: Jan Smith, Vice President, State
- 10:15 Welcome: Janette Spain, Vice President, Central
Response: Edith McPherson, Vice President, Pee Dee
Directions and Announcements: May Pittman, President, Greenville Church
President's Greetings: Carolyn Jernigan
Recognition of Delegates and Guests
- 10:30 Business Session
- 10:40 Free Will Baptist Ministries
- 11:00 Hymn #170: "Give of Your Best to the Master"
Moming Offering
Introduction of Speaker: Jean Ackiss, Field Secretary, State
- 11:20 Moming Message: Dianne Riley, Christian Education Chairman
Hymn, #351: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"
Lunch Announcement: Ruth Taylor, Greenville Church
Prayer: Lil Rippy, Vice President, Piedmont

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00 Hymn #421: "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"
Devotions and Prayer: Clentis Capps, Vice President, Western
Special Music: Lorraine Gamer, Vice President, Eastern
Memorial Service: Eunice Sexton,

- Vice President, Albemarle
- Special Music: Phyllis McLamb, Vice President, Cape Fear
- Life Membership: Committee
- Chorus
- Miscellaneous Business
- Reports
- Hymn #173: "If Jesus Goes With Me"
- Benediction
- Organist: Ruth Taylor
- Music Director: Alma Dale
- Ushers: Dorlis Mills and Jeanette Corbitt



LADIES RETREAT AT THE CREEK

by Gladys Corbett



On March 4, fourteen ladies happily headed to Morehead for a weekend of spiritual renewal and fun. We stayed in the Pelletier Creek house, this is a beautiful and comfortable home owned by Mount Olive College. The lovely view was enhanced with ducks on the water and egrets roosting in the trees.

Sandra Jones led the devotion and singing on Friday night. She also showed us how to make necklaces out of church bulletins. Teresa Ball and her mother, Marcel Moore, received them later as door prizes.

We awakened on Saturday, with the smell of egg omelets, made to order with all the trimmings, cooked by Teresa. Ramona Norman, guest speaker from the Greenville Auxiliary, fed us spiritual food. Her topic was "Called to Service." She taught us the different ways and different things that God calls women to do. If we obey His call, He will guide, empower, and gives us victory and assurance as we serve Him faithfully.

For most of us, Saturday afternoon was enjoyed by visiting a Home and Garden Show, touring Beaufort, and nap time. Others visited the Christian Bookstore nearby and then returned for another game of ping pong. Freda Hargett was declared the "champ." We then enjoyed a delicious meal in a nearby restaurant. Saturday night devotion was given by Mary Marsha Langley, followed by fun time with singing and games.

Marice DeBruhl, from St. Mary's Auxiliary in New Bern taught the Sunday School lesson. We enjoyed a time of prayer, sharing and singing. We headed back to Winterville after lunch with praise and love in our hearts to our loving Father for a wonderful weekend. (A special thanks to Louise Hines and Marcel Moore for the delicious ham, turkey and chicken salad.)

EVERETT CHAPEL YOUTH FELLOWSHIP AUXILIARY

With 20 young people and 11 adult helpers, the Everett Chapel Youth Fel-

lowship Auxiliary recently enjoyed a weekend retreat at Cragmont.

Arriving late Friday evening, or should we say very early Saturday morning, there was no one that received a good night's rest. With all the excitement in the air, it was about 3:30 a.m. before most of the young people fell asleep. Although there was only a few hours rest, the group was up in time for their 8 a.m. breakfast. That was only the beginning of a fun-filled day of devotions, bible study, singing, and games.

The Rev. John Williams, Cragmont Director, was the guest speaker Saturday evening. He spoke about using strength received from God in the past to help us make it through difficult time we may now face.

The day ended with everyone watching a video of the day's events. This was an excellent finale to a wonderful day.

After breakfast on Sunday morning, everyone gathered in the chapel for our Sunday School lesson. The Rev. H. B. Carter, Director of the Everett Chapel Youth Fellowship Auxiliary presented our morning message just before we all loaded up to head back home.

"Discovering Jesus Together," our theme for the weekend, is exactly what we all did during our exciting, fun-filled weekend retreat at Cragmont.



SENIOR CITIZENS HONORED



On February 12, 1995, the ninth annual Sweetheart Dinner was given by Charles and Ruth Springle for the *Golden Teenagers* at the Beaufort Original Free Will Baptist on West Beaufort Road, Beaufort, NC.

The pastor, Brother Raymond Hardison, preached a message on love using John 3:16 as his text. The dinner was served in the fellowship hall immediately after the worship service.

The menu this year consisted of clam chowder, turkey, dressing, gravy, cranberry sauce, collards, rutabagas, sweet potatoes, deviled eggs, rolls, tea and coffee and for dessert there were cherry o'pies, fresh apple cake and sweet potato pies.

Assisting with the serving were Ruth's brother, Phillip Brinson and his wife, Theresa from Winnebow, NC, their grandson, Lewis Bergerson and granddaughter, Jennifer Smith.

IN MEMORY THE REV. CHARLES WILLIAM CRISP

The Rev. Charles William Crisp, who served as director of Original Free Will Baptists Home Missions and Church Extension for five years (1982-1987), died on March 5, 1995. At the time of his death, he was serving as pastor of

Creekmont General Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He is survived by his wife, Louise; a son, David Crisp of Cartersville, Georgia; a daughter, Vicki Coltrain of Smyrna, Tennessee; one sister, four grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on March 7 at Creekmont General Baptist Church, which he had served for the past five years. The Rev. Jackie Godwin, pastor of Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church, Chadbourne, North Carolina, conducted the service. Burial took place at Lynn Oak Cemetery, Campbell, Missouri. A special service was held on March 8 at Campbell General Baptist Church.

The Rev. Crisp was the first of several General Baptist ministers who united with the Original Free Will Baptists, which was based on a cooperative relationship between the two denominations. In addition to his work with the Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department, he also served as pastor of the following Free Will Baptist churches: First Free Will Baptist Church, Rocky Mount; First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville; Milbournie Free Will Baptist Church and East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church.

Contributions can be made to the Charles W. Crisp Memorial Fund, General Baptist Home Missions, 100 Stinson Drive, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901. (Funds should be earmarked for Mrs. Louise Crisp.)

NEW MEMBERS ADDED TO SELMA OFWB CHURCH

Submitted by Vallie Coats

In the last eight months, the Selma Original Free Will Baptist Church has welcomed eleven new members. Those added to the church were: Mark Baker, Evelyn Strickland, Lucien Pancrazio, Audrey Pancrazio, Sara Lassiter, Angela Capps, Harry Blackley, Mary Joyce Blackley, Braxton Bass, Mollie Bass, and Bobby Talton.

Since Braxton and Mollie are the oldest of the new members, we would like to share a few experiences of their lives and two very special events which occurred recently.

Braxton Bass and Mollie Walston were born and reared in Wayne County in the Eureka area. In 1919, Braxton and Mollie went on their first date to Lucama Free Will Baptist Church on a horse and buggy and were later married on Christmas Eve of that year.

They moved to Johnston County with their three children, Carnell, Valentine (Vallie), and Louise, in 1930. Braxton was a farmer and carpenter. They built their home in Selma in 1945 and lived there until this year. Their son, Carnell, met an untimely death in 1948 due to a fire.

Braxton built Mollie a small store on the corner beside their home. She sold groceries, candy, drinks and bread. The neighbors enjoyed coming to chat with her and the children called her "Mama Bass."

Their children and grandchildren honored them for their years of hard work, sacrifices and love for them. It can truly be said that Mollie is the light of his life and Braxton is the light of hers.

The Basses always gave God the praise for their long lives. Braxton has outlived five brothers and a sister, and Mollie has outlived eight brothers and sisters.

Braxton and Mollie were honored by their children and grandchildren on their 75th Wedding Anniversary, December 11, 1994, with a reception at the home of their son-in-law, and daughter Rouse and Vallie Coats, of Selma.

A special highlight of the afternoon was when the couple enjoyed a horse and buggy ride, complete with the seasonal jingle bells. After their ride around town, they arrived at the reception with all the guests cheering the 92- and 96 -year-old couple.

Another special event of the afternoon was when Mr. and Mrs. Bass renewed

their wedding vows after 75 years of marriage. The Rev. Frank Grubbs officiated and Melba Woodruff played traditional wedding marches on the piano. She later played Christmas carols and songs the Basses learned to love in "the good ol' days."

Although Braxton and Molly have for many years given God the credit for their happy marriage and accomplishments, they had never made a public profession of faith. After they expressed a desire to do so, the Rev. Frank Grubbs and Don Lassiter, Chairman of the Deacon Board, along with other family members, met with them in their home. After the Rev. Grubbs presented the plan of salvation and read to them the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant, they made a public profession of faith. The following Sunday, June 29 of this year, they were accepted into the Selma Original Free Will Baptist Church. God truly blesses us and watches over us all the days of our lives. Needless to say, this was the most special event in the lives of this couple who have lived almost a century.

In February, Braxton was admitted to Johnston Memorial Hospital, and after eight days there, he entered Smithfield Manor Nursing Home on February 10. Mollie also entered Smithfield Manor on February 13. After a week of separation, the couple is now happily residing in a room together. Their address at the present time is: Smithfield Manor Inc., Room 300 West, 902 Berkshire Road, Post Office Box 1940, Smithfield, North Carolina 27577.



Mollie and Braxton Bass



Happy Mother's Day

(or is it?)

by Kathy S. Norman

You stand at the door of your children's bedroom late at night and watch them quietly breathe as they sleep. You see angelic faces that tell you they are perfect and good. You see the peaceful expression that tells you they are happy. Then you blow them a kiss that tells them you love them and wish them sweet dreams. As you walk down the hall to your own bedroom, all seems right with God and family. But the next morning . . .

How many times have you played this same scenario in your home only to wake up to chaos and rebellion the next morning? Getting your children ready for school some days measures right up there with having your wisdom teeth pulled. Doesn't life have anything better to offer? Isn't motherhood supposed to be rewarding? When will the children learn that you have feelings too? True, there are no guarantees when it comes to parenting, but there is hope and help always available. God. He is all we ever need.

So how do I get in touch with God and get the help that He has to offer? Through prayer and through God's Word. We're constantly being told today to express our feelings. Don't hold anything inside. So who better to tell everything to than to tell it to the One who will understand all of it? Humans are too limited in their understanding to be able to understand and empathize with what you are going through. Because unless we walk that same road in those same shoes it is hard for us to put ourselves in that situation. But God can understand everything all of the time, and because He loves us so much, He will listen mercifully and with love.

After we have told Him everything about our needs, then we must listen to His instructions so that our situations improve. And we find those instructions in His Word. The Bible has an answer for every question, an instruction for every occasion, words of comfort for every distress, and words of praise for every thanksgiving.

Where should I go to get proper guidance through God's Word? SUNDAY SCHOOL! Through your Sunday School you will learn how to use God's Word for the benefit of your daily life. It will lead you through the Scripture to practical daily application of everything that you study. It will take God's Word from outside of your life and bring it to life within your heart. And when you make sure that your children attend also, they will learn what their role in life should be and how to treat others, including their parents. They will learn how to grow into responsible adults that allow God to guide them through life. What better legacy to leave with your children than the legacy of a Christian life. Nothing else will provide them with the inner peace and happiness that only Christ can give.

How should I spend Mother's Day with my husband and children? Begin your day in SUNDAY SCHOOL allowing God to take charge. With God leading you, the rest of the day is a guaranteed success.

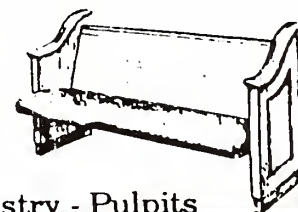
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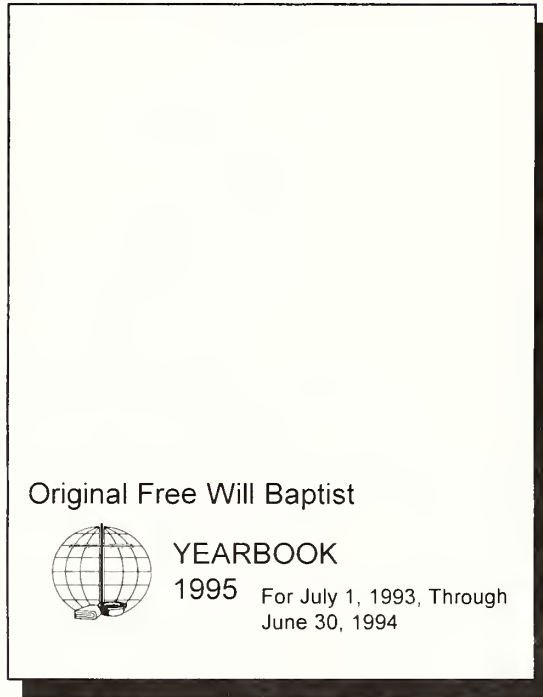
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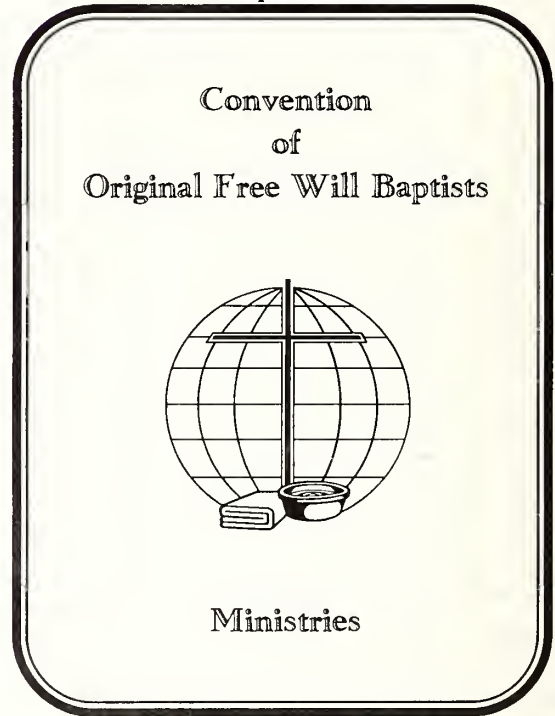
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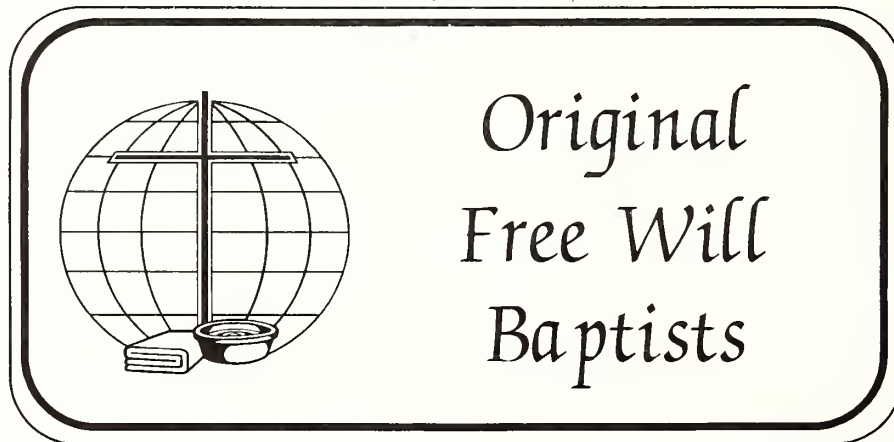
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P. O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 29513

or

Free Will Baptist Press
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MUTUAL CONCERNS

In looking back through the older issues of *The Free Will Baptist*, as well as the Convention minutes, I was struck with the realization that the struggles and concerns of the past have not changed very much relating to the needs of our denomination, as compared to those expressed and written about fifty years ago. Many changes have taken place. Different people are on the scene and circumstances have changed. It is now a different era; however, we all share basic goals and concerns.

In the mid forties, the Rev. J. C. Griffin was serving as the Convention's Field Secretary on a part-time basis (later the title "Field Secretary" became "General Secretary"). His Notes & Quotes, therefore, served as a means of promotion for the Convention and its work, although many other subjects and information filled the columns of Notes & Quotes.

In the Convention's Thirty-Second Annual Session, meeting at Reedy Branch Church in Pitt County, North Carolina, in 1944, Brother Griffin's Field Secretary's report contained a paragraph that sounds familiar, entitled, "Facts That We Should Know." Mr. Griffin reported, "I feel that I should present to you some facts as to our status in North Carolina. I have not been able to take sufficient time to make a thorough survey of the whole State. In fact I have not been able to get minutes, nor information from other sources, so that I can give such facts as I would like for you to know. But, I have gone over the records of the Eastern, Central, Western, and Cape Fear Associations. 1942-43 minutes show that 108 churches represented directly to this body. Of this number 39 had no increase in membership, and 9 of these decreased 22 in membership. In the four associations the increase was 533. But there was a decrease of 180, which left a net increase of 353 in these districts. There are 75 churches that did not represent in the State Association from these four associations."

In the last several years, a growing concern among Original Free Will Baptists is the matter of church growth, or lack of growth. We have expressed concern in these columns on several occasions. Many of our denominational and church leaders have expressed a deep concern. When we look at the facts and statistics, minutes of the past and present show only slight variations in membership. It is this concern that prompted the launching of "Project Solution," which is a self-study of our denomination.

Reports and statistics can only be based on the information at hand; therefore, they will vary from time to time. Almost fifty years ago (1947) the Convention's statistical table listed a total of 136 churches reporting with a total membership of 22,605. A total of 1,342 members were received. In the 1994 Session, 202 churches reported with a total membership of 32,253. The increase is obvious—almost 10,000 since 1947. When we take into account the denominational division in the early 1960s, we can offer praises to Him for the measure of growth that we have experienced. Original Free Will Baptists have proven themselves capable in areas of ministry programs. It is a refocusing on the command of Christ to "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, (Matthew 28:19) that is challenging us anew. Many are sensing a revival spirit, a time of

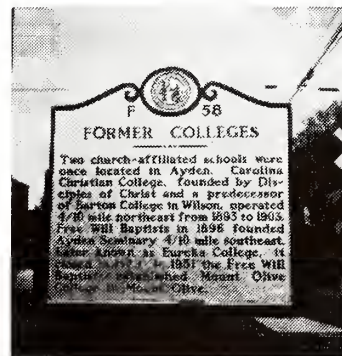
renewal in the land. For this we have prayed and it will come when we meet the conditions (see 2 Chronicles 7:14). When it happens we will leave a legacy that will allow for greater challenges to those who follow us. Meanwhile, like Brother Griffin and the many who preceded him, we will plan, work, and hope.

TASK FORCE COMMITTEE



Pictured are members of Project Solution's Task Force Committee in its last meeting which was held on March 14, 1995, at Selma Original Free Will Baptist Church. The committee began its work on the survey forms and plans to have them completed in May. Pictured left to right: Al Markuson, Mike Scott, Phillip Boykin, Ray Wells, C. H. Overman, Leon Grubbs, Frank Grubbs, and Fred Baker. Three members were absent. (The picture was taken by Bruce Dudley.)

HISTORICAL MARKER



On Sunday, April 2, 1995, this historical marker was unveiled on the corner of West Avenue and Third Street in Ayden, North Carolina. About 60 people representing the Original Free Will Baptists, the Disciples of Christ, and a representative of the State Historical Marker program, were present.

The marker denoted the location of two church related schools once located in Ayden: Carolina Christian College, founded by the Disciples of Christ; and Ayden Seminary, founded by the Free Will Baptists.

Participants in the ceremony included Mayor M. C. Baldree; Barton College President, James Hemby; former president of Mount Olive College, Dr. W. Burkette Raper; and Michael Hill of the North Carolina Department of Archives and History. Representation of the two denominations also participated.

Two former students of Ayden Seminary, Charlotte Barrow Gray and Wendell Prescott were present for the unveiling. Following the ceremony, a reception was held in the Ayden Community Building.

HAPPENINGS AT THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS

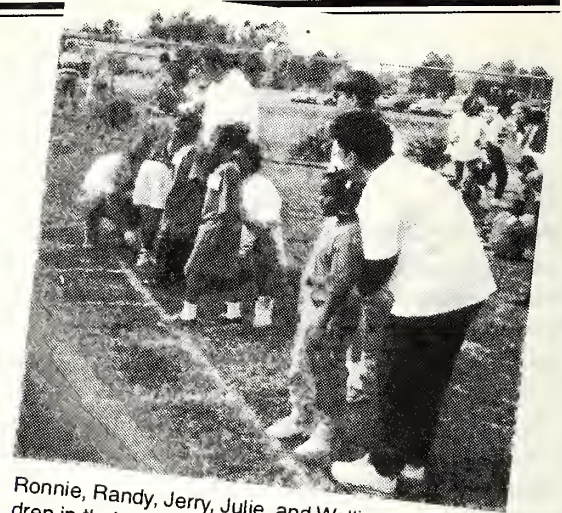


**Special
Olympics**
North Carolina

Greenville/Pitt County



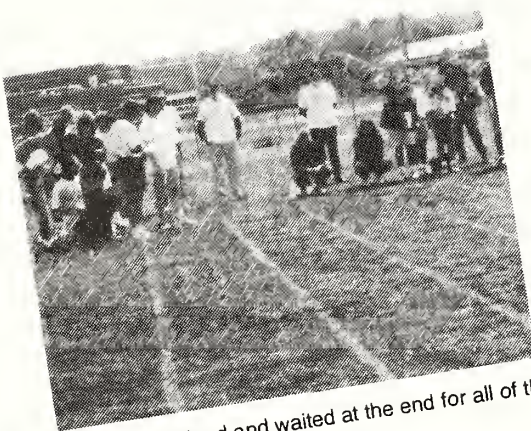
Early in the morning getting ready for the 25m dash.



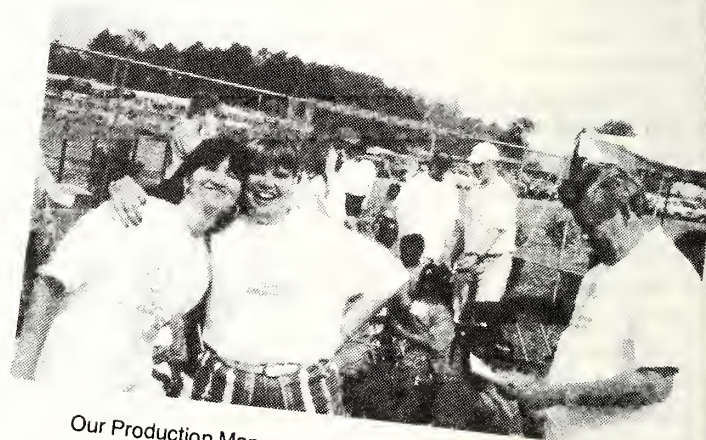
Ronnie, Randy, Jerry, Julie, and Wallie place the children in their lane and get them ready for the race.



After our event, and ready to head back to work.



Some of us judged and waited at the end for all of the winners.



Our Production Manager, Robert, is found working, while some of us just "goof off."

If any of you tried to contact any of us at the Press on April 12, we were out for the morning. Our day was shared by hundreds of volunteers of all ages to make the day a little more special for the physically challenged of Pitt County. Our faith was restored that people do care for those a little less fortunate. Whether it be an encouraging word, a cheer, or a hug at the finish line, all were touched by the courage each participant showed. So we may not have been working at the office and apologize for not being here, but to see those children was worth it.

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family,

Today I witnessed something that put a glimpse of hope back into humanity. We, at the Press, volunteered for the Pitt County Special Olympics. We assisted the 25 meter dash for ages seven and under. (See previous page for related photos).

It was not so much the kids that were the inspiration, but the volunteers themselves. Many were the elderly and students who had given up their day to be with those who are not as physically fortunate as we are.

Many of us do not face the obstacles that these children have to overcome just to make it through the day. Everybody at work kept saying how much you appreciate the little things after today. Often, I find myself debating and complaining about what to wear to work, what to eat for lunch, or what am I going to do at night.

In short this was a great humility lesson taught to all who participated. A chance to be more appreciative of the things that we all take for granted.

The greatest example of humility is seen through God's graciousness on a cross.
"In the Christian life, we must lose to gain: we must give to obtain:
we must be humble to be exalted"

-copied

In His Service,

Tracy

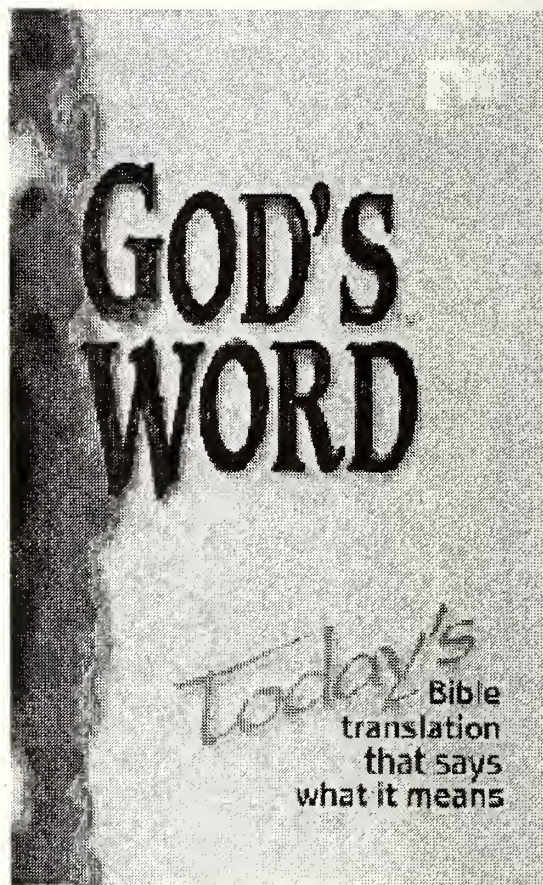
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The Free Will Baptist

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 Church _____

In the scheme of observances, Father's Day is the third Sunday in June. In the happy home, Father's Day is every day. And the father who has children who make it so can give thanks. For he is truly blessed.

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Durham, N.C. 27708-0972



A Father's Prayer

FATHER, thank you that I have become a father, too. Help me to remember that I, too, was once a child.

Give me patience: That I may give my sons and daughters time to learn for themselves, as all children must, what cannot be put off for later.

Give me forbearance: That I may always find the time to tell them what it is I must say. And let me always tell them out of love.

Give me understanding: That I may know something of what my children nurse within their hearts. And let my heart be full for them.

Give me restraint: That I may never let anger dictate how I act and speak to them. But neither let me vacillate or fail to say what should be said.

Give me judgment: That I may judge wisely their acts and actions—both what they have done and what they have not done—and measure their doings by the same scale as my own.

Give me insight: That I may see not only their faults but their strengths. Yet let me learn not to see things that will correct themselves.

Give me humor: That I may laugh with them and know they should sometimes laugh at me.

Give me sympathy, and compassion, too: That I may share their sorrows and, in sharing, help them learn to accept what must be.

Help me ever to provide well for them. Yet help them to know that all they want may not be theirs to have.

Instill within me a sense of values such that I may help them wisely build their own.

Give me humility along with strength that they shall have these, too.

And help me, Father, in my faith to You to be as a child such as was your Son, that I may guide my children in His footsteps and walk in them myself.

Jim Chaney

(Reprinted from *The Free Will Baptist*, 1967)

T June 1995
HE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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June 1995 • Volume 112 • Number 6

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NEXT MONTH

July is
Christian
Education
Month

June is
Cragmont Assembly
Month

Send a child to camp

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.

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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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Denominational Ministries

Cragmont Happenings



We all enjoyed a good time on our "Nashville Limited Edition" trip. Staying at the "Opryland Hotel" made all our activities; Opryland Theme Park, dinner on the "General Jackson," tour of the stars' homes, Grand Ole Opry and a Passion Play at Two River Baptist Church; very easy to get to.

Everyone had a good time "performing" on the "Grand Ole Opry" stage.



Dinner on the "General Jackson" was scrumptious!



Can you identify any of these preachers? Remember this was made forty years ago.

Schedule of Services for the Minister's Conference

at

Cragmont Assembly
June 12–14, 1995

Preaching From The Gospels

Theme verse: *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth . . .* (Romans 1:16).

Monday, June 13

7:00 p.m.	Is the Gospel Relevant Today?	Rev. Jeff Daughtry
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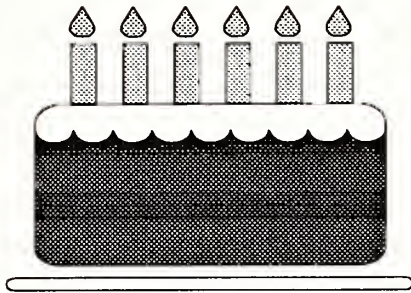
Tuesday, June 14

9:30 a.m.	The Gospel of Matthew	Rev. Robert May
10:45 a.m.	The Gospel of Mark	Rev. Calvin Heath

Wednesday, June 15

9:30 a.m.	The Gospel of Luke	Dr. Joe Ingram
10:45 a.m.	The Gospel of John	Rev. Bobby Carden

7:00 p.m.	Holy Communion and Washing of the Saints Feet	Rev. Wayne Hargrove and Rev. Henry Armstrong
-----------	--	---



LET'S PARTY!

It's Gonna Be Nifty . . .

'Cause Cragmont Is Fifty!

General Youth Conference II
Cragmont Assembly
July 10-15, 1995

Cragmont is having a birthday, and General Youth Conference II is going to have a party. This year for GYC II we are going to celebrate Cragmont's big 50 in a BIG way. Our entire week of camp is going to be one big party.

Our Biblical theme is going to be FORGIVENESS. We will be studying how God forgives us as well as how we must forgive others, as well as ourselves.

The cost for GYC II will be \$175.00, which includes transportation, room and board, CAROWINDS ticket, and a special GYC II shirt. We will send each applicant a letter giving all the details that are needed in order to prepare for camp.

Return to: Chris Singleton, Post Office Box 162, Beulaville, NC 28518
Phone: 910/298-3520

Name: _____ Sex: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Church: _____

Shirt Size: _____ Age: _____ Birthday: _____

Please enclose a deposit of \$25.00 and return by June 17, 1995.

General Youth Conference

July 17-22, 1995

It's time to begin making summer plans for Cragmont, and we would like to tell you about **General Youth Conference**.

Who we are: A week of summer camp for youth ages eight to eighteen.

What we do: Enjoy a week of Christian camping filled with instruction, recreation, music, fellowship, friendship, and just plain fun. We will also be taking a trip to "Carowinds" in 1995.

How we do it: 1. With continuity and experience. Some of the ministers on our staff have worked together for fourteen years. 2. With dedicated support staff. Many of our staff counselors have been with us seven years or more. They are committed and caring. 3. With organization. Each day is structured to include a balance of instruction, music, recreation, and worship.

And NEW this year: GYC is open to college students age 18-21! Yes, a great experience can be had in the mountains with GYC in 1995!

If you desire more information or would like to get on the mailing list when registration forms go out in April, please fill out the form below and return to Bryant Hines at PO Box 266, Cove City, NC 28523—or call 919-633-2683.

See you at camp!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Church Name: _____ City: _____

1995 Young People's Bible Conference Cragmont

July 24-29

\$160 (plus spending money)

\$50 Registration Fee

Ages 8-19

DONALD MASON
PO BOX 672
NEWPORT, NC 28570
919-726-3142

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AGE _____ CHURCH _____

() GIRL () BOY

APPLICATION MUST BE RETURNED BY JULY 1, 1995

**CRAGMONT WOMAN'S SUMMER CONFERENCES
REGISTRATION FORM**

PLEASE CIRCLE the 1995 Summer Conference you wish to attend.

June Conference
Speaker: Teresa Ball
Topic: Angels
June 5-10

August Conference
Speaker: Ramona Norman
Topic: Encouragement
July 31-August 5

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Church _____

Please circle your room preference:

Main Building Motel Girl's Dorm Other

If, *for health reasons*, you require downstairs accommodations, please check here:

Are you planning to ride the bus? _____ Yes _____ No

Please list the names of those with whom you would like to room: _____

Mail this registration form along with a \$20 deposit to: Teresa M. Ball, Route 1, Box 96-B, Grifton, NC 28530

A balance of \$100 will be due upon arrival at Cragmont.

The trips this year will be:

Black Mountain \$2.50
Asheville \$2.50

West Jefferson to visit 3 Churches with Frescoes
Trip includes tickets and 1 meal. \$45.00

**NOTE: PLEASE BE SURE TO PLAN FOR THE AUGUST CONFERENCE
TO BEGIN JULY 31ST WHEN MAKING YOUR SCHEDULES AND PLANS!**

**1995 Youth Frontier Conference
(AFC)
July 3-8
New Beginnings
Ages 8-12**

AFC camp is a time of learning about God, yourself and others. There will be plenty of fun, excitement, music, recreation, and new and old friends. Come and experience the new beginnings of AFC camp this year.

Cost: \$160 (plus spending money)

Send application and \$60 registration fee to: Frankie Baggett, Route 2, Box 214, Nashville, NC 27856

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Church: _____

Please make checks payable to: AFC Conference

CAMP

Summer

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

YFA WEEK

Cragmont Assembly

June 26 — July 1

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 be traveling to Cragmont Assembly to attend the 1995 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 June 26 — July 1.

This year's theme focuses on friendship. Our program will feature concentrated Bible study and an emphasis on discipleship, recreation, missions/evangelism, and much more. The week will be a friendship/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 a \$75 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 \$175. 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.

Minister's Program

Deciding What to Pay the Preacher

There is probably no other subject raised at a Quarterly Business Meeting that has the power to generate more discussion or interest than a motion to raise or lower a minister's salary. It seems that almost everyone has an opinion about what should or should not be done. About the only person that is not involved in the decision making process is the one that will be impacted the most and that is the minister and he is usually excused while the debate rages on. At best it is a lively discussion and at worse it can polarize a church and cause strife and division.

With all this at stake any church would be well advised to enter into these discussions fully prepared to discuss all aspects of the recommendation which is before the body. It is best that any recommendation for changes in the minister's compensation should come from a small committee of members who are willing to research the question and talk with the minister before reporting back to the church. This is usually accomplished by a finance committee and if your church does not have one a compensation committee should be formed to report to the congregation.

Communication is the key to resolving the issue of compensation and a meeting (or several) between the minister and the committee can go a long way in determining the expectations of the minister as well as the congregation. It is beyond the scope of this article to address the job description or work expectations of the minister. Instead we would like to focus on the compensation package and hopefully provide information that would assist the church in approaching this subject in a fair and equitable manner.

There are several factors that should be considered when making a decision on compensation.

- *If every member supported the church financially as they should what would the church be able to pay.
- *What are the needs of the minister and his family.
- *What is the average income of the church members.
- *Is the minister bi-vocational?
- *What is the experience level of the minister.
- *What is the educational level of the minister.
- *What are the expectations of the minister.
- *What is the compensation level for ministers of other denominations in your immediate area.

These are a few of the considerations that should be taken into account as you work on this subject. You notice that the

first one listed has to do with how the church is supported by the membership. All too often members are willing to allow the minister to accept less because they are not giving as they should to the church. If you are not supporting the church, regularly, systematically and proportionately you have forfeited your right to speak about money matters in the local church.

Do not console yourself with the notion that God will somehow take care of the minister if you underpay him. The Scriptures are plain that the congregation has that responsibility and it should be looked upon as a joy in helping to provide for the total ministry of the local church.

The needs of the minister should always be considered and he should be open in discussing these needs with the committee. He also has every right to expect that the discussions will be in confidence and that the minister's financial situation will not become church gossip.

What is the average income of working members in the local church? The minister should not be far above or below that figure. If the minister is bi-vocational then his income needs are less than one who has no other source of income but again, fairness is the key in these matters.

The experience and educational level of the minister should enter into your calculations. Even though he may be new to your congregation give him credit for the 20 years he spent serving other congregations. In addition a man that has taken the time, effort and trouble, not to mention the expense of furthering his education should also be given a higher level of consideration at this time.

What do you expect of your minister in the way of services, visitation and other work? The more that is required the more he should be compensated. And what does the minister down the road at the Methodist or Presbyterian Church earn? You have a friend down there so give them a call and ask you may be surprised.

The next big question is what makes up compensation? We are accustomed to paying the minister in a single check and then we consider that his salary. This does not give a fair picture when you compare his salary with someone in the private sector such as a teacher. Let's take a look at an average Free Will Baptist minister and a NC school teacher. For our purposes we will take the survey results from 1994 which shows that the average full-time Free Will Baptist minister has over 24 years experience and total income of \$27,053.

	TEACHER		MINISTER
Income	33,790		27,053
Individual Hospital Ins.	provided		1,500
Retirement	1,500		1,500
Self-Employment Tax	-0-		2,070
Travel Expense	not required	(15,000 @ .29)	4,350
Disability Ins.	provided		600
Life Insurance	provided		400
Vacation	2 months		2 weeks
Total	32,290		16,633

As you can see from these numbers that the teacher earns almost double what the minister receives in the course of a year and has 6 more weeks of vacation to enjoy it. And while the teacher's life is not always an easy one they are not on call 24 hours a day.

The average compensation for a minister on national scale is 50,400 per year including all benefits. This information came from "The 1995 Compensation Handbook for Church Staff."

We believe that the Free Will Baptists want to do what's right and as this information is placed before them then they will take it and use it to bring about a positive change in their church. We also have available for your use *The Minister's Program Book* which can be used in helping you plan together with your minister. If you would like a copy just drop us a note and request your copy:

The FWB Minister's Program
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513

If there is anything that we can do to help please give us the opportunity. Good luck and good planning.

Father's Day
June 18, 1995
is
Minister's Program
Sunday

Please take up special offering
for the Minister's Program

Contact: Don Fader

THE ROBERT M. FADER FAMILY ENDOWMENT

Age builds for each of us a platform from which we can view the important things of life. The years grant us experience and wisdom in helping us choose the good which makes life worthwhile. The Rev. Robert M. Fader worked hard during his life in promoting the cause of Christ through the FWB Denomination and the churches he pastored during his 43 years of service as an ordained minister.

He was licensed to preach at the age of 29 and he recognized that his call to preach was also a call to prepare for the ministry. This was not an easy task since he had the responsibility of a wife and two young children. Nonetheless he attended the classes prescribed by the Cape Fear Conference at night and on Saturdays. The cost of the classes, books and transportation was paid entirely by him. During the day he worked a full time job and also supplied the pulpit at the Raleigh Mission and later at the Selma Church.

This was not easy but he realized that he had to study hard in an effort to be fully prepared for the work he was called to do. His years of service to the Lord were good years for him and his family and he was very thankful to the denomination for giving him the opportunity to preach. He always felt like he received more than he gave and that he was blessed beyond measure in his service to the Free Will Baptists.

In an effort to return back to the Free Will Baptist church a small portion of what he was blessed with his wife and family established the **Robert M. Fader Family Endowment** at Mount Olive College to assist students in the future so perhaps it would not be as difficult to obtain their education. The Rev. Fader had a special affinity for the College and during his life he supported it in the churches he pastored and worked to contribute to its success. He was ordained the same year that the college enrolled their first class and perhaps this helped to create a bond as they both grew together in our denomination.

Although he is gone, the important work that he was associated with lives on in each of us and the endowment becomes a tangible means of honoring his memory and at the same time contributing to the work of the denomination he loved so well.



Carolyn Hill, Maynard Fader, Donald Fader, Eva Fader, W. B. Raper

for your **FYI** *information*

PASTOR NEEDED

First Free Will Baptist of Plymouth is searching for a fulltime pastor. If interested, send resume to Lewis Sullivan, 110 Roxie Reece Road, Plymouth, NC 27962 or phone, 793-3210.

SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Lay speaker available to meet any speaking needs of your church. Contact Willie Coleman, Faith FWB Church, Morehead City, NC, 919-726-7559 after 5 p.m.

PASTOR NEEDED

Full-time pastor needed at Rock Springs FWB Church, Bailey, NC. If interested contact: Charlie Brown, Rt. 1 Box 105, Bailey, NC 27807 or 919-235-3516 (after 6:00 pm)

This summer when you are at the beach, stop by **Silver Creek** for Sunday Services 10:00 am Emerald Isle, N.C.

NEWS FROM FOREIGN MISSIONS

VAN DER PLAS UPDATE

Willem was able to enter Eastern Europe for a period of six weeks during February and March. Lydia remained in Holland with family members. Willem was able to make some very important contacts that we believe will result in a visa in September of this year. He will not be able, however, to enter again until the latter part of June. Therefore the decision was made for Lydia to enter on May 3, while Willem remains in Holland. Lydia needs your daily prayers during this time. There are many difficulties in the country at this time. Our work has seen tremendous growth in 1995. The number of groups has grown to thirteen. In the midst of difficulty and persecution the Church always strengthens and grows.

If you wish to communicate with them, write to them at the following address:

Willem and Lydia van der Plas
Leeghwaterstraat 125
2871 PJ Schoonhoven
THE NETHERLANDS

**DO NOT SEND ANYTHING
TO EASTERN EUROPE!**

SHORT-TERM TEAM

The Short-Term Team to Mexico is taking shape. The Lord is bringing together those He wants to be on the team. Training sessions have begun in the Winterville and Wilson churches, to prepare our lives and hearts for this cross-cultural experience. Pray for the team as the departure date, August 6, draws near. Our chief desire is to be a blessing to the people of Mexico and glorify our Lord Jesus!

ANNUAL CONVENTION IN MEXICO

by the Rev. Antonio Escobar



The Annual Convention of Original Free Will Baptist churches, Mexico was held on March 11 in Saltillo, Coah.

The Convention was a blessed one and very edifying. We gained results and proposals that will help the work of the churches in their programs this year. We adopted the theme, "1995, The Year of Renewal—Free Will Baptist Churches Mexico." This program will be initiated in the month of April. We will use every minute of every day to glorify our Lord.

I also presented to the Convention the visit of the youth group and others in the month of August. We are looking forward to their participation in our church program.

Please continue to pray for each of our workers and the growth of our churches.

7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

by Rosan R. Briones



District I, Northern Palawan is composed of six of the following churches:

- 1) Taytay Free Will Baptist Church under supervision of the Rev. Pio dela Rosa.
- 2) Patmos Free Will Baptist Church Icadambanua under Pastor Juanito Dulce.
- 3) Spring of Life Free Will Baptist Church at Caruroy Calawag, Taytay, under Pastor Alex Lahao-Lahao.
- 4) Bethel Free Will Baptist Church at Calawag, Taytay, under Ernesto Tabanao.

- 5) Charity Free Will Baptist Church, Itangil, Palawan under Pastor Arturo Aspa.
- 6) San Jose, Free Will Baptist Church at San Jose, Dumarán under Deacon Luduvico Atanozo.

Last March 10–13, 1995, the North District held its 7th Annual District Conference at the Palawan State University (PSU) campus at Taytay, Palawan.

Taytay is about 210 kilometers away from Puerto Princesa City with rough and zigzag roads but thanks be to God who is so loving and merciful who brought us into this place safely.

There were at least 32 registered delegates including workers from the local churches.

The Rev. Pio dela Rosa spoke on “Church Administration,” Pastor Teddy Martinez, “Challenge us on Renewal and Preparation for the Second Coming of Christ,” and Pastor Juanito Dulce discussed “God’s Plan for the Ages,” specifically from Creation up to the return of Christ.

These four days of Conference were so inspiring and full of challenge.

Part of the Conference was the election of North District Conference.

The following were elected officers:

Chairman	Pastor Arturo Aspa
Vice Chairman	Pastor Juanito Dulce
Secretary	Mrs. Jocelyn Lahao–Lahao
Treasurer	Mrs. Villaren
Auditor	Deacon Luduvico Atanoso
C.R.O.	Juanito Delfin
	E. Sabarle
Adviser	Rev. Pio dela Rosa

We also conducted a crusade and film showing at PSU campus for the benefit of the lost people. Most of them are students from the school. The Rev. Dario S. Basingil, the Mission Director made the challenge through God’s Holy Word from Luke 15:11–23.

We are very blessed through the help of our Lord because the place where the conference was held is very peaceful and even the town mayor heartfully accepted our request. She allowed us to use the said school, and the basketball court for the evening crusades.

Thank God for being with us and please continue to pray for our work and the brethren in Palawan and in the world.

A TIME TO SHARE by the Rev. Dario S. Basingil



In the Philippines December is a time of social gatherings for friends and relatives. It is the best time to once more meet and greet each other, because it’s vacation time.

But for us in the Mission Department of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines it is a time to share. As God the Father has done. He shared with us His love by sending Jesus Christ His Son to die on the Cross for our sins.

On December 19, 1994 the Taglumot Free Will Baptist Church at Quezon, Palawan under the supervision of Pastor Lunie Lahao–Lahao held its Christmas celebration with members mostly of native Palawnos.

They invited us with the Musical Crusader for Christ band to highlight the occasion. Students from the Palawan Bible College went with us and helped in distributing the relief clothes to our poverty stricken brethren.

We pray God to richly bless us, that we can give not only used clothes but more.

ALL 4 HIM



Nine young people and their adult sponsors/instructors make up the group **All 4 Him**. They get their name from the idea of a four-way ministry: Singing, Cloning, Puppetry and Pantomime. Cragmont and General Youth II are the common background of these young people from a half-dozen Original Free Will Baptist churches. It can surely be said that they are "Youth serving in Creative Ministry." Colossians 3:17, provides a Scriptural basis for their ministry: "And whatever ye do . . . do all in the name of the Lord . . ."

All 4 Him have decided to become a part of **Touching Lives Corps** for *Home Missions and Evangelism* and are in the process of raising their support money to go on a mission to Florida this summer. St. Cloud will be the location of their efforts and they will work with Tina Wetherington and Michelle Bartlett, a **T.L.C.** team who will be there this summer.

The young people in the group are: Jennifer Parker, Mickey Hill and Garret Southerland of Westside Church in Kinston; Sarah Crumpler of Sarecta of Snow Hill churches; Scottie Rouse and Josh Whitfield of Rooty Branch Church in Duplin County; Sarah Cannon of Jackson Heights Church in Kinston; Karen Powell and Marci Rollins of First Church in Goldsboro. The adult sponsor/instructors are: Mrs. Cathy Crumpler, Mrs. Sharlene Howell, Mrs. Rebecca Hill and Mrs. Wilma Parker.

It is very special to see young people who are willing to give themselves to Jesus Christ and their Church in ministry. It is even more noteworthy that these young people are working to raise their own support for the mission to St. Cloud. If you have a question or if you would like to help in this endeavor, contact your department of *Home Missions and Evangelism*.

Please remember all the programs of our *Home Missions and Evangelism* department in your daily prayers and especially those involved in *Touching Lives Corps*.

THE FORTY-FIRST COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS: CASEY KASEM'S THREE STORY COUNTDOWN

Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College

Dr. Nido R. Qubein, Mount Olive College Trustee, introduced the 1995 Commencement speaker, Dr. Casey Kasem. With enthusiasm and charisma, Dr. Qubein declared, "I express to all of you my deepest gratitude for this enormous honor of introducing America's most well-known voice and for receiving the Honorary Doctorate of Laws today. I came to this campus in 1966. In this town I learned to speak the English language. I learned here at this College how to move from success to significance, how to serve others. With me today are members of my family. When I came to America, I was a penniless immigrant from Lebanon. The people at this College invested in me when I was in need. Miss Lawhorn who is 91-years-young, anonymously put money in my account to help me get a car. Dr. Raper and his wife Rose aided me, believed in me as a 17-year-old immigrant," he said as his voice quietly cracked from the emotion he felt.

"But I am here today to introduce to you your speaker. Our speaker does not need an introduction. *Everybody* knows his name. His voice is heard in over 40 countries. More than 10 million people hear him every week. He is the *best known voice in the world*. He has been successful in his profession for almost 40 years. Our speaker today has received so many awards because he is a fellow who cares about human beings," he said as he turned to look at his friend, Casey Kasem.

"I knew Casey would fall in love with Mount Olive College once he came here," Dr. Qubein continued. "And he has narrated a videotape of the top 10 reasons students should come to Mount Olive College. Joining him today are his lovely daughters, his beautiful bride, and many friends. Class of 1995, you are the luckiest class in Mount Olive College's history. What other college can boast that Casey Kasem came to town?"

Dr. Casey Kasem: Countdown One

"Dr. Byrd, Dr. Raper, Chairman Evans, faculty, graduates, and friends of Mount Olive College, this is the kind of moment I never really dreamed of. So many things have rushed in my head," began Dr. Kasem as he looked across the audience in College Hall on May 13, 1995. More than 2,500 people filled the facility. Casey Kasem also

received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree this day.

"If my parents were here, they would be proud. I am proud of my father. He left Lebanon at 14. He was illiterate. He made it *his priority* for me to get a college education," he explained. "And this College has made education a priority. Dr. Raper has served as your president for an all-time record of 40 years. He started his leadership in 1954 with 22 students and \$6.17. Today before me is the *largest graduating class in the history of the college*," noted Dr. Kasem.

"Last spring I made a tour of the campus," he continued as he looked at the 1995 graduating class. "At the end of the tour I asked a dozen students questions about this College. They told me it was one of the friendliest colleges in America and now I know why they feel like members of a family," he said.

"You graduates of 1995 are our hope of the future, our guarantee of a better tomorrow," he proclaimed. "To enter the world might be a little like how a small school girl reported on Socrates. She said in her report three things about Socrates: (1) Socrates talked alot. (2) Socrates gave people good advice. (3) The people poisoned him."

Dr. Kasem smiled. He had began his countdown.

"I have three stories to tell you today, so I shall begin with Countdown One. When I was at college in Detroit, I started a local radio station. I also got a chance on network radio with the *Lone Ranger Show*. One day I was late for the network radio show and my boss replaced me for one show. He told me that there are two ways to make it in the world—the *easy* way or the *hard* way. He gave me good advice. He taught me the importance of being considerate, being respectful of the people you work with, developing not only your skills but your *attitude*. The number one reason for hiring somebody is not for their qualifications or experience but for their *attitude*.

Dr. Casey Kasem: Countdown Two

"During my early career on radio, I worked in Oakland, California. My boss wanted me to stop using jokes and funny characters as I played music. Instead he wanted me to talk about the artists, the songs, little facts about the singers. He gave me three hours to come up with a brand new format. I was in a bind.

When I came back to the studio after three hours, I didn't know what I was going to do. The maintenance man had put a trash barrel in the door to get some air in the radio studio. There in the trash was a news copy of *Who's Who in Pop Music in 1962*. This publication had facts about popular artists. I literally pulled my career out of a trash can," he admitted as he laughed.

"I went on the air," he continued, "and I did what the boss wanted me to do. I don't know exactly what this story proves except don't be afraid to try new things. If you're given a lemon, make lemonade. The Chinese translate the word *crisis* as *opportunity*."

Dr. Casey Kasem: Countdown Three

"The third story in the countdown take me back to 1975. I was hired to be the announcer for a new sitcom, *Soap*. I was hired to announce and narrate *Soap*. When I attended the live taping of the show, I felt uncomfortable with the language of the sitcom. I saw the language as potentially offensive. If I was going to narrate *Soap*, it would appear as if I were endorsing the use of the language on the show. I couldn't narrate this show. They found another announcer. Did I regret my decision?" he asked.

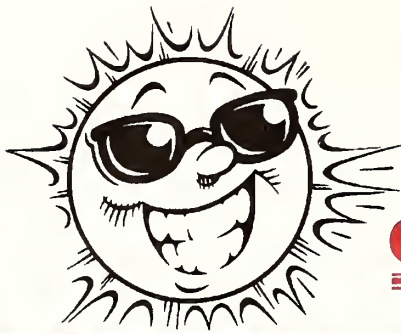
"No!" he emphatically answered.

Another network break came to him when NBC wanted an announcer for all primetime promotions. I was free to accept NBC's offer because I had turned down *Soap*. The lesson I learned was to stand by your values. True success is more than money. True success is maintaining personal standards, standing up for personal values, upholding your self respect. The most important thing is to have a good name," he said.

"Remember," Dr. Kasem concluded, "today you graduates of 1995 are fulfilling the hopes and dreams not only of yourselves but of your family, your teachers, your counselors, your benefactors.

Let us dedicate this special song to all who have helped us to reach this day, the song that speaks of another as our hero, another as the wind beneath our wings.

The entire audience rose to applaud Dr. Casey Kasem's inspiring address and to celebrate the song that speaks of appreciation to all those who have been wind beneath our wings.



JUNE



SUN

MON

TUE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
2	5	6	7
	▲ JUNE WOMEN'S AUXILIAR		
11	12	13	14
	▲ MINISTER'S CONFERENCE, JUNE 12-15		
18	19	20	21
○ Minister's Program Father's Day			
	■ WOMEN'S WEEK, JUNE 19-21 ▲ CHRISTIAN CADET CO		
25	26	27	28
	▲ YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE		

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PR

G E N D

...us/following month
...nt month

- Minister's Program
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Vandemere
- * Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3
	8	9 + Press Material Deadline	10
CONFERENCE, JUNE 5-10 • TERESA BALL, REGISTRAR			
Flag Day	15	16	17
PIP BOYKIN, REGISTRAR			
...er Begins	22	23	24
RS. AUDREY QUINN, DIRECTOR CONFERENCE, JUNE 19-24 • GARY BAILEY, REGISTRAR			
	29	30	<small>Print</small>
..., JUNE 26-JULY 1 • SCOTT & JANIE SOWERS, REGISTRAR			

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

THEY BELIEVED

Immigrants came to America in the late 1800's,
their hearts heavy with history's weight,
language, work, a future less likely at home
than in America,
land of opportunity,
place of dreams,
hope for tomorrow.

They believed.

Many came from Lebanon, minds illiterate
but bodies willing to weave a way
for the next generation,
as if to push children from nests of tradition
to fly across water:
wings the thing to change what is
to make what could be
provided winds of belief
push babes higher and higher
into self identity:
America the land of definition,
I am who I am.

They believed.

What our great-grandparents, uncles, aunts, mothers, fathers, teachers,
counselors, benefactors challenged
must never be forgotten, dismissed, belittled,
for it is their courage,
their heroism,
their belief in us before we were born
that makes our life
American,
free,
challenging,
surprising.

They believed.

We are who we are who we are
because someone believed in us,
breathed hope under our wings,
sent us out from ourselves
to work, serve, struggle with others
in order to become
what true education proclaims:
the whole person healed by grace.

They believed and so we believe.

—Pepper Worthington
May 13, 1995

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BEGINS PROCESS

by Ray Wells, Convention President

Most of you know that the Executive Committee has regrettably accepted the resignation of the Rev. C. H. Overman as Executive Administrator of the Convention. His resignation becomes effective October 1, 1995. Due to the resignation, the Convention Executive Committee has appointed a search committee to begin seeking a successor. The committee consists of the Revs. Ronnie Hobgood, Fred Baker and Ray Wells.

The search committee will begin immediately to receive resumes from those persons that may wish to be considered for this position. The committee will receive resumes through June 30, 1995. Please send your resume to the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood at 2426 South Charles Street, Greenville, NC 27858. All resumes will be kept confidential and the final decision will be made by the Executive Committee of the Convention. Please be much in prayer for the search committee and the Executive Committee and the decisions they will be making in the coming months.

The qualifications for the office follows:

Qualifications and Responsibilities of the Executive Administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

I. Purpose

The purpose of this position shall be to provide a principle administration of the Convention and Executive Committee and the establishment of an office for the purpose of general public relations within and without the denomination relative to the entire program of the Convention. (Article III, Section 4 of Constitution and Bylaws)

II. Qualifications

A. Personal

1. The person shall evidence personal integrity, good moral and ethical behavior and financial responsibility in personal financial management.
2. Shall evidence good character and Christian commitment.
3. Shall evidence personality qualities that will contribute to good interpersonal relationships.
4. Shall evidence sound Christian conviction with the capacity and willingness for open-mindedness and honesty in all deliberations and decisions.

5. Shall be a person given to neatness and good taste in matters of dress and appearance.
6. Shall be willing to do extensive travel given the broad scope of the denomination and its various ministries.

B. Educational

1. The Executive Administrator shall have adequate training and experience in the areas of pastoral and administrative leadership, to include at least a college degree.
2. Shall hold a personal theological position that is generally mainstream of the denomination.
3. Biblical knowledge supportive of an adequate perception and understanding of the Church should be viewed as an essential part of the educational foundation of the person.

C. Experience

1. The person shall have at least 10 years service as a pastor and/or in an approved ministry with sufficient evidence of success.
2. Shall have had leadership and/or administrative responsibilities in the larger work of the denomination (Conference or Convention level).
3. Shall have had involvement in ecumenical endeavors and relations so as to properly relate to interdenominational activities.

III. Responsibilities

A. The Executive Administrator is the chief executive officer of the church and as such is accountable to the Executive Committee and is responsible for the administration of the Executive Committee work within the framework of such policies as maybe approved by the Executive Committee from time to time. Make reports to various areas.

B. Relation to the Executive Committee. Shall attend the meetings of the committee. Shall at the direction of the Committee implement such actions and functions of the Committee as they may deem necessary.

C. Planning and Coordination. The Executive Administrator is responsible for the coordination of the activities, policies, and procedures of the various boards,

commissions and committees of the Executive Committee and the Convention. In this role he is to serve as a consultant and keep himself properly informed as to the program procedures and policies being followed in the various boards, commissions and committees and suggest ways in which these may be kept consistent with the overall coordination and assignments of the Convention and Executive Committee. The Executive Administrator shall offer suggested goals, plans, direction, and programs to the various boards, including the Executive Committee, to centralize our goals and strengthen our structure for the purpose of building up the Kingdom of God.

D. Scope of Authority. The Executive Administrator shall have responsibility to coordinate the central working of the Denominational Boards.

E. That in fraternal and ecumenical circles this person shall serve to properly relate the denomination to the larger Christian community.

F. That in program development, direction be given so as to maintain a proper balance of emphasis and promotion to effect a minimum amount of completion and advance the total ministry of the denomination.

G. Specific Responsibilities

1. The Executive Administrator is responsible to coordinate with the Recording Secretary in the publication and distribution of the annual Yearbook.

2. The Executive Administrator is responsible to work with the Recording Secretary in printing and distribution of the Annual Church Letter prior to the Convention.

3. The Executive Administrator will be responsible for compiling and the publication of the annual Denominational Report Book.

4. Pastoral Liaison: The Executive Administrator shall act as a pastoral liaison person with the pastors of the Convention. He shall prepare and maintain a Ministerial Service Record file and shall assist pastors and churches in regards to their need of placement, salary and benefits.

5. Denominational Calendar: The Executive Administrator shall be responsible to prepare each year a Denominational Calendar. He shall expect complete cooperation from the various boards, commissions and committees in its preparation.

6. The Executive Administrator will have the responsibility for the general superintendence of the Denominational Headquarters.

7. Additional Functions and Work Delegations: The Executive Administrator is responsible for performing such additional functions as may be referred to his office by action of the Convention or Executive Committee. In performance of all his functions, he is authorized to make such delegation of work to qualified office help.

IV. Salaries for the Executive Administrator

A. The position of Executive Administrator of the Convention will be a contract agreed upon by himself/herself and the Executive Committee (Article II, Section 5, Constitution and Bylaws).

Send resumes

by June 30, 1995

to:

The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

2426 South Charles Street

Greenville, NC 27858

A GOOD SOLDIER: A FATHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

On April 3, 1995 at 6:41 a.m. my father, the Rev. Robert M. Fader Sr., reached out and took the Master's hand as he stepped out of this world into eternity to dwell forever with his Lord. He died peacefully at home with his wife and son close by. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Eva L. Fader, three children, Carolyn F. Hill, Robert M. Fader Jr., Donald E. Fader and six grandchildren. His health had been failing during the past year due to cancer but it is not his death that prompts this tribute but rather it was his life that causes me to write these words.

My father was born in Massachusetts on October 28, 1920 to Weldon S. and Ethel M. Fader. As a young man he was taught the importance of church and the need for a strong and vital faith. He was one of six children and grew up during the Great Depression Era of the 20's and 30's. Although he was raised on the brink of poverty he learned courage in the face of want and the dignity of honest work.

At the age of 17 he joined the United States Marine Corps and served with distinction in the South Pacific during World War II. He faced the enemy in Guadalcanal and Bougainville and it was during the heat of battle that he prayed for deliverance and rededicated his life to the Lord. Although many young men experienced "foxhole conversions" only to stray in times of peace the promise that dad made on the field of battle would direct his paths for the rest of his life.

During his tour of duty with the marines he was stationed at Camp Lejeune and while there he met and married my mother who was from the Arba community of Greene County and was a member of Hull Road Church. Following the war dad chose to move back to North Carolina with his family. They became active in the Hull Road Church and dad taught the Young Men's Class and also sang with the Hull Road Quartet along with, George Harrison, John Jarman, and Henry Harrison.

Dad was called to preach in 1949 at the age of 29 and received his education from extension courses offered through the Bible College in Nashville. While a licensed minister he served the Raleigh Mission. He was ordained in the Cape Fear Conference at the age of 32 and pastored the Selma Church.

In 1958 he changed his conference membership to the Eastern and was a faithful member of that conference for the remainder of his life. He served Indian Springs, Christian Chapel, Hugo, White Oak Grove, Smith's New Home, British Chapel, Bethlehem, Walnut Creek and Longridge.

Working with the churches dad was able to see progress in both membership and church programs. His ministry touched the lives of many people and he baptized scores during the course of his service. While serving at Bethlehem he baptized 27 members during the winter in an outside service at Catherine Lake almost freezing in the process.

Except for a brief period during the 1950's dad was a bivocational minister which meant that in addition to the rigors of a full-time pastorate he also had to work full time jobs to provide for his family. He always tried to balance his pastorate, job and family but there are only so many hours in a day so the family understood when a revival or hospital visit would call him away unexpectedly.

Music was a passion with him and he enjoyed singing solos as well as working with the choirs in the churches he served. During the 1950's and 1960's it was not unusual for ministers to serve two pastorates. Dad was no exception and on first and third Sundays he was at one church and on second and fourth Sundays he would be at another. Every 3 months there would be a fifth Sunday in which the minister would have a "day off." It was on these Sundays that dad worked with the Fifth Sunday Singspiration. This was a Sunday evening singing event that featured choirs, groups, and soloists from area churches and during the year churches would volunteer to host the event.

In 1979 at the age of 59 dad suffered a bout with pneumonia that went into congestive heart failure. His heart valve, already weakened by rheumatic fever which was contracted during his military service, began to disintegrate causing strokes which left him incapacitated and disabled. He was transferred to the V.A. Hospital in Durham and while there his doctors proposed surgery. Nothing seemed to go right and a simple heart catheterization stopped his heart altogether and left him in intensive care for several days. His condition worsened and the doctors advised surgery but held out no hope for survival advising the family that there was only a 5% chance of recovery but without surgery there was a 100% chance of death.

My father has always had a zest for life and a faith as strong as any as I have ever seen so in the midst of this seemingly hopeless situation God intervened and dad was delivered to continue his service to God in the churches of our Convention. The promise he made on the battlefield 38 years earlier continued to drive him in his return to the pulpit. His recovery was long and arduous and the

strokes had left him with no recall of the bible verses he loved so dear. But he made progress every day and the first passages of Scripture that came back to him was from the 14th chapter of John.

Following his return home he realized he was unable to pastor at that time so he resigned from Walnut Creek Church. My sister, out of concern for his health, suggested that it might be good if he retired from the ministry but he explained in no uncertain terms that God had called him to preach and as long as he could get one person to listen to him he was going to preach the Gospel.

Following a brief pastorate at Longridge Church he accepted the call to preach at British Chapel Church in Lenoir County. Dad had previously served this church in the early 1970's and he and my mother committed themselves to the work that lay in store. He visited in the community with the sick and unchurched and worked hard in his ministry at British Chapel.

With the help of the membership the church experienced growth in several areas but most notably among the young people. During the youth sermon it was commonplace to have 10-15 young people and sometimes even more. Youth activities as well as special programs for the adults kept the congregation active.

Dad's health since 1980 was never great and he had several surgeries that would sideline him for a while but his faith and a dedicated will to serve God kept him coming back. In January of 1994 he needed to have his heart valve replaced again but the surgery went well and in a few short weeks he was back in the pulpit. However in April of that same year he had a reoccurrence of a prostate cancer and this time it had spread to other organs. Still he kept on and the Church stood behind him helping him all the way.

They had a successful Vacation Bible School and in September the Church honored him with a Pastor Appreciation Day. He and several members were able to wire in a new audio system for the church during this time and although he was failing physically his love of serving God through the ministry never diminished and he never wavered in his commitment to the Lord. It became apparent to those around him that dad was going to have to step down but he was not yet finished. On a Sunday in January, prior to his resignation, dad was able to baptize 9 new converts in the baptistry that he had helped install at the Church.

The next Sunday morning he called me before church to talk about resigning. He was very emotional about the decision and I sensed that more than anything he felt he

was letting God down. We talked further and I acknowledged that he was making the best decision and that if God had another miracle for him he could go back later. I had learned to never count him out.

Dad began to fail fast but I believe that God granted him an extra measure of grace in that he was able to spend his last days at home in his own bed and he never took anything stronger than tylenol with codeine for his pain. On Monday morning, April 3, 1995 at 6:41 a.m. dad breathed in and then breathed out and then he went home to be with the Lord. I walked over to the window and opened the blind to a beautiful spring morning and I thought about an illustration that I had read concerning death. It spoke of a sailing ship heading out to sea and those left on shore watched the ship until the sail disappeared below the horizon and then they remarked "there she goes." But at that same instant on some far shore another group was waiting and watching and they saw her sail appear on the horizon and they exclaimed "here she comes." I could not help but think that although he was out of our sight at that same moment a faithful cloud of witnesses were welcoming him home.

The kindness shown by friends, and church members has made it possible to carry the sad burden. Dr. Raper and Rose visited with dad on the day before he died and they were a comfort to our family during dad's sickness and also through the funeral. Dr. Raper used dad's bible for the funeral services speaking from passages that dad had marked and reading poetry left behind in the well worn pages. Bob Smith, a deacon at British Chapel and other members of the church were there when the family needed them and were wonderful in every way. A special thanks to each of you that came during visitation and those who remembered the family with prayers, gifts to the Robert Fader Family Endowment, cards, flowers, and food.

I would have been fortunate just to have known dad but I was blessed to have grown up in the same home with him as my father. After the service Frank Harrison, Chaplain for Mount Olive College came up to me and said "We have lost a good soldier." It struck me that this was how dad would have wanted to be remembered. He was not a general in our denomination in that he did not hold the high offices in the conferences or Convention, however he had great respect for those that did. He was simply a soldier that worked day to day in the trenches of our denomination serving the churches as he was able all the while making good on a promise he made in the heat of battle 50 years ago and half a world away.

ON THE MOVE WITH THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE



These men represent the different churches that came to the State Layman's League Meeting at Rose Hill FWB Church, May 5, 1995.

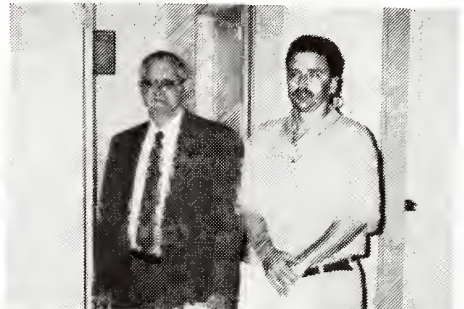


May 5, 1995—State Layman's League President, Elmer Harrell

Harrell's Chapel Sunday School Class—The Christian Crusaders and family at John Harrell's Pond



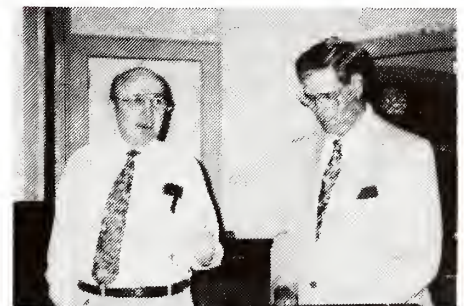
Macon Page, President of the Rose Hill FWB Church at the State Layman's League Meeting.



May 5, 1995—Eastern Conference Presidents: Left to Right: J. T. Wilson (Past President), Steve Garner (New President).

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| June 1 | Promotional Committee, Elmer Harrell's Office, Snow Hill, NC |
| Junes 2-3 | Spiritual Life Retreat |
| June 5 | Central Conference, Little Creek FWB Church |



May 5, 1995—Rex: "Want to buy a Chevrolet fellow" Elmer: "Oh! No! It's that Chevrolet salesman again! Help me Lord!"

Camp Vandemere

Here is our schedule for 1995. We have some available time still open if someone would like to have a week of camp.

JUNE 19-23 WOMEN'S WEEK

Mrs. Audrey Quinn, Director
461 Wintergreen Road
Cove City, NC 28523
Phone: 638-6406

JULY 24-28 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. Joe Ratcliff, Director
6280 U.S. Hwy 17 North
Vanceboro, NC 28586
Phone: 244-0207

JULY 10-14 YOUTH WEEK

Eva Mae Clark, Director
485 Half Moon Road
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone: 637-5346

JULY 31-AUGUST 4 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. Paul Grubbs, Director
Route 2, Box 1970
Belhaven, NC 27810
Phone: 964-4402

JULY 17-21 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. Stanley Buck, Director
108 Hope Lodge Street
Tarboro, NC 27864
Phone: 823-3964

AUGUST 7-11 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. David Vesper, Director
1866 Highway 24 East
Newport, NC 28570
Phone: 726-3051

For information or reservations for use of camp contact: Ralph Sumner, 571 Sumner Road, Pink Hill, NC 28572 or phone 910-298-5885 or the Camp number 919-745-3171 or 919-745-7938.

CAMP VANDEMERE DAY

The Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere as approved by the Eastern Conference sincerely requests that all churches observe **Sunday, July 2, 1995** as Camp Vandemere day. We request that each church have a special time of prayer. Pray for the Board of Directors, the manager, and staff, pray that souls will be saved, and for each director. We request that the youth be encouraged to attend one of the weeks of Camp. You may want to help with their expense. We request each church receive a special offering for the Camp over and above their budgeted funds. We have a nice family sleeping lodge available for families or small groups. The rates are reasonable. To make reservations for a retreat or any use of the Camp contact, Ralph Sumner, 571 Sumner Road, Pink Hill, NC 28572 or phone him at 910-298-5885 or at camp, 919-745-3171 or 919-745-7938. Send all donations to Mrs. Judy Kennedy, 933N. N. C. 41, Pink Hill, NC 28572.

ORDINATION BOARD

The Ordination Board of the Albemarle Conference voted to declare that Kenneth Littleton was no longer a member of said Conference, April 29, 1995.

W. C. Overton
Chairman of the Board

ALBEMARLE UNION MEETING

The Albemarle Union meeting will be held at Mount Tabor FWB Church on July 29, 1995. The schedule is as follows:

Opening Session

- Pianist, Mrs. Lucille Jones
- 10:00 Devotions, Rev. Everett Harper
- 10:10 Welcome, Pastor
- Response, Rev. Robert May
- 10:15 The Moderator's Address, Rev. Charlie Overton
- 10:20 Roll call of Ministers
- Recognition of Visiting Ministers
- Roll Call of Churches
- 10:30 Offering
- Announcements
- Prayer Time

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 & Foreign, Via Literature
- Report of Cragont, 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

- Five Minute Testimonies
- 11:25 Message, Rev. Keith A. Pelletier
- Benediction
- Adjournment and Lunch

**MISS ADA HUGHES
80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY**



Ada Hughes

The members of Yelverton Grove FWB Church, Smithfield, NC honored Miss Ada Hughes with a birthday party on April 2, 1995 celebrating her 80th birthday. Approximately 65 family and friends attended the party, which was held in the fellowship hall of the church.

A 3-tiered white birthday cake decorated with flowers in spring colors was cut and served by her sister, Frances Pike of Virginia. A family friend, Betsy Jones, served ice cream and Mavie Daughtry poured cokes for the guests. Doris Hughes, sister-in-law of "Miss Ada" and nieces, Ann Austin and Jamie Strickland greeted the guests. Ladies in the church assisted with the serving.

An Easter theme was chosen for the occasion as a reminder of the many Easter Egg Hunts that "Miss Ada" has conducted during her more than 50 years as the Nursery Sunday School teacher. The table centerpiece was made of three trees decorated with colored eggs and birds on the branches. Grass underneath the trees had Easter eggs hidden in it.

Miss Ada was born on April 5, 1915 in Johnston County where she has lived all of her life. Her parents were Mr. John R. and Mrs. Minnie Johnson Hughes. She was one of seven children. She attended schools in Smithfield, NC. Two of her sisters, Frances Pike of Virginia, Lola Mae Lee of Smithfield, and her brother, Jim Hughes of Smithfield, as well as several nieces and nephews attended the party.

"Miss Ada" as she is called by the children in the church, is an active member of Yelverton Grove FWB Church and was recently awarded a pin for 53 years of perfect Sunday School attendance. She is loved and respected by all who knows her and especially the many children that she has taught in Sunday School.

The party was enjoyed by all those attending and it was certainly a pleasure for the church members to honor her on this special day!

WOOTEN'S CHAPEL CHURCH



H. H. Pollard and Mrs. Callie Barbour

Wooten's Chapel Church honored H. H. Pollard—49 years perfect attendance in Sunday School and Mrs. Callie Barbour 18 years perfect attendance in Sunday School. The Rev. Charlie Carroll is the pastor and Jesse W. Dry Jr. is Sunday School Superintendent.

YELVERTON GROVE FWB CHURCH PRESENTS 1994 PERFECT ATTENDANCE PINS



Front Row—L to R: Abigail Capps, Charlie Godwin; Back Row—L to R: Scott Taylor, Melissa Taylor, Miss Ada Hughes, Gene Rose

Yelverton Grove FWB Church, Smithfield, NC awarded pins for perfect attendance to six of its members recently. The pins were awarded to individuals who had attended Sunday School every Sunday during the year.

Mr. Stacy Jackson, Sunday School Superintendent, presented the pins to each member according to the number of years of perfect attendance. Each member receiving a pin was commended for his faithfulness and perseverance in attending Sunday School every Sunday. Special recognition was given to Miss Ada Hughes for 53 years and Gene Rose for 39 years.

Those receiving pins were as follows: Charlie Godwin, 1 year; Scott Taylor, 2 years; Melissa Taylor, 3 years; Abigail Capps, 7 years; Gene Rose, 39 years; and Miss Ada Hughes, 53 years.

SECOND UNION OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE

The next meeting of the Second Union of the Central Conference will be Sunday, April 30, 1995, at 3 p.m. at the Hillside Free Will Baptist Church, our Missions Church in Grifton. The Rev. Eldon Brock is the pastor. The Rev. Brock can be reached at 527-6985 for directions to the church. We encourage you to attend this meeting.

We also encourage the denominational enterprises to send written reports and guest speakers to the Union meetings to inform the Free Will Baptist people what is going on in each enterprise.

The Rev. Mark R. Hogan, pastor at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, will be our guest speaker. Please come and show your support to the Rev. Hogan.

If your church cannot attend this Union meeting or you would like to mail your contribution before the meeting, you may mail it to Annie Tyson at the address below. Please fill out the form below and mail it with your contribution.

We appreciate your support of the Second Union meetings of the Central Conference. We look forward to seeing you, your pastor, or delegates on April 30!

Annie W. Tyson, Secretary

NAME OF CHURCH AND ADDRESS: _____

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PASTOR: _____

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CLERK: _____

NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING THIS MEETING (April 30, 1995): _____

AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION: _____

MOC PROFESSOR INDUCTED IN SOCIETY



Dr. Pepper Worthington, professor of English at Mount Olive College, has been elected to Delta Kappa Gamma International, a society composed of key women educators. She was inducted into the society on May 11, 1995. Dr. Worthington is the author of three books, *Travels With Dr. Pepper* (1990), *Stand Up And Be A Voice* (1991), and *The Triadic Archetype in Keats' Poetry* (1992). Dr. Worthington is also the author of *Rights and Ethics: Individul Rights and the Common Good* (co-sponsored by The National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the MOC Press), in 1993; *What's English In Departments of English?* (co-sponsored by the National College English Association and the MOC Press) in 1994; and *Images in Art and Life: Contemporary Psychoanalytic Perspectives* in 1994. Dr. Worthington has been teaching at Mount Olive College since 1979.

NC WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The 68th Annual Session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention of Original Free Will Baptist was hosted by the Central District at the Greenville First Church Greenville, NC, on May 11, 1995.

The theme was "Refresh—Reach Out—Revitalize."

The Scripture: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

Jan Smith, State Vice President presented the Devotions and Prayer.

Janette Spain, Vice President of the Central District gave the Welcome; response was by Edith McPherson, Vice President of the Pee Dee District; Mac Pittman made the announcements.

Carolyn Jernigan, President of the Convention brought greetings and recognized delegates, state officers, ministers and Dr. Bill Byrd, President of Mount Olive College.

On behalf of the Convention, Alma Dale presented the Life Membership Award to Dola Dudley.

Tracy McCoy, Editor of FWB Press chaired a skit which included reports

from all of the Denominational Ministries, humorous and informative.

The Rev. Doug Skinner was presented a plaque for 14 years of service with the AFC's at Cragmont.

Jean Ackiss, State Field Secretary introduced Dianne Riley, Christian Literature Chairman who brought the morning Worship message. She was assisted by rising sophomores at Mount Olive College, Daniel Thomas, Mary Ann Ham, and Julie Wetherington.

Ruth Taylor, of the host church invited us to lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Frances Phillips prayed the blessing and benediction.

The afternoon devotions were given by Clentis Capps, Vice President of the Western District. Lorraine Garner, Vice President of the Eastern District sang "I'd Rather Have Jesus."

Eunice Sexton, Vice President of the Albemarle District presented the Memorial Service. Phyllis McLamb, Vice President of the Cape Fear District sang "Each One Can Reach One."

Alma Dale led in a Chorus time just prior to the business session.

The Credentials Committee reported 229 in attendance at the Convention.

A rising vote of thanks was given Greenville First Church for the delicious lunch, the beautiful roses at the altar and hospitality.

The music director Alma Dale and organist Ruth Taylor were a blessing in the congregational singing and special music.

The Convention was truly a great day of fellowship with God and each other. Alma Dale prayed the benediction.

Ruth L. Warrick
Corresponding Secretary

June Is

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Year of Jubilee in 1995.**

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM DEEP RUN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

On Sunday, April 9, 1995 Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church members were honored with a musical "The Easter Basket" presented by the youth of the church under the direction and expert leadership of JoAnn Grubbs. Pictured below are some of the cast that made the musical possible: Adam Howard, Melissa Hill, David Hill, Allison Howard, Ashley Heath, Teresa Heath, Craig Wade, Ashley Swaner, Troy Smith, Mary Elizabeth Miller, Jacob Cowley, Hillary Smith, Sandi Howell, Rhonda Houston, and Brooke Gray.



Through this musical different symbols that represented the meaning of Jesus giving His life on the Cross were explained. The message of Easter was presented through songs and works of inspiration by the youth throughout the musical.

The Junior High Sunday School class members presented a skit that added additional meaning to this special day. The class made a cross from the Christmas tree that was placed in the church

during the month of December. The cross was decorated by using other symbols; such as; Easter lillies, white ribbon and ivy. Participants from the class were Lindsay Hawkins, Angie Stewart, Trey Sloan, Michael Raynor, Natallio Bautista, and Sarah Benson. The Junior High Class is pictured below performing their skit.



In addition, the Junior High Sunday School class made a special presentation to Mr. Milton Harper for his dedication to the church. Mr. Harper was presented a plaque by his grandson Natallio Bautista and Greg Smith, Sunday School teacher of the Junior High class. This caption depicts Mr. Milton (Salty) Harper receiving the special award and Mr. Greg Smith, teacher. Mr. Harper is truly deserving of this honor and is commended by all for his leadership and dedication to the church at all times.



To highlight this special service on Palm Sunday the church chose this day to be recognition Sunday for our children. The church was decorated with balloons tied to treats that were presented to the children after worship services as a part of Children's Day Recognition. In addition, Mrs. Hazel Smith read a poem that helped to make this day even more special. Special thanks is expressed to Hazel Smith, Debbie Miller, and Gail Howard for their leadership in this event.

The musical, skit, special recognition, and colorful decorations all combined to make this a memorable day for all in attendance. The membership of the church commends the youth for a job well done and for making Palm Sunday a very exciting day for us. Through these messages everyone was able to concentrate more fully on preparing of self for the Easter holiday and its meaning for Christians.



These captions show Colby Smith and Tommy Stewart (above) reading Scriptures for the program. (Not pictured) Barry Hawkins also assisted by reading Scripture.



THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY

The May issue of *The Free Will Baptist* carried the announcement of my resignation as Executive Administrator of our Convention. The resignation was presented on April 11, 1995. The deadline for publication in *The Free Will Baptist* had passed, with the exception of the brief announcement. Therefore, I feel it necessary to comment further about my resignation.

As previously announced, I will serve until October 1, 1995. Based upon my request, the Executive Committee agreed to release me of my Sunday obligations for the months of July–September, so I can begin pastoral duties. Any previously planned commitments for these months, or any necessary duty for the Convention, will be fulfilled. Also, based upon the request and agreement of the Executive Committee, I will continue to serve as chairman of Project Solution (providing that my successor is in agreement).

I came into this office and work in July of 1989. Thus, by the end of September I will complete more than six years of service. As stated in my resignation, “It has been a highlight of my ministry to serve my denomination and my Lord in this capacity.”

During these years I have written often about my convictions and feelings about my denomination, and especially my work in this capacity. Maybe I have been too repetitious, but I have felt it necessary to do so, stating and restating what this work means to me, as well as how I have sought to approach it.

The August, 1989, issue *The Free Will Baptist* carried the announcement of my appointment to the position of what was then known as General Secretary. At that time I expressed my conviction that such an office was something we had needed for many years. Our Convention had allowed for

it in its Constitution and Bylaws. Little did I realize that I would ever be the one to fill the job. I felt then that the Lord was opening the door for something that He wanted me to do. I feel that these six years have provided me with a unique opportunity. As I reflect on these years, I view them as a period of growth—for our denomination, and especially for me.

The Headquarters concept is one that we can be proud of. When our denominational leaders of a few years ago decided to establish a Headquarters, it was a new, and somewhat bold venture; but it worked. When the decision was made to secure a General Secretary, it was also bold venture; but it worked. Our churches have believed in it as evidenced by the support. For four years we worked on a part-time basis. When the decision was made to begin full time October 1, 1993, another bold step was taken. The executive committee’s report to the Convention in September of 1993 called for a full-time Executive Administrator and that a credit line be established with Church finance “of up to \$60,000. The report was adopted by the Convention. Earlier in 1993 challenges were presented to the churches—a challenge based on each church’s average Sunday morning worship attendance of \$5 per person. How happy we were to report to the 1994 Convention that the office had operated debt free. How happy we are to report at the time of this writing that we have operated for almost another church year debt free. This is not to say, however, that we have an abundance of funds. The truth is that we operate quite conservatively. We offer praises to the One whom we serve, for He has blessed us beyond measure.

We know, however, that evidence of success goes beyond finances. There are two words that we have frequently used in reference to the work of our Convention as it focuses on this office—coordination and promotion. Through the co-

operation of our ministry directors, conference leaders, etc., we have achieved much; much more, however, remains to be done.

My decision to resign this work was not a sudden decision. For almost a year I have been pondering and praying about the matter, and especially for the past few months. Most of my life has been very busy, and forty-three years in the ministry have eroded the energetic edge. The work of Executive Administrator has become quite involved, which is good. I have reached the point that I desire less regimentation and more time to do other things of equal importance. Also, I miss the pastoral ministry and plan to spend more years as a pastor.

The Executive Committee has set in motion a process to secure another Executive Administrator. Please make this a matter of prayer. Pray that the right person will be found. Pray that this office will continue to flourish. Pledge yourself to continual support. Challenges and great opportunities await us. May we be found faithful, and thank you for the opportunity you have given me.

THE PROMOTER

The second issue of *The Promoter* has, at the time of this writing, been completed and is being mailed to our pastors and churches. Each church will receive a certain number of copies for distribution. If your church has not received it, please let us know. Your comments concerning *The Promoter* will be appreciated.

MISSION STATEMENT ADOPTED

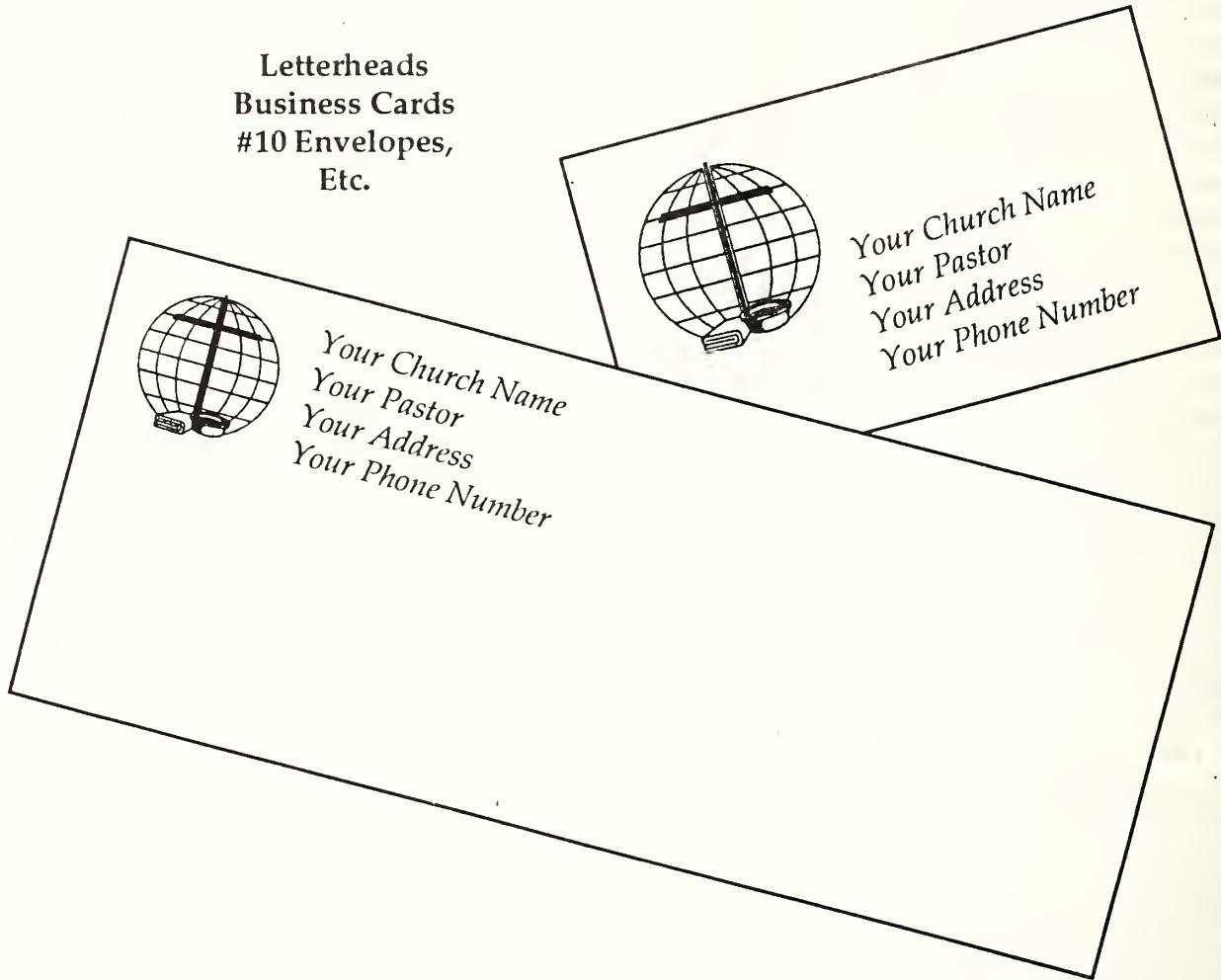
In its meeting on April 11, the Executive Committee approved the Mission Statement which was written by Project Solution’s Task Force. It will be presented to the Convention in September.



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Editor's Note

Dear Church Family,

Every once in a while we get a few minutes to look back at some of *The Free Will Baptists'* from years past. One day when Robert was looking in the November 7, 1956 issue he found this excerpt.

Even though this particular article is almost 40 years old, its message is true for today. God can turn anything into something of value.

Hope you enjoy!

Longfellow could take a worthless sheet of paper, write a poem on it, and make it worth \$6,000- that is genius.

Rockefeller could sign his name to a piece of paper and make it worth millions- that is capital.

Uncle Sam can take gold, stamp an eagle on it, and make it worth \$20-that is called money.

A mechanic can take material worth \$5 and make an article worth \$50-that is skill.

An artist can take a five dollar piece of canvas, paint a picture on it, and make it worth \$1,000-that is art.

God can take a worthless, sinful life, wash it in the blood of Christ, put his Spirit in it, and make it a blessing to humanity-that is salvation.

The Preacher's Magazine.

In His Service,

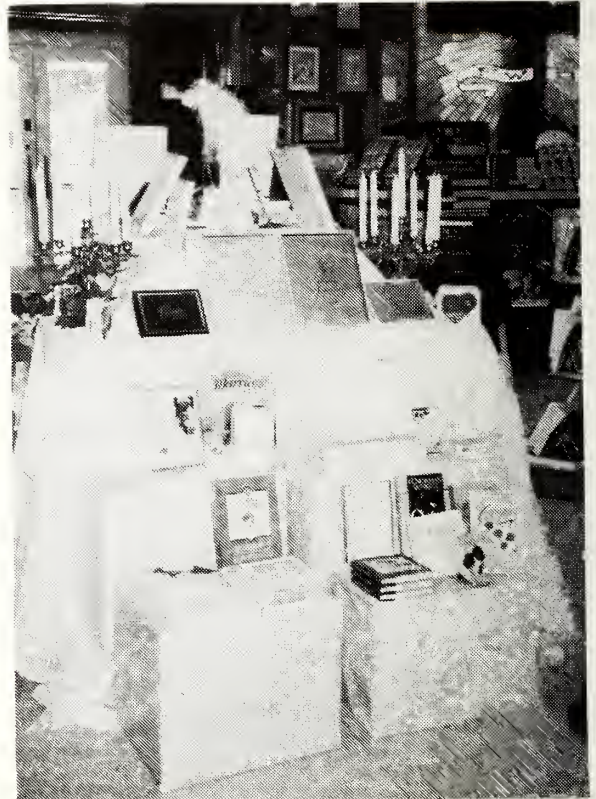
Joey



*Don't forget gifts for
Father's Day
June 18th*

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to help with planning
the perfect wedding.*
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The Free Will Baptist

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

JULY 1995

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NEXT MONTH

*August
is
Convention
Month*

*July
is
Christian Education
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 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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Denominational Ministries

News From Mount Olive College

FREE WILL BAPTIST GRADUATES RECEIVE DEGREES IN MAY CEREMONIES AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Twenty-seven Free Will Baptist students graduated from Mount Olive College in commencement ceremonies held in May in College Hall. The largest graduating class in the College's history included the first students to complete the Management and Organizational Development degree-completion program at the New Bern Center.

Those from Beaufort County graduating were Jason E. Modlin of Sidney; Melanie G. Swinson of Free Union; and Beverly A. Thornton of Duplin Grove.

Those from Craven County graduating were Christian T. Waters and Leslie J. Wright, both of St. Mary's.

Those from Duplin County graduating were Ella D. Baker of Sarecta, and Peggy D. Brinson of Rooty Branch.

Those from Johnston County graduating were John R. Harris of Powhatan; Chris P. Markuson Jr. of Yelverton; Michael S. Westbrook of Everett's Chapel; and Christopher R. Norris.

Those from Nash County graduating were Janet M. Corbett of Rock Springs; and Emily E. Wood of Stoney Hill.

Those from Wayne County graduating were Lori L. Coates and Angela R. Morgan, both of May's Chapel; Lucy D. Smith of Northeast; and Dwayne S. Bailey, Leslie M. Brock and Clifton L. Cuddington, all of Stoney Creek.

Those from Wilson County graduating were Brian H. Davis of First Wilson; Andrew J. Garris of Daniels Chapel; Cynthia M. Kirby of Little Rock; and Jeffrey A. Smith of Aspen Grove.

Also graduating were Rhonda D. Mills of Holly Springs; Carteret County; Deborah J. Gray of Westside, Lenoir County; Candida D. Gurganus of Verona, Onslow County; Stephen M. Prescott of Rock of Zion, Pamlico County; and Michael P. Lee of Shady Grove, Sampson County.

Mount Olive College is a private, four-year liberal arts institution dedicated to the total development of its students in an environment nurtured by Christian values. Sponsored by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, it now serves more than 1,000 students on its main campus, at the Seymour Johnson Air Force Base Center and the New Bern Center.



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.

*Congratulations
Seniors!*

News From Home Missions

LETTING GOD LEAD: THE FIRST 287 DAYS

by Terry Ellis, Director/Pastor

This is the time that Sandy and I have had the opportunity to serve the Silver Creek mission located at Cape Carteret, North Carolina. God has blessed the efforts of the people at Silver Creek.

Since the first Sunday in July of 1994, the work has moved forward in its efforts to reach families for Christ. The attendance has grown from 12-15 each week to an average of 39 per week during April. Our attendance reached a record of 59 on Easter! We have added 8 new members to our mission/church family since January and currently have two waiting for baptism. The people have realized that, with God, all things are possible and that Christ is the answer for what people are seeking in their lives. Silver Creek has also prospered financially.

We adopted a theme of "Come Grow With Us . . .," and this has been our guiding focus. Each person should grow in their personal knowledge of Christ and when this happens, outreach occurs. Then, the mission grows in number and stability. We have discovered that the most productive method of attracting new people to our work is twofold: individual networking supported by church-wide activities. People asking people directly results in church growth, beginning with the individual's family. Special activities and events that we have incorporated to support the individual efforts have included: Chrismon service, a Family Fun Night for Valentine's, an Easter Spring Fling activity day, and fellowship lunches following worship on fifth Sunday weekends. This provides a planned activity for use when inviting a visitor to our fellowship.

Silver Creek has focused on several key access points to our fellowship. The mission/church offers a Sunday morning family oriented worship service. We have established a youth church program that we call the Pastor's Club for persons from age 4 to age 12. This group adds a real boost to our worship through special songs and activities. The Laymen and Woman's Auxiliary groups are meeting during the month, providing a more detailed study of God's Word and fellowship opportunities. Wednesday night Discovery Time is a Bible study time using the members of the mission/church to teach the Scriptures. During the coming summer, we are planning to offer a Vacation Bible School.

The vision of the people of Silver Creek and the demands on resources continues to grow. In May and June we had training sessions dealing with church government and the responsibility of officers. This effort will help us to prepare

for becoming an organized Original Free Will Baptist Church; we feel that we have reached a level where looking at this goal is feasible. Our double wide modular building is becoming too small. Our seating capacity is severely tested when we have crowds of 50 to 60 people. Space does not allow us room for developing a Sunday School department for the teaching we believe is crucial to our overall purpose. We believe, however, that as God continues to bless our efforts to grow toward becoming an established church it will be necessary to begin the planning of additional facilities.

At Silver Creek mission/church we have a vision of ministry and we need your prayer and support to accomplish all we believe God expects of us in this field of service. The mission has stood the test of time and now, with God's guidance, it is time to move ahead to a greater level of service and to become a stronger voice for Jesus Christ in the community. We must reach out to the families in the name of Jesus.

Remember to visit our fellowship when you travel "Down East" this summer. Our worship starts at 10 a.m. on Sunday. The mission/church is located on Pelletier Loop Road across from Silver Creek golf course, just off highway NC 58.



News From Children's Home

by Gary Lee, Director of Church and Public Relations

HUGO FWB CHURCH HELP COMPLETE RENOVATIONS FOR DEAN'S COTTAGE

In 1993, during the reopening of Smith cottage the Ladies Auxiliary of Hugo FWB Church committed to making window dressings for all the windows. Smith cottage had been closed for ten years. However, their work did not stop there by the completion of the project this group was responsible for a new dishwasher, bedspreads, paint, and many hours of hard work. In the fall of 1994, renovations to Dean's cottage were begun. Although this cottage was still being used it was in desperate need of repairs. By the early part of 1995 renovations were near completion. The Ladies Auxiliary of Hugo FWB Church learned of the repairs and in February the group visited the cottage to measure windows. They again committed to providing window dressings and bedspreads for another cottage. On May 15, 1995, the group visited again and began a day of hard work. They had brought with them pictures, lamps, pillows, bedspreads, and other decorations. After unloading supplies the group went to work starting with the windows. The auxiliary had bought the material and sewn the window dressings themselves. In a few hours the bedrooms had been transformed including new bedspreads and pillows for each bed. The group took a break and went to lunch with Dr. Bobby Taylor and Gary Lee. Following lunch the group continued and by mid afternoon they had given Dean's cottage a new image. The children returned home later that afternoon with lots of questions and curiosity about what had taken place. The children and staff of Dean's cottage express their appreciation to this group. We want to say thank you to everyone at Hugo Church for their dedication, time, and hard work on Dean's cottage. Dean's cottage is now complete because of your work. We would like to thank Mrs. Elsie McCoy for organizing the project and all the other auxiliary members for sharing with the Children's Home. Tom Miller serves as pastor of Hugo FWB Church.



Unloading supplies for Dean's Cottage



Left to Right: Mabel Miller, Mary Lou Abbott, Margie Harris—"Working Hard"



Left: Elsie McCoy, Right: Mary Lou Abbott—"Making decisions"



Dean's Cottage

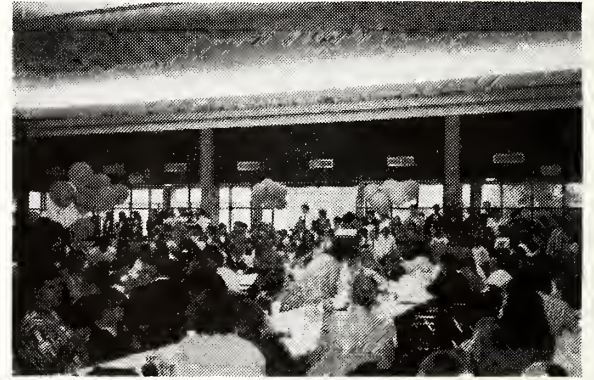


Hugo FWB Church Auxiliary with pastor and Bobby. Front Row—Mary Lou Abbott, Elsie McCoy and Faye Rogers. Back Row—Tom Miller, Mabel Miller, Margie Harris and Bobby.

News From Children's Home

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATED

On May 27, 1995, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home celebrated seventy-five years of service during Founder's Day. The Founder's Day message was by the Rev. Ray Wells, President of Convention of Original Free Will Baptist. Although it rained during the day our attendance still reached approximately four hundred and fifty friends of the home. One of our goals for the event was to raise \$20,000 for cottage renovations. We want to thank all the churches, church groups, and individuals for helping us exceed this goal.



*Thank You
For Your Support!*

News From Cragmont

"In the year of this jubilee ye shall return every man unto his possession."

—Leviticus 25:13

Through the *Jubilee* program, the debt which hung heavily upon our backs has now been lifted. Cragmont has truly been returned to the Original Free Will Baptist denomination.

As *Jubilee* has brought an end to the debt, it also marks a new beginning. *After Jubilee* suggests that we plot a new course. We must not become complacent, but move forward setting new goals. In our brochure you will find the new course chosen for Cragmont.

REALITY THROUGH STEWARDSHIP AND GIVING

Just as *Jubilee* marks the end of our debt it also means beginning again. The dreams we have talked about while in debt are but a commitment away from becoming reality. Our visitors will only become reality through stewardship and giving.

After Jubilee is a way for you to commit to God's ministry at Cragmont. We are asking that you make a pledge of \$1,000 by the year 2000. To pledge, simply fill out the information below and return this panel to: **Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711**

- \$50 quarterly
- \$100 semiannually
- \$200 per year
- \$1000 in full

Yes! You can count on me (us) to make our pledge of \$1000 to make *After Jubilee* a reality. I (we) have checked my (our) choice of payment above.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

RENOVATIONS

Renovations for the existing facilities at Cragmont will mark *Phase One* of Cragmont's growth for the future. Several specific projects have been planned, including:

- replacing carpet, wallpaper, paint and bedding
- relocating the office to a separate facility
- converting the existing office space into first floor rooms
- converting all first floor rooms to rooms with private baths
- widening the stairways to the walls.

EXPANSIONS

Phase Two will address the growing numbers of people coming to Cragmont. The plans for expansion are aimed at keeping pace with the needs of smaller groups as well as the larger ones. Plans include:

- building units of 10 to 12 rooms with lounge areas in each unit
- building new dorms
- building a new cafeteria.

EXPANSION IN SCOPE

Phase Three will explore new ways to serve. This phase will cover not only youth programs, but adult programs as well through:

- retreats
- seminars
- regular program staff.

Cragmont
1945
1995
JUBILEE

Cragmont Camp Schedule For 1995

Morning Star

April 21-23
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

June Women's Auxiliary Conference

June 5-10
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

Minister's Conference

June 12-15
Philip Boykin—registrar
Rt. 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334

Christian Cadet Conference

June 19-24
Gary Bailey—registrar
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Youth Frontier Conference (YFA)

June 26—July 1
Scott & Janie Sowers—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

Ambassadors For Christ (AFC)

July 3-8
Frankie Baggett—registrar
Rt. 2, Box 214
Nashville, NC 27856

General Youth Conference II

July 10-15
Chris Singleton—registrar
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

General Youth Conference I

July 17-22
P.O. Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523
Bryant Hines—registrar

Young People's Bible Conference

July 24-29
Donald Mason—registrar
P.O. Box 672
Newport, NC 28570

August Women's Auxiliary Conference

July 31-August 5
Teresa Ball—registrar
Rt. 1, Box 96-B
Grifton, NC 28530

Cragmont Camping Program

Cragmont has a summer program that provides young people a unique opportunity. By attending a week of camp, they can experience recreation in a Christian atmosphere and hear the Word of our Lord proclaimed in many unique ways. A typical day at Cragmont includes classes in Christian living in the morning, recreational activities in the afternoon, and worship services in the evening. When attending a week of camp at Cragmont, they are away from their normal everyday activities allowing uninterrupted opportunities for God to use. The ministry of Cragmont to the young people of the denomination is more than just evangelism—it is one of teaching them how to live the Christian life. Please contact the director listed with the week for information concerning that camp week. We want your youth. Please encourage and support them in a Cragmont camp adventure this summer.

Cragmont Assembly, Inc, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone (704) 669-7677 or (704) 669-5224 Fax (704) 669-1463

Happenings at The Free Will Baptist Press

If you have visited the Press, we are sorry for the inconvenience in the past month. We have been covered in plastic from ceiling to floor, and office to office.

As many of you have seen and heard, we are in the process of replacing the roof over the Press building and Headquarters. Below are some photos of the old roof.



News From Foreign Missions

NEWSLETTER FROM INDIA AND NEPAL

by Dr. E. M. Lall

The Free Will Baptist Church in India and Nepal is making good progress so far as schools and evangelization are concerned. It is a matter of great delight to see the work of the church and the schools progressing day by day. We have received tremendous blessings from above that we cannot count, but feel so grateful to Him.

Our Nepali counterparts are facing persecution for receiving money from abroad for the church work there. We are praying that the severe restrictions will cease and the work will run smoothly. Now, in the wake of such a situation it has become necessary that some Nepali natives of our church be chosen and trained in theology to continue the work in Nepal. Foreign Missionary work has come to a standstill. Countries like India, Nepal and Bangladesh prefer their own people to work for the religion.

There is a Christian graveyard at Fathehganj West about ten miles from Bareilly which was lying abandoned and our people covered it with the four boundary walls with a gate to protect the property against encroachment. Now the properties are being grabbed by the people of the ruling Government as the newspapers report every day.

A church congregation and a school at Bhikaripur, District Pilibhit U.P. came up a few months ago and are progressing well. The local congregations with some of our assistance have bought a good piece of land costing Rs.12,000/ or U.S. \$400 for school and church purpose. Someone had donated to us an old Moped. It was repaired, overhauled, and given to Deacon Chandra Pal, in charge of Bhikaripur circuit for use in church work.

I am also glad to report that we have started our church work in the state of Haryana adjacent to Delhi. The ordination of Minister in charge and the adoption of the congregation will take place on the 14th of this month. There are about 150 persons to be baptized later on. This congregation will provide her own church building.



Nepali church leaders—March 16, 1995



The four boundary walls of a Christian graveyard under our possession were built by some congregation around Bareilly.



Bhikaipur Church congregation organized and adopted three months ago.

Features

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE CONVENTION

Saturday, May 20, 1995 was moving day for Free Will Baptist Leaguers. We moved our Convention date from March to May and began a brand new era for the League. Meeting at Mount Olive College on the same date as the FWB Youth Convention gave us a voice with which to reach others. We met people who had never heard of the League and others who thought it no longer existed. To one and all, we proclaimed loud and clear the "League is alive and ready to serve our Lord." Our message must have been received since over 140 people attended the Bethlehem FWB Church's presentation of the musical "Go Go Jonah" Saturday afternoon. The Convention, as usual, was filled with all the activities that make the League one of the most enjoyable FWB events: choruses, singspiration, sword drill, special music, devotions

In a filled Rodgers Chapel Clair Taylor from Hickory Chapel FWB Church won first place in the Intermediate Sword Drill. Shady Grove FWB Church gave us the junior winners. Amber Wenger won first place. Holly Godwin and Jessica Jackson tied for second.

Start studying for next year's sword drill and make plans to join us in May 1996 for the Free Will Baptist League Convention.

STUDY GUIDE

1995-1996

BIBLE SWORD DRILL

Junior and Intermediate

North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues

I. *Scripture Searching*

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Psalms 8:4-5 | 9. Genesis 3:15 | 17. 2 Timothy 3:16 |
| 2. Hebrews 2:9 | 10. Matthew 7:7 | 18. Joshua 24:15 |
| 3. Matthew 25:31 | 11. John 1:1 | 19. Job 42:1-2 |
| 4. Matthew 13:41-42 | 12. Malachi 3:8-10 | 20. Ezekiel 37:4-5 |
| 5. Isaiah 14:12-13 | 13. Daniel 1:8 | 21. Jonah 2:1-2 |
| 6. Revelation 20:10 | 14. Ruth 1:16 | 22. John 19:16 |
| 7. 2 Peter 2:4 | 15. Acts 1:8-9 | 23. Luke 24:1-3 |
| 8. Jude 1:6 | 16. Romans 10:9-10 | 24. Galatians 5:22-23 |

II. *Unfinished Quotations*

1. Free Will Baptist League Motto: "The kingdom of God . . ." (Matthew 6:33).
2. Free Will Baptist League Benediction: "The LORD watch between me and thee . . ." (Genesis 31:49).
3. "Train up a child in the way he should go . . ." (Proverbs 22:6).
4. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God . . ." (2 Timothy 2:15).
5. "The word of God is quick, and powerful . . ." (Hebrews 4:12).
6. "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart, . . ." (Proverbs 3:5-6).
7. "I can do all things through Christ . . ." (Philippians 4:13).
8. "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength . . ." (Isaiah 40:31).
9. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves . . ." (2 Chronicles 7:14).
10. "Be ye angry, and sin not; let not the sun . . ." (Ephesians 4:26).
11. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable . . ." (Psalm 19:14).
12. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I . . ." (Psalm 119:11).

III. *Character Drill*

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Michael, the archangel (Jude 1:9) | 5. Jacob (Genesis 25:26) | 9. Mark (Acts 12:12) |
| 2. Gabriel (Luke 1:26-27) | 6. Joseph (Genesis 30:24) | 10. Luke (Colossians 4:14) |
| 3. Abram—Abraham (Genesis 17:5) | 7. Jesus (Matthew 1:25) | 11. John (Revelation 1:1) |
| 4. Isaac (Genesis 21:3) | 8. Matthew (Matthew 9:9) | 12. Saul—Paul (Acts 13:9) |

IV. Book Drill

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 1. Leviticus | 5. Micah | 9. 2 Thessalonians |
| 2. 1 Chronicles | 6. Zechariah | 10. Titus |
| 3. Psalms | 7. Luke | 11. 3 John |
| 4. Ezekiel | 8. Galatians | 12. Hebrews |

V. Topical Drill Angels

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Angel of the Lord (Matthew 2:13) | 7. As Angels in Heaven (Mark 12:25) |
| 2. Flame of Fire (Exodus 3:2-4) | 8. Body of Jesus (John 20:11-12) |
| 3. Do his commandments (Psalm 103:20) | 9. Ten thousand times ten thousand (Revelation 5:11) |
| 4. The seven stars (Revelation 1:20) | 10. Smote in the camp (2 Kings 19:35) |
| 5. Ministering Spirits (Hebrews 1:13-14) | 11. Thy Mouth (Ecclesiastes 5:6) |
| 6. Thou art mad (Acts 12:15-16) | 12. Despise not little ones (Matthew 18:10) |

I. Doctrinal Drill

1. The Bible teaches that by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world and passed upon all men (Romans 5:12).
2. The Bible teaches that in the first Adam all die; in Christ (the last Adam) all shall live (1 Corinthians 15:22, 45).
3. The Bible teaches that all have sinned (Romans 3:23).
4. The Bible teaches that whosoever believeth in Jesus may have everlasting life (John 3:16).
5. The Bible teaches that if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (man) (2 Corinthians 5:17).
6. The Bible teaches that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper in order for us to remember Him (Luke 22:19-20).
7. The Bible teaches that after eating the bread and drinking the cup, Jesus washed the disciples' feet (John 13:4, 12-14).
8. The Bible teaches that baptism is important in the life of a believer (Matthew 28:19).
9. The Bible teaches that *love* is the best gift to covet (1 Corinthians 13:13; 14:1).
10. The Bible records the "faith chapter" and list men and women of faith (Hebrews 11:1).
11. The Bible describes "a new heaven and a new earth, and that great city, the holy Jerusalem" (Revelation 21:1, 10).
12. The Bible teaches that no one shall enter the holy city whose names are not written in the "Lamb's Book of Life" (Revelation 21:27).

Bibles KJV00312 will be provided. Only references from this guide will be accepted. Any church or youth group may have 2 juniors (ages 9-11) and 2 intermediates (ages 12-15) contestants. However, at the Convention the church must register with one \$25 fee. God Bless You!

For more information contact:

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
919-332-6810

Camp Vandemere

Here is our schedule for 1995. We have some available time still open if someone would like to have a week of camp.

JUNE 19-23 WOMEN'S WEEK

Mrs. Audrey Quinn, Director
461 Wintergreen Road
Cove City, NC 28523
Phone: 638-6406

JULY 24-28 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. Joe Ratcliff, Director
6280 U.S. Hwy 17 North
Vanceboro, NC 28586
Phone: 244-0207

JULY 10-14 YOUTH WEEK

Eva Mae Clark, Director
485 Half Moon Road
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone: 637-5346

JULY 31-AUGUST 4 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. Paul Grubbs, Director
Route 2, Box 1970
Belhaven, NC 27810
Phone: 964-4402

JULY 17-21 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. Stanley Buck, Director
3200 W. Boulevard
Tarboro, NC 27886
Phone: 823-3964

AUGUST 7-11 YOUTH WEEK

Rev. David Vesper, Director
1866 Highway 24 East
Newport, NC 28570
Phone: 726-3051

For information or reservations for use of camp contact: Ralph Sumner, 571 Sumner Road, Pink Hill, NC 28572 or phone 910-298-5885 or the Camp number 919-745-3171 or 919-745-7938.

CAMP VANDEMERE DAY

The Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere as approved by the Eastern Conference sincerely requests that all churches observe **Sunday, July 2, 1995** as Camp Vandemere Day. We request that each church have a special time of prayer. Pray for the Board of Directors, the manager, and staff, pray that souls will be saved, and for each director. We request that the youth be encouraged to attend one of the weeks of Camp. You may want to help with their expense. We request each church receive a special offering for the Camp over and above their budgeted funds. We have a nice family sleeping lodge available for families or small groups. The rates are reasonable. To make reservations for a retreat or any use of the Camp contact, Ralph Sumner, 571 Sumner Road, Pink Hill, NC 28572 or phone him at 910-298-5885 or at camp, 919-745-3171 or 919-745-7938. Send all donations to Mrs. Judy Kennedy, 933N. N. C. 41, Pink Hill, NC 28572.

Happenings From the Layman's League

SCENES FROM THE JUNE 2-3, 1995, SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT HELD AT CAMP VANDEMERE



Speaker—Jim Skipper



Group singing at Spiritual Life Retreat



Paul Beaman, outgoing president of Central Conference Layman's League holds his last meeting.



Speaker—Pastor, Charles OwensHarrell's Chapel



Outside view of Camp Vandemere



New President Elect Brother Grey is getting set to take over the Central Conference Layman's League.



Speaker—Mark Hogan, Bethany Church



Outside view of Camp Vandemere



C. H. Overman speaks at Central Conference Layman's League and outgoing President, Paul Beaman in background.



Group picture—Spiritual Life Retreat



Approximately 146 men attended the June 5, 1995 Central Conference Layman's League

Announcements

Promotional Committee
July 6, 1995

State Layman's League will serve as ushers at the next Convention in September.

NOTICE TO THE FREE WILL BAPTIST SUBSCRIBERS

To each subscriber I say thank you for your support and encouragement over the last year since I have become editor.

The Free Will Baptist magazine serves as the "voice of the denomination" to each member, church and to others outside of the denomination.

As does every thing, it seems our prices rise over the years. *The Free Will Baptist* has not had a subscription rate increase since 1981.

With the shortage of paper and its price increases (1995 raw pulp \$300 a ton rapidly increasing to approximately \$1,000 a ton by the year's end), a rise in postage and the general overhead of publishing a magazine, we are having to increase the price of this denominational service.

It is not a dramatic increase but one that we wanted all who subscribe to be made aware of. The increase is as follows: \$1 for the Individual plan (old price—\$8.50 + tax = \$9.01; new price—\$9.50 + tax = \$10.07); Bundle Plan—a \$1.25 increase and Each Family Plan—a \$1.25 increase. This increase will start in September, 1995. Please renew or subscribe early to beat the increase.

For any more information or questions, please contact Tracy McCoy, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, 811 North Lee Street, P.O. Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513; phone: 919-746-6128 or 1-800-849-3927; FAX: 919-746-9248.

PASTOR NEEDED

First Free Will Baptist of Plymouth is searching for a fulltime pastor. If interested, send resume to Lewis Sullivan, 110 Roxie Reece Road, Plymouth, NC 27962 or phone, 793-3210.

SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Lay speaker available to meet any speaking needs of your church. Contact Willie Coleman, Faith FWB Church, Morehead City, NC, 919-726-7559 after 5 p.m.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Jessica Barlett. She placed 3rd in the AFC needlework category of Arts and Crafts. Jessica to from Indian Springs FWB Church in the Eastern Conference. A wrong name was announced at the Youth Convention that was held in May at Mount Olive College.

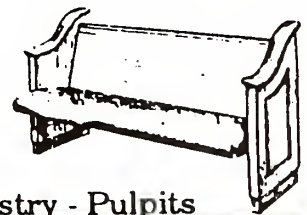
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JULY



L
3

SUN

MON

TUE

1	2	3	4	5
			▲ YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE	
2	3	4	5	
			▲ AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST Independence Day	
9	10	11	12	
		■ YOUTH WEEK, JULY 10-12 ▲ GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE		
16	17	18	19	
		■ YOUTH WEEK, JULY 17-21 ▲ GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE		
23	24	25	26	
		■ YOUTH WEEK, JULY 24-28 ■ YOUTH WEEK, JULY 31-AUGUST 1 ▲ YOUTH PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE ▲ AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE		
	30	31		

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRE

G E N D

ous/following month
 nt month

- Sunday School
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Vandemere
- * Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
	29	30	1
	JUNE 26–JULY 1 • SCOTT & JANIE SOWERS, REGISTRAR		
	6	7	8
	FC), JULY 3–8 • FRANKIE BAGGETT, REGISTRAR		
	13	14	15
	VA MAE CLARK, DIRECTOR II, JULY 10–15 • CHRIS SINGLETON, REGISTRAR		
	20	21	22
	7. STANLEY BUCK, DIRECTOR CE I, JULY 17–22 • BRYANT HINES, REGISTRAR		
	27	28	29
	V. JOE RATCLIFF, DIRECTOR REV. PAUL GRUBBS, DIRECTOR ENCE, JULY 24–29 • DONALD MASON, REGISTRAR RENCE, JULY 31–AUGUST 5 • TERESA BALL, REGISTRAR		

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

Original Free Will Baptist Cookbook

The FWB Press plans to publish a cookbook containing recipes submitted by members of Original FWB Churches. The publishing date will be announced as soon as a sufficient number of recipes has been received by the press. You may submit as many recipes as you wish.

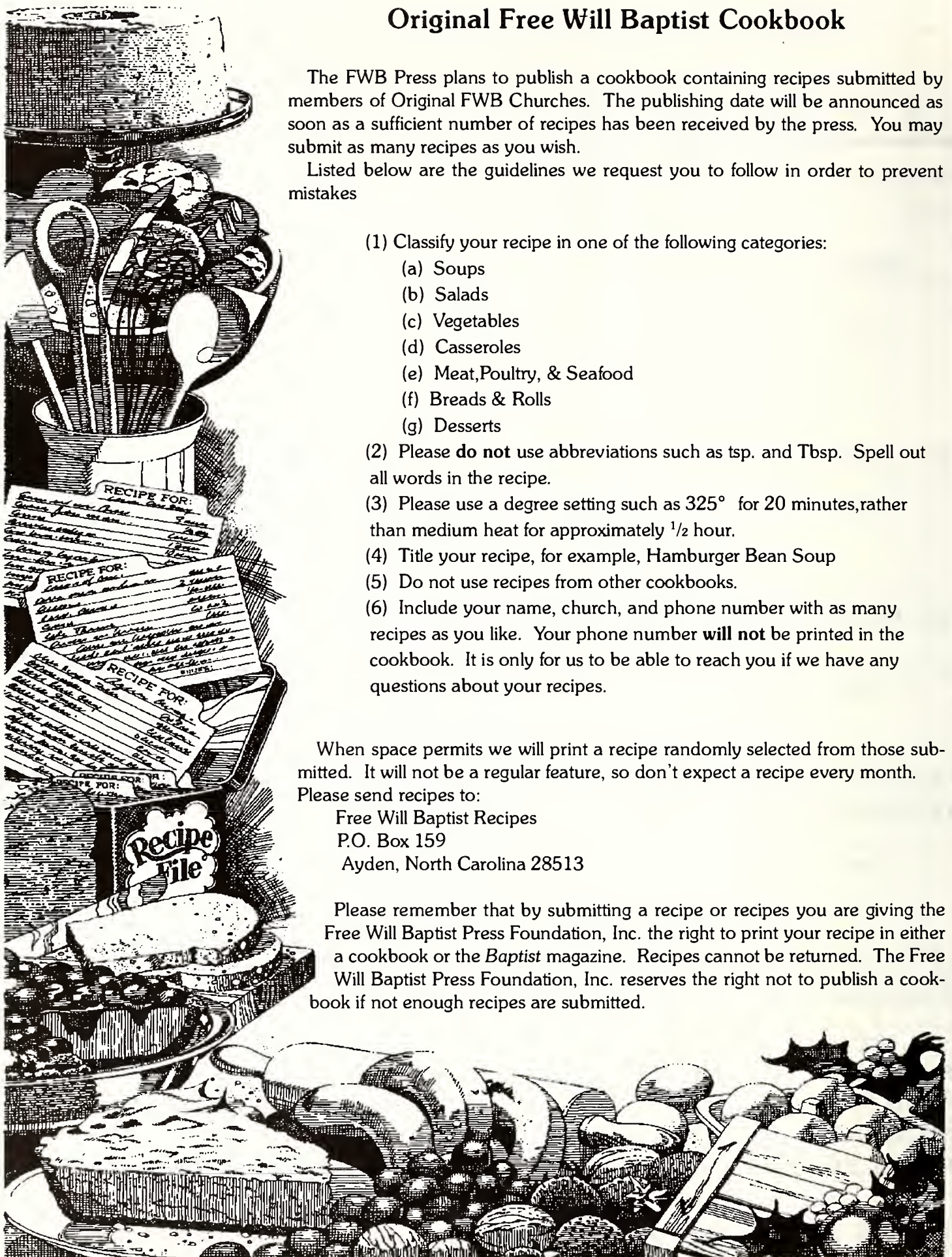
Listed below are the guidelines we request you to follow in order to prevent mistakes

- (1) Classify your recipe in one of the following categories:
 - (a) Soups
 - (b) Salads
 - (c) Vegetables
 - (d) Casseroles
 - (e) Meat, Poultry, & Seafood
 - (f) Breads & Rolls
 - (g) Desserts
- (2) Please do not use abbreviations such as tsp. and Tbsp. Spell out all words in the recipe.
- (3) Please use a degree setting such as 325° for 20 minutes, rather than medium heat for approximately 1/2 hour.
- (4) Title your recipe, for example, Hamburger Bean Soup
- (5) Do not use recipes from other cookbooks.
- (6) Include your name, church, and phone number with as many recipes as you like. Your phone number **will not** be printed in the cookbook. It is only for us to be able to reach you if we have any questions about your recipes.

When space permits we will print a recipe randomly selected from those submitted. It will not be a regular feature, so don't expect a recipe every month. Please send recipes to:

Free Will Baptist Recipes
P.O. Box 159
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Please remember that by submitting a recipe or recipes you are giving the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. the right to print your recipe in either a cookbook or the *Baptist* magazine. Recipes cannot be returned. The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. reserves the right not to publish a cookbook if not enough recipes are submitted.



Recipes

On the following pages are a sample of some of the recipes we have collected for the cookbook. We are still collecting recipes from different individuals and churches. We invite all of you to send in a recipe so we can print a "Denominational Cookbook."

Try some of these for a special July 4th meal.

SALADS

COOL WHIP SALAD

- 1 package Cool Whip
- 1 small can crushed pineapple
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 1 package orange jello, dry
- 1 package cottage cheese

Mix all ingredients together and store in covered container in refrigerator.

Shirley P. Forsythe
Holly Springs FWB Church

VEGETABLES

BAKED BEANS

- 1 extra tall can pork and beans
- 1 medium bell pepper, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- 1/4 pound hamburger (lean)

Brown hamburger with pepper and onion. Add the rest of the ingredients, mixing until sugar is melted. Pour into 9 by 12 inch baking dish and bake at 350° for 45 minutes. Serves 8 to 10 people.

Susan Davis
Holly Springs FWB Church

Recipes

CASSEROLES

SQUASH CASSEROLE

Freezes Well

Can Prepare Ahead

Serves 10

Baking Time: 45 minutes

- 1 stick margarine (melted)
- 1 package Pepperidge Farm Stuffing
- 2 1/2 lb. squash
- 2 tablespoons chopped onion
- 2 carrots grated
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 8 oz. carton sour cream

Cook squash and drain. Line 28 x 18 inch dish with stuffing mix (save enough to sprinkle on top). Mix all other ingredients together and spread in dish. Top with stuffing.

Reba S., Cannon
Greenville, NC

MEATS

LONDON BROIL

- 1 steak (2 1/2 pounds, 1 1/2 inch thick)

Marinate it in:

- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire Sauce
- 2 tablespoons Soy Sauce
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon dry mustard
- 1 1/2 teaspoons black pepper
- 1 1/2 teaspoons parsley flakes
- 1 clove garlic, crushed (or garlic to taste)
- 1 onion sliced
- 1/2 cup salad oil

Mix marinade and pour over steak and keep in refrigerator for 24 hours. Turn occasionally. Charcoal short time on high on each side. Reduce heat and cook about 10 minutes on each side or until it gets as done as desire. Very good served rare. When you take it up brush with marinade. Carve against grain in thin strips. Store any leftovers in the marinade.

Mary Lou Abbott, President
Hugo FWB Church Auxiliary

Recipes

BREADS

CORN BREAD

1 cup fine meal
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 1/4 cup milk

Mix together, stir until creamy soft, heat 1 inch grease, drop small amount in hot grease. Cook until golden brown. Makes 25 to 30.

Alene Moore
Walstonburg, NC

DESSERTS

FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE

3/4 cup sugar
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 cup water
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 quart fresh strawberries
1 9-inch baked pie shell (baked per package instructions)

Wash, drain, and steam strawberries. Place berries in baked pie shell. Combine sugar, cornstarch, water, and salt. Cook slowly until glossy. Pour hot mixture over berries. Place pie in refrigerator and chill. Before serving, top with whipped cream.

Peggy Horrell
Holly Springs FWB Church

CRAGMONT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE JUNE 5-10, 1995



The theme for the week was "Angels." With the theme verse being: Psalm 91:11, "For he shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." We had 34 campers, with some visitors during the week. It was a wonderful week of fellowship with the Lord and each other.

Mary Boyd, from Black Jack Church, Greenville, brought morning Devotions each day. Teresa Ball, from Winterville Church, presented the mning and evening Bible studies. Alma Dale was music director, assisted by Nina Grace Register on the piano. The Rev. Harold Jones delivered the Friday night message.

Donna Holland was Conference Director, with Teresa Ball, Registrar.

Ruth L. Warrick

N.C.W.A.C. Corresponding Secretary

FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARDS PRESENTED

Submitted by Keith Pelletier



Recipients of the *Faithful Servant Award* at Mt. Tabor FWB Church in Creswell. Doris Comstock, Naomi Ambrose, and Eleanor Moore. Absent from photo is Fentress Simmons.

Mount Tabor Church, in Creswell, has recently presented several FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARDS to members of the church. The FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD is presented monthly to a person in the church who has, over

an extended period, rendered exceptional service to others, both in and out of the church. Selected by the pastor and deacons, the recipients of the aware are selected based on their love, witness and work for their Lord Jesus

Christ. Those recognized have consistently shown an unselfish concern for others, and a willingness to be of service to others.

During the last four months the award has been presented to Mr. Fentress Simmons, Mrs. Eleanor Moore, Mrs. Doris Comstock, and Mrs. Naomi Ambrose. Each of these recipients has served in a variety of leadership and service positions in the church. Mrs. Moore has represented the congregation at numerous Conference and State meetings, and is currently a Trustee of the church. Mrs. Comstock served many years as treasurer at Mt. Tabor and is currently a member of the church's hospitality committee. Mrs. Ambrose is past clerk of the church and an officer of the Sunday School. Further, each of these ladies are active as officers in either the "Mt. Tabor" or "Gennie Mae" Ladies Auxiliary at the church.

Mr. Simmons has served as deacon and Sunday school superintendent, positions which he continues to hold, and is an officer of the Mt. Tabor Men's Group.

Mount Tabor Church is a member of the Albemarle Conference. The church is located on Mt. Tabor Road in Creswell.

DEEP RUN FWB CHURCH WOMAN OF THE YEAR



Donna Smith, President, presenting an engraved plaque to Linda Jenkins from the Auxiliary.

On Sunday, May 21, 1995 the Ladies Auxiliary of Deep Run Church honored Linda Jenkins as the Woman of the Year. Donna Smith, President of the Auxiliary made the following presentation: Our Woman of the Year is a very special lady—a genuine Christian lady. She is very much involved in her church and family life. Where there is a project going on in the church, you will find her there—leading the rest of us. She is a great friend, daughter, mother and wife. Her home reflects her many talents. We consider her an asset in our community, school, and in all phases of our church life. Her handiwork can be seen throughout the church in the form of bulletin boards and pictures. She has written many articles for *The Free Will Baptist* paper about our church activities, and she has spearheaded many of our church projects. She is ready to tackle any job or project—especially for our building fund.

Our Woman of the Year has held many offices in our Auxiliary and church and at the present time is Chairman of the Christian Board of Education, Assistant Clerk, Secretary of the Auxiliary and Study Course Chairman. She and her husband, Carlton Jenkins, teach the Senior High Sunday School class. By occupation she is a teacher at East Duplin High School and Carlton is a teacher at South Lenoir High School. They have two fine sons, Reggie and Brian, and an outstanding daughter-in-law, Georgia. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Smith of Deep Run.

Our woman of the Year is indeed a respected citizen in our community and is also a past recipient of this award.

On behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary and our church family we congratulate Linda Jenkins for this honor.

PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY



Treva and Dean Kennedy

On April 23, 1995 we at Haymount Free Will Baptist Church had an enjoyable time helping our pastor, Dean Kennedy celebrate his birthday. At the 11:00 service the ladies were in charge of the service, we closed the service and announced it was not only his birthday but it was also "Pastor Appreciation Day." It was a great surprise to him. He was given a boutonniere and his loving wife, Treva was given flowers of red roses and baby's breath. They work as a team and are loved by all.

There were songs sung, a poem written, loving and caring remarks by many people. The children marched in gave him candy and a big hug. Everyone was given an opportunity to participate by a card of Appreciation, Thank You, or a Birthday card with a love gift.

We were happy to have their children Melanie and her husband Doug, Rocky and his wife Gwen and all six grandchildren with us.

A fabulous lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

REV. WEYLAND SHERMAN BURNS

The Rev. Weyland Sherman Burns, 63, died Wednesday, May 10, 1995 in Pitt Memorial Hospital, Greenville, NC. The funeral was held at 3 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Sandy Plain Free

Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, NC. Burial followed at Sandy Plain Cemetery, Pink Hill, NC.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy Brock Burns of Greenville, NC; two sons, Sherman Dale Burns of Greenville, Robert Martin Burns of Greenville; two brothers, the Rev. Bobby Burns of Thomasville, Nelson Burns of Southmont, NC.

Arrangements were made by Community Funeral Home of Beulaville.

REMEMBERING THE REV.

WEYLAND SHERMAN BURNS

AUGUST 29, 1931—MAY 10, 1995
by W. Burkette Raper, President Emeritus
Mount Olive College

I met Weyland, or W.S. as he was widely known, in the fall of 1954 when he was enrolled at Mount Olive College. He was one of twenty-two students who helped to launch the College in the old elementary school building. At the time he was living in Duplin County where he was pastor of Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church.

Attending College was not easy for Weyland in terms of his duties with the church, the distance he had to drive, nor financially. Nevertheless, Weyland believed that he was called of God to "preach the Word." He knew that to *preach* the Word he had to know the Word, and to *know* the Word he knew he had to *study* the Word. He took seriously the counsel of Paul to Timothy.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

The next year his wife, the former Dorothy Brock, also enrolled and took a one-year business course.

Throughout his ministry, Weyland evidenced a high appreciation for education. Against obstacles that would

have discouraged those with less commitment, he pursued his educational goals, earning his A.B. degree from N.C. Wesleyan College at Rocky Mount and for nine summers he attended the Pastor's School at Duke University.

In his work with FWB Churches across eastern North Carolina, Weyland was a loyal supporter of Mount Olive College, and I could always depend on him for an invitation to visit his churches on behalf of the College.

Weyland became one of the best pulpit orators among Original Free Will Baptists. He knew the theology of the Christian faith and the doctrines of his church, and when he preached the Word, he did so without fear of being contradicted.

In the death of Weyland, I feel the loss of a personal friend and Original Free Will Baptists have lost a gifted preacher.

PASTOR OF LANIERS CHAPEL HONORED

by Mabel Lanier, Church Reporter



Rev. and Mrs. Hill



Dr. Burkette Raper—"Waiting" to surprise the Rev. Andrew Hill

Everything seemed to be normal on Sunday, May 21, at Laniers Chapel OFWB Church, Ludie Brown Road, Chinquapin. The choir sang "This is the Day" and the Worship services continued as the pastor had planned until the end of the Children's sermon. Just as the choir was to sing the Anthem, Ann Lee English summoned the Rev. and Mrs. Hill to come forward. They were to be honored by the Woman's Auxiliary. From two directions came the Hill's families that had been hidden away. After hugs they opened the gift, a silver platter. An additional surprise was an instrumental duet "To God Be The Glory" by their daughters, Saborah Smith and Terry Baska. A selection of songs were rendered by Saborah and a friend, Mary Susan Humphrey.

Just as the Rev. Hill was going to the pulpit to begin his message, Dr. Burkette Raper entered from the room behind the pulpit and greeted the Rev. Hill and let it be known that "This is the day that Laniers Chapel Church had declared Pastor's Appreciation Day in honor of the Rev. Andrew Hill and his good wife, Geraldine. Sit down, relax, and enjoy the day."

The senior deacon, Leonard Lanier, was called upon to say a few words on behalf of the church members. He commented on the love we have for Brother Hill and his family and invited everyone to stay for the fellowship dinner after the appreciation service. Then Deacon Lanier presented the pastor with a beautifully framed picture of the church, with this inscription, "In honor of Rev. Andrew Hill on Appreciation Day, May 21, 1995, Laniers Chapel OFWB Church." Dr. Raper noted the picture of the church was complete with the steeple, an accomplishment the people had worked toward since An-

drew had been the pastor, August 13, 1989, and that he very well remembered being at the Dedication of the steeple, August 23, 1992, when the congregation assembled in front of the Church at 12:00 and joined hands for the ceremony. He then said, "Now we're going to distribute the real bulletins and proceed accordingly."

Guest speaker, Dr. Burkette Raper, was President of Mount Olive College, 1954-1994. He retired as President but is involved in other activities at the College. He continues, "I want to commend you people at Laniers Chapel for what you are doing today. This is a tribute to you for honoring your Pastor. It expresses your appreciation, your respect, and your love for your Pastor." Dr. Raper gave a brief background of the church history and recalled this being his third visit to Laniers Chapel. Once at the Dedication of the new Sanctuary in June 1975, when the Rev. Stephen Smith was Pastor, again in August 1992 at the dedication of the steeple, and today for Pastor's Appreciation Day to honor Andrew Hill."

Dr. Raper shared the story how he met Andrew Hill. "It was 40 years ago, in 1955, at a Revival in Deep Run when I first met this young man. He had been serving in the USAF four years and was called to preach while stationed in Japan. He expressed his interest to further his education in the Ministry. The fall semester had already begun at Mount Olive College, but we were able to enroll Andrew. Looking back over the records, I discovered he was one of my old Testament students."

After Andrew left Mt. Olive College he went on to Campbell College where he holds an Associate in Arts, an A.B. degree from Atlantic College, and did post graduate work at East Carolina University. He has pastored for 35

years in Carteret, Pamlico, Pitt, Lenoir, Wayne, and Duplin Counties. 30 years he taught at public schools in Craven County, at Beulaville School and South Lenoir, until his retirement 5 years ago."

The family of the Rev. Hill were acknowledged. His wife Geraldine of 47 years, Dr. Raper describes her "as a faithful and helpful wife. Geraldine has been beside him and behind him and helped him along the way. She is a *good* woman." Their daughter, Saborah and husband, John Melvin Smith, their two children, Kyle and Sandi Smith of Deep Run, and Daughter Theresa "Terri" and her husband, David Baska (who was not present because of work) and their two children, Rachel and Shannon Baska, of Raleigh.

An appropriate appreciation message was delivered by Dr. Raper, taken from Luke 4:16-19, an essential attribute to the Rev. Hill as to why he was called to the ministry. Then in Psalm 23 he compares a good pastor to a good shepherd that loves his sheep, stressing these points: a good pastor cares for his people, leads his people, serves his people, and the most important quality of a good pastor, he loves his people. "As long as he loves them he can meet their needs." Dr. Raper's closing comments "and to you Andrew, the kindest thing that may ever be said to you is when a member of your church introduces you as *my Pastor*. I'm happy for you and your family and I'm happy for your church that this is the day that I could be with you to help commemorate this day and add to you personally my respect and my appreciation for you, and my prayers and best wishes that with all the experience you have behind you that your future days may even be your best days. I'm sure you have your own words you would like

to say, but hold that sermon until next Sunday. God bless you."

The Rev. Andrew Hill thanked everyone for this special day and then introduced Mrs. Rose Raper, wife of Dr. Raper; and members of his family. His brother, "Bill" Henry Wilbert Hill, and wife Fannie; his sister Carrie, and husband Robert Gooding; and his sister Pearl, and her husband Durwood Mills. (One sister Thelma and husband Frank Wisneski were not able to attend.) To end this part of our special day, "Blest Be the Tie" was sung by the congregation and the benediction was rendered by Dr. Raper.

The Fellowship Hall was decorated with live flowers and red and white tablecloths, with the exception of the family table that was covered with an ivory linen tablecloth. A pig, cooked to perfection and brought in on a large carving board, was served with a mixture of traditional and creative entrees. On the dessert table was a cake in the shape of a Bible, with the Scripture Isaiah 41:10 written on top. Approximately 75 people enjoyed this delicious lunch.

The members of Laniers Chapel OFWB were honored to have Dr. Raper as our speaker on this special day. We enjoyed the fellowship with all the visitors and were pleased with the events of the day, and delighted to "pull this surprise" on our pastor. Geraldine Hill was in on most of the planning, but the gift from the Auxiliary was a surprise to her. She has proven to us the old saying "behind every good man is a good woman pushing." She is a retired Postmaster. The Hills not have more time for each other, their family and friends, and the Lord. We are grateful for their leadership, dedication and fellowship.

OUR PASTOR NEVER STOPS

Occasionally someone will say, "Our pastor never stops to visit in our home." If the pastor never stops at your home, you probably should thank God. It means death has not struck, that no serious illness has laid you low, or that the surgeon's knife had not been necessary, or that you have had no serious family problem or that you are not a spiritually delinquent member. As a rule, your pastor does not have time for "social calls." It is not that he would not enjoy doing so, it is simply a matter of priorities . . . putting first things first. Your pastor does not have time to do everything he would like to do. However, you may be sure of this; your pastor is willing to come to the hospital or your home, the jail, the street corner, or anywhere at any hour of the day, or night when he is needed. Call him if you need him. Otherwise he will not know of your need until it is too late. For the moment, thank God you have not needed him. One day you will need him and he will be there when you call. Now he is visiting someone else who does need him.

*Copied from
Uncle Ben's Quotebook*



WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO DO TO PEOPLE?

During Seminary I had the opportunity to take classes under a professor who was a real Christian Educator. His whole life revolved around helping people to better understand God is. He would often ask his students to examine the Christian Education programs in their churches and see what the programs were trying to do for people. I think that this question should be asked as we look at the Sunday school programs in our denomination. When looking at Sunday school the question is focusing on if we know the purpose of what we are doing. Why do we have Sunday school? What do we want to accomplish by our Sunday schools? Many may say that there is a simple answer to this question. The purpose of Sunday school is to teach people God's Word. Others may say that teaching God's Word is only part of the purpose. The purpose should also include evangelism and fellowship. This threefold purpose of Sunday school sounds good. Teaching God's Word, reaching people for Christ and having good fellowship. Many of us can agree on that. But let's look at the first part of the purpose: teaching God's Word. Is it really our goal to teach God's Word? Teaching is a wonderful thing, but teaching is not the end. It is only a means to the end, and the end should be learning. There is a great difference in teaching God's Word and learning God's Word. Strong Biblical teaching is great, but only if it brings about strong Biblical learning. Our goal needs to be that people learn more about God and His Word. This is a different perspective altogether. Instead of focusing on teaching, maybe we need to be focusing on learning? Maybe we need to examine the way we teach people. Is our goal to present a wonderful lesson or is our goal for the students to learn something about God's Word? To have the goal of learning we need to look at some of the ways people learn and how we can adapt our teaching styles to help them learn. Through research and studies it has been said that people remember only 5–10% of what they hear, 25% of what they see but 80–90% of what they experience (source How We Learn; Thom and Joani Schultz). The more involved we are in an experience, the more we retain. We need to help people get involved in the learning process. We need to look at our methodology of teaching and begin to use methods that get people involved. To learn people need to think. We need to help people begin to think about God's Word and how it applies to their lives. We need to challenge our people to begin to really contemplate what God would have us to be and to do. But saying we need to help people to think and doing it is another situation. Many people are used to coming to Sunday school and expecting the teacher to do all the work. As teachers we must begin to help our students learn. We need to ask questions that make our people think. We need to encourage discussions, and interactive learning. We need to wait for answers even if it means some silence. This type of teaching is much harder than just lecturing for forty-five minutes. When you get into your lesson you might not be able to cover all the printed material. That might not be bad though because the goal is not to cover the material but for the students to learn. This type of teaching takes more preparation time and struggling with the lesson. It is not as easy as just covering the material, but this type of teaching also is more rewarding when you begin to see your students learn God's Word. I pray that God will help us see people come to know, love and follow Jesus.



WE CANNOT— “STAY ON THE PORCH”

Occasionally we come across a bumper sticker that catches our attention and leaves an impression. This was the case when I first read: “If you can’t run with the big dogs, then stay on the porch.” Each of us may read different meanings into this quotation. What I see is the challenge to be strong and courageous, to get involved, and to do something. When it comes to true Christian service and commitment, no one can “stay on the porch” and get the job done. It’s the same as staying on the mountain instead of going down in the valley. The mountaintop offers us refreshment, ease, and freedom from many anxieties and concerns; however, it is the valley that we find the opportunity for service. Everyone who has been to Cragmont Assembly has experienced the “mountaintop” blessings of our beloved mountain retreat. We have rocked in the front porch chairs, sharing many conversations with our fellow Christians. We realize, however, that we cannot remain there; we cannot stay on the porch. There are challenges and opportunities awaiting us, but they are down in the valley.

The valley is the place of fulfillment of divine purpose and service. Waters of refreshing and plenty flow in the valley; but more importantly, service to our fellowman is found in the valley, for it is there we find the needy, the sick, the suffering, the lost.

Are too many Free Will Baptists staying on the porch, content to let the world go by and ignore the call to service, the call to minister, and the call to share the good news of the Love of God through Jesus Christ. Contentment is easy to accept. It’s nice to be comfortable and undisturbed; therefore, we become content in our own little associations of close-knit friends. We enjoy “our” fellowship halls, “our” Sunday school class, “our” youth group, and “our” little church on the corner.

In our self-evaluation of our denomination, we are asking an important question, “What are the most pressing needs facing Free Will Baptist today?” When and if we put everything in to proper focus, when we truly take that look at ourselves, one of the conclusions is likely to be that we have “turned” in on ourselves; we have become contented just as we are. We do not want to be disturbed from our status quote. When church leaders say that they do not want their church to grow, as some pastors have attested to, then the “stay on the porch” philosophy has and is prevailing.

The challenges of these last years of this decade and century are before us. Assuredly the perilous times that Paul spoke about are breaking upon us. We are in a spiritual battle, a battle for the souls of men. We cannot win if we stay on the porch. To be “big” and thus victorious, is to dedicate ourselves to the task of faithfulness, thus propelling ourselves forth in the world with the message that Jesus saves. Free Will Baptists have not yet rallied to the challenge of truly “being the people of God.” Thus, it remains to be seen what God can do through and for faithful Free Will Baptists—a denomination that must rise to the challenges of this present generation.

We need our mountaintop experiences that we might succeed in the valley. It is spiritual selfishness to receive all the mountaintop

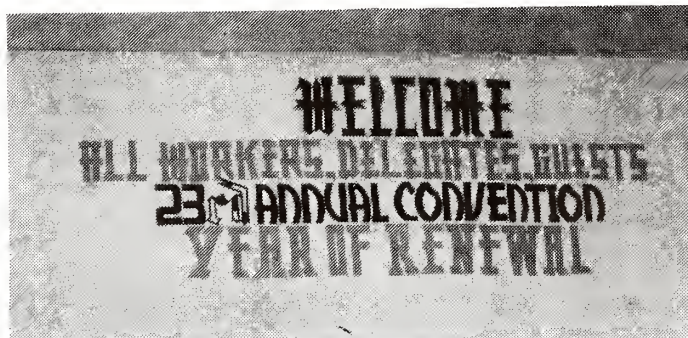
experiences and never share them with others. As we enjoy the fellowship of God’s people, we must also be willing to go down in the valley—to leave the porch.

OUR TRIP TO THE PHILIPPINES



Pictured are Harold and Sandra, C. H. and Ruby, Walter and Evelyn, about to embark from Raleigh-Durham airport.

On May 15, Ruby and I, along with Foreign Missions director, the Rev. Harold and Sandra Jones, along with the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Reynolds, left for a thirteen-day trip to the Philippines. Our travel first took us to Hawaii where we spent two days, having the privilege to visit Pearl Harbor, Diamond Head, and several other places of interest. The real heart of the trip, however, was our visit to our mission work on the island of Palawan, where we were warmly welcomed by the pastors and workers of the Original Free Will Baptist church of the Philippines. It was our privilege to attend various sessions of their 23rd Annual Convention. What a wonderful experience it was to be given the opportunity to speak on three occasions before their assembly, a privilege also granted to Brother Jones and Brother Reynolds. For almost a week we enjoyed a wonderful fellowship with these fellow Christians. We were blessed in their service of worship. It is an experience that we are still “soaking in,” and will be for a long time.



This is the sign that greeted those attending the Annual Convention of the Original Free Will Baptist church of the Philippines.

I appreciate the opportunity to bring greetings from our Convention to the Philippine delegation. While the trip was of my own doing and expenses, I was glad to be a part of this trip. We are grateful to Brother Harold for making all the arrangements and serving as our guide.

EIGHTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

Convention

of

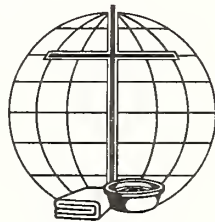
Original Free Will Baptists
September 12-14, 1995

College Hall
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina

EVENTS

Tuesday evening, September 12, 1995
Night of Evangelism
Sponsored by
Home Missions and Evangelism

Wednesday evening, September 13, 1995
Missions Rally
Sponsored by
Home Missions and Evangelism



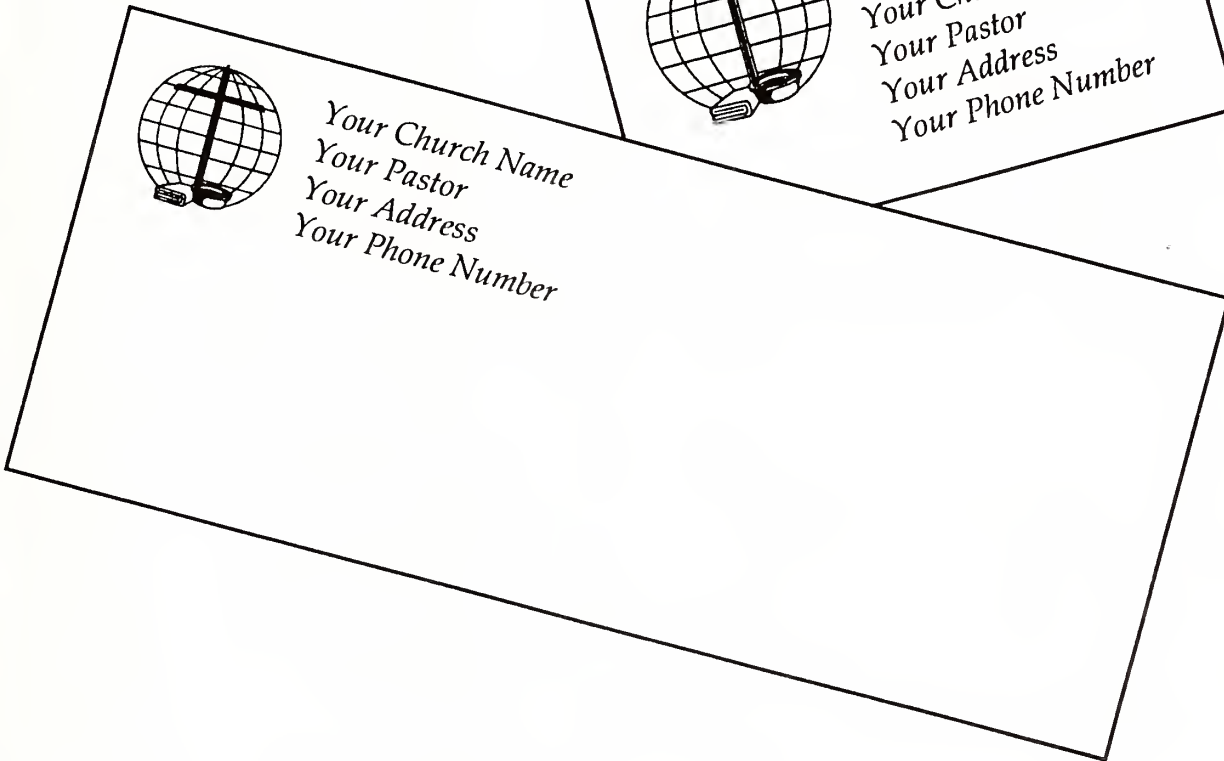
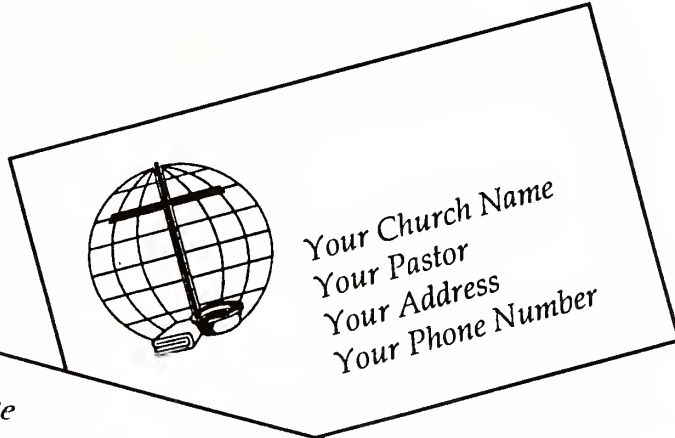
CONVENTION SESSIONS
September 13 and 14, 1995
9:00 A.M.
College Hall



Your Church Name
Your Pastor

Your Address
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Letterheads
Business Cards
#10 Envelopes,
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MINISTRIES CALENDAR

JANUARY

Retirement Homes Month

FEBRUARY

Christian Education Month

MARCH

Foreign Missions Month

APRIL

Home Missions and Evangelism Month

MAY

Children's Home Month

JUNE

Cragmont Assembly Month

JULY

Christian Education Month

AUGUST

Convention Promotion Month

SEPTEMBER

Home Missions and Evangelism Month

OCTOBER

Minister's Program Month

NOVEMBER

Children's Home Month

DECEMBER

Foreign Missions Month

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family,

There not many times anymore that we can seem to find the time to sit down and talk with our friends and family. Not too long ago, I had two very interesting conversations with a couple of my closest friends.

Oddly enough both were on the same topic. One of them "Do you ever wonder why things are the way they are?" conversations. I beg to differ to anyone that says 'America's Youth' are not interested in Christianity or our how we perceive our relationship with God. "Our relationship with God". The phrase kept being repeated through the various topics we covered. It makes sense. I think God is more concerned with how we see our personal union with Him than with us doing everything in the name of a certain church or religious affiliation.

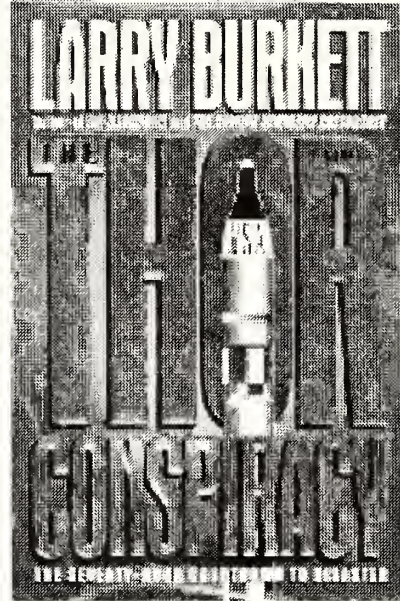
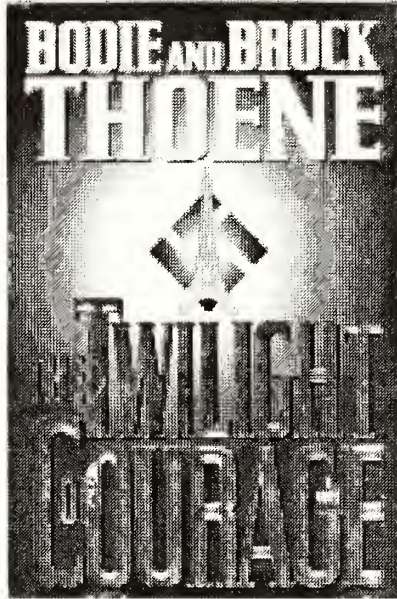
I guess if I had to say what my point to this Editor's page is that maybe we all need to take a closer look at each relationship that we are a part of- especially that most important relationship with God.

To Jason, Brian, and all of us who have ever asked any questions we seem never to know the answers, until we get to heaven let's all just concentrate on what is going to get us there: our relationship with God.

In His Service,

Tracy

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The Free Will Baptist

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

August 1995



**Our Convention's
FIVE YEAR THEME
(1995-2000)**

THE CALL TO RENEWAL
2 Chronicles 7:14

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August 1995 • Volume 112 • Number 8

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NEXT MONTH

September
is
Home Missions
and *Evangelism*
Month

August
is
Convention Promotion
Month

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.

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Features

**Our Convention's
FIVE YEAR THEME
(1995-2000)**

THE CALL TO RENEWAL

2 Chronicles 7:14

Annual Themes

**1995-96: The Call to Prayer
James 5:16**

**1996-97: The Call to Worship
I Chronicles 16:29**

**1997-98: The Call to the Word
Psalm 119:105**

**1998-99: The Call to Witnessing
Acts 1:8**

**1999-2000: The Call to the Harvest
Psalm 126:6**

Answer

The Call to Prayer

by

Attending the Convention

Prayer Breakfast

September 13, 1995

7:30 a.m.

Murphy Center

Notice to Church Clerks

The Annual Church Letters have been mailed to all church clerks. If you have not received yours, please notify the Convention Headquarters by calling (919) 746-4963 or by notifying us at P. O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.

It is important for each church to represent by delegates and by letter. Convention records are incomplete without information from each of our churches.

Thanks for your cooperation and continued support.

C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator



Mission Statement of Original Free Will Baptists (Of The English General Baptist Heritage)

The mission of the people of God called Original Free Will Baptists is to glorify God, therefore, we strive to know Christ, build His Church and make Him known to all people as we continue to seek His will. We believe this mission can be fulfilled through...

WORSHIPPING

John 4:23

"...worship the Father in spirit and truth..."

We commit ourselves to glorifying God by Worship, which is the adoration of God. Worship is duly required of all His children through praise, prayer, the reading and preaching of His Word, and should inspire witness leading to discipleship. Every Christian may worship God privately; however, this should never replace the corporate worship of the church. (1)

GROWING

2 Peter 3:18

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..."

We commit ourselves to glorifying God by moving toward maturity through learning, fellowshiping, and doing the work of ministry.

CARING

Galatians 6:10

"As we have therefore opportunity,

let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

We commit ourselves to glorifying God by making Christ known to the world, by caring for those of the flock of God, and by demonstrating the love of God to all peoples.

SHARING

Matthew 10:8b (7-10)

"... freely ye have received, freely give."

We commit ourselves to glorifying God by sharing what we know, what we have, and what we are, with all peoples.

EQUIPPING

Ephesians 4:12a

"For the equipping (perfecting) of the saints for the work of ministry,..."

We commit ourselves to glorifying God by equipping all believers for the work of ministry. The Church, through its leadership, is to see to it that the people of God are educated, guided, and cared for that they might become spiritually mature as they do the work of ministry.

(1) Articles of Faith, page 52.

(This Mission Statement is the work of Project Solution's Task Force Committee. It was officially adopted by the Convention's Executive Committee on April 11, 1995, and will be a part of the Committee's report.)

1995 Convention Information

September 12-14, 1995
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina

Events

September 12
7:30 p.m., Night of Evangelism

September 13
7:30 a.m., Convention Prayer Breakfast,
Murphy Center

September 13-14
Convention Sessions, College Hall

Speakers

Night of Evangelism
The Reverend Al Markuson
Director/Pastor of Genesis Mission
Fayetteville, NC

Wednesday Morning Worship
Under the Direction of the
Executive Administrator

Mission Rally
Mouachou Mouanoutoua
Vice-President of the
Lao Evangelical Church

Thursday Morning Worship
The Reverend John Williams
Director of Cragmont Assembly, Inc.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PASTOR NEEDED

Roanoke Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church is seeking a full-time pastor. Contact Mr. Eddie Duff, Route 2, Box 314A, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870, phone, (919) 536-5183.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church at 4556 W US 70 Hwy, Goldsboro, NC would like to invite you to join us for Vacation Bible School, August 7-11 from 6:50 until 8:30.

This year's theme is Bible Heroes and Promises. We have something for everyone from age 2 through adults. We look forward to seeing you there.

CONCERT

David Parker will be appearing again in concert on September 23, 1995, 7 p.m. at Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church. For more information, call 752-6485.

PASTOR NEEDED

First Free Will Baptist of Plymouth is searching for a full-time pastor. If interested, send resume to Lewis Sullivan, 110 Roxie Reece Road, Plymouth, NC 27962 or phone, 793-3210.

HOMECOMING

Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie, NC will have Homecoming on September 17, 1995. The pastor is the Rev. Robert May. The speaker for the morning message is the Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of Friendship Church, Farmville. Everyone is welcome.

PASTOR AVAILABLE

The Rev. M. E. Cox available for supply pastor work. Call him at home in Wilson, 919-243-7733.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
FOUNDATION, INC.
SEPTEMBER 5, 1995
AT
10 A.M.
AYDEN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention

May 11, 1995

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me (Galatians 2:20).

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me (Philippians 4:13).

These passages of Scripture remind us of the woman we honor today with the Life Membership Award.

She lives her life in faith.

She gives of herself, sacrificially.

She loves her fellow man.

She receives her strength from Christ.

In her service to God she is an example for everyone of Christ living in a person's life, shining through for the world to see. At an early age she committed her heart and mind to Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour. Her continuous years of service have shown that she is faithful, willing, and obedient to Jesus' call. She is a woman of great compassion, love, and devotion to her family, her community, her local church, her district, and her denomination. She is a fountain of knowledge and wisdom.

We will list today just some of the ways that she has served her Saviour:

STATE

At the state level she has served as President, Missions Chair, Field Secretary, Program-Prayer Chair, *Devotion* Editor, and on the Literature Committee of the Woman's Auxiliary. She served as Chairman of the Literature Committee during the 1981 Revision of the *Manual of Methods of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary*.

She gave years of service as the Director of the Cragmont Women's Conferences. During that time she led the conferences, and many woman, through much spiritual growth. She gave the example of allowing the Holy Spirit to direct a person's heart and service. She came to know and love women from throughout the state, and they came to know and love her.

She has served on the Board of Trustees for Mount Olive College and as the Secretary for the Executive Board of the State FWB Convention.

DISTRICT

As a member of the Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary, she has contributed in the offices of: President, Vice

President, Study Course Chair, and Field Secretary. She received the Life Membership from the Cape Fear District on October 10, 1967.

LOCAL

In her local church she has filled many roles. She is a charter member of Palmer Memorial FWB Church where she has served as Church Clerk, and as Sunday School Teacher of the Young Adult and Adult classes. In her local auxiliary she has administered virtually all offices.

She has encouraged the activities and denominational ministries of the Free Will Baptist with love and devotion. She was married to Carl Dudley, and they have one daughter, Judy.

She did all of these things "through Christ," who has blessed her with the strength to serve Him even until this very day. She is a pillar of faith to so many men and women. She is a source of spiritual knowledge and an example of humility for the women serving under her gentle guidance. She is an encourager. She is a friend.

I would like to share with you now her own words of encouragement she sent in a note to the ladies at the 1993 June Women's Conference at Cragmont:

"Dear Friends,

You may not see me but I am there. I would like so much to be with you all this week but am not able to do so. I hope that the next time I will be able to join you. I thought of you Monday and prayed for your safety in travel.

Cragmont will always hold a special place in my heart. For many years it was a highlight in my life. I hope you will have the best conference ever. I am sure it will be super. My prayers will be with you and I shall look forward to a report from the ones who attend.

Love and God bless each of you,

Dola Dudley"

Yes, Mrs. Dola you are always with us. We have felt your prayers. You have been a highlight to us. You have kept an eye of guidance on us from afar. God has blessed us with your life.

It is our privilege to present the Life Membership Award from the State Woman's Auxiliary to Mrs. Dola Dudley.

Life Membership Committee
Teresa M. Ball
Alma Dale
Mavie T. Daughtry

Scenes From Woman's Auxiliary Convention

May 11, 1995



Mrs. Alma Dale presenting the Life Membership Award to Mrs. Dola Dudley



Dianne Riley (left) guest speaker being introduced by Jean Ackiss (right).



Carolyn Jernigan, President
(beautiful home-grown roses graced the altar)



There were many in attendance at the Woman's Auxiliary Convention held on May 11, 1995.



A delicious meal was served by the host church.

THE CALL AND QUALIFICATIONS OF MINISTERS

by Harry Grubbs

The ministry is one of the most important professions in the world, if not the most important. Physicians, teachers, other educators, lawyers, judges, research scientists, and politicians all have very important professions that affect the lives of so many people. Entertainers and professional athletes make the most money because of our warped value system. Ministers affect not only the lives but the eternity of people. The ministry is so important that it involves a special calling from God.

There are three calls of God to His people. The first is the call to salvation. This call is made to every human being because God is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). Once a person accepts Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of his/her life, God extends another call—the call to "grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). When we are born again, we start over as "babes in Christ," and as such, we must grow toward spiritual maturity. So many people think that a profession of faith is all anyone needs. However, just as parents expect their babes to grow and develop physically, mentally, and emotionally, so God, our Heavenly Father, expects us to grow and develop spiritually. If children do not develop normally, we say they are retarded. In the same way, there are many people who are "spiritually retarded" because they refuse to grow in spiritual knowledge and Christian love. So the call to Christian growth is very important. The third call is to Christian service. God calls every Christian to serve Him regardless of our occupation or profession. He calls some of us to a special service as ministers of the Gospel.

The call to the ministry is different for every one who is called. Yet there are similarities in all. God calls only

those people who have the ability to learn how to serve in this special capacity. Everyone who has received this call feels a duty, a responsibility, or even a compulsion to serve God. Unfortunately, some who feel that God has called them to the ministry seem to also feel that that call is enough. But if God calls us to the ministry, He calls us to prepare for the ministry. School teachers must complete the requirements for a college degree from an accredited college or university before they take the examination for certification to teach. Lawyers are required to complete four years of college and three years of law school before they take the bar exam. Physicians must complete four years of college, four years of medical school, and at least two years of residency before they are allowed to take the medical exam. Neurosurgeons are required to complete several years of residency before they are allowed to practice their craft. The ministry is just as important, if not more so, than any of these professions. Most denominations require a Master of Divinity degree (three years beyond college in an accredited theological school) before a minister can be ordained. Can the Free Will Baptist Church continue to ordain those who have less education than school teachers?

The minister needs a broad, well-rounded education if he/she is to minister to the people of our educated society today. Our congregations contain people who are highly educated and who belong to the professions listed above. How can we really minister to these people if we refuse to obtain an education ourselves? Surely, a minister must study the Bible, theology, and church history, but he also needs to develop counseling skills and also study English, science, and general history. Even our study of theology and Bible interpretation should be broad in scope.

We should never limit ourselves to one school of thought. We should study theology from the Fundamentalist to the Liberal point of view; only then can we honestly settle on a point of view of our own.

Developing counseling skills is also very important today. People face a variety of crises in their lives, and the good minister is trained to walk with these people through these trying circumstances. The called person also has to minister routinely with many different personality types, and he/she sees both normal and abnormal behavior. So the minister must have a knowledge of psychology, personality types, and behavior, and he/she needs to develop skills to deal with them. He needs to develop listening skills and to learn to let the parishioner solve his/her own problem rather than offering solutions without knowing all the data (and regardless of how much the counselee tells, we can never know all the data). The best place to learn these skills is in a clinical setting where one is critiqued in a firm but caring atmosphere. A working knowledge of sociology and social trends is very important to a pastor. This gives a broader understanding of people in general, which is very important when sharing the gospel and trying to develop churches.

The importance of general education can never be undervalued. The ability to speak and write well come only by advanced study of the grammar of one's language. Some knowledge of great literature is important, for many great sermon illustrations are gleaned from such sources. A general knowledge of science opens the mind to God's marvelous work of creation and providence. To study science is not to oppose the idea of God as Creator, but for the Christian, it confirms the fact that there is a Power which is far above us and a Wisdom which is far superior to

the minuscule brain of any person. This Power and Wisdom belongs, of course, to our Omnipotent and Omniscient God. A study of science also reveals to the Christian that the laws of nature are also the Laws of God. A study of history is important so we can learn from the past.

The minister who refuses to become educated shortchanges him or herself,

the church, and God. For a young person who is called into the ministry, there is absolutely no excuse for refusing to get a formal education. In some cases sacrifices must be made, but if God has truly called, He will also make a way for the individual to prepare for that calling. Our denomination provides financial help for anyone who has been called into the ministry. Mount Olive

College has never failed to provide for anyone studying for the ministry and will continue its search for new resources. So now, as never before, our denomination should demand that its ministers receive at least a four-year college degree from an accredited institution of higher learning, and we should make sure the accrediting agency is a legitimate one.

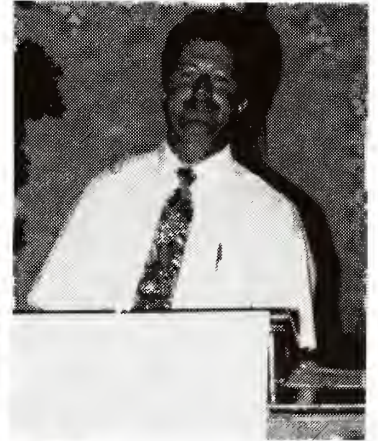
FALL LADIES' AUXILIARY CONVENTION MEETINGS

Albemarle	September 23	St. Paul
Cape Fear	October 11	Johnston Union
Central	September 23	Greenville
Eastern	September 21	St. Delight
Pee Dee	October 7	Cypress Creek
Piedmont	October 21	Sweet Haven
Western	October 4	Stancil's Chapel

*Devotional Books will be available in December.
The subject is "The Fruits of the Spirit."*

Happenings in the Layman's League

**Scenes From the Eastern District Layman's League
Held in May at Croatan Free Will Baptist Church**



Denominational Ministries

News From Mount Olive College

Because of the faithful support of Free Will Baptists, the 1994 Mount Olive College county dinners were the most successful in the history of this program. Total gifts received were \$319,803. The College deeply appreciates the financial and prayer support it receives from the Original Free Will Baptist Church.

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, coordinator for the annual Mount Olive College dinners program, has announced the planning sessions for the 1995 dinner season, which will begin in August. Pastors and local chairpersons from each church are encouraged to attend the planning session in their county. At these meetings, information on the College will be provided for volunteers and final plans for the dinners will be made.

A total of 17 county-wide dinners are held annually for Free Will Baptist churches throughout eastern North Carolina in support of the College. This unrestricted gift support from Free Will Baptists helps the College expand its service to the church, develop academic program and provide scholarships.

Support from Free Will Baptists through the dinners program has reached nearly \$4.8 million since the program began in 1963. These generous gifts have assisted the College in the development of its new 123-acre campus, in the transition from a two- to a four-year college, and in providing scholarships for Free Will Baptist students.

Listed below is a schedule of the 1995 planning sessions.

1995 MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE PLANNING SESSIONS

GREENE COUNTY, Thursday, August 10, 7:30 p.m., Hull Road FWB Church near Snow Hill.

BEAUFORT COUNTY, Friday, August 11, 7:30 p.m., Memorial FWB Church near Chocowinity.

NASH COUNTY, Sunday, August 13, 3 p.m., Free Union FWB Church near Spring Hope.

LENOIR COUNTY, Monday, August 14, 7:30 p.m., First FWB Church of Kinston.

EDGEcombe COUNTY, Tuesday, August 15, 7:30 p.m., First FWB Church of Tarboro.

WAYNE COUNTY, Thursday, August 17, 7:30 p.m., First FWB Church of Goldsboro.

ONSLOW-BRUNSWICK COUNTIES, Friday, August 18, 7:30 p.m., Folkstone FWB Church, Folkstone.

JONES COUNTY, Sunday, August 20, 2:30 p.m., Pilgrim's Home FWB Church near Dover.

PITT COUNTY, Monday, August 21, 7:30 p.m., Reedy Branch FWB Church near Winterville.

CRAVEN COUNTY, Tuesday, August 22, 7:30 p.m., Saint Mary's FWB Church, New Bern.

WASHINGTON, MARTIN, TYRRELL, AND PASQUOTANK COUNTIES, Thursday, August 24, 7:30 p.m., Mount Tabor FWB Church near Creswell.

CARTERET COUNTY, Friday, August 25, 7:30 p.m., Crab Point FWB Church, Morehead City.

PAMLICO COUNTY, Sunday, August 27, 3 p.m., Rock of Zion FWB Church, Grantsboro.

DUPLIN COUNTY, Monday, August 28, 7:30 p.m., Cabin FWB Church near Beulaville.

WILSON COUNTY, Thursday, August 31, 7:30 p.m., Daniels Chapel FWB Church near Wilson.

JOHNSTON-WAKE COUNTIES, Tuesday, September 5, 7:30 p.m., First FWB Church of Smithfield.

SAMPSON, HARNETT, AND CUMBERLAND COUNTIES, Thursday, September 7, 7:30 p.m., Oak Grove FWB Church near Newton Grove.

Several students were honored for academic and leadership achievement in annual Awards Day ceremonies at Mount Olive College.

Janet Corbett, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. James Corbett of Smithfield, received the Senior Citizenship Cup. The cup is presented by the Student Development Office to the senior who has evidenced the most outstanding qualities of citizenship during his or her academic career at Mount Olive College. The recipient is chosen by the Student Development Office staff. The cup was presented by Julie Beck, Student Development Officer.

Ethridge T. (Tommy) Davis, son of Travis and Susan Davis of Newport, received 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. It is awarded to a rising senior selected by the business faculty for greatest promise in the field of business. The award was presented by Dr. James A. Coats, chair of the Department of Business.

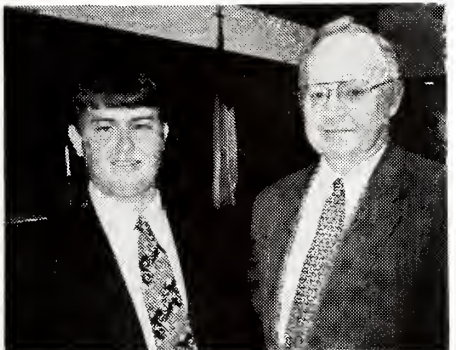
Bobby Johnston of Mount Olive was the recipient of the Free Will Baptist Ministerial Award, a scholarship given by the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists. The scholarship is given to the returning Free Will Baptist student who has demonstrated the potential for excellence in the Christian ministry. The recipient is selected by a committee designated by the Ministerial Association. The award was presented by Dr. K. David Hines, chair of the Department of Religion.

Mount Olive College is a private, four-year liberal arts institution dedicated to the total development of its students in an environment nurtured by Christian values. Sponsored by the

Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, it now serves more than 1,000 students on its main campus, at the Seymour Johnson Air Force Base Center and the New Bern Center.



Director of Student Activities Julie Beck with Miss Janet Corbett



Department of Business chair, Dr. James A. Coats with Tommy Davis.



The Revs. Jefferson Daughtry, left, and K. David Hines, right, with Bobby Johnston

The annual Bridge Builders Appreciation Banquet, scheduled for Saturday, September 30, at 6 p.m. in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center, is an opportunity for the College to express its appreciation to friends who have given through the Bridge Builders program at the 1994 annual dinners.

A Bridge Builder is any person, or group within a church, who makes an unrestricted gift of \$100 or more at one of the college dinners.

A very inspirational program is being planned. While this event will

honor the more than 1,400 Bridge Builders from the 1994 dinners, all friends of the College are invited.

Reservations may be made by contacting Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss by September 25.



The College provides a buffet luncheon each Sunday in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12 years of age. Church groups and individuals are invited to join us any Sunday.

Whenever groups are planning to eat in the Murphy Center, the College requests that reservations be made through Manager Gordon Wall at 919-658-2502.



Admissions and scholarship opportunities are still available to students who plan to enroll in the 1995-96 academic year, according to Dianne Riley, Director of Admissions.

To meet the needs of more students, the College recently added programs in Criminal Justice and Music, bringing the total number of majors offered to nineteen.

To assist with the cost of college, Mount Olive offers a very generous program of financial aid. Included in this program are Academic, Leadership, Service, Fine Arts, and Athletic Scholarships.

A special program for qualified Free Will Baptist students is the Free Will Baptist Tuition Grant, a \$2,500 annual scholarship. This program will involve all recipients in a service project to their church, the College, or to a denominational ministry.

Have you considered completing your college degree? The College offers a degree completion program in Management and Organizational Development in New Bern and on our main campus in Mount Olive.

This program provides opportunity for those who have approximately two years of college to complete their

baccalaureate degree by attending classes one night per week for one year.

For additional information on this program contact the Admissions Office.



Admissions counselors David Bourgeois, left, Dianne Riley, Vickie Stroud and Shasta McAllister discuss the developing fall enrollment at Mount Olive College. Admissions videos and academic program information are still available to those interested in enrolling or transferring to the College for the fall semester.



Admissions Director Dianne Riley, left, and the Rev. Chris Markuson Sr. congratulate Chris Markuson Jr., a 1995 graduate of the College. Markuson Sr., who already holds one bachelor's degree, is enrolled in the Management and Organizational Development degree-completion program at the College.



President J. William Byrd will be the speaker at the 1995 Fall Convocation on Tuesday, August 29, in College Hall.

Fall Convocation is the first formal gathering of the college family in the new academic year.

A native of Mount Olive, Byrd was elected in January to succeed Dr. W. Burkette Raper, becoming the third president in the history of the college.

Friends of the college are invited to attend.

The College will host the annual Convention of Original Free Will Baptists on September 12, 13, and 14 on the main campus. The convention schedule begins Tuesday, September 12

with an Evangelism Rally at 7:30 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel.

The convention will continue through Wednesday and Thursday in College Hall, including a Mission Rally

at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

For more information on the 1995 Convention, watch upcoming issues of *The Free Will Baptist* or call Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Director of Church Support, at the College.

Ministers Institute

presents

James A. Evans Lecture

on

August 7, 1995

at

Mount Olive College

Schedule of Events

Registration: 9:00 a.m.

Lunch: 12 Noon

P. T. Lucas Award will be presented

Featured Speaker:

Dr. Lamar J. Brooks

In 1994, Mount Olive College updated its annual Ministers Institute with the inauguration of the James A. Evans Lecture. Sponsored by Dr. Thomas R. Morris of Wilmington, the Evans Lecture brings significant speakers annually to address issues related to pastoral ministry.

Featured at the 1995 James A. Evans Lecture will be Dr. Lamar J. Brooks, a retired pastor widely recognized for his preaching.

Brooks retired in 1992 as pastor to the Winter Park Baptist Church in Wilmington, a position he held for a decade. His experience has included service to churches in Georgia, Florida, and North Carolina.

Brooks has been visiting professor to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest and to Campbell University, where he taught courses in preaching and Biblical studies.

He holds degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Mars Hill College and Mercer University.

Brooks has preached more than 6,200 sermons in pulpits across the southeastern United States and in Korea, Venezuela, and the Ukraine.

For more information, contact:

K. David Hines

Mount Olive College

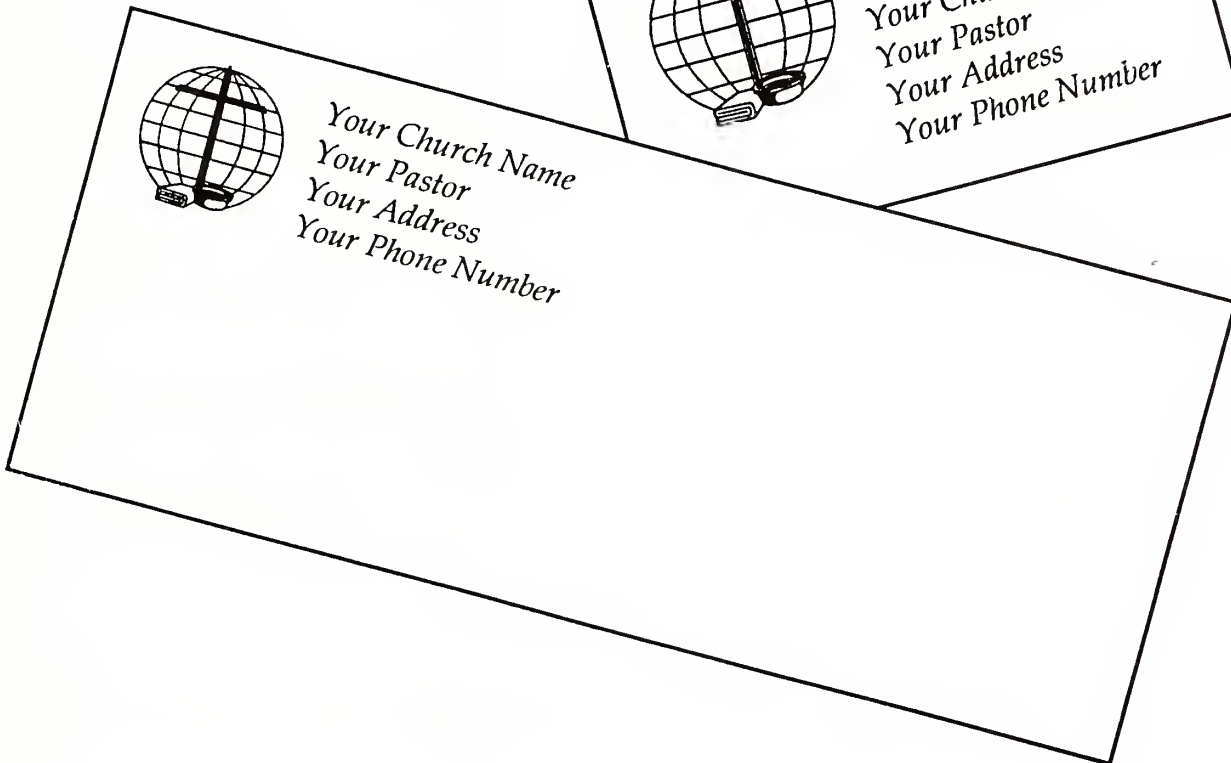
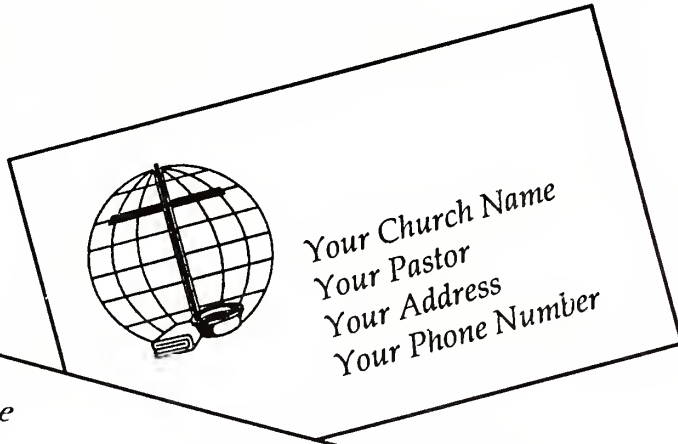
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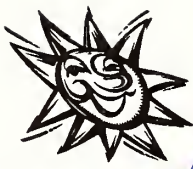
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AUGUST



SUN

MON

TUE

5	6	1	2
▲ AUGUST WOMEN'S AUXILIARY			
6	7	8 ◆ Executive Committee Convention, Headquarters, 10:00 am	9
■ YOUTH WEEK, AUGUST 7-16			
13	14	15 + Press Board Meeting, Headquarters, 1:00 pm	16
20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30

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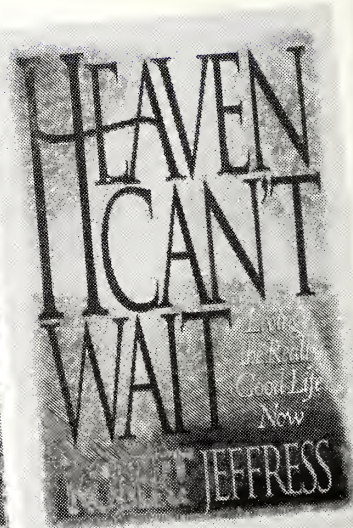
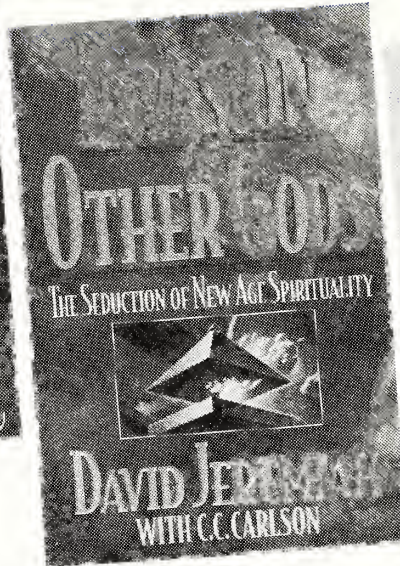
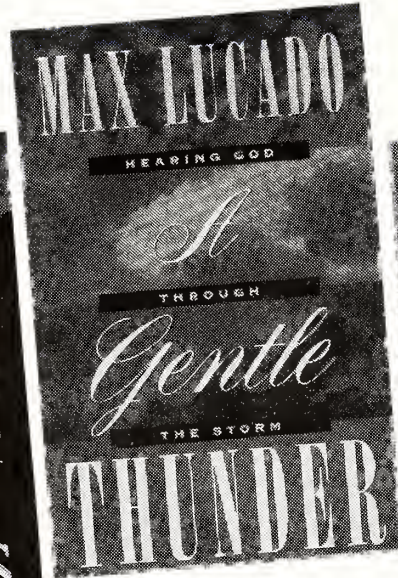
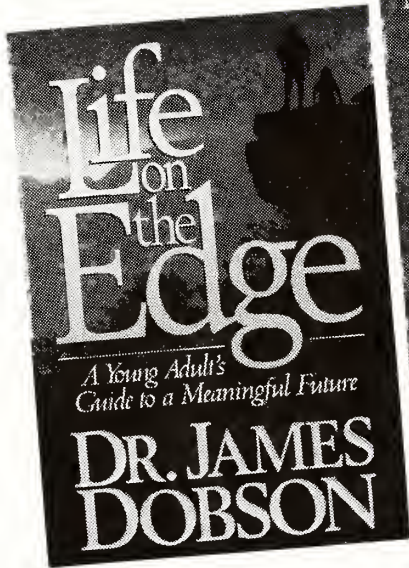
us/following month
 at month

- Retirement Home
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- ✚ FWB Convention News
- ✚ FWB Press

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Executive Committee
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Children's Home
- Vandemere
- ✿ Woman's Auxiliary

THU		FRI		SAT	
3	○ Retirement Home Board, Headquarters, 2:00 pm	4		5	
<p>CONFERENCE, JULY 31–AUGUST 5 • TERESA BALL, REGISTRAR</p>					
10	✚ Press Material Deadline	11		12	
<p>V. DAVID VESPER, DIRECTOR</p>					
17		18		19	
24		25		26	
31					

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News From Cragmont Assembly, Inc.

Cragmont
1945
1995
JUBILEE

AFTER JUBILEE! PLANS ARE MADE FOR THE FUTURE OF A DEBT-FREE CRAGMONT

In the year of this jubilee, ye shall return every man unto his possession (Leviticus 25:13).

As Jubilee has brought an end to the debt, it also marks a new beginning. Through the Jubilee program, the debt which hung heavily upon our backs has now been lifted. Cragmont has truly been returned to the Original Free Will Baptist denomination. After Jubilee suggests that we not become complacent, but continue to move forward, setting new goals. The dreams we have talked about while in debt are but a commitment away from becoming reality. Our visions will only become reality through stewardship and giving. It will only be through the grace of God and the support of the entire denomination that we will realize the following goals.

**“Cragmont
has truly been
returned to
the Original
Free Will Baptists . . .”**

Renovations for the existing facilities at Cragmont will mark part of Cragmont's growth for the future. Several specific projects have been planned, including: replacing carpet, wallpaper, paint and bedding; converting the existing office space into first floor rooms; converting all first floor rooms to rooms with private baths; and widening the stairways. We will also seek to address the growing numbers of people coming to Cragmont. Plans being formulated for expansion are aimed at keeping pace with the needs of smaller groups as well as the larger ones. But perhaps the most important aspect of Cragmont's growth will be exploring new ways to serve. This will cover not only youth programs, but adult programs as well as retreats, seminars, and regular program staff.

Note: The last payment to Church Finance was made May 30, 1995.

HOW SWEET THE SOUND!

The Youth Convention's Project Is a Great Success

The State Youth Convention completed their fund-raising project (a new sound system for Cragmont) in time for the Minister's Conference. The system includes new microphones and stands, a wireless microphone, monitor speakers as well as a fantastic sound board. Our thanks go out to Mrs. Martha Parsons (State Youth Chairperson) and all of the hard-working youth of our denomination who had a part in raising the money; and our thanks to those who gave. We also would like to thank K. David Hines who helped us pick out and set up the sound system in the chapel. Great job!

**Mark well the times for
as it moves without hesitation
so must our good intentions**

NOT EVEN RAIN CAN KEEP THEM AWAY!

The Summer Conferences Kick Off With Wet Enthusiasm

Often, rain seems to put a damper (no pun intended) on things. Cookouts are no fun; baseball games must stop; and hiking is a chore. All because of rain. But as usual, the rain couldn't prevent the 1995 Cragmont Conference Season from getting underway!

The June Women's Conference started the season with a few new faces and Teresa Ball speaking on "Angels." The Minister's Conference was next with the Rev. Jeff Daughtrey presiding. And the rains didn't stop the Christian Cadets Conference from worshipping God or even making a trip to Carowinds!

MANAGER'S NOTE

I'd just like to give a special thanks to all who give to Cragmont, but in particular:

*The State Laymen's League for their roof work on the Main Building.

*To Raymond Webb and Edgewood Church for the new deep fat fryer.

Your gifts are invaluable as they allow Cragmont to continue to run smoothly.

GETTING RICH! READ!

Proverbs 1:7; 23:4

Matthew 6:20-34

Luke 12:15-21

STUDY!

The Scriptures (with a unity typical of our Lord) all speak to the temporary nature of money. You've heard the phrase, "You can't take it with you." Apparently, the man in Jesus' parable (Luke 12:15-21) did not. He wasted time worrying about his grain instead

of his relationship with God. How often do we put *things* ahead of other people or even God? But does this mean we shouldn't care about money or that we should not be good stewards? Certainly not. The Bible is replete with examples of God wanting us to be wise rather than worried. Perhaps that is the underlying meaning of Proverbs 1:7 and Matthew 6:33. We are told that fear or respect for the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. We are also told to seek first the Kingdom of God and "all these things shall be added unto you." If God is the Creator, then who is richer than God? Why seek *some* riches when we can have fellowship with the Source of *all* riches? Perhaps seeking God is the fastest way to "get rich"!



Recent Cragmont Board discussing "After Jubilee" plans.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August Women's
Auxiliary Conference
July 31—August 5

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Cragmont depends solely on the support of the denomination through individuals and groups. Not only do we depend on people sacrificing their time and abilities, but we also depend on financial support. Cragmont offers several ways for anyone to give to the ministry. The *General Fund* is where most donations go. The Fund helps to manage the everyday (and sudden) expenses of Cragmont. The *Cragmont Club* is still the most popular program of giving. Ten dollars a month still gets you and your family two free nights at Cragmont along with other benefits. *After Jubilee* is the new pledge program for helping to finance the needed renovations on campus. And the *General Endowment* is a way for you or any group to give to Cragmont in honor or memory of someone.

*Thank you
for your
support
of
Cragmont
Assembly, Inc.*



**1995
Original
Free Will Baptist
Mission Rally**



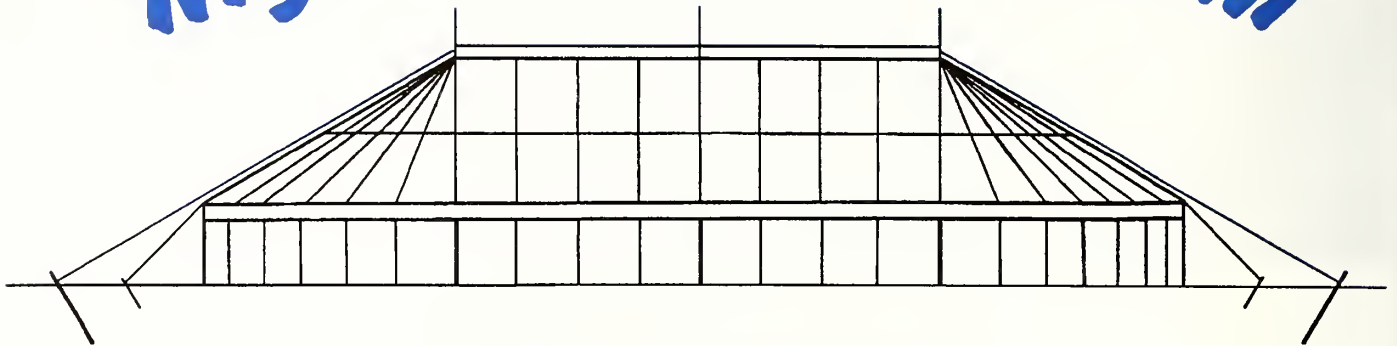
Dr. & Mrs. Mouachou Mouanoutoua
Dr. Mouanoutoua is Rally Speaker

**Joint Rally for Home and Foreign Missions
Home Missions Presiding**

At the Convention
Wednesday, September 13, 1995
7:30 p.m.
Campus of Mount Olive College

Every Original Free Will Baptist Should Attend

Night of Evangelism



Under the Big Tent

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

7:30 p.m.

Campus of Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina



Sponsored by
**BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
AND
EVANGELISM**
of
**Original
Free Will Baptists**

The Reverend Al Markuson, Speaker

EXPANDING HIS KINGDOM

News From Foreign Missions

SHORT-TERM TEAM MEXICO AUGUST 5-17, 1995

The Lord has put together the first Short-Term Team to Mexico. Please remember the following team members in prayer:

Phil Farmer	Frankie Baggett
Gus Farmer	Fred Baker
Kelly King	Linda Baker
Nikki Moye	Adaline Gray
Rachel Langley	Edmundo Gonzalez
Emily Pickett	Harold Jones
Don Ribeiro	Sandra Jones
Karen Ribeiro	Kristi English
	Mike Scott

The team will be involved in various types of ministry, such as: VBS, tract distribution, skits, puppets, preaching, singing, construction, painting, and a medical clinic. We believe this will be an exciting and life changing experience for all team members and will develop new friendships with our Christian brothers and sisters in Mexico that will last into eternity.

SHORT-TERM 1996

Short-Term Ministry is a great opportunity for youth and adults to have first-hand experience on one of our mission fields. We plan to make this an annual part of our program. If you are interested in joining a short-term team for 1996, please contact our office as soon as possible.

ANNUAL CONVENTION MISSIONS RALLY

The Annual Convention Missions Rally will be held on September 13 at 7:30 p.m. in College Hall. Please plan to attend and pray about the amount the Lord would have you, as an individual or a church to give. **Last year was the best offering Foreign Missions has ever received at the Rally. Let's do it again!!**

This year we have a significant increase in our budget due to expansion on all existing fields and the prospects of a new field in Bangladesh. The growth and financial stability of this ministry is directly related to your interest and faithful prayer and financial support.

Thank you in advance for your generous response. I hope all of you can attend; but if you cannot, you can mail your special offering to Board of Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. 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.

Harold Jones
Director/Treasurer
Board of Foreign Missions

LYDIA VAN DER PLAS ARRIVES N.C. AUGUST 7, 1995



Lydia van der Plas will be arriving at the Raleigh Durham Airport on August 7 via NW/KL5728 at 10:09 p.m. She will be living on Fire House Road in Bell Arthur during her stay. Her mailing address will be P.O. Box 664, Bell Arthur, NC 27811-0664, phone number 919-758-3614. Mrs. Louise Webb has graciously allowed the Board the use of an apartment. Her stay will be no longer than three months. We continue to pray that the visas for Willem and Lydia will be approved

before she returns. They are presently alternating time in Eastern Europe on tourist visas. This is a very trying situation, since it means long periods of separation. Please pray earnestly for the approval of their visas in September.

Lydia would like to visit in your church while she is here. Her time will be limited. If you would like for her to visit your church, contact her as soon as possible.

1995 YEAR OF RENEWAL

by Harold Jones



The above theme has been adopted by the churches on all our mission fields. This was quite evident in the Philippines on our last visit. Buildings had been restored, banners had been placed in all the churches, announcing the "Year of Renewal." Prayer is regularly offered for renewal. A renewal of interest in evangelism and church planting is being emphasized in all the gatherings and put into practice by the workers and membership.

The purpose of renewal is to focus on the most important task before the Church; reaching the lost with the Gospel, gaining converts, discipleship, and establishing the local church. This theme was emphasized at the Twenty-second Annual Convention of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines. Please join us in prayer for renewal in God's Church world-wide.

MOSLEM PRAYER FOR VISA

After we left in December they talked with one another and expressed their belief in the power of Allah. Twenty-four Moslem women joined together, because they wanted us to return to their place. In the third week of Ramadan they organized a special prayer meeting in one of their homes. I was a little confused about the whole matter and thought about a possibility to stop them. To do so would mean that I disqualified their intentions. They invited me in their home, where Teshdzyan and I met them in a small bedroom gathered together to pray for our visa.

After half an hour of prayer in the Arabic-Koranic language they sang some songs and then it was silent. They moved their hands three times over their faces from the forehead downwards and so they paid reference to Allah. It is the Moslem way to say: "Amen." Then they started to ask me questions. The first question was: "Do you really believe in the existence of One God?" I affirmed that with the words of Deuteronomy 6:4. Immediately they asked: "So you don't believe in three Gods? What can you say about Jesus?" This question is easy to answer in a Christian-doctrinal way, but in such case they would not accept my answer. I began to explain to them my belief that Jesus is the Messiah. They agreed on that. I continued to tell them that the Old Testament prophets spoke about the Messiah as the special gift from God. They accepted Jesus as the descendant of King David. They could believe that He came as a special prophet and high priest even that He was born in a miraculous way.

Further we talked about the fact that He came as the Prince of Peace, that He did not take the lives of others, but that He gave His life to save others from the death of sin. To this I added that He is the special Son of God and that God will make us also special if we believe in the Special, First Born Son of God. With Philipians 2:6-11, I

taught them that God exalted Jesus to His right hand above all mankind. Some women who were present received a Bible from us before and I always give them Philipians 2 as a passage to read, they agreed on the teaching with good understanding. However, what was amazing was that the others did not disagree on my short teaching. May our Lord bless these first seeds and deliver these people from the darkness into His Light.

Finally everybody was invited to come to eat in the small kitchen room. The most prominent women were invited to eat first and thereafter the others followed in groups to eat soup and beans. When they left, each woman received a small amount of money for the prayer. We ask for your prayers that they may come to the understanding that Jesus Christ loves them and that Salvation is the Free Gift from God in Him.



Moslem women praying out of the Koran.



Moslem women praying before the meal.

SIDNEY FWB CHURCH RECENTLY HELD AWARDS DAY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND WORKERS

Ava Mae Poole was awarded the Sunday School Worker of the Year Award. This was the first year such an award has been made. Gary Burbage, superintendent of Sunday School stated that "Ava Mae Poole serves as a wonderful example of a dedicated servant of the Lord. Her students love her and learn of life from her. There was no hesitation in making Ava Mae Poole Sidney's First recipient of the Sunday School Worker of the Year Award."



Pictured are several students who also won awards based on Sunday School Perfect Attendance. Pictured are (group) left to right: Kyle Burbage, 2 years; Kenneth Davis, 1 year; Kendall Leigh, 2 years; Mary Beth Burbage, 2 years; and Chad Poole, 13 years.



Also pictured is Stephen Poole, Sidney's Mr. Sunday School. Stephen has attended Sunday School 15 years with perfect attendance. Chad and Stephen Poole are brothers whose parents are Steve and Lucinda Poole, also members of Sidney. Chad and Stephen's grandmother is Ava Mae Poole.

OBITUARY

KATHLEEN S. SAWYER

Kathleen Smith Sawyer, 74, of Route 1, Box 405, Belhaven died Monday afternoon, June 12, 1995, at Pungo District Hospital in Belhaven.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Sidney Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Paul Grubbs officiated. Burial followed at Smithton Cemetery.

The deacons of the church served as pallbearers.

Mrs. Sawyer was born January 18, 1921, daughter of the late Mary Cayton and Fred Smith. She was married to R. Sherwood Sawyer. Mrs. Sawyer was a member of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband; two daughters, Karen Cullifer of Chesapeake, VA and Mary Ragland of Bath; a son, Sherwood Sawyer Jr. of Greenville; three brothers, Cecil Smith and Ernie Marslender, both of Belhaven, and Forrest Lee Smith of Biloxi, Miss.; three sisters, Verna M. Paul and Cora Bond, both of Belhaven, and Frances S. Carter of Virginia Beach, VA; and six grandchildren.

Mrs. Sawyer had two sisters, Rosa Lee Lewis and Madline Smith, and two brothers, Fred Smith Jr. and Carlton Marslender, who preceded her in death.

The family received friends from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Paul Funeral Home, Belhaven, and other times at the family home, Route 1, Box 408, Belhaven.

Memorials may be made to Sidney Free Will Baptist Church or to Smithton Cemetery Fund, c/o Elwood Tinker, Route 1, Belhaven, NC 27810.

"I LOVE AMERICA"

Submitted by Helen Smith

"I LOVE AMERICA" was the theme of the Sunday, July 2, services at the

Smyrna Church—Cape Fear Conference.

The Sunday School hour included "The Battle Hymn of Republic" and remarks by Sunday School Superintendent Ricky Raynor welcoming everyone to the patriotic service.

Following the lighting of the altar candles by Morgan Holloman, the congregation sang "America" and recited the pledge to the flag of the United States and the Christian Flag. Ray G. Smith, chairman of the deacon board, made remarks regarding Independence Day and the church chorus led by Marty Wood presented patriotic music.

The church interim pastor Brother Ronnie Hayes brought the morning message.

The evening service included more patriotic music by the church chorus.

Then on Tuesday, July 4—Independence Day, the church family joined together for a 4th of July celebration with games for everyone including a big ball game between the Reds and the Blues featuring a picnic with hot dogs, watermelon, etc.

ST. PAUL REMEMBERS A GODLY MAN

by Judy Rogerson Cox



On March 29, 1995, St. Paul Church in Elizabeth City lost its beloved pastor, the Rev. John W. Sexton. "Johnny" as he preferred to be called, was a God-send to our church.

Two years ago, when we were broken and hurting. Johnny came and helped us to pick up the pieces and begin again. We called Johnny on May 7, 1993, to serve as our interim pastor. But we loved him and he loved us, so we soon asked him to be our full-time pastor.

Johnny preached from his heart with tremendous love and simplicity. Our church has grown from a dozen to an average of 50 to 55 on Sunday mornings. He loved our children like they were his own.

We all feel like sheep without a shepherd. Johnny was a shepherd in every sense of the word. He once said that "St. Paul was the apple of his eye" and we know he meant every word. Even though our loss has been overwhelming, we are carrying on with the determination that he instilled in all of us. We miss you, Johnny, more than words can say, but our loss has been Heaven's gain.

A DEDICATION TO MRS. EUNICE SEXTON

by Mrs. Gladys Patrick

A shepherdess is a minister's wife. I would like to tell you of a human being in whom God placed a multitude of gifts, which she lovingly, compassionately and humbly uses for God's glory.

She is a marvelous Sunday School teacher and a wonderful President of our Woman's Auxiliary. She has served in many things to help our Free Will Baptist denomination. Her devotions are always backed by prayer and study to bring the best of herself to those before her. She has a wonderful telephone and visitation ministry. Always giving the very answers that will lift and bless your heart, her dependence on the Holy Spirit shows. Her very presence makes

you feel good.

She shows love to everyone especially those she guards as her sheep, those of us at St. Paul Church. She carries a heavy load willingly and uncomplaining, since the death of her husband and our pastor, the Rev. Johnny Sexton. He loved us all and worked for our church, and Eunice has done the same.

She is a precious mother to her children and has been a devoted wife to her husband. Surely those who come in contact with her will rise up and call her blessed, as in Proverbs 31:10-31.

Eunice, we all love you very much and you will always hold a special place in our hearts.

ANNUAL LABOR DAY HOTDOG SALE AND BAZAAR

DATE: Saturday, September 2 and
Monday, September 4

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 Woman's Auxiliary

DON'T STAY AWAY FROM CHURCH BECAUSE—
YOU ARE POOR—there is no admission charge.
BECAUSE IT RAINS—you go to work in the rain.
BECAUSE IT IS HOT—it's hot at your house too.
BECAUSE IT IS COLD—it is always warm and friendly at church.
BECAUSE NO ONE INVITED YOU—people go to the movies without being begged.
BECAUSE WE HAVE AN EMOTIONAL RELIGION—how about the ball games?
BECAUSE YOU HAVE VERY SMALL CHILDREN—what if you didn't any longer have them?
YOU DON'T LIKE THE PREACHER—remember he's human like you.
YOUR JOB MAKES YOU SO TIRED—you could lose your job.
THERE ARE HYPOCRITES—you associate with them every day. You should be accustomed to them by now.
YOU HAVE COMPANY—they will admire your loyalty if you invite them along, or tell them to wait until you get back.
YOUR CLOTHES ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH—we do not conduct a fashion show.
OUR CHURCH STANDARD IS TOO HIGH—just take a look at the Bible standard if you think ours is high.
YOU HAVE PLENTY OF TIME YET—ARE YOU SURE?

—Selected

A COUNTRY CALLED HEAVEN

I want to tell you of a strange and wonderful country, a country where there are no tears or heartaches, a country in which there is no sickness, pain or death. The people who live in this country never get tired. They carry no burdens and they never grow old. No one ever says good-bye, for separations are unknown, and there are no disappointments.

In the country of which I am speaking, there is no sin, for no one ever does wrong. There are no accidents of any kind. You will travel for thousands of miles and never see a cemetery or meet a funeral procession. There are no undertakers and no morgues. You will never see crepe on the doors, for no one ever dies. There they need no gravediggers and coffins are unknown. The clothes that are worn are bright and glistening and no one dresses in mourning.

It is a country where nothing ever spoils. The flowers never lose their fragrance and the leaves are always green. There are no thunderstorms, no erupting volcanoes, and no earthquakes. Upon those fair shores hurricanes and tidal waves never beat. There are no germs or fevers, no pestilence of any kind. The sun never shines and yet it is always light for there is no night there. It is never too hot and never too cold. The temperature is exactly right. No clouds ever darken the sky and marsh winds never blow.

There are no drunkards in this country for no one ever drinks. None are immoral; men as well as women are pure. There are no illegitimate babies. Prisons, jails and reformatories never darken the landscape. Doors have no locks and windows no bars, for thieves and robbers never enter there. No lustful books are read, and as for unclean pictures, they are never seen. No taxes are paid and

rents are unknown. It is a country free from war and bloodshed.

Yes, and let me tell you something else. There are no cripples to be seen anywhere; none are deformed or lame. Nor is anyone blind, deaf or dumb; hence, homes for incurables have never been built for all are healthy, all are well and strong. No beggars are seen on the street for none are destitute and all have enough. Leprosy and cancer, palsy and tuberculosis are words that this country has never heard. No asylums are there, for none are feeble minded. Doctors are never needed and hospitals are unknown.

You ask me how I know all this? Have I been there? No, I have not yet had the privilege of visiting this wonderful country, but others have. And One, at least, who has lived there for a long, long time, has come, and told me a great deal about it. He says it is called Heaven, and this is His description of it: "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain." (Revelation 21:3-4).

Do you want to go there? Then get ready now. It isn't difficult. All you have to do is to open your heart to Jesus Christ, the Lord of the country, and ask Him to come in. Then, when the journey of life is ended, you too will go to this wonderful country and dwell there for ever more. Will you do it? Do it—NOW?

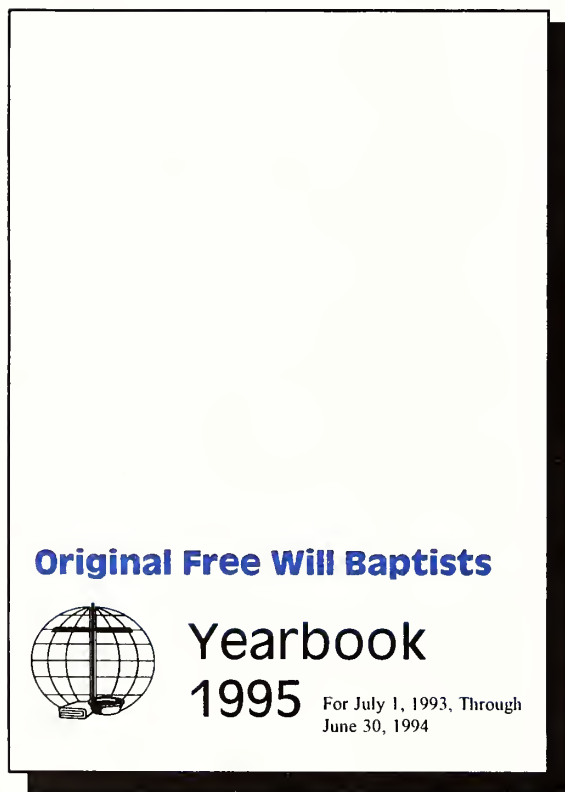
—Oswald J. Smith

Uncle Ben's Quotebook

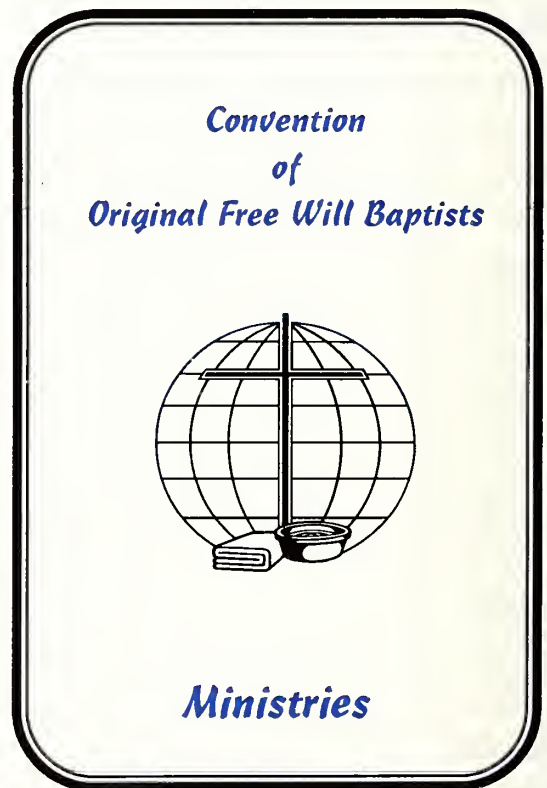
Ed. Benjamin R. De Jong



License Tags—\$5.00 each



1995 Yearbook—\$10.00 each



**Ministries Booklet—\$1.00 each
\$9.00 per dozen**

For more information, contact the Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Headquarters.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

Sunday School Charms



F. W. B. Sunday School Banquet

M N T H



Ministers ~ Superintendents Banquet
Friday, September 8, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Stoney Creek
Original
Free Will Baptist Church

752 Stoney Creek Church Road
Goldsboro, North Carolina

\$10.00 per person — Buffet Meal

Come and bring your Teacher(s) of the Year so we can honor him/her. There will also be a glimpse of the Spring Institute.

To make reservations, send payment by September 1, 1995, to:

**The Sunday School Board
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039**



THE ANNUAL MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

Each summer, beginning in 1946, the North Carolina Ministerial Association has sponsored the annual Minister's Conference at Cragmont Assembly. This year marked the forty-ninth session which was held June 12-15. A total of ninety-two ministers registered, with a good number of wives in attendance. It was one of the best conferences in recent years, according to the many positive remarks that we heard. The speakers did a good job in presenting messages based on each of the four gospels. The Rev. Jeff Daughtry, president of the Association, did an excellent job presiding over the session. There was plenty of good singing to go along with the good preaching. As always, there was good fellowship. The Cragmont staff did a great job with the meals as well as the other conveniences. We commend John and Arlinda for a job well done.

The Minister's Conference has always allowed time for relaxation and fellowship, or free-time. Sessions are held in the mornings and evenings. Afternoons are spent in rides around the mountains, rocking on the front porch, or taking a snooze, etc. For some ministers it is the only vacation they have; therefore, wives and family accompany them. In short, the Minister's Conference allows us the opportunity to enjoy the mountains, good preaching, good fellowship, plus all the wonderful experiences at Cragmont.

I attended my first Minister's Conference in 1951, as the driver of the Cragmont bus. I also taught several sessions under the direction of the Sunday School Convention. It was in 1953 that I attended as an ordained minister and pastor. I was serving as pastor of Soundside, Malachi's Chapel and Gum Neck churches. Since those early years I have not missed many sessions. Each trip to Cragmont has always been a blessing and especially during "Minister's Week."

The next session, in 1996, will mark the fiftieth year of the Cragmont Minister's Conference. It should be the greatest year ever. Plans are already underway to make it a very special session, for it will be a time of remembering and thanking God for the blessings of Cragmont.

THE FIRST SESSION

The first session of the minister's conference began on Monday, June 24, 1946, at 9 a.m. The cost was \$15 for the week. Each minister was expected (as were all campers) to bring a pillowcase, two sheets, a blanket, towel, and other personal items. The conference ended on Friday and each minister was asked to stay through Friday.

During the morning service on Wednesday, the officers were elected as follows: president, the Rev. Henry Melvin;

Vice-President, the Rev. R. L. Richards; Secretary, the Rev. N. B. Barrow; Treasurer, the Rev. Paul Jenkins. The officers, along with the Revs. J. P. Woodard and J. W. Alford, were chosen to prepare a Constitution and Bylaws. A total of thirty-four attended the session, several of which are still attending the Conference—Dr. W. Burkette Raper, the Rev. C. L. Patrick, and the Rev. Carol Hansley. The Rev. James A. Evans was able to attend until a few years ago. We are glad to have been a part of the Cragmont Ministerial Association for these many years. I will be looking forward to the fiftieth anniversary.



Pictured is the Cragmont Minister's Choir, directed by the Rev. David C. Hansley. The Rev. Everett Harper served as pianist. (The ministers are scheduled to sing during the Convention in September.)



The Revs. Frank R. Harrison, Keith Pelletier, and Phillip Boykin are seen in discourse during a break in between sessions.



This scene is viewed from the porch by hundreds of Cragmonters each year.

Editor's Note

Dear Church Family,

Everyone has memories that he or she carries from year to year or if you are fortunate enough, from childhood to adulthood. There are many times we can not act out those memories as long as we would like.

Fortunately, I have been able to hold on to a favorite pastime for several years. This treasure is packing up six months of clothes, loosing a lot of sleep, sharing time in music, recreation, crafts, and God's Word for one week. A place where there is no television, no phone, nor much contact with the outside world and a big group of kids who you probably only see once a year.

This treasure, as most of you can probably tell, is Cragmont Assembly. Why would anyone want to give up a week to do what I previously described? I will tell you why:

An unforgettable, happy memory. Seeing a staff put together a week filled with activities for almost two hundred campers. People working for the same cause. Making homesick children realize that it is all right to leave home. Seeing an altar filled with people wanting to grow closer to God. Saturday morning arrives, and you do not want to go back home.

You know you are on the mountain a little bit "closer to God." You can see the valley below and for some reason you do not want to go back. Yes, I had a mountain top experience a couple of weeks ago with G.Y.C. 1.

My wish for each of you this month, if you get a chance to have a "mountain top experience" or help a child get to the mountain top, please do so. I promise, you will not regret it.

To all of those who have helped me in years past, friends and staff, and those now that I work with,

THANKS for helping me fulfill my "mountain top" experience.

In His Service,

Jaay

New novel addresses school prayer Pastor's novel tackles Christian issues

by Scott Vanhorne
Staff Writer

School prayer and the silencing of Christians are the main focuses of Dr. Aubrey Jones' new novel "A Moment of Silence."

Jones, a pastor at First Baptist Church in Kinston, recently published his first novel through Thomas Nelson publishing company, which reported that the book is selling well.

The book is available nationwide in most Christian book stores, Jones said. It also has made its way into Canada.

It's still sort of hard to believe," Jones said. Robert Farr, the main character of this novel, finds himself in trouble after he says "Amen" over the intercom at a public school.

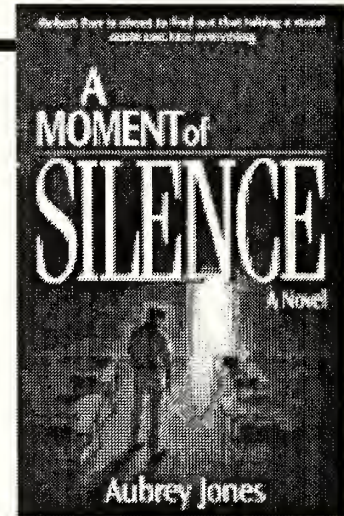
Farr, a Vietnam veteran, has recently been widowed and left with two young children. Throughout the book, Farr battles for his Christian rights.

Jones wrote the book in hopes that it would enlighten Christians of plights similar to Farr's.

"Speaking about the church or Christ in public today is like spreading pornography was 30 years ago," Jones said.

Farr also has moral dilemmas in the novel. He meets a woman and has to deal with his desires for her.

"I wanted to show how they deal with it realistically without any bad taste," Jones said.



The money the book might bring was not a factor in his writing the novel, Jones said.

"I just want to get the message out that Christians are in great danger of being silenced," he said.

This article appears courtesy of Scott Vanhorne, staff writer and *The Free Press*.

The book signing was held at the Kinston Bible and Bookstore. This book is available for purchase at the Ayden, Kinston, Wilson, and New Bern Bible and Bookstore locations.

The Free Will Baptist

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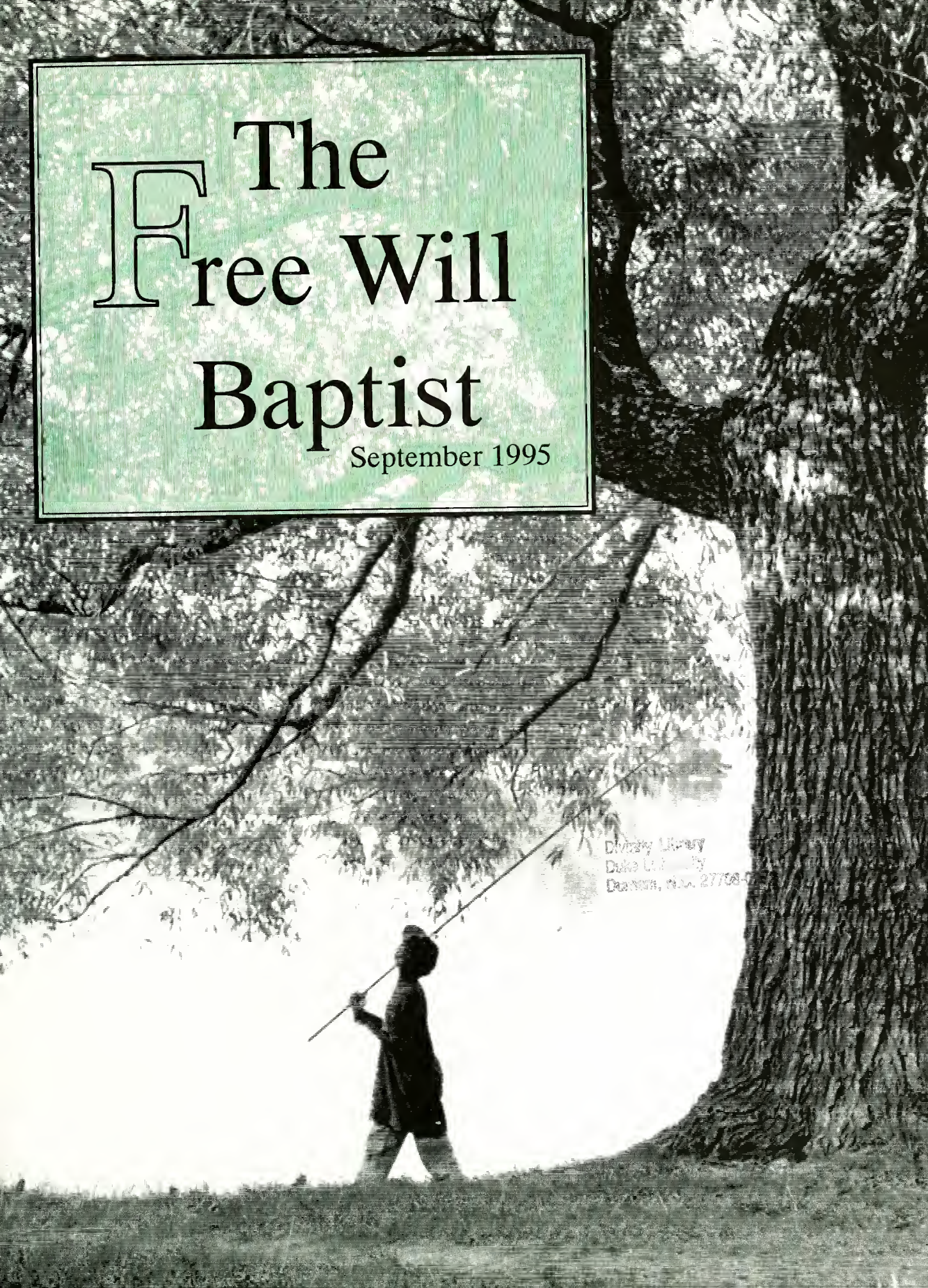
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The Free Will Baptist

September 1995

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NEXT MONTH

October
is
Minister's
Program Month

September
is
Home Missions
and Evangelism Month

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.

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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



1995 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

**September 12-14, 1995
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina**

Events

**September 12
7:30 p.m., Night of Evangelism**

**September 13
7:30 a.m., Convention Prayer Breakfast
Murphy Center**

**September 13-14
Convention Sessions, College Hall**

Speakers

**Night of Evangelism
The Reverend Al Markuson
Director/Pastor of Genesis Mission
Fayetteville, NC**

**Wednesday Morning Worship
Under the Direction of the
Executive Administrator**

**Mission Rally
Mouachou Mouanoutoua
Vice-President of the Lao Evangelical Church**

**Thursday Morning Worship
The Reverend John Williams
Director of Cragmont Assembly, Inc.**

EIGHTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
of the
CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

College Hall
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

7:30 Evangelism Rally Rodgers Chapel

Wednesday, September 13, 1995

Ushers: Layman's League Members; Music Leaders; Mrs. Mary Dudley, Mrs. Kathy Sherrod

MORNING SESSION

8:30	Registration of Ministers and Delegates	
9:00	Convention Called to Order Congregational Singing	The Rev. Bruce Dudley Mrs. Mary Dudley Mrs. Kathy Sherrod
	Special Music	
	Scripture and Prayer	The Rev. N. B. Barrow
	Welcome	
9:15	President's Remarks	The Rev. Ray Wells
	Appointment of Committees	
	Partial Report of Credentials Committee	The Rev. Mike Ledbetter
	Executive Committee Report	The Rev. Bruce Dudley
	Treasurer's Report	The Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood
	Executive Administrator's Report	The Rev. C. H. Overman
	Miscellaneous Business	
10:10	Worship Service	Under the Direction of the Executive Administrator
11:00	Minister's Program Report	The Rev. Donald Fader
11:15	Church Finance Report	The Rev. Walter Reynolds
11:30	Cragmont Assembly Report	The Rev. John Williams
11:45	Foreign Missions Report	The Rev. Harold Jones
12:00	Recess for Lunch	

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30	Registration (1:30-2:00) Congregational Singing	Mrs. Mary Dudley Mrs. Kathy Sherrod The Rev. T. O. Terry
	Scripture and Prayer	The Rev. C. H. Overman
	Recognition of Fraternal Delegates	Dr. Bobby Taylor
1:50	Children's Home Report	Dr. J. William Byrd
2:05	Mount Olive College Report	The Rev. David C. Hanlsey
2:20	Home Missions and Evangelism Report	The Rev. Walter Sutton
2:35	Retirement Homes Report	Mr. Cliff Gray
2:50	Free Will Baptist Press Report	

EVENING SESSION

7:30 Missions Rally

College Hall

Thursday, September 14, 1995

MORNING SESSION

8:30 Final Registration

9:00 Congregational Singing

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

Message

11:00 Camp Vandemere Report

11:10 Historical Commission 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

Mrs. Mary Dudley

Mrs. Kathy Sherrod

The Rev. Floyd Cherry

The Rev. Adrian Grubbs

Mrs. Mary Dudley

The Rev. Jeff Daughtry

Mr. Elmer Harrell

Mrs. Carolyn Jernigan

Dr. Joseph Ingram

Mrs. Mary Dudley

Mrs. Kathy Sherrod

The Rev. John Williams

Manager of Cragmont Assembly, Inc.

The Rev. Ralph Sumner

Dr. Michael Pelt

Dr. K. David Hines

The Rev. Mike Ledbetter

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30 Congregational Singing

Mrs. Mary Dudley

Mrs. Kathy Sherrod

1:40 Scripture and Prayer

The Rev. Rod Jones

Nominating Committee Report

Miscellaneous Business

Closing Ceremony

FIVE-YEAR THEME:
THE CALL TO RENEWAL
1995 Theme:
The Call to Prayer

Answer

The Call to Prayer

by

Attending the Convention

Prayer Breakfast

September 13, 1995

7:30 a.m.

Murphy Center

Notice to Church Clerks

The Annual Church Letters have been mailed to all church clerks. If you have not received yours, please notify the Convention Headquarters by calling (919) 746-4963 or by notifying us at P. O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.

It is important for each church to represent by delegates and by letter. Convention records are incomplete without information from each of our churches.

Thanks for your cooperation and continued support.

C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator

ED TAYLOR

A PASTOR'S PASTOR

(November 23, 1922—July 18, 1995)



Rev. E. C. Taylor

The Rev. E. C. Taylor, an ordained Free Will Baptist minister, died July 18, 1995 at his home, 307 Shady Lane Drive, Smithfield, NC 27577. A native of Charlotte, NC, he attended public school and the Charlotte Bible Institute where he met his wife, the former Natalie Parrish of Smithfield.

During World War II he served in the United States Marines. Ordained by the Cape Fear Conference in 1954, he served nine churches during his pastoral career:

Walnut Creek, LaGrange, NC
Community Chapel, Buies Creek, NC
Prospect, Erwin, NC
Pleasant Grove, Erwin, NC
Palmer Memorial, Garner, NC
Bethel, Four Oaks, NC
Dawson's Grove, Enfield, NC
Saint Mary's Grove, Benson, NC
Winterville Church, Winterville, NC

His extended services included Moderator of the Cape Fear Union Meeting, Chairman of the Cape Fear Mission Board and member of the Ordaining Council along with various committee appointments at the Conference and State levels.

Six men were ordained into the Christian ministry during two of his pastorates: from Bethel Church—David Hill, Fred Johnson and Billy Nowell, and from the Winterville Church—Ron Braxton, Don Ribeiro and Jack Weathersby.

In addition to his wife, Natalie to whom he had been married fifty-five years at the time of his death, he is survived by two children, Edward F. Taylor of Erwin, and Rebecca T. Gibbs of Benson, along with six grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren, and a sister, Elvaree Spurrier of Charlotte.

On July 21, 1995 the funeral was held at Parrish Funeral Home, Selma, North Carolina. Burial was at Sunset Memorial Park, Smithfield, North Carolina. The officiating ministers were Dr. Don Ribeiro, M.D., Ayden, North Carolina and Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President Emeritus, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina.

Each of us could probably name several individuals who greatly influence the key decisions we make in this life. It could be a parent, a teacher, or a close friend. However, many times it is the individual's pastor who influences one to make important decisions regarding his life. Such a person is the Rev. Ed Taylor of the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church.

Mr. Taylor was called to Winterville in September, 1980. He has provided excellent leadership and has related many important truths. One of his greatest assets is his professional manner in providing pastoral care for his congregation. He is a man who is greatly used by God in caring for his flock and providing valuable assistance to their growth and maturity. In addition, he is a man of sound advice. He is deeply concerned with the spiritual, mental and physical welfare of his people. In short, Ed Taylor loves his congregation. This is not a passive love, but rather an active love of personal involvement in the lives of the people he serves.

It was this exemplary service that helped inspire us to obey the call of God and become ministers.

God always provides a person during critical decision times in our lives to guide us in the correct path. Brother Ed Taylor was God's guide for us in the ministry. He counseled with us from the beginning and instructed us in all the aspects of the ministry.

1 Peter 5:1-4 speaks of a crown of glory given to the type of pastor the Rev. Ed Taylor is. "The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the suffering of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

The Rev. Ed Taylor is our father in the ministry. We can never thank him enough for his guidance, nor will we ever forget his example. He will always be our pastor.

God bless you, Ed Taylor.

Your children in the ministry,
Ron Braxton and Don Ribeiro

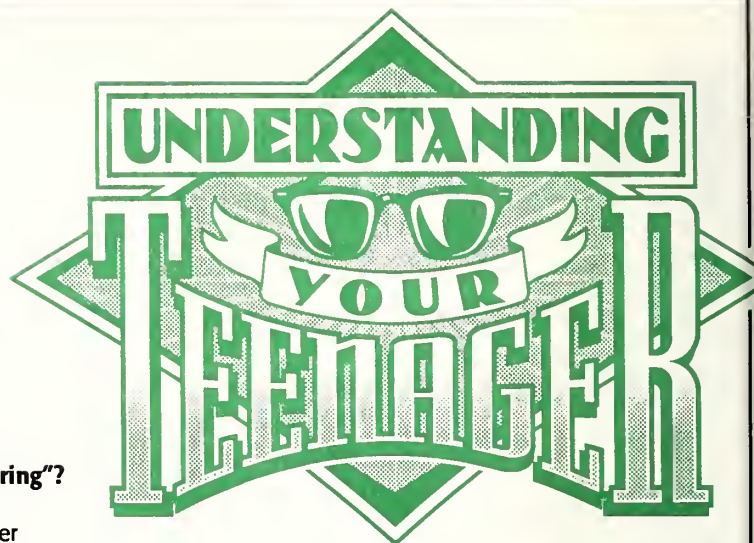
Dear Parent:

Do you have a son or daughter who...

- wants to argue with everything you say?
- spends hours on the telephone?
- would rather be with friends than with you?
- speaks in shrugs, grunts and other strange sounds?
- shuts the bedroom door and locks you out?
- can't walk past the refrigerator without opening it?
- changes moods every ten minutes?
- thinks church (and other important activities) is "boring"?

If so...congratulations! You have a normal, healthy teenager (or pre-teenager) living in your home.

Your child's teenage years can be the best years of his or her life (and yours too!) if you know what to expect and what to do. That's why we are presenting **UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEENAGER**—a practical and informative seminar that provides insights into the unique challenge of parenting teenagers in today's world.



DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY to learn important principles for building good relationships with your kids during their teen years. Pick up some valuable ideas and suggestions for navigating the rough waters of adolescence. Discover how you can avoid common parenting mistakes and do those "little things" that reap positive results in the lives of your kids.

*Get answers
to questions
like these:*



Dr. Jim DiRaddo

- What should I do when my teenager refuses to participate in family activities?
- Is teenage rebellion inevitable? How can it be prevented?
- How do I keep conflict with my teenager from ruining our family?
- What is the best method for disciplining teenagers?
- How can I help my teenager choose the right friends?
- How can I help my teenager become a more responsible person?
- How can I help my teenager make good decisions about sex?
- What should I do if my teenager is getting into trouble?
- How can I help my teenager to grow spiritually?

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEENAGER will be presented by **Dr. Jim DiRaddo**, who has been involved in youth ministry for more than 35 years. He is presently pastoring a church near Philadelphia and is a popular speaker at family-life conferences, colleges and events for youth, youth workers and educators. He and his wife Colleen have three grown children and, so far, three grandchildren.

Reedy Branch Church
Winterville, NC

Saturday, October 28

9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact:

Wes Boyd, 919-752-4254

Hooping It For Christ II

4-on-4 Basketball Tournament

Sponsored by Camp Vandemere

When: October 7, 1995

Where: Sandy Plains FWB Church

Time: Beginning assembly at 9 a.m.

For registration information call:

Tim Heath at (910) 327-2850

\$10 per team registration fee

HOOPING IT UP FOR CHRIST

Have you got your basketball shoes ready? Camp Vandemere is planning our annual "Hooping It Up for Christ" tournament. This will be a basketball tournament and will take place at Sandy Plain FWB Church, located between Pink Hill and Beulaville, on October 7, 1995. Teams of four will play so we can make room for several teams. The Rev. Tim Heath, one of our board members, will be in charge. You may reach Tim by calling 910-327-2850 for your application and any other information you may need. It would be interesting to see some of our preachers play. Maybe they could challenge another team of preachers, or some of our deacons. Perhaps your church team would like to challenge a neighboring church team. We would like to encourage all the different youth groups to come out and help us make this a day of fun and fellowship. I'm sure there will be plenty of hot dogs and drinks for sale also, so make sure you bring your appetites and plenty of change. We are looking forward to seeing all of you on October 7 at Sandy Plain Church. There will be a \$10 registration fee for each participating team.

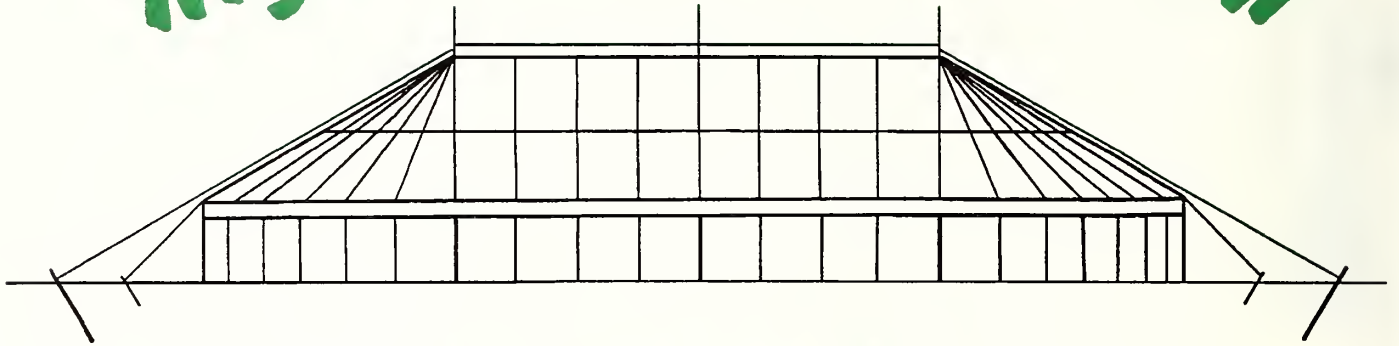
LIMITED TIME OFFER!!!

For a limited time the Camp is offering a free night's stay in the Family Lodge. Reserve the Lodge for two nights and get the third night FREE! Sounds good, doesn't it? For more information or for reservations, call our manager the Rev. Ralph Sumner at 919-745-3171 (camp phone) or 910-298-5885 (home phone). Don't miss this opportunity for a relaxing weekend to enjoy God's blessing around us.

Yours in Christ,
The Rev. Owen Arthur

Denominational Ministries

Night of Evangelism



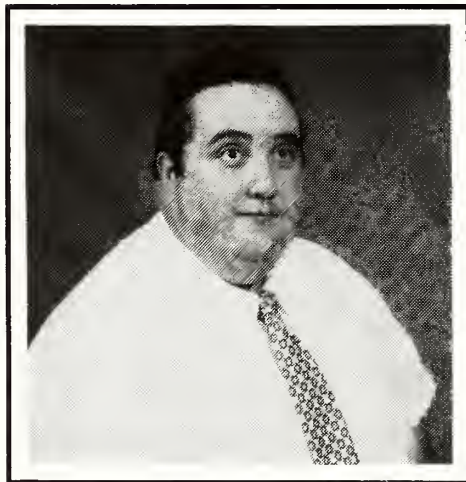
Under the Big Tent

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

7:30 p.m.

Campus of Mount Olive College

Mount Olive, North Carolina



The Reverend Al Markuson, Speaker
Director/Pastor Genesis Mission
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Sponsored by
**BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
AND
EVANGELISM**
of
**Original
Free Will Baptists**

EXPANDING HIS KINGDOM

1995
Original
Free Will Baptist
Mission Rally



Dr. & Mrs. Mouachou Mouanoutoua
Dr. Mouanoutoua, Rally Speaker, is
President of the Lao Evangelical Church of America

Joint Rally for Home and Foreign Missions
Home Missions Presiding

At the Convention
Wednesday, September 13, 1995
7:30 p.m.
Campus of Mount Olive College

Every Original Free Will Baptist Should Attend

News From Children's Home

by Gary Lee, Director of Church and Public Relations

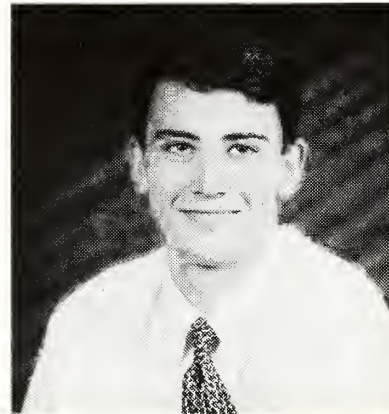
CAPE FEAR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

On August 5, 1995, the Cape Fear Youth Fellowship visited the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. The group has held its August meeting at the Children's Home for several years. Approximately one hundred and twenty-five adults and children attended. The churches in this conference collected needed school supplies and household items for the Children's Home. The day began in Memorial Chapel with the business session and devotion during a puppet show. Hamburgers and hotdogs were served in Heritage Hall for lunch. The afternoon was filled with games of basketball and softball. The small children enjoyed drawing on the sidewalk with chalk and cooling off under a sprinkler. On behalf of the children and staff I would like to say thank you to the Cape Fear District for their support, gifts, and participation in this day's activities.



Approximately one hundred and twenty-five adults and children attended Cape Fear Youth Fellowship Day at the Children's Home.

BRIAN BATCHELOR



Brian Batchelor

Brian Batchelor has been working as Life Guard at the Children's Home this summer. His duties have included supervising the pool, cleaning, and maintaining the pool area. Brian's experience this summer has been very rewarding. He said he has enjoyed working with the children and has learned to

love them this summer. Most of the time it has been fun and he is glad he had a chance to work with the kids. Brian is no stranger to the Children's Home. His father is the Director of Physical Affairs, and Brian says that most of his life he can remember coming to the Children's Home to work with his dad. However, this summer he was not mowing the grass. This summer has been different because he has been able to work directly with the kids. With Brian's guidance a few learned to swim and all the children have improved their swimming skills. The smaller kids have improved enough to be allowed to swim in the deeper end of the pool. The children have learned to respect Brian and he will be missed when the pool closes. Brian's duties will end as soon as the children go back to school. To reward the children for their good behavior this summer they will be having an end of the year pool party. We are proud of the great job Brian has done this summer and wish him the very best in future endeavors. He is the son of Donald and Joyce Batchelor and a member of New Life FWB Church.



Martha Parsons, Angela Honeycutt discussing the day's activities.



A cool spot on a hot day!

News From Foreign Missions

RAMADAN AND BIRAM

by Willem van der Plas
(Eastern Europe)



Teenagers meet on the evening of Biram.



Preparation in the evening of the last day of Ramadan. This homemade bread will be filled with ground beef.



A visit to the cemetery on Biram. The grave on the left side is of Aziz. After half a year a stone may be placed.



Children at our door. The sweets are more important than words.

Biram is the first day after Ramadan, which is a month of Moslem fasting. Biram means "celebration." The Moslems have many different ideas about fasting. Most of the women are very strict in fasting, prayers and meditation, while most of the men are more liberal. Usually they cook for their children and husbands in a very tolerant way, children under 12 years of age need not to fast.

The Moslems of East Europe follow by radio the fasting meditations, prayers and daily announcements when they can eat and drink. They eat mostly after sunset. In Kavarna I met the Xojah of our town during Ramadan. The Xojah is the Moslem leader or pastor. I offered him to drink a cup of coffee or tea with us in the restaurant but he refused apologetically. We promised to visit him after Ramadan which he kindly accepted. That means that we have to take a small present to his home.

I asked one of the youth of the Bible Study Class, "Zamed, do you keep Ramadan at home?" With a naughty smile he replied, "We have always Ramadan." In other words, "We eat when we have food at home."

In the afternoon of the last day of Ramadan the women start to prepare all kinds of delicious flour food, like pan-cakes with meat and fruit, sweets and special bread. In the evening they distribute much of the food to their neighbours, no matter if they are Moslem or not. No Moslem will violate the law to eat of the Biram food during the fasting hours of the last day of Ramadan. We also received a lot of food, more than we could eat in the following four days. We shared much with other people who live around us.

Biram begins in the mosque at 5 o'clock in the morning. The Xojah switches the lights on and he prays his personal prayers. At sunrise he praises Allah from the small minaret. At eight

OUR EVANGELISM CAMPAIGN IN JUNE 1995

by Dr. E. M. Lall (India)



The most outstanding feature of our church denomination in India since its inception is "Evangelism." We believe that evangelism is the life and breath of our church. A witnessing church is a living church. We also feel that we are destined to bring in the field of our Master the people called North Indians.

We carry out this program en masse particularly in the month of June every year because it is the month of vacation, visitation and comfortable stay at home like "Home Coming." Evangelization at this time is more receptive and meaningful. Our contacts, discussions and arguments are taken friendly at this time. We enjoy moving door to door and from village to village with Bibles, New Testaments, Gospels and literature, a full load on both shoulders.

The month of June 1995 had broken the record of heat of last 94 years as the mercury shot to 49.50 degrees celsius. It was awful to be under the sun experiencing everything at the boiling point. It was predicted that had the temperature gone higher to 53 degree celcius, the thatched roofs of the houses would burn automatically. The boulder stones on the high hills about one hundred fifty miles from Bareilly were torn into pieces and fell on other hills below, causing fire to break out and burn the forests where wild animals rushed to other dense jungles. It was God's grace that none of us were hurt though many men and animals died.

o'clock the men are entering the mosque. Even those who hardly believe in Allah are present, because Biram is a religious-social event. The women are not allowed to enter their temple or mosque. This year the women received a special invitation to come to the mosque at six o'clock p.m. They gathered in the yard of the mosque and the Xojah gave them many warnings against other beliefs, after that they received a blessing from their leader.

When the morning worship begins the children are allowed to leave their homes. They swarm out to all people whom they know, where they receive a lot of sweets and even sometimes money. Last year about 50 children came to our home, but this year there were over 200 children to wish us a blessed Biram. The children take the right hand of the adult, kiss the top of the hand after which they bring their forehead to the hand as a sign of high respect. Then they speak the words, "Your Biram be fruitful." The adults give their blessing to the children and then they give sweets to them. Sweets are a symbol of prosperity and wealth to the receiver and to the giver. Biram is a long day of happiness and excitement. The belief that a good Biram is a blessing for the whole year is very strong.

Teshdzyan found a way to explain Biram in a Biblical view. She made it the "Day of Sharing" and she taught a lesson about Proverbs 18:16, Luke 6:38 and 2 Corinthians 9:7. From this the children and the youth have understood that God loves them with a reason. They learned that they are also able to share with others and that it is a joy both to receive and to give.

You may wonder how the poor can celebrate Biram. Those who have a job prepare more food to give to the poor. Others bring them money so they can buy flour, oil and sugar to bake the food in their homes, so it will be filled with the fragrance of the baking activities. That smell means that you will have food in the house in the coming year.

Then the poor people can share also with all the others who visit their homes. It is a shame when you cannot share with others on the day of Biram. Allah may withdraw his special blessings.

In the afternoon many families go to the cemeteries to pray for the souls of their deceased relatives. There they eat convinced of the presence of the spirits of those who were buried there. In this way they satisfy the spirits so that they will not bring evil over their families. The whole day and days after Biram the younger people go to visit the older ones of the family like the grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters. The younger ones must always approach the older ones and pay respect to them in the same greetings as the children. They say to each other words like, "I love you, may Allah bless you abundantly with health and prosperity." By using the name "Allah" they cannot feel any anger for past matters of conflict. Everybody must begin with a clean relationship, the old matters must be blotted out. Here we see a strong social action of forgiving one another.

How can we deal with Ramadan and Biram in a Biblical way? Fasting, meditation and prayer is Scriptural. The sharing is good, but the best part is the forgiving of one another. These are the matters which we can emphasize.

One of the youth said, "With Jesus we always have Biram, He is our great blessing from God."



The new State Governments in our country are emerging on a caste and communal basis. Evangelization is taboo, leading to dangerous confrontation in different parts of the country. The other day I saw in the newspaper that Hindu Vishava Parisad, a communal organization of Hindus will train 10,000 volunteers at a cost of three million rupees to stop conversion of Hindus to Christianity and Islam. We believe, however, that the Lord's work of soul saving will continue as long as the world exists. A group of communal people confronted me with some questions based on the Bible., the purpose of which was to disprove the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ from Virgin Mary. It took at least several hours to satisfy them relating to Genesis Chapter 3. In a nutshell I proved to them that as the sin came to the world through a woman—the salvation was bound to come through a woman!

The time is fast changing, a new civilization is emerging which is much different from that of previous ones. Every day is full of problems. The God of the Bible is the God of History. He is always on the move. Those who serve Him must also be on the move. A church renewed in Jesus Christ and reinforced with the power of the Holy Spirit would always provide the basis for the answers to the questions regarding the life of the world. The words, "You are the salt of the earth—you are the light of the world" were, after all, not spoken in vain.

In all, 47 ministers and deacons of our church, including Nepal, led the evangelism in June 1995. This year 289 villages in the most rural part in our State of U.P. were visited by our people within a radius of about 300 miles. The number of Bibles sold or distributed is 1,800, the number of New Testaments sold or distributed is 3,334, the num-

ber of Gospels were sold or distributed is 104,859 and more than 400,000 tracts and 35,000 other religious books were sold or distributed.

I am glad to report that the Rev. D. K. Wilson of Buxar, in the State of Bihar (where Miss Laura Barnard worked) stands first in the whole lot. Second is Deacon Balwant Masih of Dalenagar District Pilibhit U.P. where nine new souls were saved and baptized. Third stands the Rev. Puttan Masih of Dhaunra Tanda church of Bareilly district. Revival is witnessed in Dhangarhi Nepal—the site of our work.

Let us praise the Lord for this great achievement this year. Countless hearts have been stirred and challenged to come to the Lord for eternity.

We thank the people of North Carolina called the Free Will Baptists who contributed to enable us to do this hazardous task. May God bless each one of us, we pray.

ANNUAL CONVENTION MISSION RALLY

The Annual Convention Missions Rally will be held on September 13 at 7:30 p.m. in College Hall. Please plan to attend and pray about the amount the Lord would have you, as an individual or a church, to give. **Last year was the best offering Foreign Missions has ever received at the Rally. *Let's do it again!!***

This year we have a significant increase in our budget due to expansion on all existing fields and the prospects of a new field in Bangladesh. The growth and financial stability of this ministry is directly related to your interest and faithful prayer and financial support.

Thank you in advance for your generous response. I hope all of you can attend; but if you cannot, you can mail your special offering to Board of Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. 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.

Harold Jones
Director/Treasurer
Board of Foreign Missions

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION PLANNED TO CELEBRATE COLLEGE

Inauguration Week, September 24-30, is being planned as a time to celebrate the college and its past, present and future. At its conclusion, President J. William Byrd will be the first president of Mount Olive College to be inaugurated in formal ceremonies on the campus.

During the summer months, the Inauguration Committee has developed plans to include people and events that reflect the college's broad areas of service in the celebration. It has planned to draw upon the college's close relationship to its sponsoring church for several events on the week's agenda.

The week begins Sunday, September 24, with a community-wide worship service at 7 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel. Several members of the town's ministerial leadership will be featured in the service. All the churches in the Mount Olive area have been invited to participate, but the service is open to everyone who would like to attend.

On Monday, September 25, Byrd will address the Exchange Club of Mount Olive, which has invited members of several area civic organizations to attend the meeting. The Exchange Club meets at noon in the Hennessee Room of the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center.

The traditional Tuesday morning worship service will also be devoted to inauguration activities. The Rev. E. Ray Wells, president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, will be featured in the chapel program, which begins at 11 a.m. and is open to the public.

To honor President and Mrs. Byrd, the Mount Olive College Student Government Association has selected to host an Inaugural Ball in the Murphy

Regional Center at 8 p.m., Tuesday. The semiformal occasion is open to students and college personnel.

An Open House is planned for all campus facilities from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, with campus tours being conducted by members of the Mount Olive College Ambassadors. During the same time, the new Fine Arts Center will be open to feature an exhibition of selected works from the Mount Olive College Permanent Collection. Works will include batik art collected by Mrs. Jolene Bock of Boone, NC, and framed Hnizdovsky woodcuts currently held by the Moyer Library.

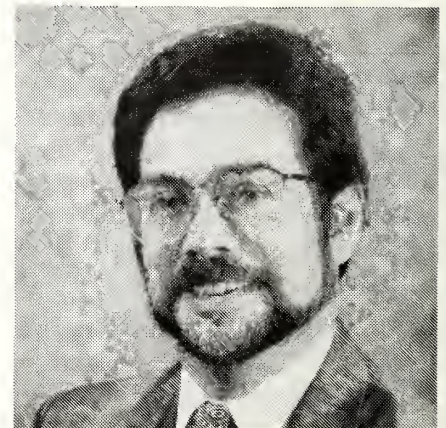
On Thursday, September 28, a dedication event for the Galloway Music Library will be held at 5 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. The library is a collection of music texts, sheet music, recordings and other educational resources. The dedication precedes an Inaugural Concert that begins at 7:30 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel. The concert is part of the Aurora Musicalis Music in the Chapel Series sponsored by the Department of Fine Arts.

Mount Olive College's annual Project EAST provides a day-long series of activities on Friday, September 29. Beginning with a morning keynote address by Dr. Willard Daggett, this year's Project EAST focuses on trends in education leading to the 21st century. Activities will include a luncheon address and an afternoon "town meeting" to discuss local and state issues in education.

Inauguration ceremonies begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, September 30, in College Hall. Representatives of the student body, faculty and staff, trustees, church, community and state will participate in the event to inaugurate President Byrd, the third president of Mount Olive College. A reception in the Murphy Regional Center will be held immediately following the ceremony.

Inauguration Week activities will conclude with the 1995 Bridge Builders dinner in the Murphy Regional Center, an annual banquet held to honor college supporters from across eastern North Carolina who contribute through the Bridge Builders program. Byrd will be the featured speaker during the dinner.

SERVANT-LEADERSHIP AND THE CHURCH RICHARD GORDON ZYNE, D. MIN. VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Dr. Richard G. Zyne

Dr. Richard G. Zyne began his duties as vice president for institutional advancement at Mount Olive College in April. He has received master of divinity and doctor of ministry degree from Virginia Union University School of Theology.

Many of you may be familiar with these words: "Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; where there is darkness, light."

To be an instrument of God's peace is to be a minister (and we are all ministers), and to be a minister, one must also be a servant-leader. To be a minister or servant-leader is not to confine oneself just to the field of personal piety and worship but to concern oneself also with the problems of human society, hunger, poverty, injustice and exploitation.

The whole notion of servant-leadership almost appears to be a contradiction in terms. We all know what servants do, and very often we equate the concept of servanthood with the concept of slavery. If you went to a party and someone asked you what you did for a living and you said, "Oh, I'm a servant," chances are the conversation would end right there. They'd probably have visions of you scrubbing someone else's bathroom floor or making beds.

Certainly one who serves cannot be one who leads. True leaders are strong, powerful and in control. Or are they? What about Paul? Scripture says, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth . . . For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building" (1 Corinthians 3:6, 9, *NRSV*).

The essence of the "servant as leader" is brilliantly portrayed in Herman Hesse's book, "Journey to the East." In this story we see a band of men in a mythical journey, probably Hesse's own personal journey. The central figure of the story is Leo, who accompanies the party as the servant who does their menial chores, but who also sustains them with his spirit and his song.

He is a person of extraordinary presence. All goes well until Leo disappears. Then the group falls into disarray and the journey is abandoned. They cannot make it without the servant Leo. After some years of wandering, the narrator, one of the party, finds Leo and is taken into the order that had sponsored the journey. There he discovers that Leo, whom he had known first as

servant, was in fact the head of the order, its guiding spirit, and great and noble leader.

This story tells me clearly that the great leader is seen as servant first, and that simple fact is the key to his greatness. Leo was actually the leader all of the time, but he was servant first because that was what he was, deep down inside. The servant-leader IS servant first—as Leo was portrayed. It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead. That person is sharply different from one who is leader first, perhaps because of the need to attain power or to acquire material possessions. For such a person it will be a later choice to serve—after leadership is established.

The difference manifests itself in the care taken by the servant, first to make sure that other people's highest priority needs are being served. The best test, and one that is difficult to administer, is: Do those served grow as persons? Do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servant-leaders?

We as individuals and as a collective body (called the church) are meant to be instruments of God's peace, ministers, servant-leaders.

What a truly beautiful picture this presents. Here we are just as Apollos and Paul, "Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:5-6 *NSRV*).

The church is an instrument of God's grace. It is also a servant and a leader. Our commitment and our mission direct us first to be a caring ministry—a ministry of service. We are essentially a healing community.

Healing is a vital part of what it means to be a servant-leader. This example suggests that healing is always something sought. Perhaps the servant-leader might also acknowledge that his own healing is his motivation. Yes, the

church is a healing community, but it is much more than that. I believe that when we call ourselves "church" or ministry or servant-leader, we assume a much larger responsibility.

Jesus healed the sick. He enabled the blind to see and the deaf to hear. He fed people both materially and spiritually. But Jesus, the model for all servant-leadership, was not just a social worker or faith healer. He was not just a dispenser of good works or miracles. No, he was a prophet who ushered in the Kingdom of God by compelling both individuals and institutions to look critically within themselves. He also compelled them to reevaluate their interpersonal relationships and their relationship with God.

In other words, the church as servant-leader cannot just be a healing community if it is not also a people of prophetic vision—a justice church, doing justice with prophetic introspection and foresight.

The servant-leader's mission is to work with God among suffering humankind in righting the human condition. God is struggling on the frontiers of human misery and He is drawing us to the frontlines to fight the battle with Him. Christians are called to social engagement by the God who is fully social and radically present in the world.


Paul says that "The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose" (1 Corinthians 3:8 *NSRV*). Faithful Christian servant-leadership begins and ends with the Lord and Saviour who is creator, liberator and advocate. No forms of injustice are tolerable and no aspect of human existence is unimportant to the people who love and praise this God.

When we examine our own faith community, it is important to be critical and ask ourselves these questions: Are we truly servant-leaders healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and sheltering the homeless? Are we prophetic in our vision? Are we a justice church? But in addition to these outward signs

of servant-leadership, are we not also called to look inward, within ourselves and within our collective body? Yes, we are called to be a church in revival, a spiritually alive church.

And as a Christian, I am obliged to bear witness to this Spirit, because I hold, as it were, a particle of light, and to keep it to myself would be equivalent to extinguishing it. The spoken word is never really effective unless it is backed up by a life, a life of servant-leadership, but it is also true that the living deed is never quite adequate without the support which the spoken word can provide.

In short, we are all admonished to make a visible witness. All Christians, all ministers of the Word of God must witness because the nonwitnessing follower of Christ is a contradiction in terms. A Christian is a person who confesses that amidst the confusing voices heard in the world, there is one voice which supremely wins his full assent, uniting all his powers into a single pattern of self-giving. And that voice is Jesus Christ.




**MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE**

**HIGHER
LEARNING**

**HIGHER
STANDARDS**

**HIGHER
VALUES**

Visit



Dianne B. Riley
M.O.C. Director of Admissions
and a member of St. Mary's FWB,
New Bern

*...part of the College family
serving Original Free Will
Baptists.*

For a campus tour, call Dianne or
the Office of Admissions at
919-658-2502.


JOIN US SUNDAY!

Sunday Buffet at Mount Olive College
Lois K. Murphy Regional Center
Every Sunday • 11:30 to 2 p.m.
\$6 Adults, \$3 Children



Let us know you're coming!
Call Gordon Wall at 919-658-2502 to
arrange for your group to join us for
Sunday Buffet.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



**MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE**

**HIGHER
LEARNING**

**HIGHER
STANDARDS**

**HIGHER
VALUES**

Coming Events at Mount Olive College — *Join Us!*

<p>September 12 – 14 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists (See Convention schedule elsewhere in this issue.)</p> <p>24 Mount Olive Community Worship Service: 7 p.m., Rodgers Chapel</p> <p>26 The Reverend E. Ray Wells, President, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; 11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel.</p> <p>27 Exhibition of Selected Works from the Mount Olive College Permanent Collec-</p>	<p>tion. Open House and Campus Tours; 4-6 p.m., Lois K. Murphy Regional Center and the Fine Arts Center.</p> <p>28 An Inaugural Concert: Aurora Musicalis; 7:30 p.m., Rodgers Chapel</p> <p>29 Project EAST; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., College Hall, Lois K. Murphy Regional Center</p> <p>30 Inaugural Ceremony; 10 am., College Hall</p> <p>30 1995 Bridge Builders Dinner; 6 p.m., Murphy Regional Center.</p>
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**MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE**

BRIDGE BUILDERS APPRECIATION DINNER

Saturday, September 30, 1995

6:00 p.m.

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

Mount Olive College

You

ARE

INVITED

TO

CELEBRATE

INAUGURATION

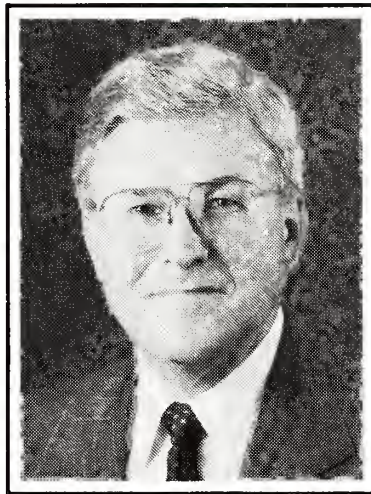
WEEK

WITH

MOUNT

OLIVE

COLLEGE



This event will honor the 1,414 Bridge Builders from the 1994 church dinners. All friends of the College are invited and should send their reservations to Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss by September 26.

Newly selected president Dr. J. William Byrd will be the keynote speaker for the evening. A very inspirational program is being planned.

Detach and Return

REPLY FORM

_____ Yes, I/we plan to attend the Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, September 30. There will be _____ in my party.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Church _____

Please mail to: Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss
Director of Church Support
Mount Olive College
634 Henderson Street
Mount Olive, NC 28365
Phone (919) 658-2502

(All Friends of Mount Olive College are Invited)



SEPTEMBER



SUN	MON	TUE	
27	28	29	30
3	4 Labor Day	5 ✦ Free Will Baptist Press Membership Meeting, Ayden FWB Church, 10:00 am	6
10 Grandparents Day	11	12 ✦ Convention of Original September	13
17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PR

G E N D

ous/following month .
ent month

- Sunday School
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press
- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Vandemere
- * Woman's Auxiliary

THU		FRI		SAT	
		1		2	
7		8	+ Press Material Deadline	9	
14		15		16	
Baptist, Mount Olive College n - 14th					
21	* Eastern District, Woman's Auxiliary, Saints Delight FWB Church	22		23	* Central District, Woman's Auxiliary, Greenville First * Albermarle District, Woman's Auxilary, Sound Side Autumn Begins
28		29		30	* Bridge Building Dinner, Mount Olive College, 7:00 pm

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

The Board of Trustees, Faculty, Staff,
Students and Alumni
of
Mount Olive College

request the honor of your presence
at the

Inauguration of

J. William Byrd

as the

Third President of the College
Saturday, the thirtieth of September
nineteen hundred and ninety-five
ten o'clock in the morning

College Hall

Mount Olive College

Mount Olive, North Carolina

Reception immediately following the ceremony
Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

INAUGURAL WEEK EVENTS

Sunday, September 24

7:00 p.m.

Mount Olive Community Worship Service

Rodgers Chapel

Monday, September 25

Club

12:00 noon

Presidential Address to the Mount Olive Exchange

Hennessee Room

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

Tuesday, September 26

11:00 a.m.

The Rev. E. Ray Wells, President

Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

Rodgers Chapel

8:00 p.m.

Inaugural Ball

Hosted by the Student Government Association

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

Wednesday, September 27

4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

Open House and Campus Tours

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

lection

Exhibition of Selected Works of the Permanent Col-

Fine Arts Center

Thursday, September 28

5:00 p.m.

Galloway Music Library Dedication

Fine Arts Center

7:30 p.m.

Inaugural Concert

Rodgers Chapel

Friday, September 29

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Project EAST

College Hall

Saturday, September 30

10:00 a.m.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

College Hall

Reception immediately following ceremony

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

6:00 p.m.

1995 Bridge Builders Dinner

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

LIMITED

1995

Fall
LIMITED
EDITION

Are you looking for a way to visit the mountains this fall, but don't want the hassle of driving or planning your trip? We have the solution! Sign up for **Fall Limited Edition '95!** The trip includes two days traveling to and

from Cragmont, three nights lodging at Cragmont, six meals, two days of activities and transportation. All this for a package price of **\$200 per person.**

Fall Limited begins, **Monday, October 16, 1995.** Transportation to Cragmont is provided by motor coach, with stops in several eastern North Carolina towns. *Pisgah View Ranch* is on the menu with a family style dinner and entertainment (if available) the night you arrive at Cragmont. The next day, we will travel to Pigeon Forge, TN, for lunch at the *Apple Barn* and fun at *DollyWood* offers more than ever, including seven new acres called "Jukebox Junction"—bringing back the era of the 50's. *The National Crafts Festival* with music, crafts, food and fun will also be celebrating there. The next day we will travel to the beautiful *Grove Park Inn*, a national treasure located on the edge of Asheville, NC. After dining and touring there, we will visit with history at the *Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace*. This pioneer farmstead, tucked in the Reems Creek Valley, was home to a Civil War officer, U.S. Senator and governor. **Thursday, October 19, 1995**, after a hearty breakfast and a short devotion in the chapel, the bus will load up and leave for eastern North Carolina.

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 a **\$75 non-refundable*** per person deposit. The balance of **\$125 per person** will be due **September 25, 1995.**

*Deposits will be returned if *Cragmont* cancels the tour.



Christmas Limited '95 is a great escape before the hectic Christmas season gets in full swing! Christmas Limited offers two packages with both including transportation to and from eastern North Carolina, lodging at Cragmont for three nights, six meals, two days of activities and transportation. At \$225 per person, **Option 1** will include a Biltmore House Candlelight Tour. **Option 2** does not include the Biltmore House and is only \$200.

The tour begins **Thursday, November 30, 1995.** Transportation to Cragmont is provided by motor coach, with stops in several eastern North Carolina towns. Those who choose **Option 1** will leave following supper on Thursday (while everyone else can rest by the fireplace in the chapel!). The next day we will travel

north of Cragmont to the Linville Caverns. The caverns are a marvel of nature that stay around the same temperature all year! Our tour will then bring us to Valle Crucis, NC where we will visit the historic Mast General Store, in business since 1883, along with several other shops nearby. Afterward we will eat at the Daniel Boone Inn, in Boone, NC. On Saturday, we will go to Pigeon Forge, TN, for a fun filled time at the Music Mansion Theater. Here you will get to enjoy two shows in one, the most memorable moments from their regular season show and a magical holiday journey with sounds of the season. Lunch will be provided.

On **Sunday, December 3, 1995**, Christmas Limited will end with breakfast and a Sunday morning worship service. You will leave shortly after to return to eastern North Carolina.

Reservations for either package will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. If you wish to register for **Option 1**, you must send your \$100 per person deposit (\$75 tour deposit + \$25 Biltmore House deposit) with your completed registration form **before**

September 25,

1995. If you're

registering for

Option 2,

you are not

restricted to

this deadline,

but you must

still pay a

\$75 per per-

son deposit

with your registration form. The remaining \$125 for either package is due **November 6, 1995.** Please remember these deposits are non-refundable*

Come join us this Christmas Season!

*Money will be refunded if Cragmont cancels the tour. **No** money can be refunded after November 6, 1995.

PLEASE SELECT THE TOUR(S) YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:

Fall Limited Edition
enclosed is my \$75/person deposit

Christmas Limited Edition
enclosed is my \$75/person deposit

(Option 1 only) and my \$25/person Biltmore deposit

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (night) _____ Roommate Preference (if any) _____

Do you have a health condition that we need to be aware of? _____

Please indicate which bus stop you prefer: _____

Clip this form and return it with your deposit to:

Limited Editions, Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711



THE CRAGMONT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The July 31—August 8 Women's Conference was attended by 103 women. The theme was: "The Power of Encouragement," with Ramona Norman as the daily speaker. Morning devotions were presented by: Cathy Creech, Mamie Dail, and Faye Smith.

The staff included: Alma Dale, Music Director; Jo Ann Parrish, Pianist; Gladys Corbett, Organist; Frances Phillips, Nurse; Teresa Ball, Registrar; and Donna Holland, Director.

A number of campers presented special music and testimonies during the week. Eunice Sexton organized a very entertaining fun time for Friday afternoon, while Lew Ellen Parker gave insight about packing during vespers on Friday night. The Rev. Harold Jones brought the Missions Service on Friday night.

The entire week was one of great fellowship and inspiration. Make plans now to attend next year!

Ruth L. Warrick
N.C.W.A.C. Corresponding Secretary

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PASTOR NEEDED

Roanoke Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church is seeking a full-time pastor. Contact Mr. Eddie Duff, Route 2, Box 314A, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870, phone, (919) 536-5183.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Free Will Baptist Press Membership meeting will meet on September 5, 1995 at 10 a.m. at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church.

PASTOR NEEDED

First Free Will Baptist of Plymouth is searching for a full-time pastor. If interested, send resume to Lewis Sullivan, 110 Roxie Reece Road, Plymouth, NC 27962 or phone, 793-3210.

HOMECOMING

Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie, NC will have Homecoming on September 17, 1995. The pastor is the Rev. Robert May. The speaker for the morning message is the Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of Friendship Church, Farmville. Everyone is welcome.

PASTOR AVAILABLE

The Rev. M. E. Cox is available for supply pastor work. Call him at home in Wilson, 919-243-7733.

STONEY CREEK FWB CHURCH ANNOUNCES A NEW MINISTRY

Stoney Creek Church of Goldsboro now broadcasts its 11 a.m. Sunday Worship services on radio live each Sunday. The services are transmitted over a broad coverage area on Radio Station WEQR FM, (102.3 on the dial). The following counties are in the coverage area; Wayne, Lenoir, Greene, Wilson, Johnston, Sampson and Duplin. The radio signal can also be heard in parts of Pender, Onslow, Jones, and Craven counties.

The people of Stoney Creek Church launched this new ministry in an effort to reach people who cannot or do not attend church on Sunday mornings. Those who are shut-in and those working or traveling in our coverage area are invited to worship with Stoney Creek Church via radio whenever possible.

The Rev. Gary M. Bailey is the pastor of Stoney Creek. The Rev. Glenn A. Mills is Associate Pastor.

PASTOR NEEDED

Aspen Grove FWB is in search of a pastor. If interested,

contact: David F. Hobgood, 107 Hillcrest Drive, Farmville, NC 27828; phone, 753-4346.

INVITATION TO 100 YEARS CELEBRATION

Pleasant Hill Church (Gurley Dairy Road, Pikeville) will enjoy its annual Homecoming services on October 15, 1995. However, this year's services will be extra special since the church will be celebrating its 100th year. Everyone (especially former pastors and members) are encouraged to be in attendance on this unforgettable Sunday.

Sunday School—10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship—11:00 a.m.

Afternoon Services—1:30 p.m.

FALL REVIVAL

Fall Revival will be held at Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church on October 1-4 at 7:30. The Rev. Bruce Jones will be the speaker. Special music each night.

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 1, 1995. The Homecoming theme will be ". . . Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). The Sunday School lesson will be taught by Gordon Crocker.

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 will begin 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. Featured singers will be Heaven's Echoes from Pikeville.

All former pastors, former members, and friends are invited to attend and enjoy the day's activities.

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

The Albemarle Conference will meet on October 4, 1995 at St. Paul FWB Church, Elizabeth City, NC at 9:30 a.m. The moderator will be Robert M. May.

EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Hosted By
Saints Delight Original
Free Will Baptist Church
New Bern, North Carolina
September 21, 1995

THEME: "A New Song"

SCRIPTURE: "O sing unto the Lord a new song" (Psalm 96:1-2).

ORDER OF SERVICE

- 9:30 Registration
- 10:00 Call to Order, Lorraine Garner, Vice President
Prayer for Convention, Edith McCoy, Core Creek Original Free Will Baptist Church
Hymn 108, "Praise Him! Praise Him!
Welcome, Georgia Burke, President, Saints Delight Auxiliary Response, Reba Adams, Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church
- 10:10 Scripture/Prayer, Glennie Ruth Ross, Saints Delight Auxiliary
- 10:20 Special Music, Billy Gaskins, Saints Delight Church
- 10:30 President's Remarks, Happy Taylor, Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church
Business Session
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Appointment of Committees
- 10:45 Camp Vandemere Report, Judith Kennedy
Convention Offering, Camp Vandemere
- 10:50 Ministry Reports
- 11:00 Hymn 163, "Count Your Blessings"
- 11:10 Memorial Service, Maurice Debruhl, Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church
- 11:15 Special Music, Angela Boyd, Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church
- 11:20 Worship Service, The Rev. Robert Burke, Pastor, Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church

- 11:45 Hymn 8, "Amazing Grace"
- 12:10 Miscellaneous Business
Treasurer's Report
Committee Reports
- 12:20 Lunch Announcement
Benediction, The Rev. Robert Burke, Pastor, Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church

State Woman's Auxiliary Convention
Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church
Music Director: Brenda Stillely

Pianist: Bearnice Stillely
Organist: Marie Anderson
Ushers: Ann Gaskins
Vicky Hardy
Diana Peele
Velma Wells

DIRECTIONS

Coming from west of New Bern take Highway 17 North across the Neuse River Bridge. About one mile out of Bridgeton, turn right at Saint Delight Church Road sign.

If coming from East turn on Highway 17 North. Directions same as above.

Coming from Vanceboro on 17 South, turn left at church sign.

WESTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY CONVENTION

Hosted by
Stancil's Chapel
Free Will Baptist Church
Route 2, Kenly, NC
October 4, 1995

THEME: "The Divine Leader"

SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:14

MORNING SESSION

- 9:15 Registration
- 9:45 Hymn, "Saviour Like A Shepherd Lead Us"
Devotion, Psalm 25:5, Cathy Creech
Welcome, Local President, Eleanora Pittman

- President's Remarks, Jean Marlowe
- 10:15 Hymn, "Where He Leads I'll Follow"
Convention Offering
Special Music, Stancil's Chapel Church
God Leads in Missions, Mattie Braswell
God Leads in Benevolence, Agnes Corbitt
God Leads Our Youth, Virginia Joyner
- 11:00 Hymn, "Breathe On Me"
God Leads at Mount Olive College
Special Offering for Mount Olive College
Special Music
Convention message, Dr. J. William Byrd, President of Mount Olive College
- 12:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00 Hymn, "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me"
Devotion and Memorial Service, Nadine Crocker
Cragmont Report, Donna Holland
Business Session
Closing Hymn, "Where He Leads Me"
Benediction

1945

1995

*In honour of the
Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Miller
Hugo Free Will Baptist Church
requests the pleasure of your company
at a reception
on Sunday, the tenth of September
nineteen hundred and ninety-five
from two until five o'clock
in the afternoon
Hugo Free Will Baptist Church
Route 2, Grifton, North Carolina
No Gifts Requested*

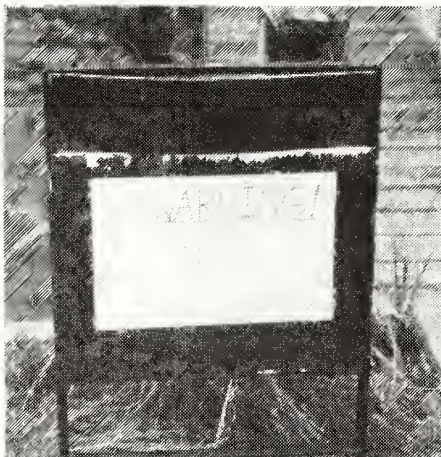
OLD FASHIONED BAPTISMAL



Following its summer revival, Mt. Tabor Church in Creswell held a baptism service in the Albemarle Sound.



Mt. Tabor's pastor and deacons baptizing believers "the old fashioned way."



Church pianist Wendy Davis planted a sign to tease Pastor Pelletier. The small print says "sacred preachers beware!"

PASTOR AND WIFE ATTEND LEADERSHIP TRAINING



The Rev. and Mrs. Keith Pelletier

Rev. and Mrs. Keith Pelletier of Creswell, NC recently attended a three-day seminar at The Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove, in Asheville, NC.

The seminar entitled *Following Biblical Principles of Leadership* was presented by Dr. Howard Hendricks. Dr. Hendricks was founder and chairman of the Department of Christian Education at Dallas Theological Seminary and is currently chairman of the Center For Christian Leadership. He has ministered in more than 70 countries and has authored several books including *As Iron Sharpens Iron*.

The focus of the seminar was to provide a biblical perspective on leadership. Sessions, small groups and workshops were designed to equip participants to grow as godly persons who can influence others to follow Christ. Several hundred church leaders from throughout the United States and Canada participated in the training.

The Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove is a mountaintop retreat established by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association for the purpose of "training people in God's Word to win others to Christ."

The Rev. and Mrs. Pelletier are serving in their first year in the pastorate of Mt. Tabor FWB Church in Creswell, NC. Mt. Tabor Church is a member of the Albemarle Conference.

YOUTH MINISTER SHADY GROVE CHURCH

by Lizzie W. Dawson

The young people at Shady Grove Church of the Cape Fear Conference enjoyed having a youth minister work with them this summer.

Jason See, a native of Michigan and a senior at Bob Jones University spent ten weeks at Shady Grove.

On Sunday nights he had a special meeting in the activity building for the teenagers. Sunday mornings he had messages for the youth. On Wednesday evening he worked with all the youth groups.

Jason also had the opportunity of ministry in two areas outside the community. He was guest speaker for Youth Sunday at St. Mary's Grove (CF) and youth counselor at Cragmont July 3-8 and was "keeper of the Boys' Dorm."

Jason sang with the choir each Sunday. Two Sunday nights he brought the evening messages. In June, his parents, two of his sisters and his brother-in-law were present to hear him preach. The second time he preached, Kelly King was a special guest. Jason did an excellent job filling in for the pastor when he had other engagements on Wednesday evenings. The congregation always enjoyed his special music in song for he has a marvelous voice.

During Bible School July 31—August 4, Jason was actively involved in the crafts for each age group.

On his last Sunday at Shady Grove he was given the privilege of bringing the morning message. That evening the church had a social hour in his honor.

Whether Jason See goes directly into the ministry when he graduates from Bob Jones in December or continues his studies to obtain his Master's degree, we at Shady Grove wish him well. His enthusiasm is contagious; he leaves behind a host of new friends.

EVENTS AT

BARNES HILL FWB CHURCH

by Kay Manning, Church Reporter



May 18, 1995—Mother's Day

On May 18, Mother's Day, the ladies were in charge of all the worship services—Sunday School, morning and evening service. Mrs. Yonna Parker brought the morning service. Mrs. Irene Thompson brought the evening service. Both messages were very inspiring. Special singing was by the choir, the children's choir, and two other special people. During the service the Men's League gave red and white roses to all mothers. It was a very special day with very good attendance.

On June 4, we honored two high school graduates, Shan Whitley and Wayne Bradberry. The church presented them with Bibles. Flowers and bows of their school colors were put in the church in their honor by the Rev. and Mrs. Dewey Boling and were guests of the Bolings for lunch. Mr. Boling brought a challenging message to our graduates. The message was asking them to strive for high goals in life.

On June 18, Father's Day, the men took care of all the worship services—Sunday School, morning and evening service. The special music included the choir and Mr. Boling did a solo singing "Grace Greater Than All Our Sin."

Mr. Artie Pressley brought a very inspiring message. After the service the ladies served the men with a covered dish luncheon.

On July 24, we had Vacation Bible School and it was a great day. We used the theme "Jesus' Kids." We studied God's Word, had snacks, and a hotdog lunch. There was very good attendance. The directors for the day were Pam Casey, Kim Johnson and Sandra Thompson. In the afternoon they had two special guests, Miss Piggie and The Lion, which the kids enjoyed very much. Everyone did a terrific job.

On June 25, Mr. Boling dedicated three babies, two boys—one from the Pressley family and one boy from the Sloop family and a girl from the Biggs family. Flowers and ribbons were placed in the church in honor of the babies by Mrs. Boling. Mr. Boling's message was God's plan for raising children. He blessed each family.

On that night we had Bible School Commencement with good attendance followed by an ice cream supper in the Fellowship Hall.

An old-fashioned creek baptizing was held the first Sunday in August. God has blessed our church at Barnes Hill the first part of 1995. We ask all Christians to pray that He will continue to bless our church, and our pastor and his wife as he leads us unto a greater relationship with our Saviour Jesus Christ.

KINSTON CHURCH TO CELEBRATE NINETY-FIVE YEARS

First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston will observe its 95th Anniversary at Homecoming on October 1, with the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, former pastor, as guest speaker. There will be special music by the Chancel Choir and

by Allison Merritt, guest soloist. Apicnic lunch is planned afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

Although Free Will Baptists existed in Lenoir County prior to the Civil War, at the end of the 19th Century only eight congregations survived. At that time one of every eleven white citizens in the county was Free Will Baptist.

The congregation of the present church was worshipping in the courthouse in 1899, with services every third Sunday conducted by Elders W. H. Frost and E. T. Phillips, and by 1900 it was firmly established and joined the Eastern Conference, reporting 28 members. In 1901 J. W. Alford became pastor, the church reported 68 members, began a building program and soon occupied the church at 600 Chestnut Street. This, and the addition of nine more members, so favorably impressed the Eastern Conference in 1902 that it voted half its mission funds (\$77.61) to the Kinston Church. At present the church shows a membership of approximately two hundred.

In 1942 the congregation moved to 109 North Independence Street, a building originally erected by the local Presbyterian congregation. In that location, the Woman's Auxiliary sponsored the church's first Daily Vacation Bible School. An educational building was added, with Sunday School rooms, a kitchen and fellowship room. Rooms were also added to the sanctuary. The church purchased a Hammond organ in 1947. A parsonage (later sold) was purchased and furnished at 806 East Gordon Street.

In 1957 the church moved again, to another sanctuary built by the Presbyterians, at 314 West Lenoir Avenue. Soon afterwards they built a parsonage at 600 Carey Road (later sold).

Additions and improvements made to the church building include a

baptistry, library, church office (later moved to the Education Building), and air conditioning. The Education Building was painted and repaired, and has been used for Scouting programs; youth meetings (YFA, AFC and Cherubs): Kindergarten classes for three, four, and five-year-olds, directed by Mrs. John Taylor. The church has also sponsored group meetings at local nursing homes for worship and singing sessions.

The latest additions to the church property have been a Fellowship Hall, paved parking lot, and a ramp. The Fellowship Hall, built in 1988, is in the same architectural style as the church. It hosts Retired People's Club, birthday dinners, receptions, fellowship suppers, and other meetings. The ramp was added in 1994.

The church is in the Mitchelltown Historic District of Kinston and has held open house at Christmas as part of the Mitchelltown celebrations, with music by the Bell Choir from Gordon Street Disciples of Christ Church.

The women of the church have been active from its beginning—with the "Women's Home Mission Society" as early as 1920. Kinston women joined in District and State work; and Mrs. L. E. Ballard represented them at the organization of the State Woman's Auxiliary in 1927. At the Woman's Auxiliary joint session with the Eastern Conference in 1936, delegates were Mrs. Iley Smith, Mrs. J. H. Oliver, and Mrs. Mamie Warren. The Woman's Auxiliary now sponsors two circles in addition to monthly meetings. It honors a "Woman of the Year" on Woman's Day in May and sponsors other programs throughout the year.

The Layman's League sponsors several projects each year, and is active in District and State work.

A special feature of the Anniversary Celebration will be recognition of

former pastors. From J. W. Alford in 1901 until now, pastors include Elder Henry Cunningham, Robert F. Pittman, I. J. Blackwelder, (first name?) Outlaw, Herman Wooten, Henry Matthews, E. C. Morris, L. E. Ballard, Clifton Rice, N. Bruce Barrow, R. P. Harris, Thomas E. Beaman, W. K. Jordan, A. L. Reynolds, J. B. Narron, James F. Miller, David W. Hansley, A. B. Bryan, J. A. Hales, J. A. Evans, W. E. Futch, Sheldon Howard (interim), Bruce Dudley, C. H. Overman, David Hines, Marty McWilliams, and Michael Pelt (interim). The Rev. Tony Parrish, recently elected, will assume his duties on October 1.

Under the Mount Olive College Student Ministries Program, the church has

had several student ministers. They include Doug Skinner, Harry, Leon, Frank and Paul Grubbs, Chris Singleton, and Stephen Prescott. Bob Fussell also served as youth minister.

The first ordained ministerial candidate from Kinston was C. S. Churchill, licensed by the Eastern Conference in 1904. Others from the church have been Joseph W. Webb, Floyd L. Harris, Richard F. Daughetry, A. H. Outlaw, J. N. Edwards, Robert E. O'Quinn, Eldon Brock, David Charles Hansley, Reb Lancaster, Carlton Lucas, and Frank Crary.

All former pastors and families, former and present members and friends of the church are invited to join in celebrating its 95th Anniversary.

BABY DEDICATION AT SPRING BRANCH



Sunday, June 11, 1995 was a special day for the congregation at Spring Branch Church, Walstonburg, NC. On this date during the 11 a.m. worship service, four families dedicated themselves and their children to God. Parents committed themselves to the teaching and training of these children in the Lord:

Adam Brooks Tyndall, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Walt Tyndall
Morgan Tal Norville, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Norville
William Jonathan Doane, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Doane
Dylan Cole Letchworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Letchworth

As a church family the congregation also pledged their support of prayers and concern to each family. We feel especially blessed of God to be able to share such a time of joy as this within our church family.

NOTICE TO THE FREE WILL BAPTIST SUBSCRIBERS

To each subscriber I say thank you for your support and encouragement over the last year since I have become editor.

The Free Will Baptist magazine serves as the "voice of the denomination" to each member, church and to others outside the denomination.

As does every thing, it seems our prices rise over the years. *The Free Will Baptist* has not had a subscription rate increase since 1981.

With the shortage of paper and its price increases (1995 raw pulp \$300 a ton rapidly increasing to approximately \$1,000 a ton by the year's end), a rise in postage and the general overhead of publishing a magazine, we are having to increase the price of this denominational service.

It is not a dramatic increase but one that we wanted all who subscribe to be made aware of. The increase is as follows: \$1 for the Individual plan (old price—\$8.50 + tax = \$9.01; new price—\$9.50 + tax = \$10.07); Bundle Plan—a \$1.25 increase and Each Family Plan—a \$1.25 increase. This increase will start in September, 1995. Please renew or subscribe early to beat the increase.

For any me information or questions, please contact Tracy McCoy, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, 811 North Lee Street, P.O. Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513; phone: 919—746—6128 or 1—800—849—3927; FAX: 919—746—9248.

CENTRAL DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

September 23, 1995

Greenville First

9:00 a.m.—Registration

Ms. Mamie Dail, Speaker

Theme: "Put on the Whole Armor of God"

Lunch supplied by the church.

First Church located

on 2425 South Charles St. Greenville

(near The Plaza)

September 25, 1995

Study Course

Hull Road FWB Church

7:00 p.m.

Lydia van der Plas, Speaker

Hull Road is located

at

Route 2, Box 290, Snow Hill

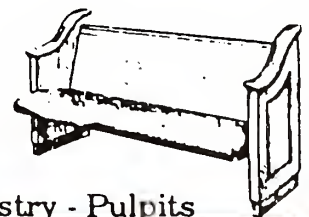
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Contemporary Christian Recording Artist

DAVID PARKER

Saturday, September 23, 1995

7:00 p.m.

Black Jack FWB Church Family Life Center

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!!!

DON'T STAY AWAY FROM CHURCH BECAUSE—

YOU ARE POOR—there is no admission charge.

BECAUSE IT RAINS—you go to work in the rain.

BECAUSE IT IS HOT—it's hot at your house too.

BECAUSE IT IS COLD—it is always warm and friendly at church.

BECAUSE NO ONE INVITED YOU—people go to the movies without being begged.

BECAUSE WE HAVE AN EMOTIONAL RELIGION—how about the ball games?

BECAUSE YOU HAVE VERY SMALL CHILDREN—what if you didn't any longer have them?

YOU DON'T LIKE THE PREACHER—remember he's human like you.

YOUR JOB MAKES YOU SO TIRED—you could lose your job.

THERE ARE HYPOCRITES—you associate with them every day. You should be accustomed to them by now.

YOU HAVE COMPANY—they will admire your loyalty if you invite them along, or tell them to wait until you get back.

YOUR CLOTHES ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH—we do not conduct a fashion show.

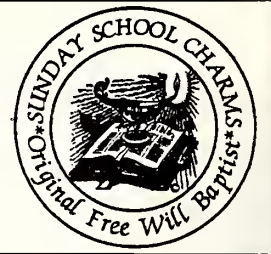
OUR CHURCH STANDARD IS TOO HIGH—just take a look at the Bible standard if you think ours is high.

YOU HAVE PLENTY OF TIME YET—ARE YOU SURE?

—Selected
from *Uncle Ben's Quotebook*

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

Sunday School Charms



F. W. B. Sunday School Banquet

M N T H



Ministers ~ Superintendents Banquet
Friday, September 8, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Stoney Creek
Original
Free Will Baptist Church

752 Stoney Creek Church Road
Goldsboro, North Carolina

\$10.00 per person — Buffet Meal

Come and bring your Teacher(s) of the Year so we can honor him/her. There will also be a glimpse of the Spring Institute.

To make reservations, send payment by September 1, 1995, to:

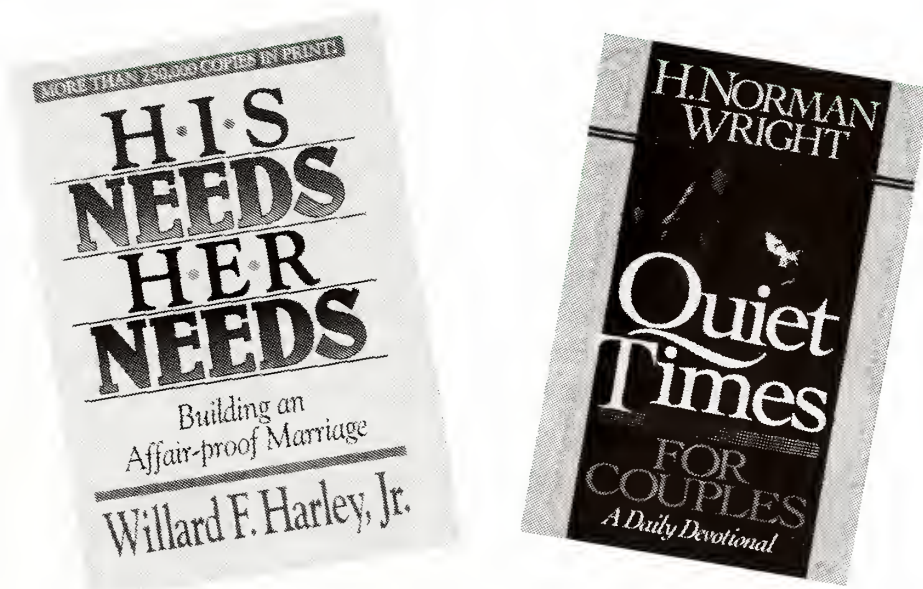
The Sunday School Board
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039

Christmas Cantata Music Is Now Available



Many Varieties to Choose From

Suggested Books for Couples



Visit All of Our Bookstores in Ayden, Kinston, New Bern, and Wilson

Original Free Will Baptist Cookbook

The FWB Press plans to publish a cookbook containing recipes submitted by members of Original FWB Churches. The publishing date will be announced as soon as a sufficient number of recipes has been received by the press. You may submit as many recipes as you wish.

Listed below are the guidelines we request you to follow in order to prevent mistakes.

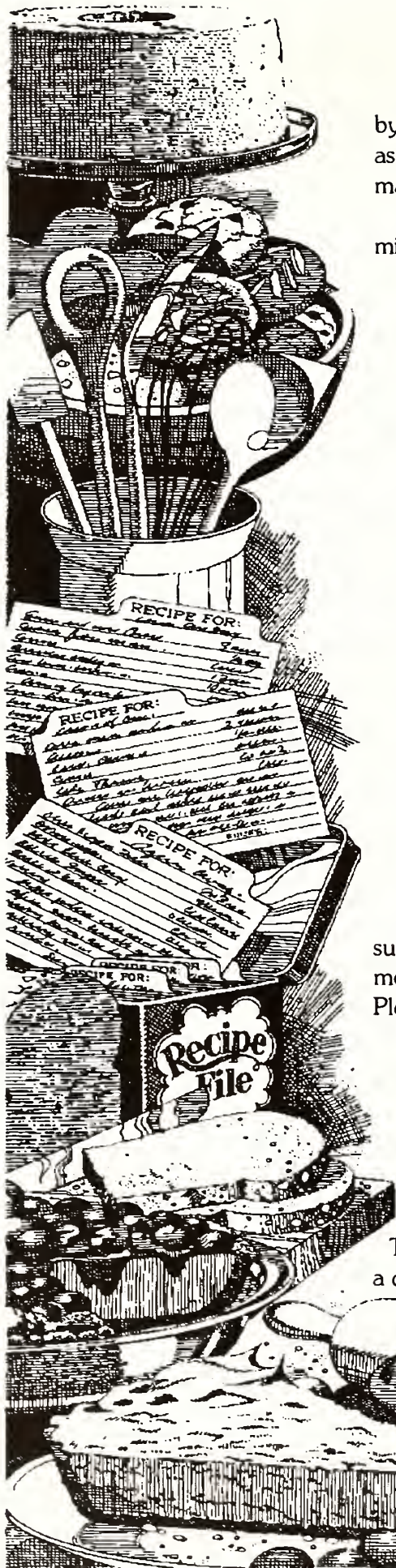
- (1) Classify your recipe in one of the following categories:
 - (a) Soups
 - (b) Salads
 - (c) Vegetables
 - (d) Casseroles
 - (e) Meat, Poultry, & Seafood
 - (f) Breads & Rolls
 - (g) Desserts
- (2) Please **do not** use abbreviations such as tsp. and Tbsp. Spell out all words in the recipe.
- (3) Please use a degree setting such as 325° for 20 minutes, rather than medium heat for approximately 1/2 hour.
- (4) Title your recipe, for example, Hamburger Bean Soup
- (5) Do not use recipes from other cookbooks.
- (6) Include your name, church, and phone number with as many recipes as you like. Your phone number **will not** be printed in the cookbook. It is only for us to be able to reach you if we have any questions about your recipes.

When space permits we will print a recipe randomly selected from those submitted. It will not be a regular feature, so don't expect a recipe every month.

Please send recipes to:

Free Will Baptist Recipes
P.O. Box 159
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Please remember that by submitting a recipe or recipes you are giving the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. the right to print your recipe in either a cookbook or the *Baptist* magazine. Recipes cannot be returned. The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. reserves the right not to publish a cookbook if not enough recipes are submitted.

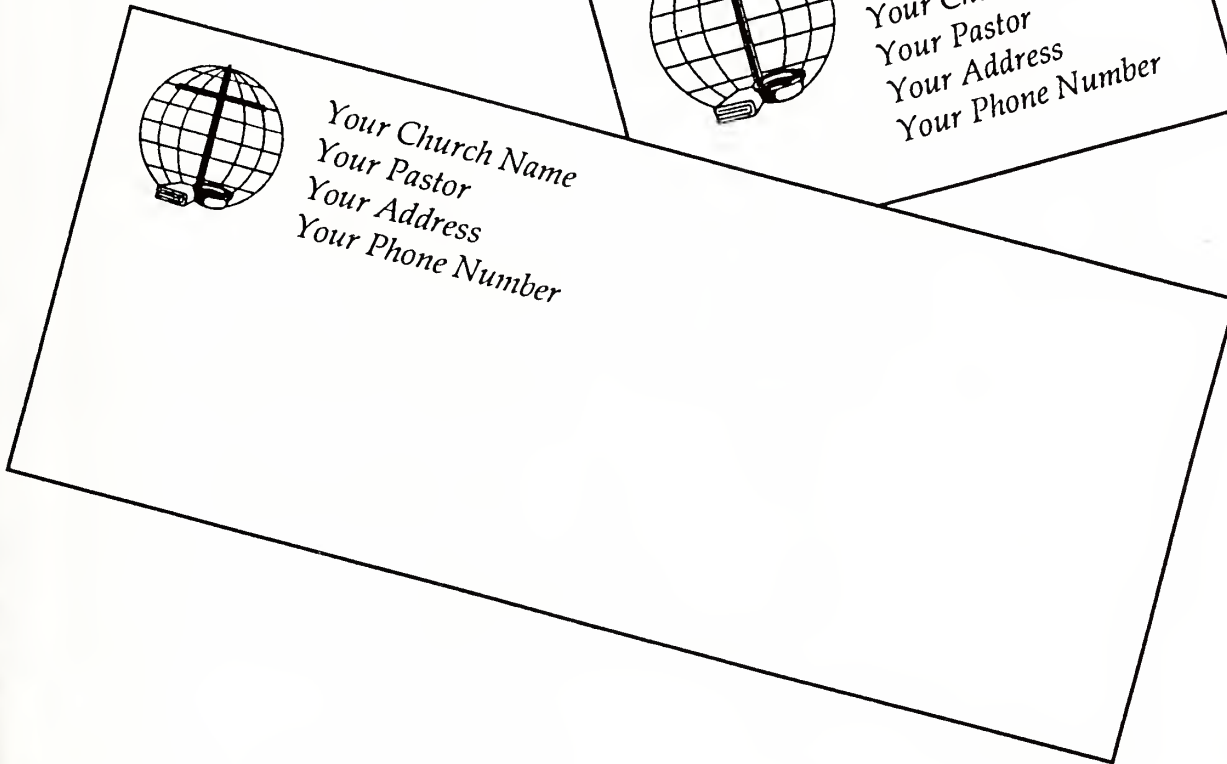




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THE CALL TO RENEWAL

With the beginning of this fiscal year, July 1, 1995-June 30, 1996, the Convention launched a new five-year theme which is a call to Free Will Baptists for spiritual renewal. During the worship service on Wednesday morning, the new theme will be officially presented by the Reverend Fred Baker, pastor of Robert's Grove Church, a member of the Convention's Executive Committee, and a member of Project Solution's Task Force Committee.

The prescription for renewal is found in *2 Chronicles 7:14*: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Is spiritual renewal needed among Free Will Baptists, and for our land? Indeed it is, and soon! Concerned Christians realize the decline in morality, the backslidden state of many professing Christians, as well as a luke-warm contentment with things as they are. When members of a church desire no growth, then the church's purpose for existence is gone. It is true that there are areas of growth, that God's Spirit is blessing in many areas and in many churches. On the other hand, some churches are on the decline and a few have closed their doors. In some cases we have turned in on ourselves, failing to reach out to those who need our Christ. Thus, as we begin the last five years of this century and millennium, we must do so with the desire and willingness to accept the challenge of Spiritual Renewal.



The Call to Prayer

Over and over again our denominational leaders have urged our people to pray, and especially to pray for revival; however, revival does not just happen. There has to be some preparation; the human heart must be receptive to the Word of God and submissive to the Spirit's wooings. Thus, the "Call to Renewal" must begin with The Call to Prayer, which is the Convention's theme for fiscal year 1995-96.

Part of the worship service on Wednesday will focus on this theme. The call to prayer will go forth to all churches to unite in prayer. Specific prayer times will be suggested. Suggestions and plans will be offered as to the implementation of The Call to Prayer. How great it will be to return to next year's Convention in a truly renewed spirit of purpose because each church has faithfully prayed. What a difference it will make.

"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" (James 5:16).

Your Ministry Directors

For more than six years, I have had the opportunity to work with our denominational ministry directors. I have attended most of their board meetings and I have sat in conversation with them from time to time. We have shared our hopes and dreams for our beloved denomination. At other times, we have shared in our feelings of apprehension, wondering if our work will succeed.

Your ministry directors have been placed in a leadership role and assigned to a task that requires the courage of Paul and the humility of the most devoted saint. The difficulty of their task is compounded by the uncertainty of support and the criticisms that are often unjust because few take the time to seek the truth in fairness. They wonder if support will continue from a certain church when it changes pastors (records sometimes reveal a drop in support under some pastors). They often wonder if they have said the right things, or failed to present and promote their ministry in a proper manner. As each director becomes more and more involved, the challenges become greater. There is almost a constant and ever-present pressure—what must I do next? How can I increase my scope of operation? Will support be adequate? What could I really do with greater support?

Please lift your ministry directors up in prayers. Pledge to their respective ministry your support. Each was chosen to perform a task, to promote a program. They cannot fulfill their task without you.

Our Thanks

I want to thank each of the ministry directors for their cooperation and support given to me during these six years. I appreciate the opportunity I have had in working with you. I pray God's continual blessings upon you and that which you represent.



Editor's Note

Dear Church Family,

HIMSELF HE COULD NOT SAVE

A minister was boarding at a certain farmhouse. The farmer was not a Christian, but his wife had been praying for him for some time, and the minister was awaiting his opportunity to make plain to him the meaning of sacrifice of Calvary. Early one morning, the farmer beckoned to the minister to follow him out to the chicken house. There on one of the nests sat a hen with a brood of chickens peeping out from under her wings.

"Touch her, Mr. Preacher," the farmer said. As the minister put his hand on the hen, he found that she was cold. "Look at that wound on her head," the farmer continued. "A weasel has sucked all the blood from her body, and she never once moved for fear the little beast would get her chickens."

"Oh, Mr. Farmer," said the preacher, "that was just like Christ. He endured all that suffering on the cross. He could have moved and saved His own life, but He wouldn't, because you and I were under His wings."

If He had moved, we would have been lost."
-Indian Christian
(The Free Will Baptist, 1943)

This is a story of new faith verses renewed faith. The faithfulness to her brood in the face of her own death is an example to all of us. We need to renew our faith in God through prayer and service. May we begin this journey at the 1995 Conference held September 12-14th at Mount Olive College. The **Renewal** with an emphasis on prayer may it carry past Mount Olive as it did from the wife to

See You there!
In His Service,

Jaay

hen's
ample
prayer
vention
Call to
the walls of
her husband.

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06/23/07

Nancy Edwards Matthews



Nancy was born and raised on a farm in the Hickory Cross Community of Johnston County, North Carolina; the middle of seven children of Leon and Flossie Woodall Edwards.

Her studies in correspondence journalism and Christian Writers Institute were some of the background for her writing skills; but most of her writings are drawn from a deep faith in God, of growing up on a farm, when money was "scarce," and later, from life with Royce (her husband of thirty-seven years) and raising two sons in Wilson County.

Some of Nancy's notable talents lie in the creation of plays and skits, with emphasis in children's productions, such as VBS Puppet Plays. For children's enjoyment she has created puppets, frogs and tadpoles. A series of plays, "SAM AND ANDY LEARN ABOUT JESUS" were produced as Vacation Bible School literature by Standard Publishing. Her other endeavors include a weekly column in *The Free Will Baptist* during the seventies.

Many of her stories have been published by The Free Will Baptist, Standard Publishing Company and Lillenas Publishing Company. One, a stage play, "EASTER—THE BEGINNING" has been in print 19 years and has sold approximately

15,000 copies. "WOULD YOU COOK ME FOR DINNER, GRANDDADDY?" was used for the Free Will Baptist State Missions Conference; and the District Convention of Free Will Baptist produced "TRIAL BY FIRE—A HISTORY OF FREE WILL BAPTIST."

Nancy currently has a new book available entitled "First Treasures." It is a collection of reflections and mini-meditations.

Nancy and Royce are presently living back on the farm in the Hickory Cross Community. Their sons, Ricky and Jay, live in Dallas, Texas and Washington, DC, respectively.

The Book "First Treasures" can be purchased from the Ayden, Kinston, Wilson, and New Bern Bookstores.

The Free Will Baptist

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A photograph of a path covered in fallen leaves, with a bridge and trees in the background. The path is the central focus, leading towards a bridge in the distance. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting autumn. A street lamp is visible on the left side of the path.

The Free Will Baptist

OCTOBER 1995

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NEXT MONTH

November
is
Children's Home
Month

October
is
Minister's Program
Month

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 to the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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CLERGY APPRECIATION DAY

GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS N.C. CLERGY APPRECIATION DAY

On August 17, 1995, Governor James B. Hunt Jr. signed a proclamation setting October 8 as North Carolina Pastor Appreciation Day.

By signing the proclamation, North Carolina joins a growing number of states recognizing the contributions of the clergy in helping to make the lives of people better.

Governor Hunt said as he signed the proclamation, "Throughout my life . . . the clergy have taught me and my family to do as Jesus Christ did, caring for others, and instilling in others the values that drive us to help make life better for all people."

*Clergy Appreciation Day 1995
By The Governor of the State of
North Carolina
A Proclamation*

WHEREAS, American clergy tend the sick, ease the suffering of those who have suffered losses, and provide support and comfort for those in need and in pain; and

WHEREAS, throughout world history, the clergy have represented strength and non-worldly values to the general populace; and

WHEREAS, our clergy offer their gifts and talents unselfishly to the glory of God and in order to accomplish His works; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we give one day in honor of our American Clergy for all they so unselfishly provide to us;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES B. HUNT JR., Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 8, 1995, "Clergy Appreciation Day" in North Carolina, and encourage our citizens to take this opportunity to express openly the appreciation, love, and respect we feel for our clergy but so often forget to demonstrate on a daily basis.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this seventeenth day of August in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America two hundred and nineteenth.

CONGREGATIONS NATIONWIDE RECOGNIZE SECOND ANNUAL CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—In October, congregations throughout North America will honor their pastors, ministers, priests and rabbis during the second annual Clergy Appreciation Month. Focus on the Family, the Colorado Springs based communications ministry, along with other pastoral care agencies, denominations and church groups, have set aside October as a time to recognize the difficult job handled by church leadership.

Clergy Appreciation Month seeks to acknowledge the contributions of—and the pressures faced by—religious leaders in the U.S. and Canada. The cosponsors are recommending that, if possible, congregations center their activities on the weekend of October 6–8.

During the month, churchgoers are encouraged to be creative in honoring their clergy, including sending them cards and letters, presenting them with special plaques, arranging for appreciation services or submitting open letters to local newspapers applauding their diligence.

To encourage ideas along these lines, Focus on the Family has created special materials that church groups can use to maximize the occasion. A planning guide is being offered for a suggested donation of \$2.50 which includes suggestions on how to organize a planning committee, celebration ideas (banquets, special services, open letters to local newspapers, gifts, tree-plantings, banners) and publicity tips. A camera-ready logo is also available in the planning guide. Last year, nearly 30,000 churches requested similar planning materials from the ministry.

"Our hope is that people of faith will participate actively in Clergy Appreciation Month," said H.B. London Jr., leader of the Pastoral Ministries department of Focus on the Family, which helps promote the annual event. "But whether or not they do, we hope they will pray fervently for those in full-time ministry, and that they will demonstrate their love and appreciation for them sincerely, openly and often."

Focus on the Family is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the family throughout the world. Headed by Dr. James Dobson, whose father was a minister, the organization constantly encourages support of local churches and their leaders. It does this primarily through its seven radio broadcasts on more than 1,600 North American stations, numerous periodicals, books, videos, audiocassettes and booklets.

"Our mission is to strengthen families, who in turn need

strong churches, which need strong leaders," said London. "Clergy Appreciation Month provides a yearly reminder to people to let their leaders know just how much they are appreciated."

London was a pastor himself for 31 years before leaving the pulpit to launch the Pastoral Ministries effort in 1991. He said that Focus on the Family's first participation in Clergy Appreciation Month last year was an "excellent beginning." Wrote one Methodist minister about the acknowledgments he received during the first year's event, "You will never know what (Clergy Appreciation Month) has done for us. We are humbled before God, as you have given us the most important gift there is, the gift of love."

In the U.S., churches or individuals desiring to request the planning guide may call (800) 232-6459, or send a fax to (719) 531-3424. They may also write to Clergy Appreciation Month, Focus on the Family, Colorado Springs, CO 80995. In Canada, call (800) 661-9800 or write to Clergy Appreciation Month, Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 9800, Stn. Terminal, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4G3. Those requesting the materials are urged to do so as soon as possible and begin planning now.

Clergy Appreciation Day



October 8 has been designated Clergy Appreciation Day, giving you a unique opportunity to honor those in ministry with your personal expression of appreciation and gratitude.


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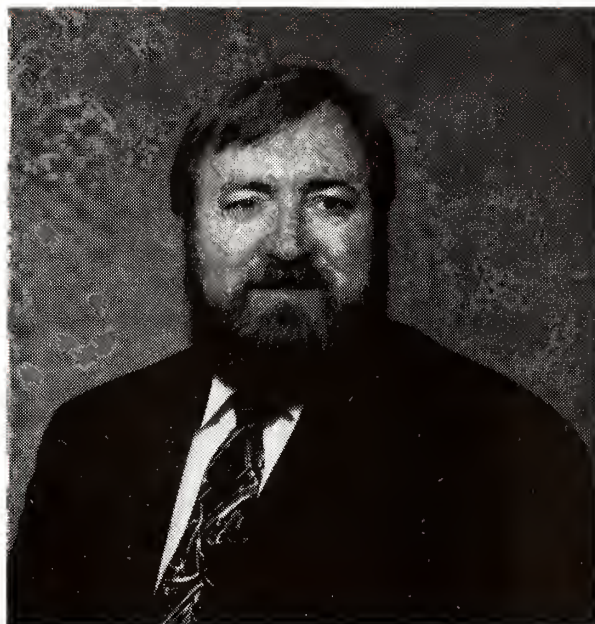
Day

on

October 8, 1995

The Reverend W. Scott Sowers

Installed as Executive Administrator



During the Convention's Thursday morning session, on September 14, 1995, the Rev. W. Scott Sowers was officially installed as the Executive Administrator, succeeding the Rev. C. H. Overman. He will begin his work on October 1, 1995. For more than 16 years, he has served as pastor of Marlboro Original Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina.

Brother Sowers comes into the office with many qualifications, having served his Lord in various capacities and avenues, as indicated by the following:

Pastorates: Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, NC, 1973–1974; Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Grantsboro, NC, 1974–77; Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, NC, 1977–present.

Education: Associate of Arts, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC, 1971–1973; Bachelor of Arts, Barton College (Atlantic Christian College), Wilson, NC, 1974–1978; Master of Arts, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, 1994–present.

Denominational service: Ordained, Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, July 1, 1977; member of Children's Home Board of Directors, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists 1994–present; member of Task Force, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, 1994–present; President, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, 1990–1994; Vice President, Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, 1986–1990; Secretary, Convention of Original Free Will Baptist, 1982–1986; Scouting Commission, Convention of Original Free Will Baptist, 1975–1986; Ordaining Council, Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, 1994–present; Missions Board, Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, 1990–1994; Assistant Clerk, Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, 1986–1990; Clerk, Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, 1984–1986; Co-Director, Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, Cragmont Assembly, 1983–present; Counselor, Youth Frontier Conference (AFC and YFA Weeks), Cragmont Assembly, 1974–1982; Advisor, State Youth Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, 1974–1982.

Community Service: Chairman, Board of Directors, Carolina Pregnancy Center, Greenville, NC, 1993–June 1995; Member, Board of Directors, Carolina Pregnancy Center, Greenville, NC, 1993–present; member of Baptist Association of Scouting, 1980–1986; Good Shepherd Award, 1985.

Privileges and Responsibilities

by Dr. Floyd Cherry

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 1:23–25 and 2:1–16.

In the First Epistle of Peter the writer gives us a sevenfold description of believers, of those who have been born again (1 Peter 1:23). This description is just as true of Christians today as it was of Christians in the first century. Peter tells us first, what true believers are, and he emphasizes their privileges; but every privilege carries with it a responsibility, and thus he tells us, second, what our responsibilities are as Christians. Look then at the sevenfold description of true believers and see the relationship between this matter of privilege and responsibility.

In 1 Peter 2:2, believers are described as “new born babes.”

This tells us how we begin the Christian life. We begin by being born into the family of God, and when we are first born into God’s family, we are only tiny babes. What a great privilege it is to be born of God, to be a member of His royal family and to have God as our Heavenly Father. But what is our responsibility as newborn babes? 1 Peter 2:2 gives us the answer: to feed on the Word of God in order that we may grow up into strong children and then into adulthood. We can only grow if we eat, and if we do not feed upon the right food and have enough of it we shall remain babes and we shall be dwarfed in our spiritual experience. In order to keep this from happening let us “desire the sincere milk of the Word.” There is no substitute for this.

In 1 Peter 1:14, believers are described as obedient children.

Here we are not babes, but “obedi-

ent children.” The Greek word in 1 Peter 1:14 means “As children of obedience.” This tells us that when we are born again the principle of obedience is placed within us. How does this obedience express itself? Peter tells us very clearly in 1 Peter 1:14, “Don’t let your character be molded by the desires “of your unregenerate life, but be holy in every department of your life.” This is your responsibility.

In 1 Peter 2:5, believers are described as “Lively stones”

Here undoubtedly Peter is thinking of the incident recorded in Matthew 16:13–20, in particular Verse 18. When we are born again we are made partakers of the Divine nature, the very life of God himself. What an immense privilege it is to be a stone in the building of God! For our responsibility, take a look at 1 Peter 2:5. We are not dead lifeless stones in the spiritual house of the Lord, but we are living stones in the spiritual house of the Lord, and our responsibility is to offer up spiritual sacrifices to God. We are a holy priesthood and we are to offer up spiritual sacrifices to God.

In 1 Peter 2:11, believers are described as “strangers and pilgrims”

In 1 Peter 2:11–12, Peter is saying that believers are like strangers and pilgrims. This is true because we are travelling as pilgrims and sometimes we are going through a strange land. We are only “temporary residents” here. As the old hymn writer once wrote, “We are strangers here, just passing through.” Our responsibility as temporary residents is to see that we do not become engulfed in the life of this world to the extent that we will not be fit to become

a citizen of the Heavenly permanent land. In other words, we must remember that we are just passing through, this world is not our permanent home.

In 1 Peter 2:16, believers are described as “servants of God.”

Here Peter says that as free men, for Christ has as given us liberty, but we are not to make our liberty an excuse for license. It is a great privilege to be God’s servant, but what a great responsibility rests upon us as servants of the Lord! We must be ready for anything at the disposal of the Master.

In 1 Peter 4:9–10, believers are described as “good stewards.”

We are to be hospitable to one another, without any wish that we might escape this responsibility. God has given each of His servants gifts for the upbuilding of His work on this earth. This gift is more than a talent, it is a gift of the Holy Spirit. These gifts are not to be used for selfish, worldly gain, but are to be used unselfishly for upbuilding of God’s work here on earth.

In 1 Peter 4:15–16, believers are described as “Christians.”

Just pause a moment and think what a tremendous privilege it is to be a Christian and to bear the name of Christ! But think also what a responsibility this is, a responsibility to be like Christ, and therefore to be loving, gracious, kind, considerate and humble. This should lead us to ask two questions as this study is concluded: (1) Are you a Christian, a true believer on our Lord Jesus Christ? (2) Are you like the Lord Jesus, and are you becoming more and more like Him from day to day?

THE REBUTTAL OF A CONCERNED CHRISTIAN

by the Rev. Chuck Owens

I recently read an article in the August, 1995 issue of *The Free Will Baptist*, entitled *The Call and Qualifications of Ministers*. As a minister, the article greatly disturbed me, but first and foremost it disturbed me as a Christian.

While there were some very good points made about the call to the ministry, there were also some points that I believe to be incorrect and that may lead to some misconceptions, therefore I feel that they must be addressed.

I agree that being called by God to minister the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the most important calling in the world. There is nothing more important than the issue of where one will spend eternity. I also agree that the minister is called by God to preach and that everyone who has received this call should feel a duty, a responsibility and a compulsion to serve God. Finally, I agree that when God calls a man to the ministry he expects him to prepare himself for the ministry, however to imply that the minister must have at least a four-year degree is not Scriptural. Nowhere in the Bible does God make such a statement. Amos was a herdsman and a fine prophet. Peter was a fisherman, Paul was a tent-maker and they both became some of God's best preachers. Abraham Lincoln, basically, was self-educated and was president during one of the most trying times in our history, and although Albert Einstein was a genius, he was only an average student in school. He taught himself analytical geometry and calculus and in 1921 received the Nobel Prize for Physics.

Yes, teachers have four year degrees, lawyers have seven years, and physicians have at least eight, but all this education does not necessarily make good teachers, good lawyers, or good doctors. It's the effort that these people put into their trade and how well they use what they have learned that make them good at their trade, and not necessarily just the amount of education that they have. Their education should be an on-going process, just as it should be for a minister.

For the man of God, no amount of formal education can be a substitute for the study of the Word of God. 2 Timothy 2:15 tells us, *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.* The only way to learn the Word of God is to study it. The Bible should be the center of the minister's education. Science, at some point, nearly always teaches the empty myth called "The Theory of Evolution." In general history, the facts are nearly always distorted in some form or fashion. Finally, let's face the facts . . . how in the world is Algebra going to help a minister win some lost soul to the Lord?

We must *emphasize* the fact that the minister is called by God, not by man and God has not given man the authority to put stipulations or limitations on that call. Remember, it's

God's call to man to preach, not man's call to man to preach.

I believe in some of our conferences, the educational requirements for ordination of a minister are already out of hand and, therefore, out of God's will. Yes, education is important, but it should be biblical education (study of God's Word). Ordination exams should deal with the Bible, the history of the church, and our Articles of Faith and Discipline and nothing else, PERIOD!!

Another point I would like to make is that the article, by using the phrase he/she, seems to imply that God calls women to preach. It is not my intention to hurt anyone's feelings, but to put it bluntly, this is not Scriptural. I refer to 1 Timothy 3:1-2, *This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife . . .* That in itself excludes ladies but notice also 1 Timothy 2:11-12, *Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.* This Scripture in Chapter 2 is dealing with the conduct of public worship. If the woman is to be silent, how then can she possibly be called to preach?

Another misleading statement made in the article, which is most disturbing and I quote, "Even our study of theology and Bible interpretation should be broad in scope. We should never limit ourselves to one school of thought. We should study theology from the fundamentalist to the liberal point of view; only then can we honestly settle on a point of view of our own." To say that God's preachers should be broad in scope when it comes to the interpretation of the Bible is not only a dangerous way of thinking, but it is also bad advice to give a young minister whom the devil is waiting to lead astray in the first place.

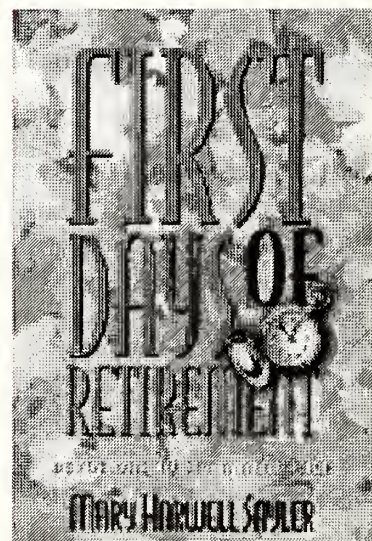
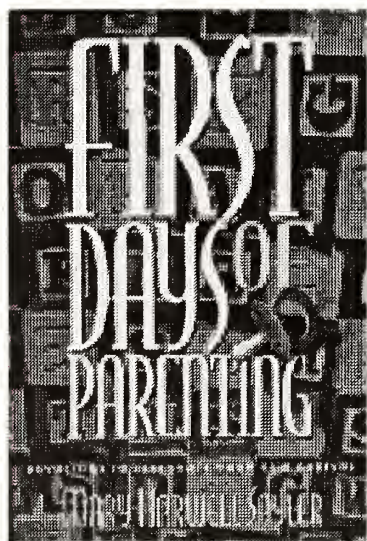
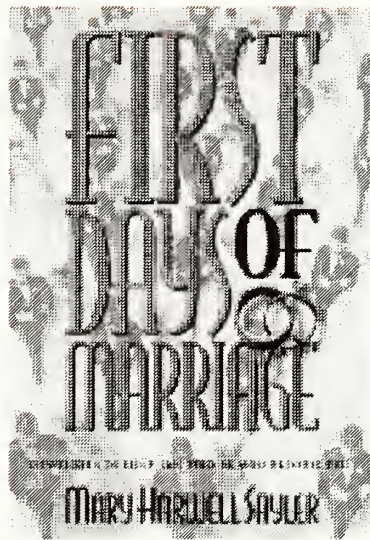
Again I quote, "We believe these are the Old and New Testaments, that they were written by Holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed Word to man. We believe that they are a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service." This quote is found in Article 8 on page 43 of the *Doctrine of the Holy Scriptures of the Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists* (Of the English General Baptist Heritage). The verse of Scripture that goes along with this article is found in 2 Timothy 3:16, *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.* I believe in the infallibility of the Word of God. God said what He meant and meant what He said. That is not broad in scope; it's point of fact and is the only school of thought a God-called minister should entertain, therefore there is no reason for us to open our minds to any others.

Finally, someone once said, "The human mind was intended to be a storehouse, not a wastebasket." Proverbs 19:20-21, 27 says, *Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end. There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand. Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge. We need to be teaching thus saith the Lord in these last days. Cease, my son to hear the instruction that causeth to err.* Quit listening to liberalism, it causeth to err. Liberalism is a tool of the devil that teaches that abortion and homosexuality, among other things, are okay. If we allow it to creep into our minds anymore than it already has in our day-to-day lives we are

asking for trouble and it must be kept out of our churches at all cost.

I believe the reason more young men are not accepting the call to the Gospel ministry is, quite possibly, because of overbearing restraints. The great apostle Paul only prepared for three years (see Galatians 1). He said he was an apostle not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father. Young men must be allowed to step out on faith and be led of God. They should be encouraged, not discouraged. I believe the call and qualifications of ministers should be based on the precepts and facts of God found in the third chapter of 1 Timothy and for men to try and base it on anything else would seem to me to be second-guessing God and I believe that could be very dangerous.

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Denominational Ministries

News From Foreign Missions

A NEW BELIEF



To change your life into another belief takes time, a lot of thoughts. It makes a person tired. First of all I had to discover the values of the new belief and their connections to my old belief. Why shall I choose for something new? Is it closer to my heart? The discovery that many traditions kill the positive emotions or feelings did help me to understand my personal love to God. In the Moslem world you can only pray to God when you are washed and shaved completely, when you have not any contact with a man or a woman; not even a kiss or a touch.

I am happy with the young Moslem believers, because they have the strength to argue with their parents, brothers, sisters and friends about the differences between faith and religions.

For many old people this is absolute impossible. It is their lack of self-confidence, insecurity and they have more fear for their relationship with family and friends than for Allah. I have experienced that in myself and I assure you that I was a convinced genuine, strict practicing Musselman believer.

First I started to think: "From where do I come and to where do I go? I cannot refuse God to be in my life. I believe in God because I am human. Life is the important gift of God to me. God

searches for me as long as I live, all the time."

God calls me and He speaks to me: "I am the One who can make you happy, I am the One who changes your life to be better in this world."

Even if the problems are many we shall not turn our back to them, but we must search for God to solve them or to live with the problems. When He takes me in His protective hands I cannot fall. Before, I had the personal experience: "If I am under the law somebody who is powerful protects me and cares for me." This is partly true. But in such belief is the law more important than the person who believes in the law and the traditions. In this way I am saved by a law system not by the love of God. This discovery made me do the first important step. I cried out to the living God to give me understanding and wisdom. And when I took this step I became free, I was liberated from fear. It was now God and me. To be honest, I was very surprised to be free. Many people think that they cannot live without the laws and they believe that the obedience to the laws bring them closer to God. But they have no freedom, they miss the personal contact with God, because the fear for the laws remains between them and God. The tradition is the "holy one" to them.

Therefore, they cannot understand that they can live without their laws and traditions. They need them.

Freedom is the special gift from God to all people. We are made free by God himself and He is no liar. The truth is that we are slaves by nature. We are chained and there are many chains which try to hold us in slavery. In Jesus Christ we receive the most beautiful privilege. We are allowed to show ourselves as free human beings. This

changes our lives, all fear is gone, we can speak freely, enjoy freely and even suffer in freedom.

It is difficult to refuse the belief you grew up with, because that has been the only true religion all your life. You have accepted that there is a difference in your faith and the religion of your family and friends. Your religious pride of possessing the only true faith and traditions is gone and made place for the acceptance of the love of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ called me with His words and with the way He lived; with His life. I learned to know about Him by hearing and reading the Bible. I learned to understand Him through the prophecies of the Old Testament and the proclamation of the New Testament. When I took my first steps I was feeling that the Scriptures were leading me into the right way of Faith. In this Faith is the most honest purification possible as a free gift from God. Many of my people cannot read and write. Many have certain Moslem traditions and are actual atheists. Many are blinded and live by a mixture of political ideas and their Moslem traditions even with the knowledge that Allah exists, but they live without the living God. Please pray for them. The Turkish Moslem believers have a religion of many laws and rules to lead towards Allah, but they have no Father like I have received.

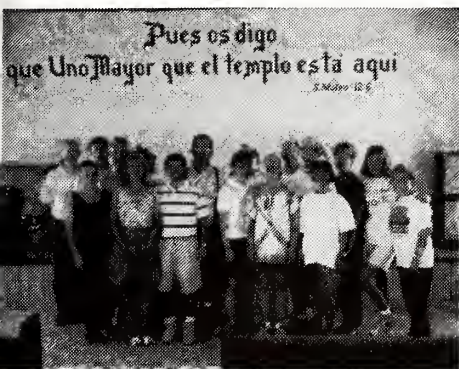
The Gypsies are like orphans and believe in occultism and at the same time they are the religious Moslem outcasts. Many of them search for security after decades of Communist Oppression and the present capitalistic insecurity. Nobody respects them, nobody trust them; they are Gypsies. Thanks to our Father, God searches for them and He LOVES them.

Pray for us as we pray for you. The

love of God exceeds everything. Our hearts are asking for the living, loving God and we want to find Him and to live for Him. We are in His hands and we cannot fall if we remain in His promising Word.

SHORT TERM TEAM—MEXICO

by Harold Jones



The Short Term Team ministry in Mexico was a great success. The team served the Mexican people in various ways. Over thirty patients were seen in the medical clinic each day. Vacation Bible School was held in three different churches. Work crews stayed busy at three churches, painting, spraying a ceiling and cleaning. Tracts were distributed, Gospel witnesses were given and souls were saved. We attended services in a different church each night and thoroughly enjoyed the "Mexican style" of worship.

This team ministry was a life changing experience. We made friends that will last throughout our lifetime. Thank you for your faithful prayers for the time we traveled and ministered in Mexico. More details about the team will be shared in the next COMMAND. Along with information about how you can become a member of a future short term team.

NEWS LETTER FROM INDIA, NEPAL AND BANGLADESH

by Dr. E. M. Lall

Once a message was given to a woman that her husband had died while in action during World War II. While she was in mourning, her husband's friend returned to his own country and

went to meet the widow of his friend. On seeing him she asked, "What were my husband's last words? I would like to cherish and follow them."

The last words of our Master as He ascended "Go Ye into all the World and preach the Gospel." Gospel is the good news that Jesus loves everyone, irrespective of caste, creed, community and nationality.

The Free Will Baptist Church in this part of the World is fast responding. Though there are sufferings but attaining glory for those involved in His service. Fiery trials are not a strange thing in Christian witness as it is traditional that our Lord had suffered in this world. The churches secure tremendous blessings by delighting in His Word, and obeying its precepts.

1) A good congregation of our church has been constituted on July 14, 1995 at Rudrapur, District Nainital U.P. It is a most prosperous town so far as agriculture is concerned. A grand meeting was held at an expense of about Rs. 6,000/—owned by those people, for hiring a building and inviting other communities also for hearing the Word of God. I preached from Isaiah Chapter 45 that there is one God and none else who is the Creator of the entire universe. One Hindu professor who is a Ph.D. in Mathematics in the Agricultural University of Pantnagar, the largest in Asia, confessed that the One who created Heaven and earth and the entire living beings is God alone who should be worshipped. Another person of the same University gave his testimony that since he has accepted the Lord Jesus Christ, he feels completely changed. It was a unique experience as we felt that the Spirit of the Lord was moving in the worship hall. The pastor of this congregation is a recent convert but well up in knowledge and experience.

2) Quite often than not our ministers keep on meeting together for the evaluation of work and future strategy. We work with closer cooperation and help with each other in the time of need.

3) We are so happy to find an opportunity to send four of our young deacons in the Bible School at Delhi with the help of local congregations. One person fell sick in Delhi and was sent back while three are still continuing their training. I met them personally when I visited Delhi in August. They were very happy and needed some financial help as the place is pretty costly where one copy book for notes is available at Rs. 10/-. I gave them Rs. 200/- each.

4) The Lord blessed us to constitute our church organization at Palwal in the state of Haryana adjoining the state of Punjab closer to Delhi about 77 kilometers. Now we have started an English Medium School there as an effective stepping stone of our ministry from July, 1995. This church has a huge building given to us for church and school. We have met a dedicated man who was ordained as pastor of our church. This congregation is excited to see the Rev. Harold Jones, our Director Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions on his ensuing visit in November prior to his departure to the country of Bangladesh.

5) Another minister in the name of Sunil C. Lal (not related to me) holding Masters of Commerce was ordained and made in charge of Tondalpur church and the new school recently started there. Sunil was working with us as our school supervisor and has given himself for the service of the Lord.

6) The Rev. Isa Charan who is working with us for the last eighteen years as deacon and minister was consecrated in his robe. He is also in charge of three junior high schools. Our church is pioneering in Baptisms to the new converts, thus saving the lost souls for eternity which is the theme of our Mission.

7) As a mission we plant churches, multiply congregations and feel concerned for the poor. We feel indebted to our Saviour for using us to carry the Great Commission with the coordination of our Board of Foreign Missions

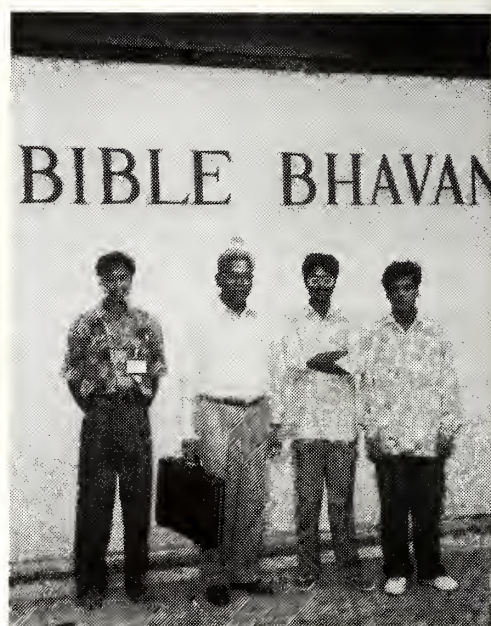
which is equally the shareholder in this hazardous task to hasten the return of the Lord Jesus Christ in our times.

All the four schools at Dhangarhi, Kanchanpur, Phulwadi and Bhimbasti in Nepal are in progress and have had good enrollment at the reopening on August 8, 1995. Our Dhangarhi School has been duly recognized by the State Government of Nepal up to 3rd standard.

The church is also flourishing and the number is increasing. However, I still feel that constant guidance from our Pastor is inevitable which is possible from nearness. The location of our work in Nepal is beyond substantial reach from Bareilly. We expect great achievement if we are able to provide due guidance and stay closer to the Nepalis.

From the letters received from

Chandpur in Bangladesh it is evident that the visit of our Director Treasurer, the Rev. Harold Jones, on November 13-17, 1995 is being viewed with anxiety and concern! We are excited about our church being in the most natural and beautiful country of Bay and Sea. Bangladesh has a most beautiful and the largest beach of the world. "While in his vineyard we covet prayers for our spiritual upliftment."



LIMITED

1995
Fall
LIMITED
EDITION



Are you looking for a way to visit the mountains this fall, but don't want the hassle of driving or planning your trip? We have the solution! Sign up for **Fall Limited Edition '95!** The trip includes two days traveling to and

from Cragmont, three nights lodging at Cragmont, six meals, two days of activities and transportation. All this for a package price of **\$200 per person.**

Fall Limited begins, **Monday, October 16, 1995.** Transportation to Cragmont is provided by motor coach, with stops in several eastern North Carolina towns. *Pisgah View Ranch* is on the menu with a family style dinner and entertainment (if available) the night you arrive at Cragmont. The next day, we will travel to Pigeon Forge, TN, for lunch at the *Apple Barn* and fun at *Dollywood* offers more than ever, including seven new acres called "Jukebox Junction"—bringing back the era of the 50's. *The National Crafts Festival* with music, crafts, food and fun will also be celebrating there. The next day we will travel to the beautiful *Grove Park Inn*, a national treasure located on the edge of Asheville, NC. After dining and touring there, we will visit with history at the *Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace*. This pioneer farmstead, tucked in the Reems Creek Valley, was home to a Civil War officer, U.S. Senator and governor. **Thursday, October 19, 1995,** after a hearty breakfast and a short devotion in the chapel, the bus will load up and leave for eastern North Carolina.

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 a **\$75 non-refundable*** per person deposit. The balance of **\$125 per person** will be due **September 25, 1995.**

*Deposits will be returned if *Cragmont* cancels the tour.

Christmas Limited '95 is a great escape before the hectic Christmas season gets in full swing! Christmas Limited offers two packages with both including transportation to and from eastern North Carolina, lodging at Cragmont for three nights, six meals, two days of activities and transportation. At \$225 per person, **Option 1** will include a Biltmore House Candlelight Tour. **Option 2** does not include the Biltmore House and is only \$200.

The tour begins **Thursday, November 30, 1995.** Transportation to Cragmont is provided by motor coach, with stops in several eastern North Carolina towns. Those who choose **Option 1** will leave following supper on Thursday (while everyone else can rest by the fireplace in the chapel!). The next day we will travel north of Cragmont to the Linville Caverns. The caverns are a marvel of nature that stay around the same temperature all year! Our tour will then bring us to Valle Crucis, NC where we will visit the historic Mast General Store, in business since 1883, along with several other shops nearby. Afterward we will eat at the Daniel Boone Inn, in Boone, NC. On Saturday, we will go to Pigeon Forge, TN, for a fun filled time at the Music Mansion Theater. Here you will get to enjoy two shows in one, the most memorable moments from their regular season show and a magical holiday journey with sounds of the season. Lunch will be provided.

On **Sunday, December 3, 1995,** Christmas Limited will end with breakfast and a Sunday morning worship service. You will leave shortly after to return to eastern North Carolina.

Reservations for either package will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. If you wish to register for **Option 1**, you must send your \$100 per person deposit (\$75 tour deposit + \$25 Biltmore House deposit) with your completed registration form **before September 25, 1995.** If you're registering for **Option 2**, you are not restricted to this deadline, but you must still pay a \$75 per person deposit

with your registration form. The remaining \$125 for either package is due **November 6, 1995.** Please remember these deposits are non-refundable*

Come join us this Christmas Season!

*Money will be refunded if Cragmont cancels the tour. **No** money can be refunded after November 6, 1995.

PLEASE SELECT THE TOUR(S) YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:

- Fall Limited Edition enclosed is my \$75/person deposit
- Christmas Limited Edition enclosed is my \$75/person deposit
- (Option 1 only) and my \$25/person Biltmore deposit

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (night) _____ Roommate Preference (if any) _____

Do you have a health condition that we need to be aware of? _____

Please indicate which bus stop you prefer: _____

Clip this form and return it with your deposit to:
Limited Editions, Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711

Home Missions and Evangelism

“All 4 Him”—Serve in Florida

On June 26, “All 4 Him” left North Carolina to travel to St. Cloud, Florida to be missionaries with Touching Lives Corps of Home Missions and Evangelism. We arrived in Florida the following day and went to Universal Studios. On Wednesday, June 28, we were supposed to hand out flyers at local shopping centers promoting the Youth Celebration Camp being held at the

St. Cloud Free Will Baptist Missions, but we quickly learned that in mission work you take things as they come. The original plans were scratched and we did a program for the youth of the First Baptist Church of St. Cloud.

The following day we did get to some shopping centers, and spent the morning handing out the flyers in four different centers. That afternoon we went door to door inviting people to attend the mission/church and the Youth Celebration Camp. We encountered people who were interested and those who were not. Whenever we were rejected we learned to just shake it off, put a smile on our face and go on to the next house.

Karen Powell and Josh Whitfield had to sing “Amazing Grace” at one house, the man there told them he would only go if he could hear a little of what he would be going for. Wilma Parker, Mickey Hill and Marci Rollins visited a catholic home and a Mormon home while Mormon missionaries were there. Garrett Southerland, Sarah Crumpler and Christie Hill visited a house where a man told them he was terrified of big groups of strange people.

Friday morning after our usual devotions at the mission, we climbed into the van, but it would not start. Fortunately, David C. Hansley, Michelle Bartlett, Tina Wetherington and Aubrey Williamson all had vehicles and so “All 4 Him” split-up and went to the shopping centers once more.

At 6 p.m., the first night of Youth Celebration Camp began and several members of “All 4 Him” helped in various



Planning Session for “All 4 Him”

ways to make it a good beginning.

Saturday morning we met at the church and went door to door once more. Most of the people did not answer the door and we think it was because someone in a nearby neighborhood had been robbed the day before when they opened the door. Also, “All 4 Him” visited a Mr. Pike, who is originally from North Carolina, that day. Executive Director

Hansley had met Mr. Pike, prior to the “Mission Trip,” while He had been visiting in North Carolina. You can only imagine the expression on Mr. Pike’s face when he opened his front door and saw fourteen people standing there, all dressed alike!

Sunday morning we had church. The Rev. Aubrey Williamson preached the sermon and the Hill family (Maurice, Rebecca, Mickey and Christie sang. That night and Monday night Youth Celebration Camp continued.

Tuesday morning we packed and checked out of the Villas. We then performed at the 4th of July celebration being held at a lakefront park. After lunch we went to the church and prepared for the commencement program. The people that attend the church cooked hot dogs for everyone and after supper “All 4 Him” performed and we headed back home to North Carolina about 10 p.m.

During our stay in Florida we met two teenagers, Nicole Sherbondy and John Falcone who returned to North Carolina with us, as it had been arranged for them to go to Cragmont the following week. Both of them stayed with Wilma Parker until time for “camp.” The seeds planted in Florida took root during the week at Cragmont and both Nicole and John accepted Jesus as their Saviour. Hopefully, through letters and phone calls, “All 4 Him” can continue to help those two grow in Christ.

This mission trip was an experience we will never forget. It changed us by letting us see how we can help others who

need Christ in their lives. We can continue to help by praying for the mission/church in St. Cloud. It is a small church with an average attendance of twenty, but they are going to follow-up the work we did while we were there. They have

the names, addresses and phone numbers of most of the people we visited.

—Marci Rollins (First FWB Church, Goldsboro, NC)

Members of "All 4 Him"— Go for Him

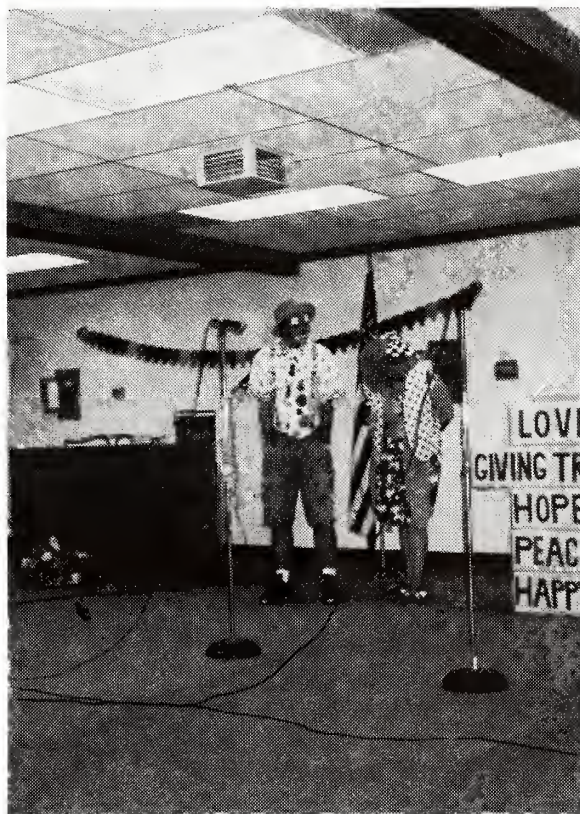
Recently, seven members of Westside climbed into the Home Missions van and, along with seven other members of "All 4 Him," headed to St. Cloud, Florida. Our purpose was to let the community know of the First Free Will Baptist Mission/Church. This was accomplished by visiting four area shopping centers and surrounding neighborhoods to give out information on the church and to invite people to come to the Bible School being held that weekend.

Overall, we were met with acceptance of indifference. There was some hostility shown from a few people, which was an eye-opening experience for some of the group. We took an active part in the Bible School and Sunday services as well as performing at a Baptist church in St. Cloud and the July 4th celebration at the lakeside park.

We saw God's hand and timing at work in several incidents—too numerous to mention here, but ask us about it! We even brought two kids home to experience Cragmont! The seeds have been planted for growth, but First FWB Mission/



"All 4 Him" performing at 4th of July celebration in St. Cloud, Florida



Garrett Southerland and Sarah Crumpler

Church is in need of our prayers. Please pray for growth and healing of this mission/church. The area is growing with absolutely tremendous speed! These fields "are ripe for harvest." It is up to us to see that God does the reaping.

We were told that we wouldn't come back the same. That's very true. Those nine days have made their mark on our lives in ways we've yet to see.

A heartfelt thanks to our Westside family for providing the financial way for us to go and for their supportive prayers during the trip. As the Rev. David C. Hansley, Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism, said recently, "You can be proud to know you played a part in the growth of this church." God's blessings on each of you.

—Rebecca Hill (Westside FWB Church, Kinston, NC)





October

SUN	MON	TUE	
1	<p>2</p> <p>○ MOC Dinners Jones County Pilgrim's Home OFWB Church 7:00 pm</p>	3	4
8	<p>9</p> <p>○ MOC Dinner Greene County Middle School 7:00 pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>○ MOC Dinner Edgecombe County Peace OFWB Church 7:00 pm</p>	11
15	16	17	18
22	<p>23</p> <p>Minister Luncheon Ryan's, Greenville 11:00 am</p>	<p>24</p> <p>○ MOC Dinner Wayne County Lois K. Murphy Regional Center Mount Olive College</p>	25
29	<p>30</p> <p>☼ Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Study Course, Yelverton Grove 7:30 pm</p> <p>○ MOC Dinner Onslow-Brunswick Counties Dixon High School, 7:00 pm</p>	31	

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRE

E N D

...s/following month
... month

- Mount Olive College
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Vandemere
- * Woman's Auxiliary

	THU	FRI	SAT
Auxiliary Oil Chapel	5	6	7 * Woman's Auxiliary Pee Dee, Cypress Creek ○ MOC Dinner Lenoir County, Kinston High 7:00 pm
Conference St. Paul 9:30 am			
Auxiliary on Union	12	13	14 ○ MOC Dinner Beaufort County Beaufort Community College 7:00 pm
	19	20	21
	26 ○ MOC Dinner Nash County Whitley Center FWB Children's Home 7:00 pm	27	28 ★ Cape Fear Conference Lanwood Chapel, 10:00 am * Eastern District Study Course 1st Church, Kinston, 9:30 am ○ MOC Dinner Pamlico County, Camp Vandemere 6:00 pm
	3	3	3

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR

Mount Olive College News

DINNER PROGRAMS SCHEDULED IN ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

Dinners hosted by Original Free Will Baptist churches across eastern North Carolina in support of Mount Olive College have been scheduled, according to Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Director of Church Support for Mount Olive College.

A slate of 17 county-wide events is held annually for Original Free Will Baptist churches in support of the college. Unrestricted gifts received through these dinners help to expand the college's academic program and provide scholarships to students. The churches' gift support goal for 1995 is \$334,275.

"Because of the faithful support of Original Free Will Baptists, the 1994 Mount Olive College county dinners were the most successful in the history of the program," said Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Director of Church Support at Mount Olive College. Gifts received through the program last year totaled more than \$319,800. "The College deeply appreciates the financial and prayer support it receives from Original Free Will Baptist churches and their communities."

Support from Original Free Will Baptists through the dinner program has reached nearly \$4.8 million since the program began in 1963. Generous gifts have helped the college in developing its 123-acre campus, in its transition to a four-year college, and in providing scholarship support to students. Pastors, local chairpersons and volunteers coordinate the local dinners.

The schedule of dinners for the 1995 season includes the following:

JONES COUNTY: Monday, October 2, at 7 p.m., Pilgrim's Home Original Free Will Baptist Church in

Dover. Chaired by Mildred Jenkins. Goal: \$4,500.

LENOIR COUNTY: Saturday, October 7, at 7 p.m., Kinston High School in Kinston. Chaired by Jeff Daughtry. Goal: \$18,500.

GREENE COUNTY: Monday, October 9, at 7 p.m., Greene County Middle School near Snow Hill. Chaired by Lena Walston and Randy Beaman. Goal: \$22,350.

EDGECOMBE COUNTY: Tuesday, October 10, at 7 p.m., Peace Original Free Will Baptist Church near Pinetops. Chaired by Luther Bissette. Goal: \$6,200.

BEAUFORT COUNTY: Saturday, October 14, at 7 p.m., Beaufort County Community College in Washington. Chaired by Billy Gurkin. Goal: \$11,325.

WAYNE COUNTY: Tuesday, October 24, at 7 p.m., Lois K. Murphy Regional Center at Mount Olive College. Chaired by Tempie Jones and Christine Jones. Goal: \$53,000.

NASH COUNTY: Thursday, October 26, at 7 p.m., Whitley Center at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex. Chaired by John R. Manning. Goal: \$9,175.

PAMLICO COUNTY: Saturday, October 28, at 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere in Vandemere. Chaired by Angela Prescott. Goal: \$8,300.

ONSLow-BRUNSWICK COUNTIES: Monday, October 30, at 7 p.m., Dixon High School in Dixon. Chaired by Ronnie Parker. Goal: \$4,125.

CrAVEN COUNTY: Thursday, November 2, at 7 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern. Chaired by Roy Wetherington. Goal: \$18,275.

DuPLIN COUNTY: Saturday, November 4, at 6 p.m., East Duplin High School near Beulaville. Chaired by Tommy Benson. Goal: \$12,175.

JOHNSTON-WAKE COUNTIES:

Monday, November 6, at 7 p.m., Spiritual Life Building at Everett Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton. Chaired by V.T. Craddock and LaVern Carter. Goal: \$44,475.

WASHINGTON, MARTIN, TYRRELL and PASQUOTANK COUNTIES: Thursday, November 9, at 7:30 p.m., Union Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church Fellowship Hall near Plymouth. Chaired by David Cahoon. Goal: \$9,825.

CARTERET COUNTY: Saturday, November 11, at 6 p.m., West Carteret High School in Morehead City. Chaired by Sheri S. Noonan and Edgar Pake Jr. Goal: \$15,650.

WILSON COUNTY: Monday, November 13, at 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School near Wilson. Chaired by James B. Hunt and Betty Batts. Goal: \$38,700.

PITT COUNTY: Tuesday, November 14, at 7 p.m., J.H. Rose High School in Greenville. Chaired by Jane T. Tripp. Goal: \$29,800.

SAMPSON, HARNETT and CUMBERLAND COUNTIES: Thursday, November 16, at 7 p.m., Clinton-Sampson Agri-Civic Center in Clinton. Chaired by Lee Morton Jernigan. Goal: \$27,900.

Mount Olive College is a private, four-year liberal arts institution dedicated to the total development of its student in an environment nurtured by Christian values.

**JULIE WETHERINGTON
ASSISTS IN
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
CHURCH DINNER SEASON**
by Heather Fowler, Mount Olive
College Office of Public
Information Volunteer

Beneath the shy exterior of the student in denim shorts and blue shirt is a very talented young lady with a

genuine love for God, His people, and Mount Olive College. It is because of her talents and dedication to the Lord that Julie Wetherington has been asked to accompany Jean Ackiss, Director of Church Support, through the 1995 dinner season to serve as a student hostess. Julie will be available to talk, distribute literature, and will be the coordinator for a group of fellow MOC students to provide a musical program for three of the dinners. As a student coordinator, she will have the opportunity to develop the leadership and musical talents she already has. In addition to helping Mrs. Ackiss with the college dinners, Julie will assist with the Bridge Builders Dinner on September 30.

“I am looking forward to working with Mrs. Ackiss and meeting new people at the College Dinners. This is just another example of the opportunities I have been offered by Mount Olive College.”

Jean Ackiss is excited about working with Julie as well.

“The true mission of Mount Olive College is helping people develop to their full potential. We do this through what we call ‘Christian higher education’,” Mrs. Ackiss said. “Through her work with the dinner program this year, I want to give Julie the opportunity to develop some of the abilities God has given to her. I believe she has qualities that, when developed, will allow her to be of greater service to God and to people.”

The daughter of Roy and Betty Wetherington of New Bern, Julie gives her parents many reasons to be proud of her. A member of Gethsemane Original Free Will Baptist Church and a sophomore at Mount Olive College double majoring in accounting and music, Julie is an active member of Phi Beta Lambda and the Fellowship of Christian Students, for which she serves as vice-president.

Currently, she plays the piano for

the Mount Olive College Choir and traveled with the Choir last year to perform at the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C.

When asked why she chose Mount Olive College, Julie responded, “The people are down-to-earth and they genuinely wanted me here.” Although she was uneasy about leaving home, Julie has made a new family and many close friends in the past year.

“Mount Olive College has given me many opportunities and experiences that I do not feel could have been offered by my community college at home. For example, singing for the President of the United States and Billy Graham was awesome – especially Billy Graham. He has spent his whole life serving God and impacting lives, which is what I hope to do. I just want to make a difference in someone else’s life — not for recognition, but just to make a better life.”

In her time that is not spent studying, Julie enjoys reading and cross-stitching. She collects stuffed animals, Christmas mice in particular, and loves music of any kind. Julie also loves meeting new people because “you learn something new about yourself you never realized.” Julie’s enthusiasm for Mount Olive College, her ability to listen well and her concern in helping solve problems have caused her friends to affectionately call her “Mrs. Riley Jr,” in reference to Admissions Director Dianne B. Riley.

Uplifting others is what Julie feels is her personal ministry. By acting as a student hostess for many of the College dinners, she will be available to tell others about how Mount Olive College can bring out the best in students, as it is helping her to do. “If I could tell young people one thing, I would tell them not to be concerned with what other people think. You are ultimately answering to One and His opinion counts the most.”

Julie is looking forward to meeting many new people at the College dinners and encourages everyone to attend their area’s dinner. Her mentor agrees.

“I also see that the dinner program is a time when Free Will Baptists have the opportunity to share in the development of our students,” Mrs. Ackiss said. “When a person or a church gives to this work, they are investing in the lives of our students.”



Pictured are Julie Wetherington, left, with Jean Ackiss. (Photo by Cecil Cahoon)

**“A SHARPER FOCUS:
DEFINING MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE” DELIVERED
BY PRESIDENT
J. WILLIAM BYRD
AT FALL CONVOCATION,
AUGUST 29, 1995**

I have been challenged to think a lot in recent months about what Mount Olive College is, what we’re trying to accomplish and how we explain who we are. How well do we understand that ourselves? And how well are we able to explain that to others?

Institutions of higher education are looking to define a place for themselves, to establish a niche in the overall hierarchy of the education community in this state, in this region, and in the nation. What we are doing is not different than what other entities are doing; we may call it by different names. In the business world, they talk a lot about marketshare, for example.

We're talking about a place for ourselves in a particular market because we are a service organization. We must define well what kind of services we provide, and be certain that we are providing a service that someone needs. Many times we can wrap ourselves in our blankets of self-righteousness and decide what we will do, then hope there is someone out there who wants us to do that particular thing for them. But I think we have arrived, in society, at a time when that attitude no longer carries the day. We have to be mindful of what people need as we think about what we will provide.

Since you first learned about Mount Olive College, you have heard a lot about who we are. We have printed in all of our literature that we are a four-year, liberal arts institution. We have said we are interested in the total development of our students, in an atmosphere that is nurtured by Christian values. Our mission statement talks about being engaged in Christian higher education.

In recent years, we have published a list of the seven commitments we make to all students who come here. They include (1) academic quality, (2) a student focus, (3) a commitment to career preparation, (4) a global perspective, (5) financial affordability, (6) Christian values, and (7) a wholesome, safe environment. You see that Christian values are a part of this list of commitments, as well as it is in our mission statement. It is a significant part of what we are about as an institution.

If you are reading literature printed by the College in recent months, you will see another list of words that we want people to identify with us: "Higher Learning, Higher Standards, Higher Values. Mount Olive College." We offer these as a manifestation of who we are and what we are about.

Those three concepts form a tripod, a foundation upon which we will

build our educational program: higher learning, higher standards and higher values. But I would ask: How does a college accomplish these ends?

I have visited many Free Will Baptist churches since I've been in this office: 20 churches in seven months. I have taken the privilege of talking about the College and about what I think it means to be providing Christian higher education. I think it's important to the people within the Free Will Baptist Church, who provide so much support to us and indeed brought us into existence, that we should be able to explain clearly what the College is about, so we can think together about what we're trying to accomplish.

There's a book called *The Idea of a Christian College*, by Arthur F. Holmes, which talks about these concepts, also. Holmes presents the business of Christian higher education as being an integrated approach to education. Let's consider what he might mean by "an integrated approach."

Does it mean that Christian higher education or, Christian higher learning, is exclusively involved in the preparation of church professionals? The answer is no; it doesn't mean that we're only involved in preparing church professionals for their work. Although, indeed, we have two baccalaureate programs that allow a college student who has answered the calling to full-time church service to pursue preparation for that work.

You might ask, then, does it mean that we are primarily involved in teaching biblical literature? Does it mean that our primary focus is educating people about the teachings of the Bible and the implications of those teachings? The answer is again, I think, no. That is one of our responsibilities. In fact, all of the students who come here to study are required to include in their academic program two courses in religious studies: one in Old Testament and one in New

Testament. We are here to teach Old and New Testament, but that is not primarily or exclusively why we are here.

Then what does it mean to be a college that provides Christian higher education? Does it mean to be committed to the total development of every student who comes here today – the intellectual, spiritual, emotional and physical development? Does it mean that we will take a comprehensive approach to teaching the full breadth of knowledge, art and literature that forms the fabric of our heritage, and the foundation on which we build our individual and collective lives? Does it mean a dedication to nurturing in each one a mastery of creative enterprises and skillful problem solving?

I think we're getting to what it means to be involved in liberal higher education. We are interested in the total development of our students. We are interested in passing on to each generation the heritage that is ours, so that each generation can appreciate it, add to it and pass it on to the generations to follow. We want to help each person who comes here to be skilled in creative enterprises and to be well-grounded in the art of problem-solving. That's part of what it means to be engaged in higher education.

So if we look back on all the questions that I've asked this morning, we see that what Holmes has said is that we should take an integrated approach to education, not a "conjunctive" approach. A conjunctive approach is to take this concept, and that concept, and this, and that, or this, or that – stringing a lot of isolated concepts together in a conjunctive collection. Taking an integrated approach means to take all the things we've talked about and put them together in an educational environment – where people can mature to become the best that they can be. That's what education is all about.

But you may ask: What does that have to do with Christian education?

What I've said to you is probably what any college president in this country could say to an audience of this sort. But Mount Olive College is about Christian higher education. What is Christian about an integrated approach to higher education?

In order to get to that answer, let's look at a passage of Scripture from 1 Timothy, Chapter 4. The Apostle Paul is writing about the futility of limiting humankind's access to part of God's creation. In this particular passage, he is speaking out against the arbitrary dietary restrictions being imposed by the ruling hierarchy of that time. In Verse 4, we read, "For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused if it be received with thanksgiving."

This was Paul's way of saying, "Don't selectively decide what parts of God's creation you're going to accept as being good, because ALL of God's creation is good." He is saying that we should not dismiss any part of His creation arbitrarily.

Part of that creation is Truth, wherever it is found, and all Truth is to be embraced and folded into the living of our lives – rightly discerning its value as a guide to follow and a code to recommend.

We see, within this embracing of all truth, that the liberal education of our people becomes a mandate, necessary to the caring that we are to show for each other. This idea can be developed a bit further by noting with the Psalmist in Psalm 8:6. The writer charges humankind with the words, "Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands, thou hast put all things under his feet." So the responsibility of stewardship – over all creation – is thrust upon us.

The highest act of creation, in my view, is surely the creation of humankind. Thus, we receive the injunction to exercise oversight of the development of the greatest act of creation,

and the case for the liberal education of our people is established once again. The upshot of this is that the involvement of Christian people in the enterprise of educating is not just okay, it is uniquely Christian – and it is ordained by God as revealed in the Scriptures.

This is part of the idea contained in the words we've used lately to describe the College: Higher Learning, Higher Standards, Higher Values. Perhaps some of our colleagues in education might see these words and perceive this as some arrogant posturing by Mount Olive College. But that would be exactly the wrong thing. It has nothing to do with arrogance or posturing.

Instead, it means that anyone who labors in this environment has an obligation to reach for the very best that we can attain. It means we are motivated by the need and the will to reach for the highest standards in all that we do. And I submit to you, that's not arrogance. That is very humble, as a matter of fact. That's recognizing that whatever we are, we can be better; that whatever we are doing, we can improve upon it; and that we will always strive for higher standards in this particular college.

Finally, we talk about higher values. "Higher values" reflects a striv-

ing for greater achievement in personal behavior and expectation. It is not a statement of arrogance, a statement that we are somehow better than others. But it states that we are committed to the idea that we will always strive to achieve greater things in personal behavior and expectation. It is a commitment to rise above the ordinary and travel the high road, seeking the nobler levels of human endeavor and achievement. We can want no less than this for ourselves and for each other.

Let's tie this all together in considering what Mount Olive College is, who we are and how we intend to serve the people who choose to live and work and study here. "Higher Learning, Higher Standards, Higher Values." These words do not describe a condition – they describe a process. It is the process of educating ourselves and one another, the process of rising to greater expectations of ourselves, the process of being better, moral people. I think this defines what Christian higher education is about, and that it gives purpose to all we are doing at this college.

It is not rooted in piety. It is rooted in growth and achievement, because that is what God expects of us. And I like that.



President of Mount Olive College, J. William Byrd delivered the Fall Convocation address on August 29, 1995.

THE MONTIE NEWSOME AND FRANK THOMAS BARNES ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Mount Olive College

Mr. J. Ralph Barnes, well-known layman of Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, NC, has endowed a scholarship for ministers at Mount Olive College in memory of his parents, Montie Newsome Barnes (1887-1972) and Frank Thomas Barnes (1886-1959).



Montie Newsome Barnes



Frank Thomas Barnes

Mr. Barnes' father, a farmer and merchant, also attended Scott's School and served Little Rock Church as Sunday School teacher and trustee.

In establishing the scholarship, Mr. Barnes said he wanted to help perpetuate the Christian heritage of his parents and to assist ministers in preparing for effective service and leadership in

Recipients of the scholarship must be members of an Original Free Will Baptist Church and must also demonstrate evidence of good character, a commitment to the Christian ministry and to attaining an education, of being hard-working, self-reliant, self-motivated, diligent and have academic promise. Recipients must also enter into a written agreement with the College to participate in both prescribed academic studies and in a defined extra-curricula program, including internships and service projects as may be determined by the College.

Mr. Barnes, as were his parents, is a native of Wilson County. His mother attended Scott's School, Lucama High School and the Ayden Free Will Baptist Seminary (1911-12) and later taught at Scott's School. Active in both church and community affairs, Mrs. Barnes was a charter member of the Little Rock Woman's Auxiliary, formerly known as the Ladies Aid Society, and also a charter member of the Lucama Extension Club. She retained membership in both organizations until her death at age 85.

the work of Original Free Will Baptists.

First recipient of the Barnes Scholarship is Brian Davis, a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson. A 1995 graduate of Mount Olive with a major in Business Management, Davis returned to Mount Olive College this fall. This summer, while working as a counselor for the General Youth Conference at Cragmont, he answered God's call to the Christian ministry. He is now pursuing his studies toward a second major in Church Ministries.

In his letter of recommendation of Davis for the Barnes Scholarship, Dr. David Hines, Chair of the Department of Religion, wrote; "Brian has been actively involved in the church all his life. On campus, Brian distinguished himself as a student leader. He was a College Ambassador for two years, Vice President of his Senior Class, and captain of the 1995 Trojan baseball team. He has superior people skills and has accompanied me to several churches to represent the College. He has excellent potential for effective ministry."



**MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE**

HIGHER
LEARNING

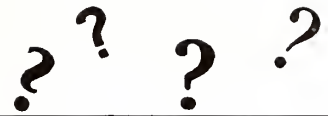
HIGHER
STANDARDS

HIGHER
VALUES

Coming Events at Mount Olive College — *Join Us!*

October

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>3 U.S. Army Field Band and Chorus: 7:30 p.m., College Hall. Tickets are free; call 919-658-2502.</p> <p>5 "The History of Art" Lecture by Larry Lean: 7:30 p.m., Rodgers Chapel. The lecture is free and open to the public.</p> <p>12 The Olive Branch Writers Series: 7 p.m., Rodgers Chapel. The event is free and open to the public.</p> <p>16 - 20 Fall Break for students</p> | <p>24 Wayne County Dinner for Original Free Will Baptist Churches: 7 p.m., Lois. K. Murphy Regional Center. Friends of the College are invited.</p> <p>24 New Bern Center Cohort #5 completes its Management and Organizational Development (MOD) program. To learn how to enroll in the MOD program in New Bern, call Frank Cizerle at 919-636-4464.</p> <p>30 Wilmington Center Cohort #3 begins its MOD program. To learn more about enrolling at the Wilmington Center, call Dr. Karen Jones at 919-256-0255.</p> |
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MINISTER AVAILABLE

H. P. Norman is available for supply and interim part-time and full-time pastoral work. He can be contacted at P.O. Box 723, Farmville, NC 27828, phone, (919) 753-3385.

MINISTERS LUNCHEON

A Minister's Luncheon sponsored by the Central Conference and is open to all ministers on October 23, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Ryan's Steak House, Greenville, NC. The speaker will be Lydia van der Plas. For more information, contact the Rev. Joey Williams at 792-4276.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

The 247th annual meeting of the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists will be held at First Free Will Baptist Church of Rocky Mount on Thursday, November 9. The Rev. Ray Williamson will be the host pastor.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Larry Barbour
1018 Bynum Street
Wilson, NC 27893
291-8449

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

The Cape Fear Conference Union meeting will be held on October 28, 1995 at Lanwood Chapel. It will begin at 10 a.m.

Special emphasis will be placed upon the value and importance of the local Sunday School. This will be presented during the worship hour.

Everyone is encouraged to attend!

EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary is offering a study course on October 28, 1995 at 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston. The book to be studied will be *Church Growth and Evangelism* by K. David Hines to be taught by the Rev. K. David Hines. The book is available at the Mount Olive College Bookstore. Everyone is invited to attend.

CAPE FEAR DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary will have a Study Course on October 30, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. The topic is Missions and Lydia van der Plas will be the speaker. It will be at Yelverton Grove FWB Church East of Smithfield, NC. Everyone is welcome.

PASTOR NEEDED

Roanoke Valley Original Free Will Baptist Church is seeking a full-time pastor. Contact Mr. Eddie Duff, Route 2, Box 314A, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870, phone, (919) 536-5183.

PASTOR NEEDED

First Free Will Baptist of Plymouth is searching for a full-time pastor. If interested, send resume to Lewis Sullivan, 110 Roxie Reece Road, Plymouth, NC 27962 or phone, 793-3210.

PASTOR AVAILABLE

The Rev. M. E. Cox is available for supply pastor work. He can be contacted at 919-243-7733.

PASTOR NEEDED

Aspen Grove F.W.B. is in search of a pastor. If interested, contact: David F. Hobgood, 107 Hillcrest Drive, Farmville, NC 27828; phone, 753-4346.

FALL REVIVAL

Fall Revival will be held at Elm Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church on October 1-4 at 7:30. The Rev. Bruce Jones will be the speaker. Special music each night.

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

The Albemarle Conference will meet on October 4, 1995 at St. Paul FWB Church, Elizabeth City, NC at 9:30 a.m. The moderator will be the Rev. Robert M. May.

STONEY CREEK FWB CHURCH ANNOUNCES A NEW MINISTRY

Stoney Creek Church of Goldsboro now broadcasts its 11 a.m. Sunday Worship services on radio live each Sunday. The services are transmitted over a broad coverage area on Radio Station WEQR FM, (102.3 on the dial). The following counties are in the coverage area; Wayne, Lenoir, Greene, Wilson, Johnston, Sampson and Duplin. The radio signal can also be heard in parts of Pender, Onslow, Jones, and Craven counties.

The people of Stoney Creek Church launched this new ministry in an effort to reach people who cannot or do not attend church on Sunday mornings. Those who are shut-in and those working or traveling in our coverage area are invited to worship with Stoney Creek Church via radio whenever possible.

The Rev. Gary M. Bailey is the pastor of Stoney Creek. The Rev. Glenn A. Mills is Associate Pastor.

SAINT DELIGHT FWB CHURCH CELEBRATES 125th ANNIVERSARY

Saint Delight Free Will Baptist Church, located near Ormondsville, NC, was established in 1870 by Dr. Lemuel Bowen. This year marks the church's 125th anniversary. Church members will be celebrating this event on Homecoming which is set for October 22, 1995. We at Saint Delight hope to recapture the feeling of the 1800's on this day. Many church members and their family and friends are planning to dress in "old fashioned" clothing. You may have something to add to this occasion, such as a bonnet, an old hat or dress, or perhaps even an antique car or a horse drawn carriage. So whether you dress in 1870's fashion or 1990's fashion, come and join us! We're looking forward to a fun day.

For those of you that have visited Saint Delight in the past but haven't visited us lately, you will notice several changes. Several years ago the bulging paneling in the sanctuary was replaced with sheetrock. New pews were purchased and padded. Chandeliers have also been added to the sanctuary. New song books were purchased with donations given in honor and memory of friends and loved ones. The old railing around the choir has been replaced. All of the Sunday School rooms have been renovated, each receiving a fresh coat of paint, wallpaper border, new carpet and new tables and chairs. Work is currently underway underneath and outside of the church. A building fund was incorporated several years ago with the long term goal of vinyl siding in mind. However, before siding can be placed, the church floor must be leveled. When work began to level the floor, church members discovered that the church was built on three stumps. Work is currently being

focused on replacing the old floor beams with newer, sturdier beams. This project has depleted our building fund, so until the fund can be replenished, siding cannot be purchased. Church members and friends of the church have donated paint and their time to make the church presentable until siding can be placed. If you would like to make a donation to this fund in memory or in honor of a friend or a loved one, you may send it to: Saint Delight Building Fund, c/o Jeanie Bowen, 707 E. Third Street, Ayden, NC 28513. We look forward to seeing you all!

OBITUARY

William R. Gaylord

William Raymond "Bill" Gaylord, 75, of Pungo Creek Road, Route 1, Pinetown, died Thursday evening, September 7, 1995, at Pungo District Hospital in Belhaven.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the chapel of Paul Funeral Home, Belhaven. The Rev. Paul Grubbs and the Rev. Ron Estes officiated. Burial followed at Yeatesville Cemetery, Route 1, Pinetown.

John Cox, Jay Smith, Grant Smith, Wayne Howell, Lennie Paul and Billy Nixon served as pallbearers.

Gaylord was born October 11, 1919, in Beaufort County, son of the late Preston and Mary Linton Richardson. Later, he was adopted and reared by the late E. J. and Martha Gaylord. On June 22, 1940, he married Louise Lambert. Gaylord was a minister and a retired educator. He was a member of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife; three daughters, Gale G. Smith and Donna G. Paschal both of Pinetown, and Martha G. Thompson of Yorktown, Va; six grandchildren and five great-grand-

children.

Gaylord was preceded in death by two brothers, Arnold Richardson and Donville Richardson.

The family received friends from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday at Paul Funeral Home, Belhaven.

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL FWB CHURCH GETS NEW PASTOR



The Rev. Steve and Wallie Hargrove have become part of the family at Christian Chapel. Both have a wide variety of interests that include special work with children, teenagers, and the senior citizens. They have a strong belief that youth are not only the church of tomorrow, but serve a vital role in the church of today.

With Steve's pulpit ministry, Wallie, his wife of 30 years, serves as a valuable asset. Wallie enjoys her work with Children's Church, musical programs with the youth, and spiritual retreats. Her major topic of interest for today's youth is the enjoyment of God's creation and the renewal of their spiritual lives with God.

Steve and Wallie are a team, believing that the church should be active in all areas of God's ministry. They look forward to growing and working with the family of Christian Chapel and its surrounding community.

Steve, Wallie and the Christian Chapel family invite you to fellowship in way of the services that are offered.

They are as follows:
 Sunday School—10:00 a.m.
 Morning Worship—11:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening—7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Evening—7:30 p.m.

MT. ZION FWB CHURCH
 Roper, North Carolina
 October 28, 1995
 Albemarle Union Meeting

OPENING SESSION

Pianist, Mrs. Lucille Jones
 10:00 Devotions, the Rev. Robert May
 10:10 Welcome, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
 Response, the Rev. C. H. Overman
 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
 Announcements
 Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION

10:40 Report of Ministries, Via Literature
 Children's Home
 Mount Olive College
 FWB Press
 Home Missions
 Foreign Missions
 Cragmont
 Retirement Homes
 Ministers Program H.Q.
 10:50 Report of Treasurer
 Old Business
 New Business
 11:00 Minutes Presented for Approval

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

11:10 Hymn
 11:20 Special Music, Host Church
 Testimonies
 11:25 Message, the Rev. Paul

Grubbs
 Benediction
 Adjournment and Lunch

CAPE FEAR
AUXILIARY CONVENTION
 Johnston Union FWB Church
 October 11, 1995

Theme: "Jesus Paid It All"
Scripture: *And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him (Luke 23:33).*

9:30 Registration
 10:00 Hymn 138, "Jesus Paid It All"
 Devotions, Lydia van der Plas
 Welcome, Host Church
 Response, Mavie Daughtry
 Greetings, President

BUSINESS SESSION

Hymn 151, "At Calvary"
 Reports of Enterprises:
 Cragmont
 Youth
 State Field Secretary
 Mount Olive College
 Free Will Baptist Press
 Home Missions
 Foreign Missions
 Children's Home
 Retirement Homes
 11:15 Hymn 253, "The Old Rugged Cross"
 Offering
 Special Music, Host Church
 Convention Message, Al Warrick
 Hymn 69, "Glory to His Name"
 12:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00 Hymn 48, "At the Cross"
 Life Membership Award
 1:20 Miscellaneous Business
 Hymn 295, "He Loves Me"
 2:00 Adjournment

EAGLE SCOUT CEREMONY



Allan Harris



Michael Jones

Allan Harris and Michael Jones received the Eagle Scout Rank in a special ceremony at Free Union FWB Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, NC. The Eagle Rank is the highest honor in Boy Scouts. Nationally, only about one percent of the Boy Scouts achieve this award.

The Eagle Court of Honor was conducted by Van (Smokey) Higdon, representative of the Caswell District Eagle Board of Review. Chuck Huffman, District Scout Executive, presented the responsibilities of Eagle Scouts in service in the community, business and to God. "Eagle Scouts are leaders in business and community." The Scout Committee and community

leaders presented the qualifications, leadership and character reviews of the candidates. During the Court of Honor, Jackie Fulghum sang "God Bless America." As a tribute to the mothers, the Rev. Philip Wood read the poem, "A Fond Mother Watches Her Boy." The Eagle Badges were pinned on the candidates by Scoutmaster Danny Taylor. Allan and Michael presented their parents with Eagle pins. District recognition, Elks Award and Ely J. Perry Memorial Award were presented by Smokey Higdon. The Scout Committee/Layman's League Award was presented by Ray Cunningham, chairman of the Scout Committee and Steve Bryant presented the James Fulghum Sunday School Class plaque. At the conclusion of the Eagle Court of Honor, Dan Taylor Jr., Eagle escort, read the poem, "The Eagle Trail." Kenneth and Renee Letchworth sang "On My Honor." The parents honored the Eagle Scouts with a reception immediately following the ceremony in the Fellowship Building.

During the ceremony, special recognition was given to the Rev. C. L. Patrick. The Rev. Patrick was the pastor of the church when Smokey Higdon, Scout Executive, organized the Scout Troop and Pack. The Rev. Patrick have continued to be a strong supporter of the Scouts. The Rev. Patrick was escorted to the front by the Eagle Scouts. Smokey Higdon read the Poem, "The Bridge Builder."

Allan and Michael are members of Troop 606 and have demonstrated their leadership abilities in many roles in the Troop. While they were Cub Scouts, they earned the Arrow of Light, highest award in Cub Scouts and the "God and Family" religious award.

Allan is the son of Jackie and Ted Harris, Route 4, Box 445, Snow Hill, NC, and Michael is the son of David and Jeanette Jones, Route 1, Box 345-A, Snow Hill, NC. Allan is a senior at Greene Central High School and Michael will be attending Pitt Community College this fall.

ROSE OF SHARON MEMBERS GO ON TRIP

God and country. Faith and Patriotism. The Holy Bible and the American flag. Hearts swell and tear-dimmed eyes often reflect the deep emotions these phrases arouse. They command respect, reverence and devotion, and the words mesh together like a closed zipper.

Forty-three Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church members and guests experienced all these emotions on a recent trip to Pennsylvania. They began the long journey to Lancaster, PA by boarding a Bear Grass Tours bus, filling the luggage racks with homemade cookies, cracker jack popcorn, potato chips and candy. Coolers of iced Pepsis, Mountain Dew's, and bottled water were ready for the first pangs of thirst.

Excitement was high as the bus pulled from the parking lot just before dawn. The total darkness before streaks of a brilliant sun lit the sky did not dim the anticipation of the group. During the first few miles pillows were adjusted, and blankets to ward off the coolness of the morning air were shuffled back and forth between friends. The first stop an hour later for a scrumptious breakfast buffet set the pace for what was to come.

Arrangements to see the drama, "NOAH AND HIS ARK" had been made months ago by the pastor, Joey Williams. They included a simulated trip to the Old Testament Hebrew Temple, a production of Living Waters and a guided excursion through the Amish Community surrounding Lancaster, PA. All were combined with lavish meals in fine restaurants.

The productions were beyond expectations, especially "Noah." The audience witnessed a live on-stage building of the ark and vicariously became members of the scorned family jeered and laughed at by the sinful people watching the huge vessel take shape.

More than 300 animals made their way into the ark just before the distant

rumbling of thunder was heard and fierce lightning began splitting the sky. In awe the audience listened to the sound of beating rain and the frantic begging to get in of those left on the outside after the ark's door was closed by the hand of God.

The many days spent in the ark left the audience emotionally drained, just as they did Noah and his family. Fear that their supplies would be depleted before the waters receded infiltrated the actors and the audience alike.

The joy when the dove returned with the leaf paled in comparison to the wonder of watching the boards fall away from the ark in the final scene, gradually exposing a tremendous cross. That scene tied history, the present, and the future together and demonstrated one common need for all people—God's forgiveness. A rainbow curving across the horizon sealed the covenant between God and mankind and a transformed audience filed silently and reverently out of the auditorium.

On the way home the bus driver included a tour of Washington, DC as an added attraction and special favor. Around noon the passengers unloaded at Union Station where they scattered to stands serving ethnic foods from many countries. After an hour the group reassembled for a ride around town, stopping now and then to take pictures and to get a better look at the historical sites.

The most memorable event during that excursion was a visit to the Viet Nam War Memorial, which was bigger and much longer than expected. Carved into the curving granite and marble monument was a tableau of names of Americans who fought and died on Asian soil.

Located nearby was the recently completed monument honoring veterans of the Korean conflict. The inscription marking that memorial also fits Viet Nam veterans. It states sadly, "for the men and women who fought for people they did not know in a war they did not understand."

MIA and POW are acronyms also combined in conversation. However, they don't have the same pleasant effects linked to them as God and Country or Faith and Patriotism. When spoken, MIA and POW always stir feelings of futility and frustration.

Those acronyms personify the dead and the lost. They cause hearts to thud and bring rushing, hot tears to the eyes of families and friends. Especially those leaving pictures, flowers, flags and jewelry as mementoes at the base of the wall. The quiet atmosphere as people shuffle along, straining to find a name, sometimes touching the cold granite, and sometimes crying out loud, seems almost holy.

That was how the wall effected Beverly Rogerson. As an ECU student in the early 70s she, like many others, selected a bracelet to wear as a token of support for those missing in action or who were prisoners of war in Viet Nam. Beverly chose the name Jerry Bridges and wore the bracelet for many years. When the war finally ended she took it off and placed it in an old jewelry box.

Upon seeing the wall, memories flooded her mind. She found a guide who led her to the name of the young man who had given his life in battle. She laid a paper against the wall and using a number 2 pencil, made an etched impression of his name. In tears she tucked it inside her purse.

On Monday she rambled through a chest of drawers until she found the jewelry box. Crammed beneath old receipts and tarnished coins she found the sterling bracelet. Breathless, she placed it on her wrist and was transported back 25 years to a time when the pain of missing those killed in action and the ones lost to an unknown fate was a burden almost too hard to bear. Tears flowed again, dropping freely on the bracelet and the trembling hands holding the etching of Jerry Bridges name.

Even today, the only thing Beverly knows about him is that he was born in

1968. The realization that he was only 20 years old then and was just six years older than her own firstborn son today released another flood of tears. This time in gratitude that even though our country continues to assist in defending other lands and other people, we have not been totally involved in a no-holds-barred war.

The Noah trip turned out to be so much more than expected for Beverly and her church family. It reinforced their knowledge of biblical history. It gave a glimpse of the Amish people who came from another land to worship freely and who still cling to their unique disciplined lifestyle in the midst of a civilization that seems to have lost its reverence for Christian living. And it provided images of the United States of America Capitol and the Viet Nam War Memorial on a rainy Sunday afternoon that will never be forgotten.



LORD, make me a channel of
 Thy peace
 That where there is hatred, I
 may bring love,
 That where there is wrong, I
 may bring the spirit of for-
 giveness.
 That where there is discord, I
 may bring harmony,
 That where there is error, I
 may bring truth,
 That where there is doubt, I
 may bring faith,
 That where there is despair, I
 may bring hope,
 That where there are shadows,
 I may bring light,
 That where there is sadness, I
 may bring joy.

Lord, grant that I may seek
 rather
 To comfort—that to be com-
 forted;
 To understand—than to be un-
 derstood;
 To love—than to be loved;
 For it is by giving that one re-
 ceives;
 It is by forgiving that one id
 forgiven;
 It is by dying that one awak-
 ens to eternal life.
 —St. Francis of Assis

The
 CROSSLESS
 life
 is a
 CROWNLESS
 death.



CONVENTION RESPONDS TO NEW THEME

"The Call to Renewal" Begins With "The Call to Prayer"

The 1995 session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will prove to be a turning point for our denomination. "The Call to Renewal" was heralded forth and "The Call to Prayer" was answered as ministers, delegates, and visitors formed a giant prayer circle in College Hall, joined hands and committed themselves to spiritual renewal and to prayer. This came at the close of the Wednesday morning worship service after a stirring message, based of 2 Chronicles 7:14, was delivered by the Reverend Fred Baker and after the plan for implementing "The Call to Prayer" was presented. In addition, the congregation participated in the singing of *Send a Great Revival* and was blessed as Mrs. Mary Dudley sang *The Lord's Prayer*.

Following are suggestions for implementing "The Call to Prayer" as presented and endorsed by the Convention.

During this fiscal year, which began July 1, Original Free Will Baptists are called upon to unite in prayer, with the ultimate goal of spiritual renewal within our denomination, as well as spiritual renewal throughout the land.

The launching of this "Call to Prayer" begins with this session of our Convention; however, it must include the participation of all churches. In addition, all gatherings of Original Free Will Baptists are urged to coordinate the theme into their programs, with messages focusing on prayer and a special time set aside to pray for the work of our denomination.

Suggested Guidelines

Following are suggested guidelines in answer to the "Call to Prayer:"

The entire month of October is designated as "prayer month." During the month, plan at least one prayer vigil, preferably during the afternoon on the first Sunday (October 1). The hours should be arranged as suitable to each church, perhaps beginning in the early afternoon and continuing until about 6:00 P. M., or until the evening worship hour. A prayer vigil allows for the scheduling of individuals to

participate in the vigil, so that certain persons would be in prayer at all times.

Some churches may choose to have more than one prayer vigil during October, or perhaps one each month through August of 1996.

In addition, special times of prayer should be a part of each service. All types of church activities should include a time to pray for spiritual renewal.

"The Call to Prayer" must continue throughout the year. In each worship service, there should be a designated time to pray specifically for the needs of our denomination.

In Conferences, Union Meetings, District Woman's Auxiliary meetings, youth meetings, Layman's League, etc., there should be a time for focused prayer.

Biblical References to Prayer

There are many Biblical references to prayer, as well as actual prayers from the hearts of His people. What we call "The Lord's Prayer," in reality serves as a model prayer. The following passages remind us of the Biblical emphases on prayer:

". . . Pray one for another, . . . the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

"Pray without ceasing" (I Thessalonians 5:17).

"Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7).

A Guide for Prayer Needs

To provide a basic guide for prayer throughout the year, the following is offered:

1. Pray for spiritual renewal (revival) for our denomination that will result in a greater witness and harvest of souls; also, pray for a sweeping revival for America. This would bring about a recommitment to the morals and principles of the Word of God.

2. Remember to pray for the leaders of our country (refer to I Timothy 2:1-3).

3. Pray for our denomination. More

specifically,

a. Pray for greater unity, from the Convention level down to the local church.

b. Pray for our churches. Thank Him for His bountiful blessings upon our churches, and pray for continual blessings as we respond to His will. Pray for the struggling churches. Pray for a great harvest of souls through the ministry of the local churches.

c. Pray for our pastors, that with boldness and love they will proclaim God's Word, Ask for God's strengthening grace in their pastoral ministry.

d. Pray for our Ministries, especially for the directors and board members. Pray for greater support in each of them. (Remember: each month is designated as a certain ministry month; thus, prayer should focus of the work and needs of the particular ministry.)

e. Pray for the Convention, the Headquarters personnel, and especially the Executive Administrator.

If the office of Executive Administrator can assist any church in its plans for this "Call to Prayer," please let us know by calling (919) 746-4963, or by writing to: P. O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.

Plaque Presented

I wish to thank the Executive Committee for its thoughtfulness in presenting a beautiful plaque to me during the Convention's Wednesday morning session which reads as follows:

"CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Presented to

THE REVEREND C. H. OVERMAN

For His Years of Meritorius Service
As Executive Administrator
Of The Convention Of Original
Free Will Baptists.

Presented This 13th Day Of
September 1995."

Again I want to express my sincere thanks to each church, each pastor, ministry directors and friends for their support in administering of the work of this office.

Convention Attendance and Support

Total registered attendance at this year's Convention was 569 (last year 568). The Wednesday night missions offering exceeded \$58,000.00 with nearly equal amounts to both Home and Foreign Missions.



The Entire Month of October, 1995, is Designated as

"Prayer Month"

A Time of Prayer for Our Denomination

Prayer.

JUST DO IT.



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How to Get Youth Involved in the Musical Aspect of Worship

How often do people really pay attention to the words in the church songs they sing? One suggestion is to take one or two songs from the hymnal during each Sunday school lesson and to go through it, word by word, to understand the true meaning. The next time you sing that song, you'll have a much better appreciation for it. Who knows, it might even help you to sing better!

Are the children in your church allowed and encouraged to participate actively in the services? One comment we hear from visitors continuously is how much talent we have in our young people in the musical instruments they play and their singing in church. After Sunday school is over, each of the classes may sing one or more songs in front of the whole congregation, and often times, the young people play the music accompanying the singing. They take pride in being involved and the chance to prove what they can do. Get them involved as much as possible, because they are the future of our church and country. If we don't keep them busy doing the Lord's work, they'll be busy doing the devils'.



Editor's Note

Dear Church Family;

Today marked an eventful day in my life. No, nothing earth shattering happened, nor did I solve any major world problems. Although, I may have helped to create one along the way.

Today I went to the Eastern District Auxiliary Convention near New Bern. It was not so much the Convention, but the people there. Today I rode with two of my closest friends. One a college friend and the other someone whom I have grown to admire and respect in my time at The Press. Today was the last time I would attend a meeting with C.H. Overman, our Executive Administrator.

This editor's page serves as a personal Thank You to this man. A THANK YOU to a man who has been there to listen, explain, and always have some creative and humorous way to solve a problem that you present to him.

C. H. Overman has served our denomination in so many aspects. From pastor to editor to administrator, he has been a guiding light to so many people who have come in contact with him.

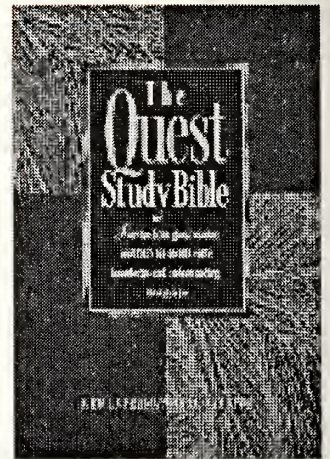
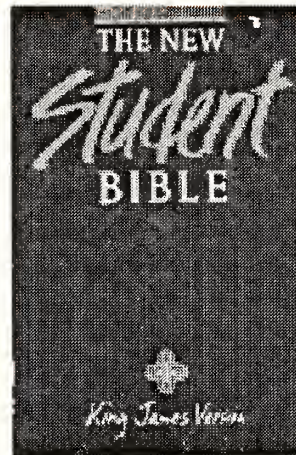
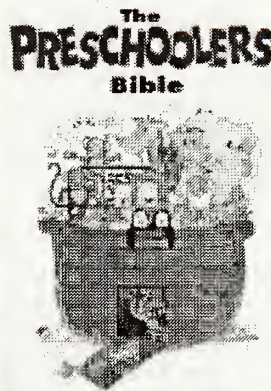
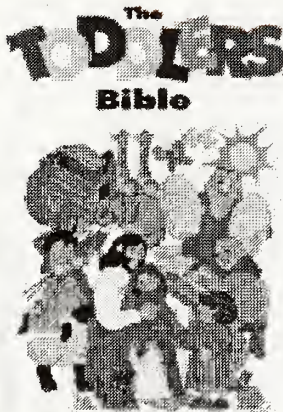
C. H., as you approach your last week as Administrator may God be with you as you go back into the churches. Enjoy retirement with Ruby, your children, and grandchildren and hopefully you can get a chance to go fishing.

In His Service,

Tracy

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The Free Will Baptist

Jesus saith...Lift up your eyes,
and look on the fields; for they are white
already to harvest.

John 4:35

NOVEMBER 1995

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NEXT MONTH

*December
is
Foreign Missions
Month*

*November
is
Children's Home
Month*

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Denominational Ministries

CHILDREN'S HOME

By: Gary Lee, Director of Church and Public Relations

Duke Endowment

In 1924, North Carolina industrialist James Buchanan Duke founded The Duke Endowment to benefit not-for-profit hospitals and childcare institutions in North and South Carolina (as well as rural United Methodist churches and retired ministers in North Carolina, and Davidson College, and also Duke, Furman, and Johnson C. Smith Universities).

More than seventy years later, Duke Endowment continues to provide financial assistance to these organizations. Over 1.1 billion dollars in contributions have been given. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is proud to be one of the recipients again this year. For many years we have received a grant from the Duke Endowment to help with operating costs. This year our grant was for \$11,798. In addition to the annual grant we have also received Special Project grants including one for our Preparation for Adult Living program for \$10,000. We have recently received a Special Project grant in the amount of \$15,000 to be used toward the cost of construction for our office additions. We would like to say Thank You to Duke Endowment for their support!!

Children's Home Life

Our newsletter, CHILDREN'S HOME LIFE, will not be produced during the month of November. We have made a decision to reduce the number of issues to three times a year instead of four. The next issue will be mailed in February.

Would you like to be included on our mailing list and receive our newsletter and other mailings at no cost? If so, please send a request along with your name and complete mailing address to:

Free Will Baptist Children's Home
Attention: Gary Lee
P.O. Box 249
Middlesex, NC 27557

Office Addition Near Completion

In February, the Board of Directors approved the construction of an office addition to the existing office. Construction began in July. Due to the growth of our agency, we have outgrown our office facilities. The additional office space will improve the effectiveness and communication of the staff. The addition will include a conference room, restrooms, kitchen, and eight offices. We expect to be moved into the building by the end of November.



The New Office Addition

Selma FWB Church Donates Supplies

The Rev. Frank Grubbs, Pastor of Selma FWB Church, called recently to say that he had some supplies that the church would like to donate to the Children's Home. I was amazed when he told me that I would need to drive a van and be sure to take the seats out. I arranged to pick up the items that afternoon. We filled the van full of boxes that contained towels, washcloths, toys, kitchen supplies, and household items. The items were given to the church by J. R. Tobacco Company, a retail outlet in Selma, NC. The church decided to share them with the Children's Home again. Yes, again! Similar items were given to us at the beginning of the year under the same circumstances. We would like to thank Selma FWB Church and J. R. Tobacco Company for everything we received!

—Remember—
November Is Children's Home Month

A LETTER FROM GARY LEE

Dear Friends:

I recently completed my first year of employment at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. I wanted to share with you a few thoughts about my experiences at the Home. I do not work directly with the children but do see some of them on a daily basis, and I have visited with them on many occasions. In doing so, I began to understand that it is not important to know why a child is living here. Honestly, I prefer not to know. I do know that all of our children came out of a difficult living experience. I have seen a lot of new faces this year on our campus.

I have also had the opportunity to meet a great number of dedicated supporters of the Children's Home. The majority of these have included individuals and church groups from the Free Will Baptist denomination.

One of my most memorable experiences has been Founder's Day. The celebration of seventy-five years was very special. As I prepared the historical summary for this event I spent many hours searching and reading historical information about the Home. I learned that Free Will Baptists have always been concerned about children. The Home has begun a journey into the next seventy-five years. There is a great need to continue our mission and serve the children who have become the victims of society's social problems. As Free Will Baptists, your support is very important to us and the children we serve.

I continue to enjoy my work and service to the Children's Home. I would like to thank my family, friends, and church for their encouragement during the past year.

Yours For His Service,
Gary Lee
Director of Church and
Public Relations

— CHRISTMAS FOR THE CHILDREN —

Brother Taylor:

We greet you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Last year after Christmas we, The Beginner Sunday School Class at Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church, talked about "Getting and Giving at Christmas." We felt it was important for our children not only to understand the real meaning of Christmas, the Birth of our Lord, but to stress to our children that it is better to give than receive. What greater gift could God have given to us? Emphasis was also placed upon the fact that Christmas was not the only time of the year to give but that giving was something we could do all year long. We talked about children who were much less fortunate than we are and many of them would not even have a Christmas at all. Many of these children do not have the opportunity to share in the love of a family, or may even be the result of a broken home.

We decided as a class project, we would like to help needy children during the Christmas Season. To accomplish our goal we decided the best way to approach it would be to save our pennies and bring them to Sunday school each week to put in our jar labeled *1995 Christmas Project Fund*. It became a project that many of the adults also took an interest in and began giving. There were not only pennies contributed but soon there were those giving silver as well. It became a project that our children looked forward to weekly, their opportunity to give.

We appreciate the work that is being done by our Children's Home and there would be no group who would be more deserving.

We would like our contribution to be used toward purchasing Christmas for the children at the home.

The Beginner Sunday School Class.

This letter was received from Aspen Grove FWB Church in Fountain, NC. We are proud of them for teaching their children to share with others. You too can share with our children by helping us provide for them this Christmas. You can help our children by becoming a Christmas Sponsor. Christmas sponsors are so important to our children, because it is such a tender time when love speaks so clearly through sharing. Each year we try to provide one sponsor for every child in our care. Sponsors simply send \$100 for each child sponsored. We need to receive Christmas Sponsorship as soon as possible to allow us time to complete our shopping. Won't you consider adding our special children to your Christmas list? You will be the one to receive the greatest gift!

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

Sponsorship Reservation Form

Sponsor: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Number of Children We Would Like to Sponsor: _____

We Do Not Wish To Participate This Year: _____

Remarks:

Increasing The Sowers



Last August 7, 1995, we had Theological Education by Extension. These pictures are evidence that these students have graduated, with the support from the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, Foreign Missions Department. This event was held in Cebu City, the Queen City of southern Philippines, where the hope and prayer that someday we will have hundreds of thousands of Free Will Baptists in the Visayan Island and Mindanao which is practically two thirds of the land area of the entire Philippines.

TEE program of our church is simply an act of increasing the sowers of the Gospel seeds, with the hope that where there are more sowers or people who have been disciplined in order to share the Gospel to the unsaved, there will be more people who will dedicate their lives to God and His work. Actually, this was Jesus Christ's way of spreading the Gospel until it has spread to the whole world.

But since six of those who graduated are already handling small congregations of their own through pioneering church work; these writer's have added very important subjects: church administration, and pastoral care. For it has been in many congregations where church members easily become luke-

warm in their faith and thereby dropped their church membership faster than the coming of new converts to the church.

TEE answers this foresighted problem because the TEE graduates will in turn disciple their respective church members in such a way that their members who are now disciplined will be harnessed by the church to do the work of Gospel sharing the Gospel (evangelist) to the unsaved. It is the experience of this writer, this is the best way to hold members in the church — by harnessing them in church work; the best way to train people in soul winning is for them to go and work in soul winning. After all Jesus saved souls in order to serve. This is the best way to increase membership when everybody participates in sowing the Gospel seed.

As Dr. D. T. Niles, an Indian theologian once said, "Evangelism is an act of a beggar telling another beggar that there is food here," meaning, one need not to be a seminary graduate in order to share the Gospel message to the lost souls.

So with your continuous prayers and our hard work in the Visayas, we hope to reach thousands of people with the Gospel in the future. All things are possible to those who believe.

By Tirzah Perocillo

Tired Wings



(Turkish and Gypsy people like to write and to speak in symbols, they use examples to give emphases to their inner feelings and thoughts. This article will give the reader more understand-

ing of the emotions and motions in the minds of the people we work with.

It came into existence after Teshdzyan had chosen to follow Jesus.)

Tired Wings cannot reach Heaven. The dew melts away into dryness, sadness. Our prayers are like a bird flying upwards into the sky to reach the presence of God.

When I meet Him I understand that Jesus is like a refreshing wind, giving me strength to fly upwards.

He blows my tears away, He removes my sadness. He even cleans me of the dirty rust and make my heart fresh. He gives me hope, Everlasting Life, Faith and Love.

"Love, please don't grow older, don't allow people to bring you down, because we only can reach our Righteous God through you who is our Love, our Messiah."

We are all burning in the everlasting fire of selfishness. We burn in ourselves.

We burn by our sins and again we search for You, our Christ, because You are given to us from God and He is Love. Tired wings cannot reach Heaven. Our God He is Love, our Messiah He is love, the Holy Spirit is the active Love in us.

In sins we are allowed to bow our heads, even in the punishment of God we just bow our knees, in penitent confession we take God's anger and sadness away from us; the dew of His love refreshes our lives. Love can burn us, destroy our pride, hurt and purify at the same time. Then Love will return as a soft wind in the springtime, as a dew on a dry land after a long, long cold winter.

Love needs to be active in us, it needs to be shared and so she will bring the joy, the refreshing wind, the Spirit of prayer to reach Heaven.

The punishment and burning anger of God are signs of His Love to make us understand that He wants to save us. Love is the special gift of God to serve

Him. He saves us from sadness and loneliness to enter into His presence and to make us instruments of His Love to save others. Tired wings cannot reach Heaven. Jesus came to save people in His great Love, so we follow Him in action to proclaim Salvation. Salvation is the dew on a dry land and she brings the growing power towards fruitful Life with God. Prayer in obedience makes our wings strong to reach to Heaven.

Teshzyan

Evangelism Today

At the time of writing this, the mercury is shooting 47.01 degrees Celsius. It is awfully hot, burning flesh and boiling water taking its toll on men and animals. In this prevailing situation the electric supply is cut off for hours and there is an acute shortage of drinking water. It is thus evident that we have miserably failed to do much better than this in the long span of Independence since 1947.

In this state of affairs we are leading our yearly evangelistic campaign in near and far potential places where we feel convinced that the seed is sown, it will bring imminent result in the expan-

sion of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. We encourage and thank those who risk all to make Jesus Christ known. And we challenge young Christians everywhere to consider whether God wants them in the service of the church. To those who cannot go we say: Pray until you can pray no more and give until the giving hurts. That is the spirit of our self-giving. Nothing else is worthy of Jesus Christ, or of the fellowship of those who own His Holy Name. We covet your prayers for a great adventure that this year will bring many to His fold.

To us the response to the Gospel has been amazing. The Gospel brings not only spiritual advantages but radical environmental changes as well. It dispels ignorance. It delivers men from the bondage of sin and superstition. It is healing to the Nations, health to the sick and compassionate, help to the poverty-stricken. Now suffering and militant, the church that finds its life only as it loses it will someday be the church Triumphant.

We are experiencing a new and harder day for evangelization, a day in which the church seems to halt between two opinions. Christians today are more tempted to sacrifice spiritual ideals for

material gain. Faced with the World of increasing complexity—a World made by the explosion of knowledge, a World made small by the increase of people—the church is at bay. The pioneer spirit is growing dim and the marching orders of the Great Commission seem less compelling.

We shake off our dust and renew ourselves in the strength of His blood and keep the banner of the Cross high with all our Might!

Submitted by
Dr. E. M. Lall



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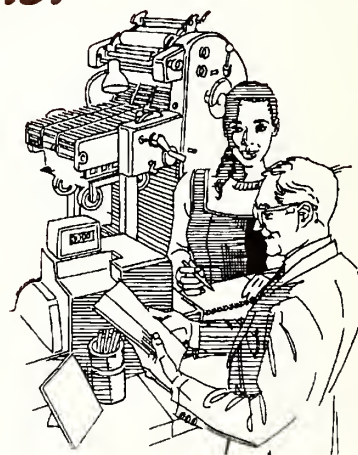
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FLORIDA BECKONS MINISTER TO PLANT, GROW NEW CHURCH

The Wilson Daily Times

September 25, 1995

SARATOGA—The Rev. Aubrey Williamson hopes to find the Land of Canaan in the Land of Disney.

Around the first of December, the pastor of Saratoga Original Free Will Baptist Church will move his family 650 miles to a town just south of Orlando, Fla. Amid those things quintessentially Floridian — orange groves, Mickey Mouse ears and migratory Northerners — Williamson will set up an outpost of eastern North Carolina.

No, he's not raising hogs. It's more a small flock than a large herd.

Williamson will start the Sunshine State's first Original Free Will Baptist mission. The denomination is looking to expand beyond the Down East area, and has picked St. Cloud, Fla., to begin its Florida operations.

He won't be starting the First Original Free Will Baptist Church Mission of St. Cloud from scratch. About 20 people are already attending Bible study there in a modular building.

"It's not a church yet," he said in his book-stuffed office at the 123-year old Saratoga church. "It's like five trailers set side by side, but open all the way inside."

The denomination owns the two adjacent lots, on which it eventually plans to raise a permanent church, he said.

Williamson's work won't be narrowed to the single mission. As the denomination's "church planter" for the entire state, he expects the seeds sown in St. Cloud to take root and blossom in the rich loam of booming Florida.

All this is part of a campaign called Harvest 2000. The Rev. David Hansley, executive director of the denomination's Home Missions and Evangelism Board, said their goal is to establish 20 new churches by the turn of the century.

Besides Florida, "we're targeting Alabama, California, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and other places," said Hansley, former pastor of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Black Creek.

Those ambitious plans are in response to "a real need," he said.

"In America today there's only one

church for every 900 people. That's documented," he said. "As church people we feel one of the best ways to help the nation is to reach people for the care of (God's) kingdom."

Williamson, who served on the Home Mission and Evangelism Board, said he saw the same need while visiting the area for the first time this summer.

"Within a radius of five miles (from the mission) there's a minimum of three brand-new subdivisions," he said. "Within a 300-yard reach is a 500 home planned subdivision."

"Two to three years ago when we started planning, those house weren't there," he said. "These people will need a church. They'll need Christ."

He had never considered being a missionary, he said. But the same call he heard to be a minister is now calling him to the field.

"The Lord is leading me and my family into mission work," he said.

But Williamson and his wife, Carla, didn't know whether their three sons, ages 10-14, would share their enthusiasm. Mrs. Williamson, whose father was a career military man, knows what it's like to be a kid and have to move.

"They've already got friendships. Their

bonds, their family are all here," she said.

The couple were surprised when they talked to the boys and found they were all for it. She said Charles, the oldest, told her: "Mom, we need to go because God needs our touch down there."

"When you hear children say things like that, it makes the transition easier," she said.

Visiting Orlando this past June for a youth camp may have been a selling point. All three boys gushed when talking about a side trip the family made to Disney World. They seem equally excited about making new friends and helping their parents with the mission work.

"We've already got somebody down there saying 'y'all,'" said middle son Bryan, 13.

Williamson said he had some initial misgivings himself about the move. A native and lifelong resident of eastern North Carolina, his first impression of glitzy central Florida wasn't especially favorable.

"We were driving through Kissimmee and it was like Las Vegas," he said. "I said I wouldn't like it. Then as we got outside of Kissimmee, we saw cow pastures. I said, 'This is like home,'" he said.

Writer: Brad Deen

"Copyright © 1995 *The Wilson Daily Times*"



The Rev. Aubrey Williamson, rear left, with his wife, Carla, and sons, from left, Charles, Phillip and Bryan will establish the first Free Will Baptist Church in Florida. (Photo by Brad Deen)



MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

DINNER PROGRAM SCHEDULED IN ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

Dinners hosted by Original Free Will Baptist churches across eastern North Carolina in support of Mount Olive College are in full swing, according to Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Director of Church Support for Mount Olive College.

Nine of the 17 county-wide events, held annually for Original Free Will Baptist churches in support of the college, have already been held.

Unrestricted gifts received through these dinners help to expand the college's academic program and provide scholarships to students. The churches' gift support goal for 1995 is \$334,275.

Gifts received through the program last year totaled more than \$319,800. "The College deeply appreciates the financial and prayer support it receives from Original Free Will Baptist churches and their communities," said Mrs. Ackiss.

Support from Original Free Will Baptists through the dinner program has reached nearly \$4.8 million since the program began in 1963. Generous gifts have helped the college in developing its 123-acre campus, in its transition to a four-year college, and in providing scholarship support to students. Pastors, local chairpersons and volunteers coordinate the local dinners.

Remaining dinners in the 1995 season include the following:

Craven County: Thursday, November 2, at 7 pm, West Craven Middle School near New Bern. Chaired by Roy Wetherington. Goal: \$18,275.

Duplin County: Saturday, November 4, at 6 pm, East Duplin High School near Beulaville. Chaired by Tommy Benson. Goal: \$12,175.

Johnston-Wake Counties: Monday, November 6, at 7 pm, Spiritual Life Building at Everett Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton. Chaired by V. T. Craddock and LaVern Carter. Goal: \$44,475

Washington, Martin, Tyrrell and Pasquotank Counties: Thursday, November 9, at 7:30 pm, Union Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church Fellowship Hall near Plymouth. Chaired by David Cahoon. Goal: \$9,825.

Carteret County: Saturday, November 11, at 6 pm, West Carteret High School in Morehead City. Chaired by Sheri S. Noonan and Edgar Pake Jr. Goal: \$15,650.

Wilson County: Monday, November 13, at 7 pm, Beddingfield High School near Wilson. Chaired by James B. Hunt and Betty Batts. Goal: \$38,700.

Pitt County: Tuesday, November 14, at 7 pm, J.H. Rose High School in Greenville. Chaired by Jane T. Tripp. Goal: \$29,800.

Sampson, Harnett and Cumberland Counties: Thursday, November 16, at 7 pm, Clinton-Sampson Agri-Civic Center in Clinton. Chaired by Lee Morton Jernigan. Goal: \$27,900.

Mount Olive College is a private, four-year liberal arts institution dedicated to the total development of its students in an environment nurtured by Christian values.

JESSE R. LAUGHINGHOUSE HALL DEDICATED AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The new fine arts center and gallery serving the visual communication program at Mount Olive College was named for the son of a Free Will Baptist minister at a dedication ceremony in October.



Jesse R. Laughinghouse Hall memorializes a Pitt County native whose record of service to the community of eastern North Carolina spanned more than 50 years. A framed portrait of Laughinghouse was unveiled at the ceremony and will hang in the new building.

Laughinghouse was born in 1910, one of 17 children of the late Reverend, W. H. and Annie Laughinghouse. In December, 1930, he was married to the former Hilda Britton. Laughinghouse was associated with Bostic Sugg Furniture Company, Inc., for 45 years, including 37 years as president.

"In church, fraternal and civic organization, Mr. Laughinghouse was a leader, devoting to his community the highest measures of attention and service with abundant energy," said President J. William Byrd.

A charter member of Hooker Memorial Christian Church, he served the

church in every office except pastor. He later served on the executive board of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ in North Carolina, and as a director of Camp Caroline in Arapahoe.

Active in Masonry and Shrinedom, Mr. Laughinghouse became a Master Mason in 1946 and achieved the highest degree in Masonry, the thirty-third, in 1981. He represented the Grand Lodge of Masons of North Carolina in the Grand Lodge of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Initiated into Shrinedom and membership in the Sudan Temple in 1947, Laughinghouse became a charter member of Sudan Temple Provost Guard and served five years as Captain. He often represented Sudan Temple at the South Atlantic Shrine Association and, in January 1983, he received the Walt Disney Award for his outstanding service and support for the Crippled and Burn Shrine Hospitals.

Among his numerous professional and civic services, Laughinghouse served on the Board of Directors of the Bank of North Carolina and North Carolina National Bank, and as president and director of the Salvation Army Board. For his activity as a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Greenville, he was

named Kiwanian of the Year in 1978-79. Laughinghouse served on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees from 1983 to 1985.

In 1985, he was honored with the Governor's Award for Human Services.

Byrd said instruction in fine arts has been integral to the liberal arts curriculum offered at Mount Olive College and that the addition of Laughinghouse Hall provides expanded opportunity in study and vocational preparation to students.

"Courses in music, art history and studio art provide students with exposure to a realm of experience that is the soul of our culture. The future is here, and not only are we preparing visual communication majors to compete in the future, but as designers, these students will have an impact on what our future will look like," Byrd said.

"An outstanding environment for study in the visual communications and arts fields is now available to our students in the Jesse R. Laughinghouse Hall," he said.

Visual communication is built on the concept of design as a means for creative communication, he added. "It provides relevant skills for work in all aspects of publishing, packaging, advertising, ex-

hibiting, sign designing including the creation of corporate identities of commercial or non-profit clients. Art courses open to all students provide a valuable component of the College's liberal arts curriculum."

Laughinghouse Hall provides the facilities to integrate graphic design, illustration, and photography, with a focus on computer imaging and desktop publishing technologies for computer-based design.

Contained in the building are an art gallery, computer laboratory, production and publication facilities, multi-use studios, a lighting laboratory, and dark-rooms.

Among those attending the dedication ceremony were Laughinghouse's four grandchildren, Britt Laughinghouse, Chip Laughinghouse, Lynn L. Hodges and Lisa Laughinghouse; two step-grandchildren, Gene Suttle of Atlanta, Ga., and John Suttle of Charleston, SC; three great-grandchildren, Kelly Hodges, Kevin Hodges and Scott Hodges, all of Greenville; and one surviving brother, Furney Laughinghouse of Pantego. Laughinghouse is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Lela Laughinghouse Williams of Greenville.

Fellowship of Christian Students and Student Theological Fellowship Members for 1995-96 Year



Officers have been elected by the Fellowship of Christian Students at Mount Olive College to serve during the 1995-96 academic year. Pictured are (seated) Melissa Miller of Havelock, secretary; Julie Wetherington of New Bern, vice president; (standing, left to right) Bryan Hedrick of Goldsboro, treasurer; Daniel Thames of Dunn, president; and Michael Wilson of Fayetteville, publicity.



Members of the 1995-96 Students Theological Fellowship gathered for a club photograph in October. Pictured are (front row, from left) Michael Thames of Dunn, Religion Department Chairman Dr. K. David Hines, Shannon Smith of Goldsboro - secretary-treasurer, Alvin Grant of Dudley, Campus Minister Frank R. Harrison, and Stanley Tyler of Jacksonville; (second row) Babs House of Wake Forest, Daniel Thames of Dunn, and Bryan Hardy of Seven Springs; (third row) Jerry Corbett of Warsaw, Franklin Lewis of Goldsboro, Scott Brown of Warsaw, and Bobby Johnston of Dudley - president.

“Give Thanks Unto The Lord”

Frank R. Harrison, Campus Minister Mount Olive College

“O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endures forever,” says the Psalmist as he lifts his voice in thanksgiving and praise unto God. David knew the mercy and goodness of God as he lifted his voice in praise to the Creator of Heaven and earth – to the God who had been with him as a young shepherd in the hills around Bethlehem. David knew God’s mercy and goodness as he remembered his deliverance from the hand of Saul who sought to take his life out of jealousy and envy as the Israelite army celebrated their victory over the giant Goliath of Gath.

Israel stood at the brink of destruction as the Philistines gathered their army at Socoh in Judah, while the Israelites gathered in the Valley of Elah, a short distance away. Terrified of the giant, no Israelite would go out to engage him in battle until the young man David arrives in the Israelite camp and sees what is happening as Goliath makes his threats.

Armed with a sling, a few stones from the brook, and a confident faith in God, David goes out to meet the giant in the Name of the God of Israel. God delivers the victory into the hands of David who already had been anointed by Samuel to be the future king of Israel.

Indeed, David knew the mercy and goodness of God who delivered him from

evil, and preserved him even as he lived among the Philistines for a while to escape the rage of Saul’s jealousy.

David would look back over his life, and God’s hand and mercy would become so evident that he would write many Psalms of praise as he sought to serve God and to give praise to Him for His bountiful grace and mercy.

Today we are a people who can join King David and say: “O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endures forever.” God has given to us the greatest nation on earth with its vast resources to meet our needs. We enjoy the great bounty of the harvest in America that cannot be matched anywhere in the world. The standard of living of Americans cannot be matched anywhere in the world. How great is God’s goodness and mercy upon us!

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, let us unite our hearts and spirits in the praise of God who has given us the great bounty of land and resources, who has given to this great nation with its institutions, churches and freedom to worship. Let us remember our forefathers who came to the shores of America to carve out of the wilderness a nation and heritage that is now given to us.

Thanksgiving Day is an annual day of thanks for the blessings of the past year,

observed on the fourth Thursday in November. It is a religious holiday that began with the Pilgrims. After the survival of their first colony through the bitter winter, and gathering of the harvest, Gov. William Bradford of the Plymouth colony issued a thanksgiving proclamation in the autumn of 1621. This first thanksgiving lasted three days, during which the Pilgrims feasted on wild turkey and venison with their Indian guests.

Days of thanksgiving were celebrated sporadically until, on November 26, 1789, President Washington issued a proclamation of a nationwide day of thanksgiving. He made it clear that the day should be one of prayer and giving thanks to God.

In 1863, President Lincoln designated the last Thursday in November as official Thanksgiving Day. This traditional date was followed until 1939 when President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed Thanksgiving Day a week earlier — on the fourth Thursday of November — a day of giving thanks to God for His abundant blessings on this great nation.

As we continue the tradition of Thanksgiving, let us come to this season with the words of Psalm 118:1 in our minds and in our hearts: “O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good; His mercy endures forever.”



MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE

HIGHER
LEARNING

HIGHER
STANDARDS

HIGHER
VALUES

Coming Events at Mount Olive College — *Join Us!*

November

- 10 Campus Visitation Day. Call Admissions at 919-658-2502.
- 13 North Carolina Symphony Brass Quartet; 7:30 p.m., Rodgers Chapel. Part of the Aurora Musicalis series, this performance is free and open to the public.
- 21 Founders Day; 11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel. Speaker will be the Reverend Scott Sowers, executive administrator of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.
- 28 North Carolina Symphony’s “Christmas Pops;” 7:30 p.m., College Hall. Tickets are \$15. Call 919-658-2502.

December

- 1-2 Pickle Classic. Call 919-658-5056 for information.
- 5 Mount Olive College Choir Fall Concert; 7:30 p.m. Rodgers Chapel. Free and open to the public.
- 14 Mount Olive College Christmas Buffet with the Mount Olive Community Instrumental Ensemble’s Christmas Program; 7 p.m., Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. Tickets are \$10 and reservations are required.

Features

EXISTENTIAL GLIMPSES OF THE EIGHTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS THE CALL TO PRAYER AND THE CALL TO RENEWAL

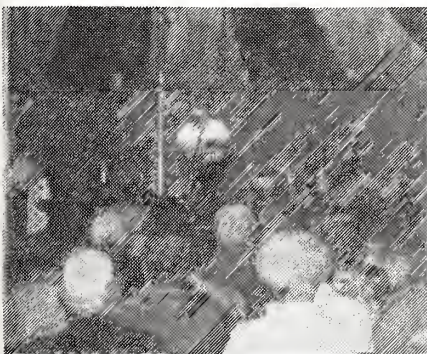
Tracy A. McCoy, Editor • Free Will Baptist Press
Dr. Pepper Worthington, Writer-in-Residence • Mount Olive College

PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS

83rd Session of the Convention of
Original Free Will Baptists
September 13, 1995

Tuesday began the 83rd Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The morning was filled with the different ministries setting up their displays. A worship service was held in Rodger's Chapel with a luncheon afterwards that was attended by several denominational representatives and FWB students.

The new form of ministries for Home Missions and Evangelism was revealed Tuesday night. The Night of Evangelism saw the dedication of "The Tent". The atmosphere was that of an old time revival. An inspiring message was given by the Rev. Al Markuson, Director and Pastor of the Genesis Mission in Fayetteville. Music was provided by *New Direction*.



The Rev. Al Markuson delivered the message for the Night of Evangelism in The Tent.

"As we convene this 83rd session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, we do so with our eyes to the future. Today we will begin a new five-year theme—THE CALL TO RENEWAL," said the Rev. Ray Wells, president of the 83rd Convention.

"It is the desire of the Officers and Executive Committee of this Convention for

this session to set the course for the future of the Original Free Will Baptist Church and that this Convention be one of *Renewal*," he emphasized.

"In order for *Renewal* to take place, we must be willing as pastors, delegates, ministry directors, and board members to work cooperatively, with the best interest of the church and its task in mind. We must set aside our jealousy, our pride, our provincial ideas and stand arm-in-arm in a concerted effort to bring renewal. We as Original Free Will Baptists in our process of renewal must first begin by renewing our commitment to Jesus Christ, to His church, to each other. Without that commitment, there can be no renewal," he declared.

"As we begin our new five-year theme with the Call To Prayer, I want to quote from *Power Through Prayer* by E.M. Bounds: "What the church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more or newer methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use, men of prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods but through men. He does not anoint plans, but men, men of prayer."

"May this call to prayer truly be the beginning of our "Call to Renewal" through Jesus Christ our Lord," he concluded.

Wednesday Morning Convention Worship Service

The Convention worship hour on Wednesday, September 13, 1995, came alive with the voice and spirit of Mrs. Mary Dudley. As she stood on the stage behind the podium, she led the singing with celebration, joy, and enthusiasm. The Convention participants filled College Hall at Mount Olive College and the combined voices seemed to reach the ends of the college campus. All sang:

*Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.*

To prepare the way for the revival voice of the speaker, the Rev. Fred Baker, Mrs. Dudley drew everybody up and led all voices to sing once again the clarion call to the revival spirit within:

*Coming now to thee, O Christ my Lord,
Trusting only in the precious word,
Let my humble prayer to thee be heard,
And send a great revival in my soul.*

(Chorus)

*Send the Holy Spirit now within,
Burning out the dross and guilt of sin;
Let thy mighty works of grace begin,
Oh, send a great revival in my soul.*

(Chorus)

*Send a great revival, Lord, in me,
Help me that I may rejoice in thee;
Give my strength to win the victory,
And send a great revival in my soul.*

(Chorus)

Chorus:

*Send a great revival in my soul (in my soul),
Send a great revival in my soul (in my soul);
Let the Holy Spirit come and take control,
And send a great revival in my soul.*

Mrs. Kathy Sherrod played the piano while Mrs. Dudley led the singing. The Rev. C. H. Overman, Executive Administrator of the Original Free Will Baptists, introduced the speaker. He also acknowledged his wife Ruby who deserved half of the appreciation plaque from the denomination for his years of service as Executive Administrator, as well as his 95-year-old father, Clarence Henry Overman, Sr. The Rev. Scott Sowers has been appointed to take the Rev. Overman's place in this denominational leadership role.



The Rev. C. H. Overman introduced the speaker for the Wednesday morning worship service in College Hall. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



The Rev. C. H. Overman (left) congratulates the Rev. Scott Sowers (right) for his appointment as Executive Administrator for the Original Free Will Baptists. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



Mrs. Kathy Sherrod played the piano for the Wednesday morning worship service in College Hall. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

The Rev. Fred Baker came to the podium, looked out over the sea of faces, smiled, and exclaimed, "What a joy it is to be here today! Do you love the Lord?" he asked.

"Yes!", shouted Convention participants. "Yes!" they shouted again.

The Rev. Fred Baker then led the morning prayer: "Lord, we feel a great joy in coming into thy presence. We worship you in spirit and truth, with our hearts and minds. May we leave this place different

from the way we came in."

Looking out over the Convention floor, the Rev. Baker said, "We live in one of the most exciting times in history. We live in a changing world. One pastor once said to me, 'I think I meet myself going when I'm coming.' Our forefathers did not fathom the problems we have today. But we have good news. We have more knowledge in how to solve the problems. Our problems become opportunities. God helps us to become what we should be," he declared.

"We must look to the future with a new hope and a new vision," he continued. "As we navigate these last five years into the twenty-first century, we must not give up our fundamental rock values of our faith. God has a plan for us. God wants us to move from where we are to where we will be. God wills us to be useful. And how shall we be useful?" he asked. "By *renewing our personal lives in a personal relationship with God.*" He paused.

"How shall we do this?" he asked. "We must first be what God wants us to be. We must be renewed vessels, clean vessels. We are living in a wicked world, but it can be conquered for Jesus Christ," he proclaimed. We must listen to the call, examine that call," he stated.



The Rev. Fred Baker gave a stirring call to renewal in his Wednesday morning address at the worship service in College Hall. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

With emphasis, the Rev. Baker asked, "What makes a call *really important* to you?"

Silence swept across College Hall like a surprise by joy.

"The *one who is calling* makes all the difference, does it not?" he asked. "My wife gets on the phone to talk to our daughter in Maine. In Maine, no less! They forget the time and the price of the phone call. I should have invested in the telephone company,"

he mumbled while many chuckled. "The person calling is important. When the call is from Jehovah, from God, we *must listen*. This is not a call from a church. This is not a call from the Convention. This is not a call from the new administrative director. This is a call from God. I think it is exciting that God would call me, would call you. How perilous it would be today to hang up on God! God is calling today. God is calling to you personally, to every believer. What if this is the last call God is going to extend to our denomination? We must accept this personal call," he declared. His voice showed much emotion. "We must not let this call to us, to our church, to our denomination go silent. We must pay attention and be present," he insisted.

"You know," he elaborated, "if we love someone we want to spend time with this person, don't we? I spend time with my wife Linda. We don't have to schedule that. I spend time, too, with God in our prayer closet. I come back to God and meet with Him and renew my love for Him. I need to rediscover the fundamental basis for worship. I stand in wonder how I do this. God is no longer giving credit for anything. We know the true story. We give God the honor and the glory. God deserves our worship of Him in spirit and in truth. *We must allow the Spirit of God to have a place in our hearts.* The Great Commission is to grow in love, and we can't grow as a denomination until we take the call from God seriously. This call is a call to warfare. We have to meet the Devil and beat him. According to Bishop Forbes, this is a spiritual warfare. We must stand up and be a voice against the Devil," he stressed, as his eyes looked into the faces before him.

"The call from God is also a call to win others to God," proclaimed the Rev. Baker. "The call from God is call to renew our church attendance, our Wednesday night attendance. We have a date with God and He expects us to be there. We need a revival within our hearts and lives so that we might live wholly for God. *Growth comes from renewal.* When your heart burns, somebody is going to watch it," he declared.

In his closing prayer, the Rev. Baker said, "Father thank you that we can call you Father. We have a desperate need for revival. Forgive us. Renew us."

Mrs. Mary Dudley then sang *The Lord's Prayer*. Her voice echoed through College Hall with a sweetness, passion, precision. All were moved.



Mrs. Mary Dudley led the singing during the Wednesday morning worship service at the Eighty-Third Annual Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

A call to renewal included several recommendations: (1) a call to personal prayer for spiritual renewal, (2) a call for a gathering of Free Will Baptists to promote a separate time for prayer, (3) a call for October to be designated as prayer month, (4) a call to make a special time of prayer in each church service, (5) a call to pray for one another, (6) a call to pray without ceasing, (7) a call to pray for the spiritual renewal of the denomination, (8) a call to pray for a revival of faith in America, (9) a call to pray for the leaders of our country, (10) a call to pray for greater unity in the Free Will Baptist denomination, (11) a call to thank God for the bountiful blessings in the Free Will Baptist denomination, (12) a call to pray for OFWB pastors, (13) a call to pray for all the ministries of the OFWB, and (14) a call to pray for the new Executive Administrator.

Three singers, Craig Simmons, Scott Bircher, and Bryant Hines, part of a Christian music group called Covenant. They sang *Breath On Me* while everyone circled College Hall and held hands. At the conclusion, President Ray Wells commented, "The experience standing hand-in-hand with one another here in a circle in College Hall may be one of the highlights of this Convention."



Three singers, Craig Simmons (right), Scott Bircher (center), and Bryant Hines (left) sang

Breathe On Me during a Circle of Love in College Hall. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



Convention participants circled College Hall at the end of the Wednesday morning Worship service. President Ray Wells commented, "The experience standing hand-in-hand may be one of the highlights of this Convention." (Photo by Tracy McCoy)

Luncheon in Murphy Center and the Release of Two Mount Olive College Press Books During the Eighty-Third Annual Convention of OFWB

Dr. De Wayne Eakes announced in the Wednesday morning session the release of two new books from the Mount Olive College Press: (1) *The Crisis of Leadership*, (2) *The Many Faces of India, Nepal and the Philippines*.

Dr. Eakes's book, *The Crisis of Leadership*, is what he called "a denominational resource and valuable guide for ministers and laity as well in a time of crisis when leadership is an issue for everyone."

Dr. Eakes's book offers OFWB a study of servanthood both from a position for leadership in ministry and from Theological-Biblical perspectives. He gives the readers insight into four styles of leadership: (1) catalyst style, (2) commander style, (3) encourager style, and (4) hermit style.

Dr. Pepper Worthington's new book, *The*

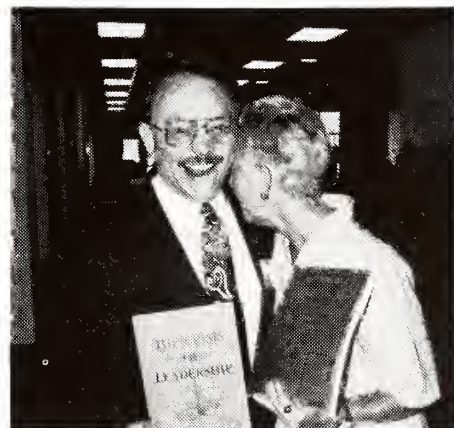
Many Faces of India, Nepal and the Philippines, offers OFWB a photographic glimpse of the three mission areas: (1) India, (2) Nepal, (3) the Philippines. Eight poems appear in this book of black and white photographs — all reflections of her trip with Harold and Sandra Jones during a mission-site tour. The book is dedicated to Harold and Sandra Jones as well as the walking wounded of mankind.

Intriguing photographs sprinkle the pages of this book, especially the close-up shots of faces. In her poem, *The Man From Tondalpur*, she writes:

*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.*

Dr. Eakes's book includes essays on leadership by many Free Will Baptists, including Adrian Grubbs, Ray Wells, Dr. David Hines, Gary Bailey, N. Bruce Barrow, Dr. Michael R. Pelt, Frank Grubbs, C. H. Overman, and David Charles Hansley.

Dr. Eakes's wrote his book because he was concerned about the aging ministry of the OFWB denomination and about the quality of leadership in the denomination.



Dr. De Wayne Eakes (left) and Dr. Pepper Worthington (right) laugh in excitement and enthusiasm with the release of their new books. Dr. Eakes's new book, *The Crisis of Leadership*, and Dr. Worthington's new book, *The Many Faces of India, Nepal and the Philippines*, were released at the Eighty-Third

Dr. Eakes noted: "If the opinion — 'no origination will rise above the vision, aspirations, and abilities of its leadership' is true — the quality is critical. How aware of leadership issues are the OFWB clergy? Do OFWB ministers understand the logical consequences of the leadership styles they choose? What can OFWB ministers do to better prepare themselves as pastoral leaders?"

Dr. Eakes declared: "My desire is that every pastor who will take the time to read this book will profit from it. If this happens, the local congregation will also be a direct beneficiary. As laity read this material, hopefully they too will understand their role in leadership within the local congregation."



Many OFWB Convention participants lined up in front of the Murphy Center to have the Convention buffet creatively prepared by Gordan Wall and his staff. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



Dr. De Wayne Eakes (left), Dr. Pepper Worthington (center) and President of the OFWB Convention Ray Wells (right) celebrate the release of the two new Mount Olive College Press books in the Murphy Center during the special buffet. (Photo by Cecil Cahoon II)



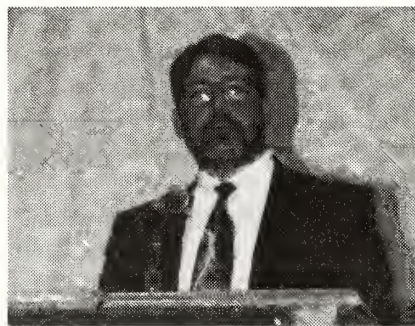
Dr. De Wayne Eakes (left) and his wife Carolyn (right) enjoy the celebration of the release of Dr. Eakes's new book. He dedicated *The Crisis of Leadership* to Carolyn who has provided him with her own leadership during their twenty-eight years of marriage. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Cragmont Assembly Report

The Rev. John Williams announced that Cragmont is debt-free. Applause erupted. In 1980 the debt at Cragmont was \$230,000, a sum that distressed the Rev. Williams. One pastor told him, "John you have got to have more faith in the Free Will Baptists."

That faith came and now Cragmont is debt-free. The Rev. Williams rejoiced and said, "What is needed today is more church loyalty to the Cragmont ministry." He stressed the \$5,000 endowment program and support of the After Jubilee campaign to raise funds to renovate the rooms so that visitors might have a private bathroom.

"Where are we heading with Cragmont?" asked the Rev. Williams. "We want Cragmont to be our retreat and conference center. We want OFWB churches to plan retreats here. We want to have more conferences for our young people and adults. We want to renovate our main building with private baths. We want to make this place a comfortable place. I shall be taking pledges at the Display Table, but I want to stress that our ministry is important but not necessarily more important than others."



The Rev. John Williams stressed that the

Cragmont ministry was important but not necessarily more important than others. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Foreign Missions Report

"I bring you greetings to the Eighty-third Convention from the 235 workers in the ministry around the world," rejoiced the Rev. Harold Jones. He reported with delight and faith that the 1995 drive exceeded \$110,000 so that to date all bills are paid and the ministry of Foreign Missions is debt-free.

"Thank you!" he rejoiced again.

"Your continued support has made it possible for us to maintain our mission fields," he continued. "Our purpose is to serve the Lord and our denomination, to gain converts, to disciple them, to establish churches," he said.

As he looked at the theme on the blue flag above the platform, he remarked, "I had no idea the theme would be a renewal of prayer. I have begun to pray, and seeking God in revival and now the denomination is seeking revival and renewal in an evangelistic zeal."

He paused.

"I have news from the mission field," he reported. "India continues to grow despite opposition. Today it is more difficult to apply for a visa. The government officials are screening people much more closely. Areas are becoming more hostile to Christianity. We have had to adopt the auxiliary name of OFWB International for our visa applications and correspondence. Bulgaria too has become more hostile. On December 17, 1994, the Communist government returned to power and expelled all Christian missionaries. "Pray with us," he pleaded. "This is a difficult time, a costly time for the Board of Foreign Missions. Yet there are tremendous things happening in the midst of persecution. Nepal has come under Communist control, yet, we have now *four* schools in Nepal. In Mexico, however, our churches are fully registered. We are developing teams for the Mexican field, using help from our people 13 years and older. In the Philippines our work is poised for the greatest expansion in history. Our workers in Palawan are working harder than ever. Now is one of the most exciting times in Foreign Missions. But we are having to deal with inflation," the Rev. Jones warned.

"Rice is costing more. But we are

growing still. In November of this year, Dr. Lall and I will travel to Bangladesh to survey the feasibility of a new field there. The Board will make the decision whether to open a new field in Bangladesh. Now I want to thank you personally for your trust. You make it a joy to serve in this program. I'm humbled for the opportunity to work. Thank you for your help with my wife and me," he said as he left the platform, his steps firm, gentle, kindly.



"Now is one of the most exciting times in Foreign Missions," said the Rev. Harold Jones at the Eighty-Third Annual Convention of OFWB. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



The 95-year-old OFWB, Clarence Henry Overman, Sr., attended the Eighty-Third Annual Convention of OFWB. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Mount Olive College Report

"Ladies and gentlemen, I welcome you here today at Mount Olive College," said Dr. J. William Byrd, president of Mount Olive College. "It is a privilege for Mount Olive College to be your host for the Eighty-Third Annual Convention. If you know ways we can improve our service to you, let us know," he said.

Dr. Byrd looked out over College Hall. He smiled "Mount Olive College is a ministry of the Free Will Baptists," he began. "We too, are eager to participate in the

theme of Renewal. We are a supporter of the renewal theme throughout the church. We are the beneficiary of the uplifting spirit of renewal within the church," he declared.



Dr. J. William Byrd, President of Mount Olive College, addressed the Eighty-Third Annual Convention. "It is a privilege for Mount Olive College to be your host," he said. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

In Dr. Byrd's report, he announced an increased enrollment at Mount Olive College. The Fall 1995 students now number 1,100 full-time equivalent. Last year the number was 896. "We have a 22 percent enrollment increase," he declared with a smile. "The increase is a phenomenal report and a compliment to the people who work hard at our College," he declared.

"We have done well in reaching the goals we have set for ourselves," he said. "As we provide greater services, we will be attractive to a larger number of students."

He paused.

"And what has the College become?" he asked. "We have 125 full-time employed people. Our growth has been possible, because we have expanded our opportunities. Our campus has all of its services offered on Henderson Street. Each year as you come here for the Convention, I hope you will take some pride at what has been accomplished here. We demonstrate a steady marching of progress. Each year you see that we are spending well the support you are providing for us. We are always able to build a good audience for important events," he noted.

"Our gift support last year was \$1.2 million. Our goal this year is to increase the gift support to \$1.8 million. This means an important growth. I believe it can be done, or I would not have set that as a goal," he insisted.

I would like to bring to your attention the Opportunities Fund 2001 — a goal to raise \$5 million which will go directly into scholarships. We need to build our institutionally-funded scholarships. We cannot

deny our students some scholarship aid. *Part of our ministry is to provide help.* We do not want to turn someone away who cannot afford to be here," he declared.

"In less than a month, I can tell you already that we have raised more than \$300,000 for our goal. The dinners program will be coming your way soon. This is our single most important fund-raising event. We begin in October under the able leadership of Jean Ackiss. We have raised more than \$300,000 a year through that program. Now let me turn to another issue," he announced.

Dr. Byrd asked Convention delegates to pass changes in the Mount Olive College charter which protect Trustees of the College from personal liability suits. His proposed changes passed.

In conclusion, Dr. Byrd said, "I tell you that this is the first time I have had the opportunity to stand before you as president of Mount Olive College. I thank you for this opportunity to serve. I look forward to working with you in the future. We solicit support from the Convention, and we encourage your support, prayers, and faith in us. Please visit our campus. Please let us know how we in our ministry to you can serve you better. Thank you for the opportunity to serve."



Alma Dale (left) gets a hug from Dr. J. William Byrd (right), president of Mount Olive College. Alma Dale said with a laugh, "The first time I saw Dr. Byrd, I knew he was *very special*. Now he is filling Dr. Raper's position perfectly, because he always gives me a hug." (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Children's Home Report

"It is good to bring greetings to you from the child care ministry," said Dr. Bobby Taylor. "I know that as I look at children who came from the Children's Home, I see



November



SUN	MON	TUE	
29	30	1st	
5	6 ○ MOC Dinner Johnston-Wake Counties Spiritual Life Building at Everett Chapel, 7 pm	7	8
12	13 ○ MOC Dinner Wilson County Beddingfield High School, 7 pm	14 + Task Force Meeting, Marlboro ○ MOC Dinner Pitt County J. H. Rose High School, 7 pm	15
19	20	21 + FWB Press Board, Headquarters 1:00 pm ○ Mount Olive College Board, Mount Olive College ○ Founder's Day, Mount Olive College	22
26	27	28	29

G E N D

ous/following month

nt month

- Mount Olive College
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press

- ▼ Children's Home
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Minister's Program
- * Woman's Auxiliary

THU		FRI		SAT	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Cape Fear Conference, Robert's Grove ○ MOC Dinner Craven County West Craven Middle School, 7 pm 	3		4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MOC Dinner Duplin County East Duplin High School, 6 pm
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Central Conference, Rocky Mount, 1st ○ MOC Dinner Washington, Martin, Tyrrell and Pasquotank Counties Union Chapel OFWB Church, 7:30 pm 	10	+ Deadline for Materials	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Layman's League Convention Officers, 9:30 Headquarters ○ MOC Dinner Carteret County West Carteret High School, 6 pm
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Minister's Program Board, Headquarters ▼ Children's Home, 7:30 pm ○ MOC Dinner Sampson, Harnett and Cumberland Counties Clinton-Sampson Agri-Civic Center, 7 pm 	17		18	
23		24		25	
30					

many who are depressed, frustrated, strained. I remember standing out on the edge of the campus where a field was. A small whirlwind churned the dust in that field. The dust went around and around in that field, not able to break away from the squares of the ground. I began suddenly to feel a cool breeze. The cold front stirred the wind and engulfed the small whirlwind. "How appropriate," I thought. Our children's lives here are often in a whirlwind. They experience confusion, hurt, loneliness, despair. In our ministry we are that cool wind that helps break those whirlwinds."

Dr. Taylor then told the story of Lois. "Not long ago," he reported, "I walked out into a parking lot. A girl jumped out of an emergency shelter van, came up to me and asked, 'Do you know who I am?' I felt embarrassed. I could not recall her name. I knew I should know her. She said to me, 'My name is Lois.' Suddenly I remembered a six-year old girl who had been an unusual child, walking to a different drummer. I asked her, 'Lois, how are you doing?' She said she was OK. I thought of all the times Lois played in the street, left us after two years, went back home, went into the child welfare system, now was in the emergency shelter system in Wilson. Lois was sixteen. She has roots in our Children's Home," he said.

He paused. He looked across the faces in College Hall.

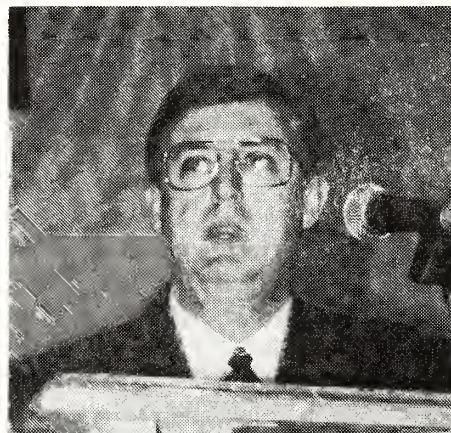
"We celebrated this past year, seventy-five years of service," he reported. We have served over 1,300 children from all walks of life. I appreciate those of you who have helped us. We have reached out, and I feel a certain amount of pride in what we have accomplished "in the name of the Lord," he said.

"We are in the process of renovating the cottages," he continued. "We would like our office expansion to all be under one roof. Can you imagine what that would do for the efficiency of our work? We hope our new addition will be completed by December 1, 1995," he announced.

"Today we serve fifty children on our campus," he said. "There are six in the emergency shelter for a total of fifty-six. Last year we cared for 194 children. This took a lot of man hours. We look at children and see that many spirits have been broken. We show them that we care. We help them mend their hearts and regain their faith. For those of you here who lift up your

prayers daily and send in those checks, we thank you," he said.

"It is my dream," he declared, "to see the Free Will Baptist Children's Home operate a counselling center."



"It is my dream," reported Dr. Bobby Taylor, "to see the Free Will Baptists Children's Home operate a counselling center." (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Home Mission Report

The Rev. David C. Hansley welcomed the eleven Free Will Baptists who came all the way from California to be at the Eighty-Third Annual Convention. He then presented the Rev. Dean Kennedy and Mrs. Kennedy a plaque for their years of service.

The Rev. Hansley also recognized Ron House from St. Cloud, Florida. Mr. House is an engineer and offered to help with the FWB Church home mission in St. Cloud, Florida. He saved the denomination \$70,000 with his engineering and political help. St. Cloud is about twenty-five miles south of Orlando and is a beef cattle area. "This is the number one Hispanic growing county in the nation," said the Rev. Hansley.



The Rev. Dean Kennedy (left) received a plaque of appreciation at the Eighty-Third Annual Convention from the Rev. David C. Hansley (right) for his years of service to the

Home Missions Ministry. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)



The Reverend David C. Hansley thanked Ron House (pictured) for his engineering and political assistance with the St. Cloud, Florida home mission church. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

"I would like to invite churches and ministers to use our Mobile Ministry with our tent," explained the Rev. Hansley. "I have been asked, 'What are you doing in the tent business?' Well let me tell you," he explained. "We are told to go out into the highways, hedges, corners, and compel others to come in. Evangelism in the New Testament is a roadside evangelism. We must reach people *where they are*," he insisted.

"We must move out to the people, bring them into the tent!" he declared. "This is our Mobile Mission."

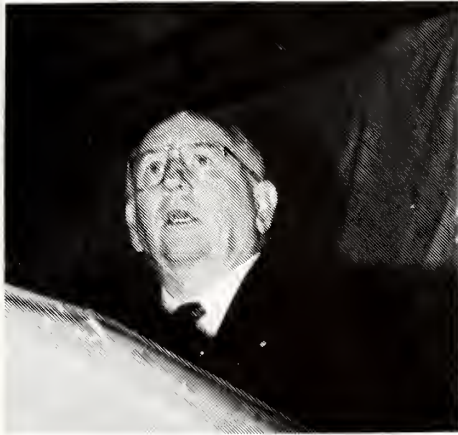


The Rev. David C. Hansley stands in front of the Home Missions Tent which is a part of the New Mobile Missions program. "We must move out to the people, bring them into the tent!" he declared. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

The tent is \$42,000 worth of equipment for \$15,500," the Rev. Hansley reported. "Now I ask you to request the tent. Can you get a tent meeting in your area? Yes sir. You can. Ask for the tent. From the tent

revival can come a living church," he proclaimed. "I believe my dad is smiling down upon me today," he observed.

"Some people asked me, 'What are you doing in California?' Well, go with me to California. Pay your own way (about \$1,200). See what we are doing," he said.



The Rev. David C. Hansley said that some people ask him what is he doing in California. He answered, "Well, go with me to California. Pay your own way — about \$1,200. See what we are doing." (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

"We are on the cutting edge," declared the Rev. Hansley. "Wherever people are going, we want to reach them for the cause of the Kingdom. We must move people out to the tent. We must reach people," he concluded.



The Rev. David C. Hansley promoted the Mobile Mission tent revival at the Eighty-Third Annual Convention. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Free Will Baptist Press Report

Mr. Cliff Gray came to the platform, looked at the Convention participants and soothed them by saying, "This report may be the last but not the least. As usual however, it will be the shortest report you get

today."

Everyone seemed delighted. Even enthusiasm has its limits.

"This has been a good year for the Free Will Baptist Press," he noted. "The purchase of literature has been good, thanks to you. Our ministry is to provide to each of you Christian literature to help you grow. If the literature remains on the shelf, it is not doing any good," he stated.

"Come to one of our bookstores," he invited. "And read the *Free Will Baptist*. The magazine is a very good publication to help you keep up with what is going on in our denomination. We come here with our reports, and you expect a year's worth of information in fifteen minutes. That's hard," he observed.

"There has been an increase from \$8.50 to \$9.50 for the *Free Will Baptist*. This is the first increase in fourteen years. We'll wait another fourteen years for the next increase," he said with a smile.

"This past year we have had one exciting thing to happen at the Free Will Baptist Press. We were able to replace the roof. Our roof has been leaking since 1968. We have had to cover everything in the building with plastic. We either had to replace the roof or stock the store with goldfish in Ayden," he reported.

Everyone laughed.

"Come down to Ayden and enjoy our dry building. We do have groups to come in. We'll show you around," he said.



Mr. Cliff Gray, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Press, noted that the roof replacement made the building dry. "We either had to replace the roof or stock the store with goldfish in Ayden," he reported. (Photo by Pepper Worthington)

Wednesday Evening consisted of the Missions Rally. College Hall seemed filled to capacity.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley presided over the Rally.

The evening was climaxed by special presentations from All 4 Him and Touching Lives Corps. Music was provide by New Direction and the H'mong Choir.



The H'mong Choir shared their music before Dr. Mouachou Mouanoutoua (Photo by Tracy McCoy)

A challenging and inspirational message was given by Dr. Mouachou Mouanoutoua.

The Rev. James Owens announced the offering for the evening. Approximately \$27,000 was given to Home Missions and \$25,000 to Foreign Missions.

The final day of the Convention proved to be very exciting. The Rev. John Williams was given charge of the Worship service. The service was in honor of Cragmont's Jubilee program. The "camp in the mountains" celebrated its 50th year of operations as well as being debt free.

The service involved many people who lived have been touched by Cragmont.



Participants in the Worship service led by Rev. John Williams. (Photo by Tracy McCoy)

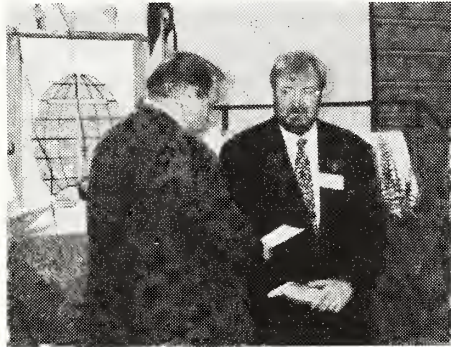
The "Celebration of community" let the audience know that Cragmont was the Denomination. It belongs to all. The perfect ending to the service was the "Burning of the Note." This signified the ending of debt by Cragmont.



Rev. John Williams, manager of Cragmont Assembly, gladly burns the note signifying Cragmont's free from dept. (Photo Tracy McCoy)

As this was C.H. Overman's last Convention as Executive Administrator, the time had come to swear in the new administrator, The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church in Farmville.

The Rev. Ray Wells, president of the Convention, read the oath and charge to Scott Sowers.



The Rev. Ray Wells and the Rev. Scott Sowers during Thursday's Convention.

All of the Denominational Ministry leader's joined at the front of College Hall for a special prayer time for Mr. Sowers and his new position.

Afterwards, Scott Sowers asked for prayer and support for everybody at the Convention.



Scott Sowers stands to face the Denomination as the new Executive Administrator.

The 1995 Theme "The Call To Prayer" began at the Convention now it's up to us to carry it out.

Thanksgiving Recipes

Cranberry Salad

- 1 package whole cranberries, blenderized and drained
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 can crushed pineapple, drained
- 2 cups mini marshmallows
- 1 cup pecans, blenderized
- 1 large Cool Whip

Mix cranberries and sugar together and let stand for 2 hours. Add remaining ingredients and mix well. Store in covered container in refrigerator.

Shirley P. Forsythe

Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church

Season's Greeting Punch

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup lemon juice
- 1 1/2 cups orange juice (more to suit taste)
- 1 (46 oz.) can red fruit flavored punch, chilled
- 1 orange slice
- 1/2 bottle Maraschino Cherries, drained
- 1 (28 oz.) bottle Ginger Ale, chilled

Stir sugar into lemon and orange juice until dissolved. Add fruit punch; pour over crushed ice or ice cubes. Add ginger ale; stir. Garnish with cherries and orange slices.

Makes about 3 quarts

Carolyn Lee

Faith Free Will Baptist Church



FALL REVIVAL

The pastor, Rev. Eldon Brock and members of Hillside FWB Church invites you to attend their Fall revival beginning November 5-8 at 7:30 pm.

Speakers will be:

Sunday night - The Rev. Tom Miller

Monday night - The Rev. Norman Ard

Tuesday night - The Rev. Jeff Daugherty

Wednesday night - The Rev. Mike Scott

Please come and help support your Home Mission.



MINISTER AVAILABLE

H. P. Norman is available for supply and interim part-time and full-time pastoral work. He can be contacted at P.O. Box 723, Farmville, NC 27828, phone 919-753-3385.

PASTOR AVAILABLE

The Rev. M. E. Cox is available for supply pastor work. He can be contacted at 919-243-7733.

PASTOR NEEDED

First Free Will Baptist Church of Plymouth is searching for a full-time pastor. If interested, send resume to Lewis Sullivan, 110 Roxie Reece Road, Plymouth, NC 27962 or phone 793-3210.

PASTOR NEEDED

Reedy Branch Original Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County is searching for a full-time Pastor. If interested, send resume to Blanie Moye, 203 Allendale Drive, Greenville, NC 27834 or phone 919-756-5739

HOMECOMING SERVICES

Friendship Original Free Will Baptist Church of Friendship Church Road, Middlesex, North Carolina will observe its annual Homecoming on Sunday, October 22, 1995.

The services will begin with Sunday School at 10:00 am and the morning worship at 11:00 am with the Rev. Aubrey Williamson, former pastor, bringing our morning message.

A picnic lunch will follow at the noon hour in the Fellowship Hall.

The pastor, Rev. Jacky Raper, and members invite all former members, pastors, and friends to come and worship with us and enjoy the day in fellowship.

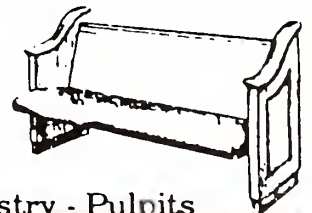
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Winners from 1995 State Youth Convention

Arts and Crafts Winners

Cherubs – Woodwork

- 1st – Bryan Smith, White Oak Church, Pee Dee District
 2nd – Michael Furlough, Winterville Church, Central District
 3rd – Eric Collier, Shiloh Church, Albemarle District

AFC – Woodwork

- 1st – Chris Furlough, Winterville Church, Central District
 2nd – Jessica Paul, Trinity Church, Albemarle District
 3rd – Daniel Ward, Charity Mission Church, Pee Dee District

YFA - Woodwork

- 1st – Kaye Millsap, Cypress Creek Church, Pee Dee District

Cherubs – Needlework/Wearable Art

- 1st – Danyle Herring, Black Jack Grove Church, Western District
 2nd – Tara Dixon, Black Jack Church, Central District
 3rd – Jaclyn Cowell, Arapahoe Church, Eastern District

AFC – Needlework/Wearable Art

- 1st – Amanda Haddock, Greenville First Church, Central District
 2nd – Page Martin, Union Chapel Church, Albemarle District
 3rd – Jessica Scott, Indian Springs Church, Eastern District

YFA – Needlework/Wearable Art

- 1st – Kristen VanHorn, Sound Side Church, Albemarle District
 2nd – Jennifer Taylor, Cypress Creek Church, Pee Dee District
 3rd – Beverly Purifoy, St. Delight Church, Eastern District

Cherubs – Painting/Drawing/Photography

- 1st – Ricky Whitman, Pleasant Grove Church, Cape Fear District
 2nd – Amber Windley, Indian Springs Church, Eastern District
 3rd – Natalie Temple, First Free Will/Wilson, Western District

AFC – Painting/Drawing/Photography

- 1st – Jamie Harrison, Union Chapel Church, Albemarle District
 2nd – Pat Noles, Smyrna Church, Cape Fear District
 3rd – Melanie Jernigan, Indian Springs Church, Eastern District

YFA – Painting/Drawing/Photography

- 1st – Brandy Salor, Riverside Church, Cape Fear District

2nd – Clair Taylor, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle District

3rd – Kevin Bryant, Tarboro 1st Church, Central District

Cherubs – Ceramics/Pottery/Glasswork

- 1st – James Best, Arapahoe, Eastern District
 2nd – Mary Long, Charity Church, Pee Dee District

AFC – Ceramics/Pottery/Glasswork

1st – Dara Gray, Westside Church, Eastern District

YFA – Ceramics/Pottery/Glasswork

1st – Stevie Long, Charity Church, Pee Dee District

Cherub – Sculpture

1st – Sarah Ribeiro, Winterville Church, Central District

AFC – Sculpture

1st – Andrea Houston & Jennifer Jones, Whaley's Chapel, Eastern District

YFA – Sculpture

1st – Henry Berry, Charity Chapel, Pee Dee District

Cherubs – Other

1st – Michelle Hoggard, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle District

2nd – Tie between Ashley Bamett, Indian Springs Church, Eastern District; Dwayne Godwin, Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee District

3rd – Josh Baird, Black Jack Church, Central District

AFC – Other

1st – Heather Sue Ann Foreman, Shiloh Church, Albemarle District

2nd – Stacy Furlough, Winterville Church, Central District

3rd – Adam Windley, Indian Springs Church, Eastern District

YFA – Other

1st – Chad Hoggard, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle District

2nd – Cheyenne Corbitt, Union Grove Chapel, Western District

3rd – Thomas Ward, Charity Mission Church, Pee Dee District

Bible Bowl Winners

AFC's

1st – Beaverdam AFC's, Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee District

2nd – Winterville AFC's, Winterville Church, Central District

The Upcoming State Youth Convention

Topic for 1996 Public Speaking is Right from Wrong (Fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5:22)

Theme for 1996 Convention is "Right From Wrong"
Date: May 17, 18, & 19

Everyone please make plans to attend the 1996 Youth Convention of Original Free Will Baptist. We will have work seminars again this year. Title for adults is Truth Matters. AFC's YFA's (9-12 AFC & 13 up to adults YFA's) their topic is Right Choices. We will be using Josh McDowell Material.

3rd – Robert's Grove AFC's, Robert's Grove Church, Cape Fear District

YFA's

1st – Beaverdam YFA's, Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee District

2nd – Juniper's Chapel YFA's, Juniper Chapel, Eastern District

3rd – Vandora Springs YFA's, Vandora Springs Church, Cape Fear District

Christian Writing

AFC's

1st – Shane Coleman, White Oak Church, Pee Dee District

2nd – Cameron Rose, Trinity Church, Albemarle District

3rd – Dawn Faircloth, Robert's Grove Church, Cape Fear District

YFA's

1st – Jennifer Tuten, Trinity Church, Albemarle District

2nd – Kelly King, Wilson First Church, Western District

3rd – Garrett Southerland, Sound Side Church, Eastern District

Winners from 1995 Convention continued

Lesson Presentation

AFC's

- 1st – Heather White, Hickory Chapel, Albemarle District
- 2nd – Tracy Furlough, Winterville Church, Central District
- 3rd – Melissa Nippes, Juniper Chapel Church, Eastern District

YFA's

- 1st – Justin Carter, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle District
- 2nd – Scott Satterfield, Pleasant Grove Church, Cape Fear District
- 3rd – Jeremy Callahan & Michael Dowless, White Oak Church, Pee Dee District

Public Speaking

AFC's

- 1st – Casey Britton, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle District
- 2nd – Jamie Radford, Winterville Church, Central District

YFA's

- 1st – Christy Flowers, Kenly Church, Western District
- 2nd – Cassie Hilburn, Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee District

Talent Search Winners

Individual

Cherubs

- 1st – Jake Brickhouse, Sound Side Church, Albemarle District
- 2nd – Christopher Moye, Reedy Branch Church, Central District
- 3rd – Casey Marshburn, Sandy Plain Church, Eastern District

AFC's

- 1st – Kayla Clayton, Sidney Church, Albemarle District
- 2nd – Jamie Page, First Church Wilson, Western District
- 3rd – Ashley Herring, Reedy Branch Church, Central District

YFA's

- 1st – Lee Honeycutt, Robert's Grove Church, Cape Fear District
- 2nd – Tara Harrison, Union Chapel Church, Albemarle District
- 3rd – Lee Wilson, Juniper Chapel, Eastern District

Group

Cherubs

- 1st – White Oak Cherubs, White Oak Church, Pee Dee District

- 2nd – Kings Cross Roads Cherubs, King's Cross Roads Church, Central District
- 3rd – Sound Side Cherubs, Sound Side Church, Albemarle District

AFC's

- 1st – Tarboro First Group, Tarboro First Church, Central District
- 2nd – Little Rock Group, Little Rock Church, Western District
- 3rd – Trinity Group, Trinity Church, Albemarle District

YFA's

- 1st – King's Cross Roads Group, King's Cross Roads Church, Central District
- 2nd – Juniper Chapel YFA's, Juniper Chapel Church, Eastern District
- 3rd – First Church Wilson YFA's, Wilson First Church, Western District

Others

Cherubs

- 1st – Michelle Hoggard, Hickory Chapel Church, Albemarle District

AFC's

- 1st – LeAnn Markuson, Genesis Mission Church, Cape Fear District

YFA's

- 1st – Kelly Weyant, Whaley's Chapel Church, Eastern District
- 2nd – Free Union YFA's, Free Union Church, Albemarle District

Free Trips Or Bonds Given were awarded to the following:

Cherubs

- Krystal Nichole Smith — Bond \$150.00 — Competition Talent, White Oak, Pee Dee District

AFC's

- Heather McPherson, General Youth Conference, Cragmont, Bible Bowl Competition, Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee District

- Jamie L. Harrison, General Youth Conference, Cragmont, Arts and Crafts Competition, Union Chapel Church, Albemarle District

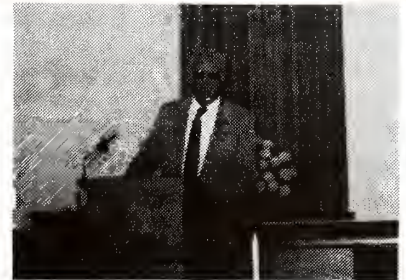
- Amanda Buck, Young People's Bible Conference, Cragmont, Talent Competition, Tarboro First Church, Central District

- Charles Godwin, General Youth Conference, Bible Bowl Competition, Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee District

YFA's

- Henry Berry, Bond \$150.00, Arts and Crafts Competition, Charity Mission Church, Pee Dee District

Glimpse of September 11, 1995 Central Conference Layman's League



Central Conference Laymen's League President Raymond Gray of Friendship FWB Church.



Special Music provided by Host Church, Greenville First

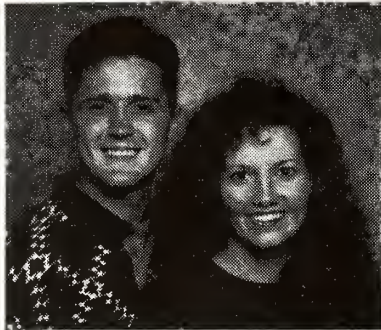


Winners of the attendance plaque at September 11, 1995, Central Conference Laymen's League. (Left to Right) Macon Page of Rose Hill (most members present) and John Newton of Tarboro (percentage of members present)

**State Laymen's League
November 3, 1995,
Fremont FWB Church
7:00 pm**

**Eastern Conference
November 20, 1995
Memorial FWB Church
Chocowinity, 7:00 pm**

Greenville Church Welcomes Stephen and Lynn Prescott



Stephen Matthew Prescott began his work as Associate Student Minister at First Free Will Baptist church of Greenville on September 5, 1995. In this position, he is primarily responsible for the youth and education programs of the church.

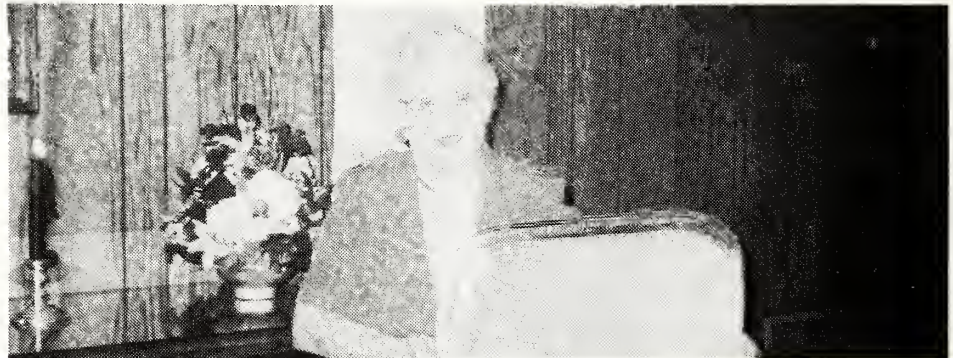
Mr. Prescott is the son of Carol Prescott and the late E. Matthew Prescott. He spent his early years in the Grantsboro community of Pamilco County and is a member of Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church. After graduating from high school, he continued his education at Mount Olive College where he earned his BS in Business Administration with a major in Business Management and a minor in Music in 1992. In 1993, he accepted the call to the gospel ministry. He returned to Mount Olive College and graduated in 1995 with a BS in Church Ministries. Mr. Prescott is a licensed minister in the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

While attending Mount Olive College and singing with the Mount Olive College Singers, he met his wife, Lynn. They were married December 10, 1994. Lynn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Lawhorn of Four Oaks. Lynn also graduated from Mount Olive College in 1995 with a BS in Fine Arts, concentrating in music. Currently, she teaches fifth grade at Johnston Christian Academy in Smithfield, North Carolina.

Rev. Ronnie Van Hobgood serves as the pastor First Free Will Baptist Church.

Mrs. Eunice Boykin Honored at Woman's Auxiliary Meeting

The Woman's Auxiliary of First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, NC honored their retired president at the regular monthly meeting. Eunice Boykin was president of the auxiliary for nine years and was presented a silver tray for her loyalty and service to our Lord and Church, also presented was a framed writing in appreciation from the Auxiliary. One other thing that was accomplished during her leadership, was the fact that we got an A-1 Auxiliary rating for all the years she served as president. In love and appreciation we presented her with these gifts and salute her for her love to us in such a profound way. Nancy Matthews, Author and member did an excellent job in preparing the plaque for us as follows:



To: Eunice Boykin

In appreciation for 9 years service as President of Woman's Auxiliary
Wilson First Free Will Baptist Church

Nine years ago our auxiliary had 4 Circles with 56 members. You guided us through a growth process which now totals 6 Circles with 81 members.

During this period, we've gained in fellowship and spiritual growth through Circle Meetings, WA Meetings, Cottage Prayer Meetings, Study Courses, and various projects including bake and craft sales, sales of knives, dish cloths, and cookbooks, binding books and other endeavors.

Proceeds from these projects were used for local church and denominational interest including:

- Cragmont Assembly • Home Missions
- Foreign Missions • Mount Olive College
- Children's Home • Relocation Land Debt
- Building Fund • Disaster victims through Red Cross
- Carpeted Fellowship Hall • Memorial Plaque for Deceased Members

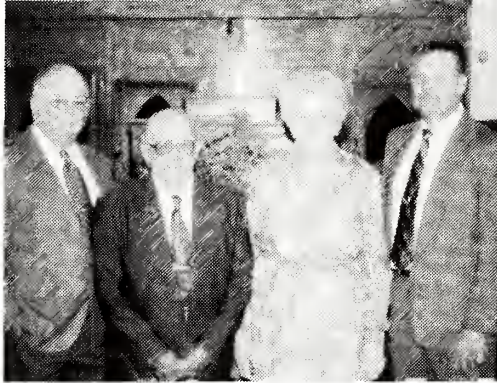
Only you, Eunice Boykin, could have guided us with such expertise. No one else could have told women ranging in age from 25 to 87 to "sit down and hush" with such loving diplomacy.

Thanks for all your time and effort spent in making our Woman's Auxiliary a great success.

Love and Prayers,
Woman's Auxiliary
First Free Will Baptist Church

FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARDS PRESENTED

Mount Tabor Original Free Will Baptist Church, in Creswell, has recently presented several FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARDS to member of the church. The FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD is presented monthly to a person in the church who has, over an extended period, rendered exceptional service to others, both in and out of the



(L-R) Recipients of the FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD at Mt. Tabor FWB Church in Creswell. Leroy Comstock, McCoy Davenport, Ruth Ambrose, Phil Armstrong.

church. Selected by the Pastor and Deacons, the recipients of the award are selected based on their love, witness and work for their Lord Jesus Christ. Those recognized have consistently shown an unselfish concern for others, and a willingness to be a service to others.

During the last four months the award has been presented to Mr. Leroy Comstock, Mr. McCoy Davenport, Mrs. Ruth Ambrose and Mr. Phil Armstrong.

Each of these recipients has served in a variety of leadership and service positions in the church. Mr. Comstock has just recently rotated off the church's Deacon

Board and is Co-Chairman of the Mt. Tabor Centennial Celebration Committee. Mr. Davenport and Mrs. Ambrose have both served the congregation in numerous positions. Mr. Davenport is currently a Trustee of the church, and Mrs. Ambrose is active in the Mt. Tabor

Auxiliary. Mr. Armstrong is presently serving as Deacon, and as a member of the church's Building Committee.

In a special service, each recipient was surprised with a framed certificate which quotes Jesus' words "His Lord said unto him, Well done, 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 25:23

Mount Tabor Church is a member of the Albemarle Original Free Will Baptist Conference. The church is located on Mt. Tabor Road in Creswell.

The Rev. Ray Wells Honored

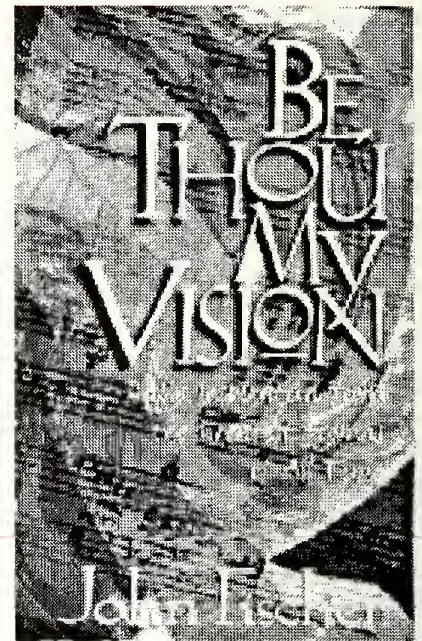
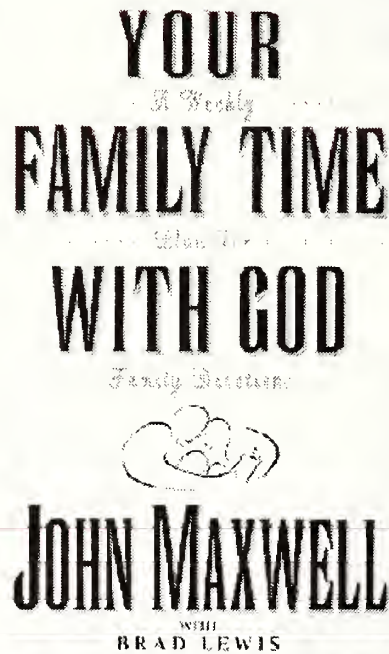
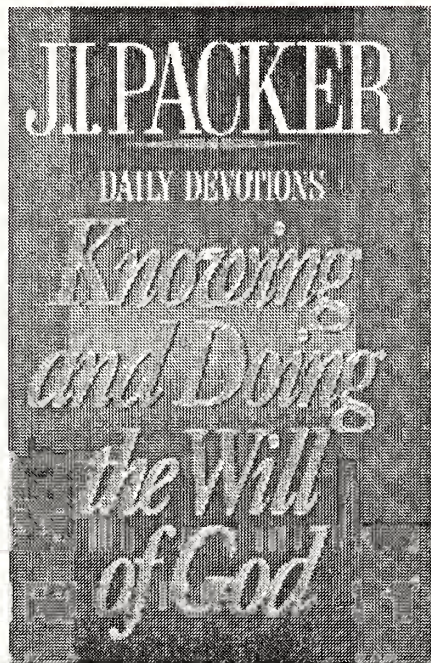
On October 8, 1995, Marsh Swamp FWB Church family celebrated Clergy Appreciation Day. After the morning worship, there was a soup and sandwich lunch in the church fellowship hall in honor of the Rev. Ray Wells. After the meal, he was remembered with a "long-last" dream. In a sermon several weeks prior to the celebration, he had expressed a boyhood desire of always wanting to be a cowboy. So at this celebration, he was presented a "real" cowboy hat and his very own stick horse. A love offering of \$650 was given to him, also. Many friends expressed their kind thoughts and appreciation to the Rev. Wells. He has been the pastor at Marsh Swamp FWB Church at Rock Ridge for 15 years.

SANDRA HADDEN ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF WACHOVIA OF GOLDSBORO

Sandra Hadden has been elected vice president for Wachovia of North Carolina, Goldsboro. This announcement was made by John G. Eagan, senior vice president and city executive for Wachovia in Goldsboro, after a recent meeting of the Board.

Mrs. Hadden joined Wachovia in 1962 in the Retail Banking Department in Goldsboro, where she held several positions before transferring to Retail Loan Administration in 1975. In 1983, Mrs. Hadden was named operations manager of Retail Loan Administration and promoted to banking officer. In 1990, she rejoined the Retail Banking Department as a Personal Banker and was promoted to assistant vice president in 1992. Mrs. Hadden was named a private banker in 1993, the position she currently holds. She is a native of Goldsboro, and is the daughter of Lucile Grantham. She is married to Robert L. Hadden, production manager at the Free Will Baptist Press.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS



The Year of Renewal Through Prayer Begins

by
Mary M. Dudley

The Convention year began on Friday night, September 9, 1995 at Stoney Creek OFWB Church when the Sunday School Board sponsored its Pastor and Superintendent Banquet. Approximately 70 people were on hand to hear the Rev. Ray Wells share his thoughts concerning the need for prayer as we strive for a greater commitment to Christian nurture in our



The Rev. Ray Wells, sharing his thoughts concerning the need for prayer.

churches. It is not the work of the Sunday school as a separate organization, but rather the total effort of the church to share the truth of the gospel through its educational efforts.

Mr. Larry Merritt from Victory Mission for the Deaf, with interpreter Mrs. Marin Bandel shared a message in song through signing. He signed "Teach Me, Oh Lord, to Pray" with an expressiveness



Interpreter, Mrs. Marin Bandel shares a message in song through signing.

which put everyone in a meditative mood. The stage was set for *The Call to Prayer* as everyone was reminded to put forth an Extra Effort to pray for a greater commitment and dedication to Christian nurture from all our people.

Six days later at the annual meeting of the Convention, the Sunday School Board was elevated to ministry status and given the charge of keeping Christian Education uppermost in our denomination. As a result, the Board will be busier than ever sharing its work with our churches. We have several plans in the works such as reviving the Sunday School newsletter, providing more workshops and training materials, updating the Sunday School Handbooks, and planning an Extravaganza for March, 1996.

We have several suggestions to offer you, if you choose to assist in the Ministry of the Sunday School Board. It is our prayer that you as an individual, church or Sunday School Class will choose at least one activity as a challenge for greater service as we, together, grow our Sunday Schools.

- Put forth an Extra Effort and pray 3 times per week for greater commitment of Christian nurture.
- Send an Extra Effort Contribution for the work of the Sunday School Ministry. Recognition will be given at the Spring Institute.
- Contact one of the Board members and schedule a visit to your church or Sunday School Class.
- Send a regular contribution to the Sunday School Board. A few churches are already doing this.
- Contact Mary Dudley and arrange a workshop to meet your church's special needs.
- Contact a Board member and let them know what your church is doing for Christian Education.

Your Sunday School Board members are Mary Dudley, Paul Grubbs, David Atkins, Kathy Norman, Ralph Casey, Elwood Hill, Mike Ledbetter, Frankie Baggett, and Kipling Godwin. Call us and let us be of service to your church during this Year of Prayer.



The Torch Has Passed

As I begin this, my first, "Notes and Quotes," I am very aware that I am following in the paths that others have walked before me. I, like the runner of a relay, have been handed the torch by a previous runner. One day, I will pass the torch to another. While I carry the torch, I pray that I will run a good race and that I will also do my best for my Lord and my denomination.

C. H. Overman passed the torch to me. He has run a good leg of the race and given me a good place to begin. As he passes the torch, he has become one of my biggest advocates. I never will have to doubt his support or prayers. I appreciate what he has done to make it possible for me to continue this work. (Thanks C. H.)

I cannot do this work alone. I will need *your* prayers, *your* help, *your* advice, and *your* encouragement. I am looking for a few people that are willing to become prayer partners. I would like to know that there are some people that have committed a part of their prayer time to lifting me before God. I am totally dependent on Him! I believe that prayer is so very important. If you are interested in becoming a prayer partner, let me hear from you.

Convention Thoughts

The 83rd annual session of the Convention is now history. I believe that it is one of the best that I can remember. I was there from the opening service under the tent until the last "Amen" was offered just after noon on Thursday. I was especially impressed with this year's worship services. There was a new spiritual vitality. For me, the highlight came on Wednesday as we joined hands around College Hall and prayed for renewal for Original Free Will Baptists.

My installation was another personal high point. I was awed by the challenge and awareness of the overwhelming responsibilities. I felt both the love and prayers of the Convention as I was anointed and the ministry directors and conference moderators laid their hands on me and prayed.

As I listened to the reports of our ministries I was glad to be a Free Will Baptist. We are doing some great things in the world in which God has placed us. Free Will Baptists have given of themselves and their resources to fulfill the mission of the church. While there is much room for improvement, we are busy about the work of God.

I left the Convention challenged. While we are doing some great things for God, we are not where we should be. There is a big world out there that needs Jesus Christ! There are many cities and towns that do not have the witness of an Original Free Will Baptist church. There are many churches that are declining while their community is growing. There are many young people that have not been challenged by the Gospel. There are many Christians that are not growing or serving.

Pray for renewal!

Weekly Devotions

Each week, those of us at the Headquarters meet for a devotion and time of prayer at 11 am on Monday in the conference room. We believe it is a good way to start our week. We take time to read the Bible and then join together in prayer.

If you have a special prayer request, you are invited to let us know. A list is prepared and distributed each week. We especially want to know about the needs of ministers and churches. You may write us at the Headquarters or call (Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513; 919-746-4963).

If you are in the area, you are welcome to join us. We are always glad to welcome visitors at the Headquarters, but would be particularly happy to see you at our devotion.

A Word to the Techies

I am a user of the Internet. If you wish to contact me by E-mail my address is OFWB @AOL.com.



“BEFORE WINTER”

Information, Inspiration, and Planning for Senior Citizens

“Do thy diligence to come before winter” (2 Timothy 4:21).

It is now autumn and every autumn in history has been followed by winter.

It was autumn — not only in the season of the year but in life — for the Apostle Paul when he wrote Timothy. In prison, and on trial for his life, Paul felt that many of his friends had forsaken him, and he was lonely. Aware that the harsh winds of winter would soon turn his prison cell into a cold dungeon, his letter to Timothy was to one of his most loyal friends:

“Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me:” he wrote.

For fear that Timothy might not understand the urgency of his letter, Paul adds: “Do thy diligence to come before winter” (2Timothy 4:9, 21).

I. Paul’s Preparation for Winter

In his loneliness, Paul was reaching out for the support of friends. Fortunately Luke was with him, but he felt that his friends back home had abandoned him or were so busy that they could not come to Rome. “Demas hath forsaken me,” he wrote and then he listed various friends who were tied up in their work: Titus was in Dalmatia on the coast of the Adriatic Sea, Crescens was in Galatia, Tychicus was at Ephesus on a special mission, Erastus was at Corinth, and Trophimus was at Miletum, sick.

At his first trial, no one came to his support. “All men forsook me,” Paul wrote (2Timothy 4:16). So he urges Timothy to come quickly, “before winter.” Although Paul knew that God was with him, he still felt the need for the warmth and love of friends who cared.

In his early ministry Paul and Mark had been close friends, but differences came between them and they went their separate ways. Later their relationship had been mended and now Paul writes Timothy, “Take Mark and bring him with you.” Paul wanted to put a healing seal on an old friendship that had been wounded.

In addition to friends, Paul had physical needs that required attention. “The cloke I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee” (2 Timothy 4:13), he urged Timothy. He knew that the Romans would be more concerned about the security of their prisoners than their comfort, and with the coldness of winter approaching, Paul felt the need for his overcoat.

Beyond friends and clothing, Paul had personal and spiritual needs. He requested that Timothy “bring the books, but especially the parchments.” The books were probably Old Testament Scriptures and the parchments were most likely personal papers and documents.

It is autumn and Paul has established the priority of things he wants to get done “before winter.”

II. Before Winter for Senior Citizens

We “senior citizens” are not only in the autumn of the seasons, but like Paul we are also in the autumn of life. Spring and summer have come and gone, and the reality of life is that winter is next. The Christian faith assures us, however, that we need not dread winter if we prepare for it. Let us look at the preparation of Paul and learn how we too can prepare for the winter of life.

Like Paul, we need friends who will take our hand, put their arms around us and say, “I care.” There is no pain comparable to loneliness. Among the saddest words in literature is Paul’s statement: “Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world” (2 Timothy 4:10). Many senior citizens know the pain of these words from their own experience — from people who have used them and now abandoned them.

Fortunately, Paul still had Luke. The story of Mark is that friends can be found in the restoration of broken relationships, and the lesson of Timothy is that there are yet people who will come to us, if we will let them know that we want their help. I would like to believe that there is a Timothy in the life of every senior citizen to whom we could write a letter or make a phone call.

Just as Paul needed his overcoat to protect his body against the on-coming cold weather, even so we senior citizens have physical needs. Our bodies do not function as well as they did in the spring and summer of life, and we can no more prevent aging than Paul could prevent the advent of winter. We can, however, take advantage of whatever aid is available. Paul called for his cloke and we who live in America can be thankful for the best medical services in the world. Regular physical check-ups, self-discipline in our eating, appropriate exercise, and the nurturing of our spiritual lives to strengthen us against stress and tension can all contribute not only to the length of life but its quality.

Finally, Paul wanted to get his papers in order. He emphasized to Timothy to bring “the parchments.” Whatever these

parchments were, they were important and valuable to Paul. For senior citizens in the United States today, our personal documents should include a "Power of Attorney" (someone to act for us in case of our disability), a financial plan and our Last Will and Testament.

For most senior citizens, there is still time to protect ourselves against the winter of life, to strengthen friendships and mend broken relationships, to safeguard our health, to get our papers and affairs in order and to put our lives together. But we are in the autumn of life, and whatever we are going to do, we need to do it "before winter."

A Personal Note:

Our senior years need to be foreboding, if we plan properly, they can be our golden years — the best years of our lives.

Having crossed that mystical line which classifies one as a "senior citizen," I find myself evaluating and planning this new phase of my life. I realize that I am not alone in this endeavor because the fastest growing segment of our population is our senior citizens.

Since the remainder of my time will be in "The Golden Years," I am giving this subject serious study and I hope to prepare future articles about the decisions, problems, opportunities and concerns which confront people in this stage of their lives. The kind of topics I have in mind include: Preparing for Retirement, The Christian Meaning of Retirement, Using Retirement Creativity, Financial Planning, Health Related Problems, Attaining Spiritual Maturity, Changes in Family Relationships, Living Alone, Death and Immortality.

Your comments and suggestions are encouraged.

W. Burkette Raper
619 West Main Street
Mount Olive, NC 28365



Sweet Potato Casserole

6 cups cooked mashed sweet potatoes
1 cup sugar
1 stick margarine
2 eggs
1/2 cup milk
1 teaspoon vanilla

Top Crust:

1 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup flour
1/3 cup margarine
1 cup chopped nuts

Mix above ingredients and pour into casserole dish. For top crust mix sugar, flour, and margarine until coarse, add chopped nuts and spread over sweet potato mixture. Bake 375° for 30 minutes or until golden brown.

Helen Barber
St. Mary's FWB Church

Monkey Bread

3 cans butter me not biscuits
1 1/2 cups brown sugar
2 tablespoons cinnamon
1 gallon size ziploc bag
1 cup chopped nuts optional
1 stick butter

Cut biscuits in quarters. Mix 1 cup brown sugar with cinnamon in ziploc bag. Drop biscuits into bag. Zip bag and toss until all biscuit pieces are coated. In a greased tube pan layer biscuits (and nuts if desired). Melt butter with 1/2 cup brown sugar and pour over biscuits. Bake for 30 minutes at preheated 350°.

Bille V. Ard
Bethlehem FWB Church



Editor's Note

Dear Church Family;

Thanks to God for my Redeemer,
Thanks for all Thou doest provide,
Thanks for times now but a memory,
Thanks for Jesus by my side,
Thanks for pleasant, balmy springtime,
Thanks for dark and dreary fall,
Thanks for tears by now forgotten,
Thanks for peace within my soul,
Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered.
Thanks for what Thou dost deny,
Thanks for storms that I have weathered,
Thanks for all Thou doest supply,
Thanks for pains, and thanks for pleasure,
Thanks for comfort in despair,
Thanks for grace that none can measure,
Thanks for love beyond compare,
Thanks for roses by the wayside,
Thanks for thorns their stems contain,
Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain,
Thanks for heavenly peace with Thee,
Thanks for hope in the tomorrow,
Thanks through all eternity.

Don't we have so much to be thankful for? God has so richly blessed us. Sometimes a simple THANKS does not suffice.

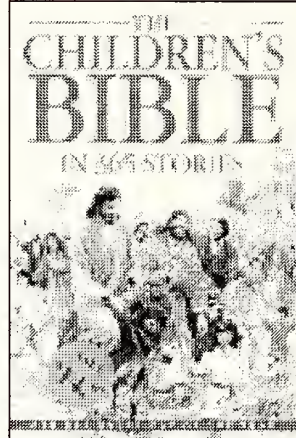
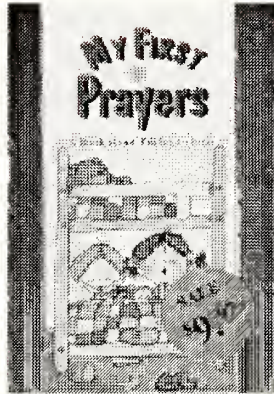
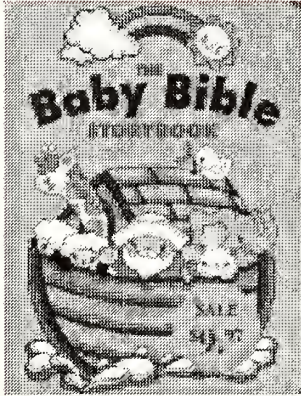
In His Service,

Tracy

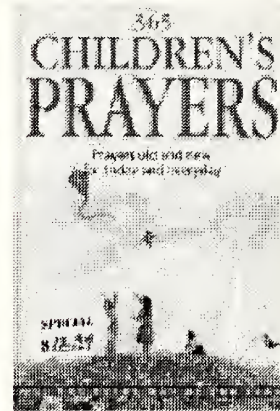
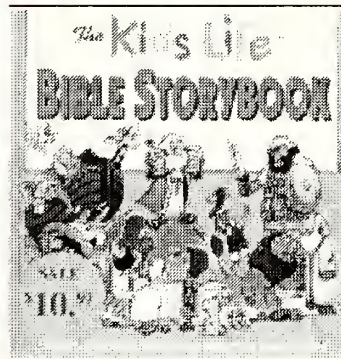
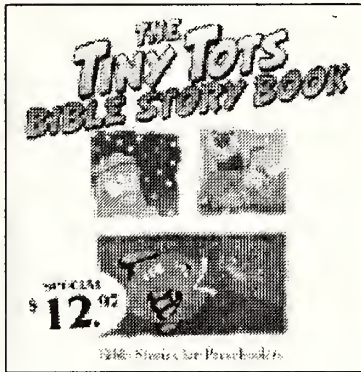
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The Free Will Baptist

December 1995

... Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes,
lying in a manger.

Luke 2:12

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NEXT MONTH

*Retirement
Homes
Month*



*December Is
Foreign Missions
Month*



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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Denominational Ministries



Christmas Greetings from the Board of Foreign Missions, the workers and churches in India, Nepal, Mexico, Eastern Europe, and the Philippines. May God bless you with the joy of the shepherds that first Christmas.

December is Foreign Missions Month

Your special gift this month will carry the Message of Christmas to those who have never heard. *By faith we receive the largest Christmas offering ever. Thank you for your response.*

Harold Jones
Director/Treasurer



FOREIGN
MISSIONS

P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039
Phone: 919-746-4963

First Fruits

by Janan

The youth group "Immanuel" had the first anniversary on July 20th. After one year we see already the first fruits developing. These are fruits of the "Word" which is changing people into a different way of life. Recently we have decided that every week one of the students will teach a lesson about a topic of their own choice. The first one to teach was Valerie, he is 14 years old.

His parents are believers in the power of the "muska." They believe in the power of triangle shaped pieces of paper which they receive from the Xojah, the musselman pastor. On the pieces of paper the Xojah writes phrases out of the Koran; phrases which can heal the sick, which can take evil away and which can even bring blessings to the persons who receive them.

Valerie's father is not always good to him. Valerie responds: "My Lord gives me patience and teaches me to love my parents just as they are. Though it is not easy, I always pray for them

and I will continue to do so."

Valerie chose as his lesson topic: "Why Do I Believe in Jesus." Thoughts in his lesson were: "What does He give me? What does He take away from me? How can I show my love to Him?"

We all were very nervous when we had to teach for the first time and so was he. During my children class-hours in the afternoon he came to me and he said: "Janan, I don't know if I can do it. Last night I had many thoughts, even this morning and at noon, but at the moment I took my pen and paper I was paralyzed." Then I spoke with him in my office room and told him: "If you want to do it yourself alone, forget about it, things like that you cannot do alone. You shall ask the Lord to help you and He shall do it."

At 7 o'clock that day in the evening Valerie was teaching a good lesson, sharing his knowledge, his feelings and showing his faith in the Lord. We all enjoyed his lesson very much.



I was happy and thankful. I believe in my God, my Lord, because I am a human being, a child of the living God. He gives me strength so many times after I pray to Him. He teaches me to do good and to feel happy by that. He gives me promises of everlasting life and the same God Almighty takes and washes my sins away. Praise the Lord!

You can probably imagine that we are not forgotten by Satan. Many things happen which should not happen and

many things don't happen at all that should happen. However, we have a strong back, He is the Lord Almighty. He gives us strength to overcome.

Thank you Lord for the lesson of Valerie and for all the goodness by which You bless all of us. We thank you for all the blessings in our daily lives.

You give us bread to eat and water to drink, You show Your presence in many ways. Thank you Lord!

Janan

— FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTRY OF CRISES INTERVENTION —

By Rev. Zacarias Perocillo

In the Third World countries like the Philippines, where our Free Will Baptist Churches operate, there is a great need for pastors who know how to minister to the needs of the poor people. When we say poor people, we mean poor financially, mentally, and in their ways of life. But how do you minister to the many needs of others when you are also experiencing many of the same problems.

One way that has proven effective, not only to the sick, but also to those people who have some legal problems. People who are harassed by the rich and powerful, the undersigned intervened and helped through referrals to Public Attorney's office without pay. Also, helping poor people with problems of all kinds through professional guidance and counseling without pay. Thus, my house, when I am in Cebu, is like a medical clinic and also like a lawyer's office. People who need help, most especially counseling, and people needing a recommendation to get a job, all come.

Take a view of these two pictures. One is the family of Pastor and Mrs. Marzon,

with the miserable condition of their family whom the bread winner lost his job. They could not pay rent on their house, so the family built a shack just so there would be a roof over their heads. The Free Will Baptist Church helped this family by soliciting construction materials from well-to-do Christians. Then the other Free Will Baptist Church members helped them construct the house through free labor. Now, the Marzon's are very busy working in God's vineyard.

We, Free Will Baptists here in the Philippines, though we just began here in the Visayas and Mindanao, expect many people to come to our churches in the years to come because of the ministry of "Crisis Intervention" and of course, through God's Divine intervention. This type of ministry enhances our program of evangelistic campaign which has resulted in the planting of at least six congregations.

Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6). The Free Will

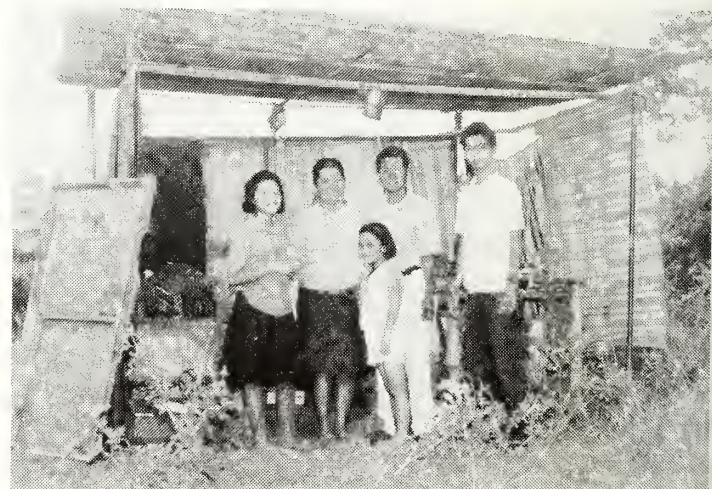
Baptist Church Philippines is also practicing prayer for the sick, laying on of hands for the sick, and casting our demons. This is coupled with sending indigent patients to the Charity Wards to any hospital in the City. Our ministers are literally working day and night, not only in evangelistic services and church services, but also ministering to the needs of almost all types of problems among the poor. As you read this, surely you can help our ministers even by just a word of prayer, *Will You?*

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a message of love-agape. Love is an action word, caring for those people for who practically nobody cares, except Jesus. When these people get saved, they will not remain poor forever because this Gospel when received is developmental in itself. This is what happened to million of individuals who got saved here and abroad.

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" John 10:10.



This picture of Alfonso Marzon and his wife, a lay pastor of a FWB in the Province of Bohol who has already planted three congregations of believers No. 18, 2530 adults each respectively in less than a year's work. The family lives on love gifts from Mrs. Perocillo and in kinds from these small congregations.



This humble dwelling of the Marzons will soon be changed to a much better one through the help of the Rev. Harold Jones, and the local church of Pardo, Cebu City. We made representation to the president of the urban poor, and the Marzons has now a titled lot of their own given by the city government of Cebu City, free of charge.

What is Christmas?

by: Phing Rodriguez



Is it joy, hope, beauty?
Which means material things
like...
Nice lanterns, colorful
Christmas trees, delicious
food, new dress, shoes
or...is it
A time of rejoice,
A time to forgive and be
forgiven;
A time of worship God,
to give gifts to the poor,
to share love with someone
because it is Christmas
Christmas...for me is...
to commemorate the birth of
Christ
to rejoice because He was
born
to save us,
to let Peace reign
among men.



Children's Home

To everything there is a season...

Christmas is fast approaching. This is a very busy time of the year. The season brings fun in shopping, going to parties, caroling, and sharing with others. We begin our preparations early to make this a time that will be remembered...a time with presents for every boy and girl, a time for love and compassion so they will want to remember their Christmas at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

You can show our children that you care by sharing a part of what you have with them. You can make Christmas possible for a child this year by simply making a contribution of \$100 for each child sponsored. Please return the Sponsorship Reservation Form, to let us know that we can count on you.

Sponsorship Reservation Form

Sponsor: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Number of Children We Would Like to Sponsor: _____

Remarks: _____

*Merry Christmas
From*

Free Will Baptist Children's Home

Minister's Program

The Christmas Cheer Program

by Donald Fader, Minister's Program

Christmas is a very special time of year and some of our most precious memories of this season are associated with the Church. This is not unusual since the celebration of Christmas is a part of who we are as Christians.

No matter how hard the world tries to change the holiday to something else to us it will always be the celebration of the birth of the King. This is a part of our heritage as Christians and all of us remember fondly the pageants, cantatas, caroling, plays, hymns, and the Christmas story recorded in Matthew and Luke. I remember the first long passage of Scripture I have committed to memory was in Luke and it began "And there went out a decree from Ceasar Augustus that all the world should be taxed." ...The events of the Scripture come alive during this time of year and we all are drawn closer to the Lord through the events of the season.

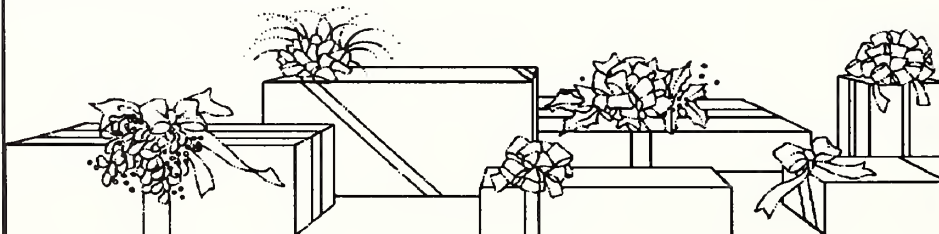
The men who pastored our churches during our childhood hold a special place in our heart because of all they did to make the services special at this time of year. Through the years our minds return to these times and we are touched by the warmth of these recollections.

As we have grown older year by year, we need to keep in mind that our former pastors have done the same. Time marches on and as the years pass these men who led our churches have slowed down and many of them have retired. It is important that in the midst of our joyous celebration that we don't forget those who have done so much for you and I in the years that have gone by.

Our denomination owes a great debt to these men and one way that we can acknowledge all they have done is to not forget them and what they mean to you. You can send them a card or letter and tell them that you are thinking of them. Their addresses can be found in the Yearbook and your clerk probably has a copy that they can share with you.

Also, in an effort that reach these men the Minister's Program sends a gift of \$100.00 to every minister that has reached the age of 75. This is a tangible way that we say "thank you" to these men and the replies that we receive to thank us are a real blessing to read. The gift goes out with a short letter in which we tell them that it is possible to do this because of the generosity of God's people, you!

If you would like to be a part of the Christmas Cheer Program, then you can send your gift to the Minister's Program or better yet encourage your church, Sunday school, auxiliary or league to receive a special offering for this cause. Your gift can be sent to the Minister's Program here at Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. Thank you for helping make this Christmas special to these men.



Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes

Currently your Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes is ministering to the following retirees by providing them a warm and caring home:

Mrs. Rose Bowen
411 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513
Phone: 919-746-4106

Miss Kay Jones
403 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513
Phone: 919-746-4563

Mr. Oliver Dunn
102 Power Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513
Phone: 919-746-6063

Don't let the upcoming holiday season pass without remembering these and other retired and/or elderly persons. It will not take much of your time to simply drop a card in the mail or make a phone call simply to say "I love you."

Christmas can be a very lonesome time if you have no one to express their love to you. Please don't let this happen to our retirees. Together, we can make this a very Merry Christmas for all.

As always, we ask that each member of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination remember the Retirement Homes program in your prayers as we seek to do God's will.

Join with us in this prayer:

Father, you give to me with a lavish hand, you do not withhold from me of your great grace and mercy. Let me live and serve you also with a generous heart. In the name of your Son, who gave His all. Amen.



Dear Friends,

You are receiving this correspondence for a number of reasons. First: We are on the threshold of Thanksgiving and Christmas; two holiday seasons that we celebrate together. We should pause for a time and think what it means to give thanks to God and honor His Son, Jesus as Saviour. Christians should give thanks at "all times" and for "all things." Easy to say, but not so easy to live out. When we do live these principles out, we find ourselves growing closer to the Lord and more useful in His service.

Second: Retirement Homes is grateful for all your prayers and gifts this year. Our financial circumstances are relaxed to some extent, but we continue to feel the weight of this responsibility. The past months have been difficult, but we have struggled through in faith believing the future to be brighter. We continue to reduce our operational cost. We have down-sized our care to three people. We have sold off our clinic properties in Ayden and home property in Smithfield. All these funds will be used to reduce our mortgage with Church Finance Association. We have two properties remaining in Ayden which we continue to hold and are presently occupied with retired families. When all these transactions are completed, Retirement Homes will be left with a indebtedness of around \$85,000 to be paid in monthly increments of around \$1,000 to Church Finance Association.

Third: Rebuilding this ministry has great possibilities. There are numbers of retired laity, ministers and minister's wives entering retirement, who are inquiring to share in our schedule of benefits. These will be given due consideration when sufficient funding is available.

Fourth: We treasure your partnership in this ministry. I hope you will give a gift to Retirement Homes as a token of the gratitude in your heart to God for His many blessings this year. Your gratitude will honor Jesus Christ and help those whom He loves. We need your support, both prayerfully and financially — to keep this ministry alive and helpful to our retired.

So, we wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and Christmas Season and urge your gift today.

Sincerely
Walter J. Sutton, Director
FWB Retirement Homes

Home Mission And Evangelism

Silver Creek: Moving On!

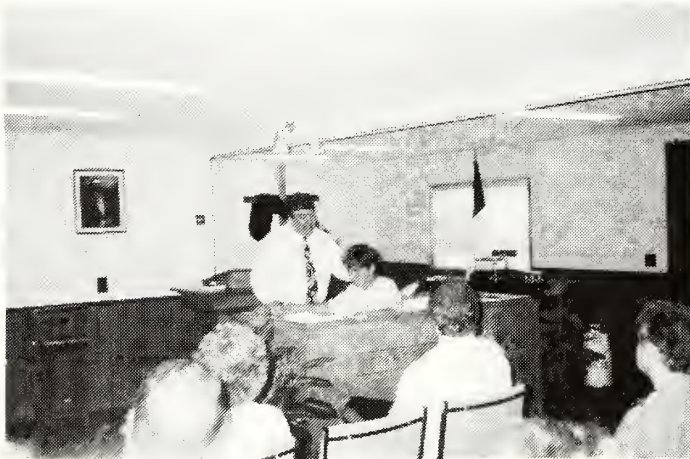
Summer is past, but it was a great one for Silver Creek Original Free Will Baptist Mission. The accompanying pictures show scenes from the July 2, baptism; four adults and one child were baptized. Also pictured are scenes from Vacation Bible School. The Bible School was held on three nights, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, with an average attendance of 38 people.

The Bible School week culminated with a "fun day" on Saturday, highlights of which were the picnic lunch and a visit from some firemen of the Emerald Isle Volunteer Fire Department, complete with a Fire Truck. Other features of the "week" were puppets, crafts, sign language, music, food and a balloon launch. Of course the main feature was the teaching of both children and adults about Jesus Christ and how to better serve Him.

More than one year has passed since the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism and the Eastern Conference Executive Committee working together prompted a new endeavor at Silver Creek. A special "Invitational Visitation" was held involving several of our Home Missionaries and concerned pastors and church members as well as the local people. Following this the local mission began the follow-up work and soon had a new Director/Pastor to lead them.

With all working together, the mission has come to the point where they are to be examined for church status. Hopefully, this will come in the near future. For now, your continued prayers and concern will be very welcome.

Please! Remember to pray for all of our Home Missions and Evangelism People and Projects.





*You are cordially invited
to attend the Commissioning Service*

*for the
Aubrey Williamson Family*

Friday, December 1, 1995

at

Saratoga Original Free Will Baptist Church

Saratoga, North Carolina

at Seven o'clock in the evening



The Reverend Aubrey Williamson of Saratoga has accepted the call to go to Florida. In response to a perceived need and within his call from God, Aubrey, his wife Carla and their three sons have dedicated themselves to accept the responsibility of being Home Missionaries.

For more information on helping The Rev. Aubrey Williamson and his family, contact:

Home Missions and Evangelism

Post Office Box 39

Ayden, North Carolina

Telephone: (919) 746-4963



**HOME MISSIONS
& EVANGELISM**
— of ORIGINAL —
FREE WILL BAPTISTS



Galloway Music Library Dedicated at Mount Olive College

The Jesse R. and Carrie Rowland Galloway Music Library was dedicated at a ceremony in September and was attended by Mrs. Josie Galloway Loudenslager of Washington, DC. Mrs. Loudenslager established the music library at the College as a lasting memorial to her mother and father, longtime members of the Spring Branch Original Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County.

"While yet to be developed to its fullest potential, there is contained in this collection resources to serve the needs of students, faculty and the public which will enrich the cultural heritage of all who utilize this outstanding gift to Mount Olive College," said President J. William Byrd.

The music library contains learning resources for the Department of Fine Arts, including books, music literature and performance materials, cassettes and video recordings, supporting equipment, and a state-of-the-art computer system with software to aid in music composition.

"The Galloway Music Library is a benchmark in the new music program at Mount Olive College. In time to come, this resource will serve as a model for other departments of study which need unique and distinctive learning resources," said Dr. W. Burkette Raper, consultant for institutional advancement for the College.

Jesse R. Galloway was the fifth of nine children born to John Edwin and Elizabeth Walston Galloway of Greene County. After the death of his father, Galloway was raised by his mother, a strong advocate of education, and he attended a one-room school near where Spring Branch Original Free Will Baptist Church now stands. The experience of his early schooling was characterized by musical activity and Galloway was ranked among the school's best vocal students. His interest in music was fostered with singing at home and in the church choir throughout his lifetime.

Mrs. Galloway was born Carrie

Rowland Lewis, the second of three children born to Robert Raspberry and Mittie Wiggins Lewis, who farmed in southern Edgecombe County. As a child, she was drawn to academics, particularly reading literature, at Forbes School, near her home. To help her continue her education beyond grade school, Mrs. Galloway's father bought her a horse and buggy which she drove to high school in Macclesfield.

The Galloways met at a box supper event at Forbes School and were married in May, 1918. Both grew to become respected members of their community; Mr. Galloway as farmer and breeder of quality livestock, and Mrs. Galloway as a celebrated cook and homemaker.

The Galloways were the parents of five children: Hazel Elizabeth (1919-1920), Lewis Edwin (1922-1961), Ruby Evelyn, Josie Evangeline, and William Jesse.

Complementing the Galloway Music Library will be the Jesse R. and Carrie Rowland Galloway Endowment, also being established by Mrs. Loudenslager. Its income will be used to support the music library for years to come.



Pausing with the bronze nameplate on display at the Galloway Music Library are (front row, from left) Gwynne Cavey of Hancock, Maryland, and Iris Viccelli of Hampton, Virginia, both daughters of Mrs. Loudenslager; Mrs. Loudenslager; and William Jesse Galloway of Walstonburg, NC; and (back row, from left) President Byrd and Dr. Raper. (Photo by Cecil Cahoon)

LAUGHINGHOUSE HALL OPENED AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The opening of the Jesse R. Laughinghouse Hall, a fine arts center, at Mount Olive College will enable the college to broaden the scope of its arts program, college officials said in a dedication ceremony in October.

More than 100 friends of the Jesse R. Laughinghouse family and supporters of the college attended the dedication of the Jesse R. Laughinghouse Hall.

Mr. Laughinghouse (1910-1989) was a strong believer in both education and hard work, said Dr. W. Burkette Raper, consultant for institutional advancement for the college. The building named in memory of Laughinghouse and in honor of Mrs. Laughinghouse has provided Mount Olive College students with a first-class facility in which to study photography, graphic design, drawing, painting and art history, Raper said.

Laughinghouse left a legacy of Christian faith, Raper said, along with his belief in work, family values and love for humanity.

"These are the pillars upon which education must rest, upon which life itself must rest," he said. Mount Olive College is now a trustee of that legacy, not just a beneficiary of it."

President J. William Bryd said the building is one of the components of a quality arts program, along with good teachers and motivated students. Bryd thanked Mrs. Hilda Laughinghouse for believing in the mission of Mount Olive College and said the effects of her generosity will be felt for many years by students at the college and by patrons of the arts.

Bryd also thanked members of the college's buildings and ground staff who built the new building.

Laughinghouse Hall opened at Mount Olive College Cont...

Raper said the opening of the facility marked the end of an era at the college. The arts department was the last to move from the old downtown campus. Mount Olive College opened in 1954 in Mount Olive College in an abandoned public school building.

"This building represents something extraordinary that will never again happen in the life of this college," Raper said. "This represents the final transfer of all operations from the old elementary school building to this campus."

The contrast between the old building and the new could not be more marked, said Larry Lean, chairman of the Department of Fine Arts.

"It's like night and day," Lean said, recalling leaky roofs and cramped quarters in the old building.

The new structure, on the east side of the campus, contains more than 7,000 square feet of floor space, including classrooms, a computer laboratory, a photography darkroom complex, a studio and a gallery.

About 30 students at Mount Olive College are majoring in art, Lean said. Most are visual communications majors. The opening of the new building will enable the college to place more emphasis on the fine arts, such as painting, he said, and serve more students.

The gallery should become a focal point for the arts in the region, Lean added. It provides a venue for shows and exhibits that otherwise would not be available. "We've needed something like this for

long time," he said.

The naming of Jesse R. Laughinghouse Hall memorializes a Pitt County native whose record of service to the community of eastern North Carolina spans more than 50 years.

Laughinghouse was born in 1910, one of 17 children of a Free Will Baptist minister, the late Reverend W. H. and Annie Laughinghouse. In December 1930, he was married to the former Hilda Britton. Laughinghouse was associated with Bostic Sugg Furniture Company, Inc., for 45 years, including 37 years as president.

"In church, fraternal and civic organizations, Mr. Laughinghouse was a leader, devoting to his community the highest measures of attention and service with abundant energy," President Byrd said.

A charter member of Hooker Memorial Christian Church, he served the church in every office except pastor. He later served on the executive board of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ in North Carolina, and as a director of Camp Carolina in Arapahoe.

Active in Masonry and Shrinedom, Mr. Laughinghouse became a Master Mason in 1946 and achieved the highest degree of Masonry, the thirty-third, in 1981. He represented the Grand Lodge of Masons of North Carolina in the Grand Lodge of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Initiated into Shrinedom and membership in the Sudan Temple in 1947, Laughinghouse became a charter member of Sudan Temple Provost Guard and served five years as Captain. He often rep-

resented Sudan Temple at the South Atlantic Shrine Association and, in January 1983, he received the Walt Disney Award for his outstanding service and support for the Shrine Hospitals for Crippled Children and Burn Patients.

Among his numerous professional and civic services, Laughinghouse served on the Board of Directors of the Bank of North Carolina and North Carolina National Bank, and as president and director of the Salvation Army Board. For his activity as a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Greenville, he was named Kiwanian of the Year in 1978-79. Laughinghouse served on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees from 1983-1985.

In 1985, he was honored with the Governor's Award for Human Services.

Among those attending the dedication ceremony were Mrs. Laughinghouse; Laughinghouse's four grandchildren; Britt Laughinghouse, Chip Laughinghouse, Lynn L. Hodges and Lisa Laughinghouse, and three great-grandchildren, Kelly Hodges, Kevin Hodges and Scott Hodges, all of Greenville; and one surviving brother Furnie Laughinghouse of Pantego. Laughinghouse is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Lela Laughinghouse Williams of Greenville.

Mount Olive College is a private four-year liberal arts institution sponsored by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and dedicated to the total development of its students in an environment nurtured by Christian values.

"TOMMY DAVIS FINDS MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE A PERFECT FIT"

by Heather Fowler, Office of Public Information Volunteer

Etheridge Thompson Davis, better known as "Tommy," is the son of Travis and Susan Davis of Newport.

Tommy is a life-long member of Holly Springs Original Free Will Baptist Church in Newport, pastored by Arnold Price, where he serves as an assistant Sunday school teacher. In his community, Tommy is a member of the Carteret Historical Society, the Carteret Community Theater,



and helps at the North Carolina Seafood Festival in Morehead City.

A senior honors student at Mount Olive College, Tommy is majoring in business management with plans to work with either a bank, civil service, or an utilities company and also sell real estate on the side.

On campus, he is involved in Alpha Chi, a national honors society, and Phi Beta Lambda, a club for students interested in business. During the

1994-95 academic year, Tommy served as a college marshal and was the M. L. Johnson Business Award recipient. A perfect 4.0 student for his first three semesters at Mount Olive College, his current grade point average is 3.95.

"Dr. Pepper (Worthington) helped persuade me to come. I have always know about the College, but she really talked to me about it. I chose Mount Olive College because of the small classes and small campus. With this kind of atmosphere, I knew I would get to know people better."

In his leisure time, Tommy enjoys boating, tennis, traveling, and watching Broadway performances. Last year, he saw *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Miserables*, and *Beauty and the Beast* on a trip to New York City. He also collects duck decoys and "anything nautical."

To students still in high school, Tommy advises, "Don't choose a college just for its name; go where you feel comfortable. Also, do your best before college and it will help you be more prepared."

Mount Olive College Happenings

Day of Prayer Observed



About two dozen Mount Olive College students and faculty members gathered around the campus flagpole in September to pray, sing and celebrate "See You At the Pole," a day of prayer for students across the nation. Members of the Fellowship of Christian Students and the Students Theological Fellowship coordinated the event. (Photo by Cecil Cahoon)

Mrs. van der Plas Honored



Members of the Adult Sunday School class of May's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, hosted a luncheon at the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center in October to honor guest speaker Lydia van der Plas. Mrs. van der Plas and her husband, Willem, are Original Free Will Baptist missionaries most recently serving in Bulgaria. The class gathered with Mrs. van der Plas (ninth from left) for a photograph following the luncheon. (Photo by Cecil Cahoon)

Bridge Builders Recognized



Bridge Builders from Original Free Will Baptist churches across eastern North Carolina were recognized at the annual Bridge Builders Banquet in the Lois K. Murphy Regional Center in September. Bridge Builders are individuals or groups who pledge an unrestricted gift of \$100 or more to Mount Olive College through the College's annual fundraising dinner program. More than 400 Bridge Builders attended the 1995 banquet. (Photos by Cecil Cahoon)



**MOUNT OLIVE
COLLEGE**
HIGHER
LEARNING

HIGHER
STANARDS

HIGHER
VALUES

Coming Events at Mount Olive College — *Join Us!*

December

- 1-2 Pickle Classic. Call 919-658-5056 for information.
- 3 Third Century Singers; 1:30 p.m., Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. Free and open to the public.
- 5 Mount Olive College Choir Fall Concert; 7:30 p.m. Rodgers Chapel. Free and open to the public.
- 14 Mount Olive College Christmas Buffet with the Mount Olive Community Instrumental Ensemble's Christmas Program; 7 p.m., Lois K. Murphy Regional Center. Tickets are \$10 and reservations are required.

January

- 15 Campus Visitation Day. Seminars
- 16 Spring Convocation; 11 a.m., College Hall. The event is free and open to the public.
- 30 North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, co-sponsored by Mount Olive College; 11 a.m. and 8 p.m., Paramount Theater, Goldsboro. For ticket information, call the Office of Public Information, 919-658-2502.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

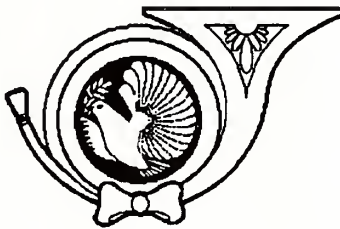
Christmas Buffet and Music by the Mount Olive Community Ensemble

Thursday, December 14, 1995 • 7:00 p.m.

Lois K. Murphy Regional Center

Mount Olive College

For two years the Christmas Buffet has been a highlight of the Christmas season. Join us for a delicious dinner and a wonderful program of Christmas music.



\$10.00 adults, \$6.00 children 12 and under, including beverage and tax — Reservations required by December 8.

For information on above event, contact the office of Institutional Advancement • 919-658-2502

Clip and Mail to:

Christmas Buffet, Mount Olive College, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive NC 28365

_____ Yes, I will attend the Christmas Buffet. There will be _____ in my party and my check is enclosed for \$ _____ (\$10.00 per adult, \$6.00 per child). Checks should be made payable to Mount Olive College. Reserved seating will be available for parties of six or more.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____





Features



FULFILLING A NEED

My husband retired early and most nights I read or do some extras around the house till I feel sleepy, but this night was different. I could not find peace in doing anything. As a matter of fact, all day had been a battle. Satan sent discouragement in some form all day. Finally, I decided to go to bed. This is my time to talk to the Lord, telling Him how much I love Him and thank Him for the many wonderful things He has done for me. But, Satan was so strong, all I could do was see all my failures, especially as a Pastor's wife. I felt like my life had been a failure as far as the ministry was concerned. I couldn't play the piano, couldn't sing, COULDN'T - COULDN'T that was the message from Satan.

I was raised on a farm, the youngest of eight children. My dad died when I was only three months old. My mother kept us all together, and all of us had to work for survival. We felt blessed to get thru high school. The one thing we had plenty of was love. Love for God and love one for another. After graduation I married with the great intent of going to nursing school. This was not to be for one year later our first daughter was born. She had many medical problems including mild retardation, so to work I went to help defray the medical bills and my mother became Big Ma to our two daughters.

When my husband accepted the call to the Ministry, there is no way to explain how inadequate I felt. I thought I had nothing to help him with except my love and devotion. Satan has kept this in my thoughts for forty years, and this night he came with all the discouragement he could give. I was about to wake my husband to have special prayer with

me when the phone rang and the voice on the other end said, "Hey Ma, what you doing?" This lady is a redeemed alcoholic and drug addict. She was shunned by her family and others who should have helped her. She was "Born again" in our church in Durham, and God gave her to me to care for. It has been difficult at times with all her daily problems. Many Christian friends have told me to forget her, but God gave me a love for that soul. Many years have gone by, but she still keeps close contact, almost daily, and she is looking forward to retiring from GTE in two more years and tonight she wanted to tell me she was still serving Jesus Christ with all her heart. And then I think of Jim. He had drank and used drugs until his mind was messed up. He would have bad flash-backs. God had given him and his dear wife to me for care. She would call so often saying, "Ma, Jim and I need you." I think of the many times we prayed and I held his hand until the spiders on the ceiling were gone and he was back to normal. That family so many times called and said "Ma, thanks for caring and helping." And then there was that ten-year-old girl that became a regular at our house on weekends because her dad was an alcoholic, and while he was drunk he would mistreat his family and run them from home. And now after thirty-five years, she still calls me Ma and is concerned with my well-being.

There have been so many that were unloved with a feeling of not belonging that have touched my life and how I wish there could have been many more and there were. Recently, my husband came in one evening and said he felt his work at Free Spirit was finished.

I was crushed. We had been at Free Spirit Church almost six years and I had become "Ma" to another group. Some had lost their parents and grandparents to death, so to them I filled that void.

God has now placed us in a Church with a beautiful congregation and today, October 8, was their "Homecoming." The Rev. Luther Bisette, a former pastor, brought the message. At the end of the service, the church presented both Sister Bisette and myself a beautiful yellow mum. As I looked around I knew that there were people in that congregation that needed the love and care of another "ma." I better understand now how that word must have sounded to "Ma" Hansley, that will be remembered for decades to come.

In closing, Pastor's wife, get all the education and training available to you. Be all you can be and to many it might seem that my forty years has been pretty dull, but I found that place and that peace in my heart that God has a place of service where love and caring for others is urgent. My heart is now overflowing, and my eyes filled with tears as my phone just rang and one of those little ones (now 45 years old) was on the line. Her voice said "Ma, what is wrong. I perceiving you are crying." My reply was "nothing, honey, I've just realized my place in the body of Christ" — *"As you have done it to the least of these, you done it unto me."*

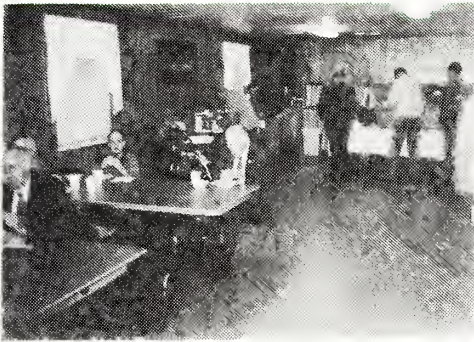
So, Pastor's wife, be not discouraged and don't be afraid to move wherever God calls your husband. There is a "Ministry of Love" awaiting you there.

Maxine Cox
Rock Springs

Free Will Baptist Church
Bailey, North Carolina

Scenes from the State Layman's League Meeting held at Fremont FWB Church

November 3, 1995



Layman's League News

Coming Events in the Layman's League


- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Dec. 4 | Central Conference Layman's League, Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Supper 7 pm;
Business 7:45 pm |
| Dec. 7 | Promotional Committee, Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, 7:00 pm |
| Spring 96 | Cragmont Shingle Project |
| May 3 | State Meeting |
| May 4 | State Layman's League Singspiration, Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church |



December

Is Foreign Missions Month

L
31
30

SUN	MON	TUE	
26	27	28	29
3	4 ◆ Layman's League Central Conference, Rose FWB Church, Supper 7 pm, Business 7:45 pm	5	6
10	11 ✦ Press Material Deadline	12	13
17	18	19	20
24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> <i>New Years Eve</i> Bookstores and the Press will be closed New Years Day 31	25  All Bookstores and the Press will be closed 25-26 will re-open Wednesday 27	26	27

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS

G E N D

ous/following month
nt month

- Sunday School
- ▲ Cragmont Assembly
- Foreign Missions
- + FWB Convention News
- + FWB Press Deadline

- ▼ Home Missions
- ◆ Layman's League
- * Mount Olive College
- ★ Conference Meeting
- Union Meeting
- * Woman's Auxiliary

THU		FRI		SAT	
30		1	<i>After Thanksgiving Sale</i> All Bookstores		
7	◆ Laymen's League Promotional Committee, Harrell's FWB Church, 7 pm	8		9	
14		15		16	
21		22		23	
28		29		30	■ Albemarle Union Meeting, Plymouth, NC, 10 am January will be Retirement Homes Month



OBITUARY

Ava Mae K. Poole

Ava Mae Keech Poole, 65, of the Sidney Crossroads community, Route 2, Belhaven, died Wednesday morning, November 1, 1995, at Pungo District Hospital in Belhaven.

Funeral Services were held at 2 pm, Friday at Sidney Free Will Baptist Church conducted by the Rev. Raymond Lagcher, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, and the Rev. Ron Estes. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Charlie J. Keech Jr., Dallas Keech, Don Keech, Greg Keech, Doug Wilson, and Tony Keech served as pallbearers. Gary Burbage and Kenny Keech served as honorary pallbearers.

Mrs. Poole was born October 2, 1930, in Beaufort county and was the daughter of the late Charlie Jackson and Neta Mae Keech. She was married to Stephen Richard "Bill" Poole, who died March 13, 1973. She was a licensed cosmetologist and a homemaker, and a member of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school and worked with Children's Church.

Survivors includes a son, Stephen R. Poole Jr. of Route 2, Belhaven; three daughters, Linda P. Sparrow of Route 2, Belhaven, Wendy P. Coates of Plymouth, Pa., and Janet Rice of Harrisonburg, Va.; three brothers, Charlis J. Keech, Jr., Dallas Keech, and Don Keech, all of Pinetown; a sister, Doris K. Wilson of Belhaven; five grandsons and one granddaughter.

Memorials may be made to Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Children's Church, 5580 Sidney Road, Belhaven.

Soundside's Prayer Vigil

In keeping with our Convention's "Call to Prayer," and in recognition of October's being designated as Prayer Month, the Soundside Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, NC, conducted a prayer vigil on October 8, 1995, from 2:00-5:45 pm. At fifteen-minute intervals, various volunteer members entered the church sanctuary to meditate and to specifically pray for spiritual renewal within our denomination.

As each participant entered, a prayer sheet was made available that contained the prayer requests as presented during the Convention's Wednesday morning worship service. As pastor of the church, I was very pleased to be a part of our Convention's "Call to Prayer," and to get such a response from the Soundside members. A prayer vigil is perhaps the most effective way to engage Christians in prayer for specifics. The testimony of those who participated gave evidence to the spiritual blessings and strengthening they received. The quietness of the hour as they entered God's sanctuary and knelt for a time in prayer brought each one to the realization that God is truly the One we must turn to if we are to experience a spiritual renewal.

Please allow me to encourage each church to plan a prayer vigil, not just once (if you did so in October), but several times during this fiscal year, since we have heard the "Call of Prayer" (by C. H. Overman, Pastor, Soundside FWB Church).

There's Joy In Serving Jesus

by Sharon Horton

The Joy Timers (Senior Citizens) of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Goldboro, NC have been joining together once a month for fun and fellowship. Plans are made for special activities throughout the following months. We not only have fun, we look for needs of others and things that we can do as a group. We have

about 25 in the group.

In the picture below, some are shown making pillows for the Cancer Society. These pillows are used as an arm rest for women who have had a mastectomy. We made and stuffed the pillows with cotten, then made colorful pillow cases, trimmed in lace.



Pictured are, Front row – Sharon Horton (Leader), Blanche Radford; Second row – Eunice Huffman, Rose Ina McLamb; Third row – Ester Stevens, Rachel Turner, Alma Dale, and Helen Allen, Charlotte Beckworth are not pictured.

~ ~ DAVID PARKER '95 ~ ~

by Anne Horton and Randy Cobb

The lights are low. Loud music pulses through the room. Young people move around and give each other high fives. Another teen Saturday night gathering? A special club? No — a gathering of Christian believers reveling in the life-changing love of Christ.

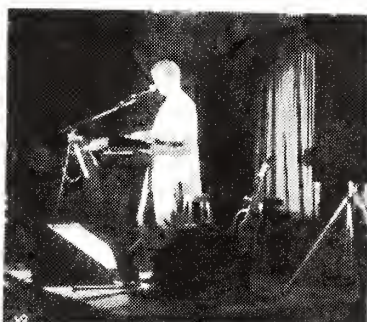
People (of all ages and denominational backgrounds) were singing, clapping, laughing, and celebrating the new life of Christ as Black Jack FWB Church hosted contemporary Christian music artist David Parker in concert on Saturday, September 23rd. Through David's music has a present day, popular music sound, the message of his lyrics is clearly based on the eternal good news of Christ and His love. David's song "Dare 2B Different" describes the command of God for Christians not to live secular lifestyles while another song "Keep Your Head Up" tells of the reassuring hope and confidence God gives to those who love Him. "I Am Available" is sung as a confessional and a statement of commitment to God which rings throughout the house as teens and adults sing in unison.

Though David opened the concert with upbeat songs, his tone became more serious after re-telling the story of Peter walking on — well, floundering in —

the water. David challenged his listeners to take a Peter-like incentive and get out of the boat. David asked his listeners "Are we willing to 'step out of the boat' in order to be near, learn more of, and commune with Jesus, the One we love? Are we willing to try the unusual and sometimes uncomfortable life in order to change our world for Christ?"

Later in the concert David led his audience in a quiet time of praise and worship before God. "One of the coolest things we can do is sing songs to God telling Him how much we love Him. I can just imagine Him telling the angels 'Sh-sh, listen' my children are singing to me, aren't they cool!"

David Parker finely wove dance, laughter, music, and worship to create an evening that celebrated and embraced Christ and His love. And surely God was pleased as young people finally understood a message they have been listening to for years — a message of God's love and the need to know Him intimately. Several people present at the concert not only sang love songs to Jesus but made first-time salvation decisions. Others made commitments of more earnest dedication.



Plymouth FWB Church Plymouth, North Carolina December 30, 1995 Albemarle Union Meeting

Opening Session

- Pianist Mrs. Lucille Jones
- 10:00 Devotions Rev. Harold Swinson
- 10:10 Welcome Pastor
Response Rev. Billy Mobley
- 10:15 The Moderator's Address.....
..... Rev. Charlie Overton
- 10:20 Roll Call of Ministers
Recognition of Visiting Ministers
Roll Call of Churches
- 10:30 Offering
Announcements
Prayer Time

Business Session

- 10:40 Report of Ministers... Via Literature
Children's Home
Mount Olive College
FWB Press
Home Missions
Foreign Missions
Cragmont Assembly
Retirement Homes
Minister's Program
- 10:50 Report of Treasurer
Old Business
New Business
- 11:00 Minutes Presented for Approval

Morning Worship Service

- 11:10 Hymn
- 11:20 Special Music Host Church
Testimonies
- 11:25 Message Rev. C.H. Overman
Benediction
Adjournment and Lunch

More Like You, and Less Like Me!

Heavenly Father, Help me be
More like You, and less like me!
Not my will, but Thine be done,
From dawn's first light to setting sun.
At eventide, then may I rest
Assured that I have done my best.
Within my heart, sow seeds of love,
And bring the harvest from above,
That all I meet may truly know
My Lord and Savior where I go.
Heavenly Father, help me be
More like You, and less like me!

Clay Harrison

The Seal of Honor Award

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention

October 11, 1995

With love and admiration in our hearts, we come today to honor a special friend and servant of God. She has given her time and talents in service to the Lord in many areas. In her local church she has taught classes throughout the Sunday school, served as director of Vacation Bible School for five years and served on the church finance, homecoming, kitchen, pulpit and benevolence committees. She was instrumental in helping to establish a church nursery. She was always involved in fund-raisers which promoted such projects as the ladies lounge, kitchen and library. Now she is very active and faithful in helping operate our prayer chain within the church. She is also presently serving as assistant Sunday school teacher for the Senior Adults Class. She has been a faithful member of her church for 48 years.

She served her own auxiliary as the vice-president for three years and as the president for 15 years. She has served as food chairman for many years and is presently serving in this area. Also, she is presently serving as the study course chairman for her Woman's Auxiliary.

She has supported all phases of Denominational Ministries. She attended the Woman's Conference at Cragmont for ten years. She has kept all of us abreast on Home and Foreign Missions and the Children's Home. She probably never missed a Mount Olive College Dinner. She served as vice-president of the Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary for two years.

Her parents were the late Hughie and Alice Gregory Wester. She has two sisters, Fannie M. Wester, who is deceased, and Mrs. Iva Newton. Her father died on January 27, 1923 when she was only eight years old. Following his death, they moved in with her grandparents to help take care of them. Her sister tells us that as children they had to walk to school. They attended Coats Elementary School and Buies Creek School. She remembered them shelling corn on Saturday and putting it in those big wooden barrels with water for the hogs. Times were surely not easy then.

In 1937 they moved back home. Then on December 13, 1938 she married Harmon Jackson, who is now deceased. They moved to the Robert's Grove Community the following year on November 25, 1939. She joined the Woman's Auxiliary the year she came to Robert's Grove.

A point of interest is that she rode with her husband when he sold Watkins products. She knew all the roads. She has been our map as we visited churches in our convention.

Since the death of her husband, she has been blessed to have Brenda and Milton Bass, Gertie Bass and Elgree Faircloth to drive her to church, auxiliary meetings, visitation of the shut-ins, showers, weddings and funerals. Also, she has her sister, Iva, who takes her shopping, to the doctor and just anywhere she needs to go to do errands.

She has always stayed fairly close to home. She worked at the Fabric Center in Dunn and part-time at the tax office in Clinton. But she had a special treat when she took her first plane ride to San Martin, California to visit her nephew, Scott Jackson and his wife.

Our honoree has done a lot of living and has many experiences to share. She will be 80 years old on October 18, a week from today. (So Happy Birthday a week early!)

She is a faithful member of Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church near Spivey's Corner. On April 24, 1984, the Woman's Auxiliary of Robert's Grove FWB Church presented her the Life Membership Award and a plaque in recognition of her service to the Woman's Auxiliary for 15 years as president. During her tenure, she led the Woman's Auxiliary in reaching A-1 status several years. She has been a member of the Woman's Auxiliary for 57 years.

She is a fine Christian lady who has set a good example for the members through her dedication and loving service to God.

On behalf of the Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary, it is my pleasure to present the 1995 Seal of Honor Award to Mrs. Thelma Wester Jackson.

Pastor Appreciation Day

On October 8 during the morning worship service, Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church surprised their pastor, the Rev. Edward Thornton, by observing Pastor Appreciation Day.

Mrs. Mary Peele served as mistress of ceremony and began by presenting the pastor a certificate of appreciation. To enlighten our pastor into what was coming, Penny and Genny Groome had made the banner in the background, which they hung. Fay Peele pinned flowers on Edward and Brenda Thornton.



Expressions of appreciation from the entire church were made by: Scott Harris, representing the children of the church, read an original poem, which is printed.

OUR PREACHER

There are people we love,
There are a few we tolerate,
There are some who annoy,
And then there is one we love with great joy.

This little church by the side of the road,
Is called by us simply Dublin Grove.
And now that Rev. Ed is here,
Our church is full of hope and cheer.

The people in our church are kind and sweet
But our Preacher is someone,
you will really want to meet.

His name is Rev. Ed Thornton from Snow Hill.
And he and his family now have their second home here,
so we made quite a deal.

His family is very important to him,
And they work together through thick and thin.

You have done a lot for us all
And we thank God for sending you two years ago this Fall.

We can call on you anytime night or day.
And we know you will soon be on your way.

We have had a lot of good meals
since you have been here,
So we hope you will be here for many more years.

Second, Steven Jennings, Sunday school superintendent, spoke on behalf of the Sunday school. Then Mrs. Mary Ellen Galloway thanked them both for their help in the music of the church. Mrs. Ann Cayton, representing the entire church, thanked all the Thornton Family for all they were doing for Dublin Grove.

Last Mrs. Dot Hollowell, president of the Women's Auxiliary, presented the Rev. Ed a subscription to *The Christian Reader* and several books.

During both Sunday school and church we sang all of the pastor's favorite hymns.

PASTOR AND WIFE APPRECIATION DAY



On October 8, 1995, Barnes Hill Appreciation Day for Rev. and Mrs. Dewey Boling. Governor Jim Hunt had asked all churches on this day to show their appreciation for their pastors. As the Bolings arrived at church, Mrs. Maggie Joyner pinned pink roses, grown in her yard, on the Bolings. The Bolings did not think anything about this. But when Brother Boling opened the morning service he was asked to turn the service over to Mr. John Manning. He told the Bolings what was going on. Mrs. Yvonne Parker had written a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Boling which her daughter Angie read, and then sang a song dedicated to the Bolings.

Then Mr. Manning said the morning offering would go to the Bolings, showing their appreciation for them. There were many cards and the love offering was around a thousand dollars. Then the service was turned back to Brother Boling. He said, "I do not know whether to preach or cry," but he brought a very inspiring message. The day was a very good day at Barnes Hill.

Mrs. Yvonne Parker's Letter

What comes to mind when you think of someone who is devoted to a cause, above all else, caring and loving, sincere, always available, and just good down-to-earth people? You can place Dewey and Louise Boling in all those categories, both

together and separately. They have worked as a team since coming to Barnes Hill Church about 2½ years ago. Ninety-nine percent of the time, wherever you see Mr. Dewey, you'll see Mrs. Louise — she is very faithful as a pastor's wife. They travel many miles each week in order to minister to the needs of this congregation and its outreach. Among their many activities are visiting the sick, the shut-ins, the bereaved, conducting meetings, funerals, weddings, and any other requests from the church family, and the community. Brother Dewey and Sister Louise witness to the sin-sick wherever they go, trying to bring them into the fold, which is their greatest commission. These tasks they complete in a loving, caring manner, as is their nature. They are in tune to the particular needs of each age group in this church, and have been instrumental in helping develop new goals and programs for the young children, the junior age group, the teenagers, young adults, middle-age and senior adults of our church family. They have built on traditions and added new dimensions to group activities so that we can genuinely say ours is a church, with something of interest for all ages. If you don't find this

to be true, it's because you have not availed yourself to the opportunities here, not because they don't exist. Just as a flower cannot grow and blossom if it does not receive nourishment from the soil, water and sunlight, so we as Christians cannot grow and develop spiritually if we do not receive nourishment from God's Word, but we must actively seek it, and it is well provided here for us.

Dewey and Louise Boling have a family, a boy and a girl, all married with children and grandchildren. Many times over the past 2½ years, they have been involved in activities of our church, which caused them to miss some family activities of their own. However, they felt their place was here whenever a service of a function of the church was being held. Are we as faithful as they? Some are, some are not, for various reasons. Do some self-examination.

In conclusion, we have a team to be very thankful for in Dewey and Louise Boling, whom we believe were truly sent by God to this church on the corner, to raise it up in the last days, to be a mighty witness for Him. In addition to the qualities already mentioned, they have both donated much financially to Barnes Hill

Free Will Baptist church, much of which the general congregation is unaware of, for improvement of the physical beauty of God's house. Both spend all day here on Sunday, visiting in the home, hospital, nursing home, and community, trying to meet our spiritual needs. During the week, they are only a phone call away, if needed. They don't do these things for monetary reward, but because of a love which God planted in their soul many years ago, to advance His Kingdom. Sunday night, Wednesday night, and Thursday night will find them in service.

We are truly blest to have Pastor Boling and his wife as our shepherds. Let's show them, in the days to come, how much we love and appreciate them, and how thankful we are they came our way. One of the best ways we can do this, is to work diligently for the cause of Christ, acting as His eyes, ears and feet, to carry out His work here.

At this time, may we all stand and join hands, forming an unbroken circle, as that of a family should be, asking God's continued grace and mercy in our midst with a special blessing on Dewey and Louise Boling. Artie, will you open the prayer and Ruth, close, each one praying silently.



Labor Day Hot Dog Sale and Bazaar



Each year, folks from far and near travel to Wilder's store at Emit (intersection of highway 231 & 39 in northern Johnston County) for the annual Labor Day Hot Dog Sale and Bazaar. This year was no different.

Visitors found canned vegetables, homemade jam and jellies, fresh vegetables, handmade quilts, and a variety of other items under the tents. In addition, under the store shelter, homemade cakes, pies, and goodies satisfied everyone's sweet tooth.

About mid morning, the smell of hot dogs and home-made chili filled the air. These hot dogs are some of the best around, and the cooks obviously aren't the only ones who think so, considering for the last four years an average of 1,400 have been sold. This year, the 20th year, 1,680 hot dogs were sold.

But even these great hot dogs and homemade goodies didn't outshine the wonderful fellowship that was experienced by everyone.

This annual event is sponsored by members of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxilliary who would like to take an opportunity to thank everyone who visited and made this event so successful for the last 20 years. We praise the Lord for His goodness. We look forward to seeing you next year!!!



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHARMS

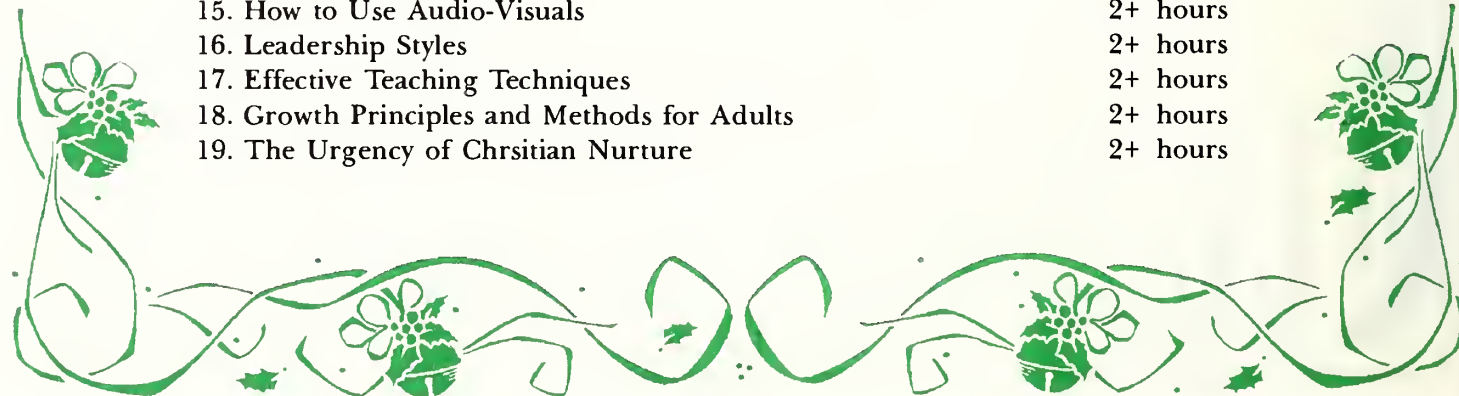
Sunday School Charms



Sunday School Workshops

Many of you have expressed an interest in knowing the kinds of workshops which are available through the Sunday School Board. The following is a listing of such training sessions. The times listed are approximate and could be adjusted to meet the needs of your organization. If you are interested in arranging one or more training sessions for your church, union meeting or conference, please contact Mary Dudley, (919) 568-3311. The Original Free Will Baptist Sunday School Board is always willing and ready to assist your leaders as we invent methods to enhance the growth of our commitment to Christian nurture. Growth can only occur when we develop a trust relationship with each other and unify our efforts through prayer, planning, preparation and presentation.

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Importance of Sunday School | 2 hours |
| 2. How to Use David C. Cook Literature (Video) | 2 hours |
| 3. Study of Ephesians | 3 hours |
| 4. How We Learn | 3+ hours |
| 5. Multiple Intelligences and the Sunday School Curriculum | 2+ hours |
| 6. Designing Lessons Without a Teacher's Guide | 3+ hours |
| 7. Questioning Techniques | 2+ hours |
| 8. Leadership Skills for Superintendents and Teachers | 20 hours |
| 9. Accepting Diversity in People | 2+ hours |
| 10. Discipline in the Sunday School | 2+ hours |
| 11. Teaching to Make a Difference (Video) | 20 hours |
| 12. The Sunday School Council | 2 hours |
| 13. Games and Other Activities to Accompany Sunday School Lessons (Time would depend on the depth your group would like.) | 2-6 hours |
| 14. Duties and Responsibilities of Sunday School Officers and Teachers | 2-6 hours |
| 15. How to Use Audio-Visuals | 2+ hours |
| 16. Leadership Styles | 2+ hours |
| 17. Effective Teaching Techniques | 2+ hours |
| 18. Growth Principles and Methods for Adults | 2+ hours |
| 19. The Urgency of Christian Nurture | 2+ hours |





Dr. W. Burkette Raper
President Emeritus
Mount Olive College

"SENIOR CITIZENS AT CHRISTMAS"

Information, Inspiration, and Planning for Senior Citizens

For children, Christmas is a time of unparalleled excitement, and for their parents it is the busiest time of the year. Senior citizens, however, are likely to approach Christmas from a more contemplative perspective.

In his account of the Nativity, Luke relates how two senior citizens, Simeon and Anna, viewed the birth of Jesus, (Luke 2:25–38). These two aged and devout people were in the temple in Jerusalem when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to present Him to the Lord. Realizing that the Messiah — God's Anointed One — had come, and being privileged to personally see Him was the greatest experience of their lives. Indeed this experience was the fulfillment of their life-long dreams.

Simeon responded by praying, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace...For mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Anna "gave thanks likewise unto the Lord and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem."

What is the message Simeon and Anna are sending us? It is not that the true meaning of Christmas is God's gift of His love and redemption for all people.

As a boy growing up in the Free Will Baptist Orphanage (now the Children's Home) at Middlesex, I looked forward to Christmas in terms of things — presents I hoped to receive; and activities — going places and doing things. As a child, the fulfillment of these expectations made Christmas.

In our senior years, however, we look for more than things and activities. With the passing of the years, people and purpose take on more and more meaning. While we all appreciate presents, one measure of our maturity is whether we find more joy in giving than in receiving.

I must confess that while I had probably read Luke's narrative of Simeon and Anna a hundred times, it always seemed more like an appendage than an integral part of the Christmas story. But let's read the story again. Here were two senior citizens, who perhaps more than anyone, except Joseph and Mary, understood the meaning of significance of the birth of Jesus. Their insight come from waiting, contemplating and through their prayers.

For some senior citizens, Christmas is a painful season of loneliness which they dread, but new and deeper spiritual insights can help make it a holy day rather than a depressing holiday. Being with those we love can add far more happiness to our lives than the gifts we receive, and understanding the depth of God's love for us can have far more meaning than the rush of activities which often make us glad when Christmas is over.

Let me add a special word for the families and friends of senior citizens. What these people want and need most is our peaceful presence — the precious gift of our unhurried time — and the assurance that we love and care for them.

Now, as on the first Christmas, let us hear God's message to us:

"Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord..."

"Glory to God is the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men," (Luke 1:10, 11, 14).

Readers Response Invited

Readers are cordially invited to send comments and suggestions for future articles to:

W. Burkette Raper
619 West Main Street
Mount Olive, NC 28365





Full Time

As of November 27, I began serving the Convention full time. I completed my service with Marlboro Church on November 25. I appreciate the opportunity to work with some of the best people in the world for 18 and 1/2 years! I will miss that work, but I look forward to serving you.

Janie and I have moved. Our new address is Box 639, Bell Arthur, NC 27811. Our home is located on Bell Arthur Road and our new phone number is 919-321-7542. I wish to thank all of those who assisted with the moving. I ask for everyone's understanding as I try to *find* everything.

You can reach me during regular working hours at the Convention Headquarters. The address is Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513 and the phone number is 919-746-4963. If you wish to contact me by Email, my address is OFWB@AOL.com.

Whew! What a Busy Month

October is one of the busiest months in our Convention, and November seems full of meetings and activities. I have spent a large portion of my time as Executive Administrator on the road. I am not complaining, because I was able to get out there where you are. I enjoyed participating in the conferences and sharing with ministers and delegates.

I was impressed with the program of each of the conferences and auxiliary meetings that I attended. I heard some challenging messages and listened to some good reports of work going on in each of the conferences. I was pleased with the reception that I received on behalf of the Convention.

I am, however, concerned about the lack of participation by delegates from the local church. It is hard for me to understand how churches can fail to send delegates. So many important decisions are made and a great deal of valuable information is provided at the conference. The church is obligated to participate and needs to be represented. I hope that we can work together to involve more people in the process.

Convention Reports

Some concern has been expressed about the accuracy and reliability of the reports presented at the Convention this year. At the first meeting of the Executive Committee, a plan put together by the Executive Administrator and officers was approved that provides for a study of our report book by a blue ribbon panel of business professionals and accountants. The panel will examine the reports for accuracy, compliance with Convention guidelines, and quality of presentation. The

panel will report its findings and make recommendations for future reports to the Executive Committee in January.

I do wish to share that all of our ministries have been very cooperative in this effort. All of our ministries have provided copies of the financial statements provided to them by the accountants for our review on an annual basis. While some information may not be complete or as detailed as we would like, and may not be in the best form, I do believe that our ministries have attempted to provide the information requested by the Executive Committee in an honest and accurate way.

While more detail is needed in some instances, we must be careful about our demands. I believe that matters related to remuneration for services is best left to boards of director's. The board is elected by the Convention to oversee the work of each ministry. It is the job of the board to hire and compensate the necessary staff to carry out the work of the ministry. The board knows the scope and responsibility of the work done by the employees and it is the best position to determine fair and adequate payment for services.

I was part of the movement that had pastors' salaries removed from the Convention minutes a number of years ago. I believe that revealing salaries only provides for jealousy and creates far more problems than it could ever solve. I do not want to know what you are paid and do not believe that we need to know the details about others. We should elect boards that can be trusted to make these kinds of decisions.

Board Development Conference

The Executive Committee also approved a plan to begin an annual Board Development Conference to provide training and assistance for those serving on boards and committees. Topics that will be covered include the responsibilities of board members, understanding financial reports, strategic planning, and proactive participation in meetings. There will also be special sessions for ministry directors related to working with a board.

Each board will be encouraged to send as many board members as possible. The first conference will take place in the Spring of 1996. Conference will be planned and conducted on an annual basis.

National Clergy Conference

All ministers are invited to participate in a special conference for pastors sponsored by Promise Keepers. The conference will be held in Atlanta on February 13-15. We are

planning a group trip and interested ministers should contact the Executive Administrator's office. The theme of the conference is Renewal.

Lay Ministry Workshop

We are working on a workshop to be offered in the Spring of 1996 dealing with lay ministry. The workshop will focus on understanding the mandate for lay ministry and equipping pastors and people to become a team fulfilling God's call to minister. Announcements will be made as plans are completed.

Project Solution Update

The Task Force met with the ministry directors on Tuesday, November 14. You will be receiving surveys prepared to assist in assessing our present condition. We hope that you will help by returning the forms on a timely basis. C. H. Overman, chairman of Project Solution, said, "We are nearing the end of the review process and will begin moving to the solution stage."

Weekly Devotions

Each Monday, those of us at the Headquarters meet for a devotion and time of prayer at 11 am in the conference room. We believe it is a good way to state our week. We take time to read the Bible and then join together in prayer.

If you have a special prayer request, you are invited to let us know. A list is prepared and distributed each week. We especially want to know about the needs of ministers and churches. You may write us at the Headquarters or call.

If you are in the area, you are welcome to join us. We are always glad to welcome visitors at the Headquarters, but would be particularly happy to see you at our devotion.

Call on Us

We would like to have the opportunity to visit our church and present information about our work. We are also available to assist with any special needs that you may have. If you wish to schedule an appointment, or we can help in some way please contact us.

CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION, INC. ANNOUNCES THE EMPLOYMENT OF NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – TREASURER

The Reverend Donald Fader will assume the responsibilities of the Executive Director – Treasurer of the Church Finance Association on January 1, 1996. The Board of Directors assures all of their Depositors and Mortgagors that the service and policies that have been in effect over the years will continue to be the same.



The Reverend Walter Reynolds has served as Director - Treasurer for fifteen years as well as being a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Reynolds will continue to serve the Church Finance Association as a member and President of the Board.

The Board of Directors pledge their continued diligence and conservative policies in all matters that come before them. We request your continued support and prayers for this very important ministry.

LAST MINUTE ADDITION



*We wish you a
Merry
Christmas*

From
The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
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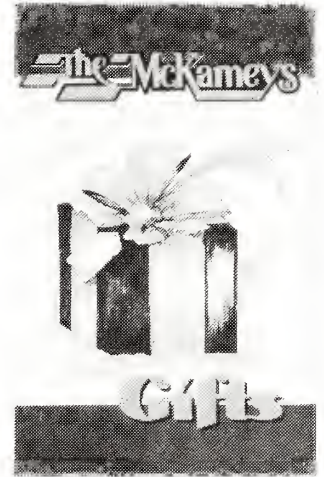
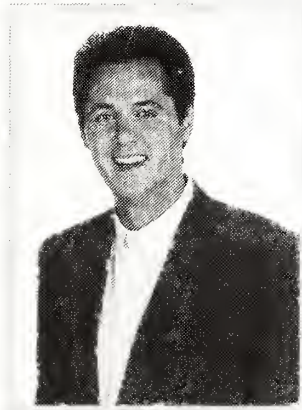


*For Your
Christmas Listening Pleasure*



CARROLL ROBERSON

*Christmas
IS BELIEVIN'*

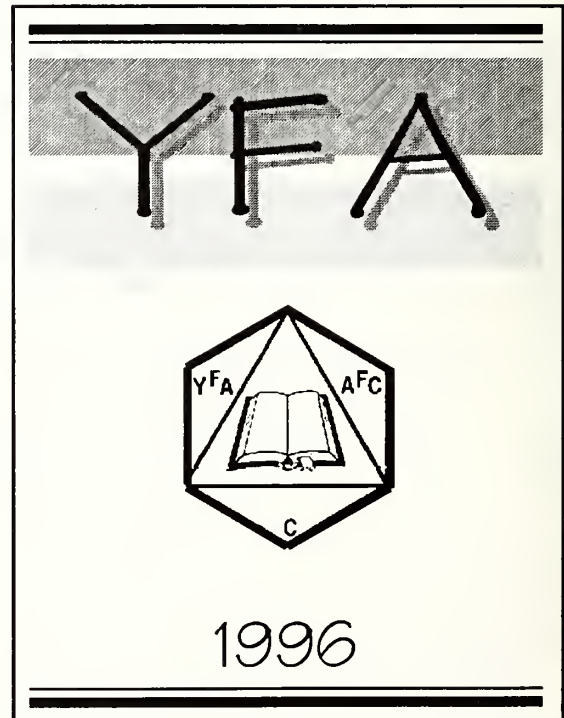
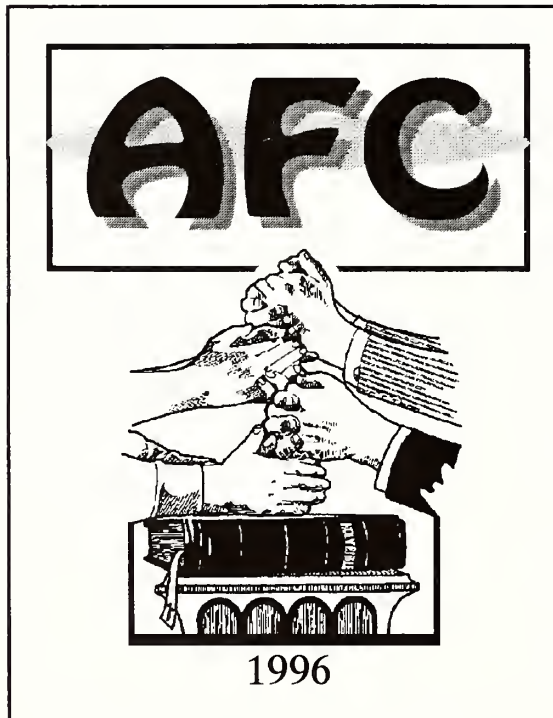
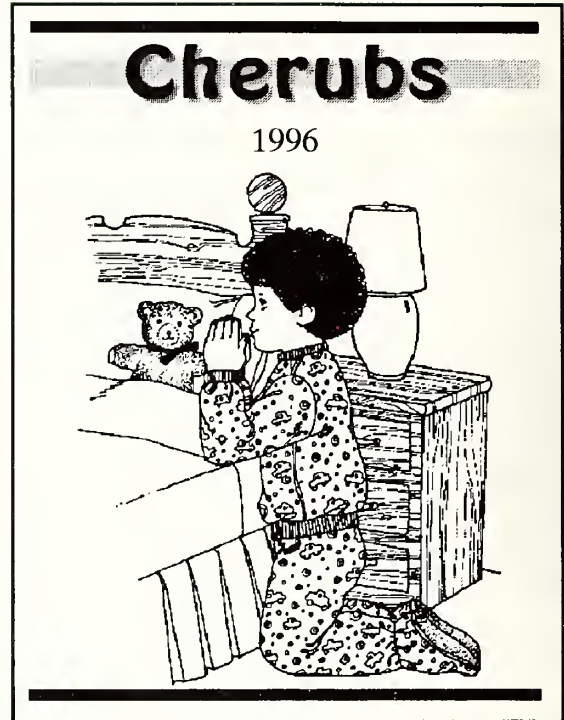
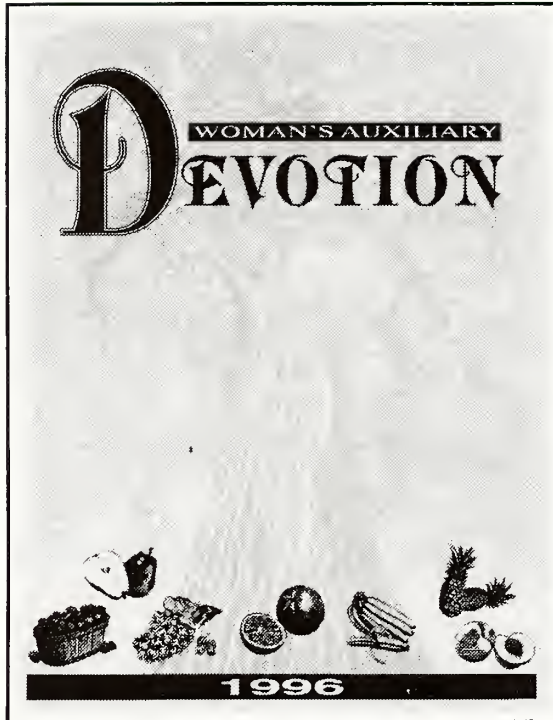


Happy Holy Days

*from all the staff of the
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Editor's Notes

Dear Church Family;

Christmas

What a busy time of the year. Decorating for the holidays, buying presents, seeing old friends and family members- to many, that is what this holiday season means. Think about the first six letters of the word Christmas: C H R I S T. The real meaning of the holiday celebration.

For a brief time in history, the focus of the whole world was on a manger. A cattle stall surrounded by Mary, Joseph, animals, shepherds, wise men, and a star that shone for everyone to see.

How could one person captivate the world for such a long period of time? What was so special about this little baby born in conditions only fit for animals to live? The answer is simple: Jesus Christ.

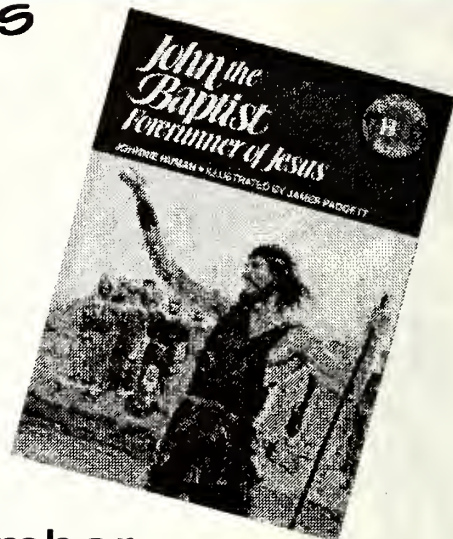
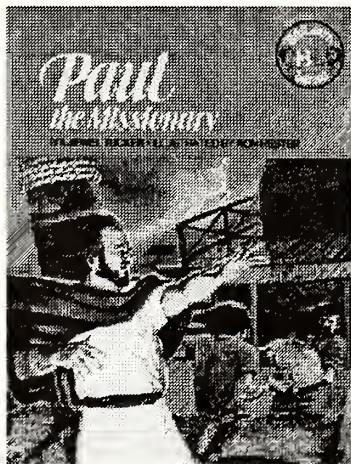
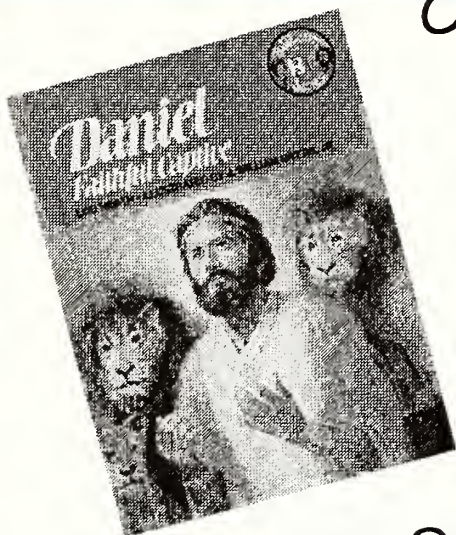
He gave to us unity among people, hope for tomorrow, an everlasting love, a reason to live, and a place in heaven with Him. That is the real reason for this season.

Merry CHRISTmas to all of you!

Tracy

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The Free Will Baptist

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