

FLA

Coordinator

Florida's Newsletter for
Florida State Association of
Free Will Baptists
2156 54th Avenue
Vero Beach, FL 32966

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Aug Sep 2009

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A PROMISE FULFILLED 2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION REVIEW

When the National Association of Free Will Baptists returned to Cincinnati on July 19-22, 2009, after a 12-year absence, the meeting held great promise. Delegates from across the nation filled downtown hotel rooms, laughed and swapped stories in the hallways, overflowed the exhibit hall in the Duke Energy Center, shouted "Amen!" through the services, and sat through almost nine hours of business.

Services throughout the week featured enthusiastic congregational singing and rousing special music from the Convention Choir and Orchestra. Numerous talented individuals, families, and groups lent their voices to the music and led the congregation into worship, ready to hear great preaching. In addition to evening services, convention attendees enjoyed the annual Tuesday morning Preaching Conference featuring Florida's own Steve Berry.

The denomination returned to Cincinnati with a vision to reach the world and the courage to adopt a \$25 million denominational budget during the worst recession in nearly a century. They adopted resolutions, elected 35 board and commission members, and honored the pioneers who put Free Will Baptists on the global map.

After four days of powerful preaching, heart-stirring music, passionate business discussions, and renewed fellowship, nearly 6,000 attendees left Cincinnati knowing that the convention lived up to expectations.



**Check out the
new church in
Villalba, Spain
see pages 4 & 5**



Rev. Randy Bryant

Executive Director's Schedule:

WHAT ABOUT CHARACTER? by randy bryant

Recently, the shocking death of two famous people caught the attention of our country. One was a music star who slipped into eternity at the age of fifty; the other a famous quarterback who left this life in his late 30's. More than just the celebrity of these men caught my attention. It was the manner in which the media and other prominent people presented them. For several days, news channels reported constantly on the deaths of Michael Jackson and Steve McNair. In a manner usually reserved for presidents and world leaders, many stations went so far as to preempt regular programming in order to devote hours covering these funerals and related events. We heard over and over about the great contributions these men had made to their fields, as well as to mankind in general. The media talked endlessly about their charitable gifts and humanitarian efforts.

As I listened to all the coverage, one question rose again and again in my mind: Aren't we missing something here? No doubt both men made great impacts in their fields, but throughout the attempts to declare them heroes, they missed the part about character. Among other issues, one of these men had a questionable history with children; the other was involved in an on-going adulterous relationship and had both drugs and alcohol in his system at the time of his death. Are these two men really the ones we want our young people to look to as heroes? Does giving money to charity and being involved in community events excuse the need for having character in one's life? Character is much more important than changing the music industry, winning football games or even giving millions to charity. It doesn't make the news or bring fame and glamour, but character does count!

It's people of character that are the foundation of our society. It's people of character that you can trust. It's people of character that are honest, faithful, loyal and pure in their relationships. At the end of the day, I really don't care how many gold records you have or how many football games you've won - let me see your character! "... man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart" I Samuel 16:7

- September**
- 11 West Florida Association
- 18-19 Christian Workers' Conference - Orlando
- 23-25 D6 Conference - Dallas
- October**
- 9 Liberty Association
- 19-21 Senior Summit - Crystal River
- 27-29 Rejuvenate Conference - Birmingham
- 31 Indian River Association

FLA Coordinator

The Coordinator is a ministry of the Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists. Our goal is to provide an informative newsletter that highlights the ministries of our state & your local church.

Published six times annually: Dec/Jan; Feb/Mar; Apr/May; June/July; Aug/Sep; Oct/Nov. Submission deadline is the 20th of the month prior to the issue (March 20 for Apr/May issue).

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Visit us on the Web!

The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists has a new web address, www.FLAFWB.com. Bro. Mike Taggart has done a wonderful job in creating this website and making it as "user-friendly" as possible. Please take the time to visit the website and keep apprised of what is going on in our denomination and around the state.

ALABAMA CHILDREN'S HOME EMPLOYS DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION & DEVELOPMENT AND NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Alabama Free Will Baptist Children's Home Board of Directors announced the hiring of Danny Williams as Director of Communication and Development as well as the installation of a new Executive Director, Mike Corley.



Bro. Williams will serve as an official representative of the Home to churches, associations, government organizations, and supporting groups. Other duties will include overseeing promotional activities, providing spiritual help to the children and their families, developing plans for the advancement of the ministry, and assisting in the daily operations of the Home.

Another new face at the Children's Home is Executive Director, Mike Corley, who will guide, oversee, evaluate, and supervise the program of child care for the ministry. Further responsibilities will include direction of staff, facilities, and finances of the Home's operation.

"We are delighted to have a man of Bro. Danny's character and accomplishment ministering at the Children's Home," said Rodney Yerby, Chairman of the Board of Directors, "and Mike brings to our ministry valuable experience in administration and unquestioned credibility of service to the Lord and our denomination."

Williams is a 1983 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College and has been in ministry for 26 years. He comes to the Home having served the last 17 years as Pastor of the Winfield Free Will Baptist Church. He is presently serving as Chairman of the Board of Free Will Baptist International Missions and Secretary of the Alabama Free Will Baptist Mission Board.

Corley is a 1976 graduate of the University of Maryland and retired from the US Army after serving 21 years. He comes to the Home having ministered the last 10 years with his wife as missionaries with Free Will Baptist International Missions to the fields of Russia and Central Asia.

The Alabama Free Will Baptist Children's Home is a ministry of the Alabama State Association of Free Will Baptists. More information is available by calling (205) 924-9751 or by visiting the website at www.eldridgefwbchildrenshome.org.



2009 SENIOR SUMMIT

The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists is providing a retreat for the senior citizens within our State. This is an opportunity to share with other seniors from across the State in times of worship and fellowship and it is designed to be a time of relaxing, sightseeing, and learning.

This year's Senior Summit will be held in Crystal River, Florida at the Plantation Inn and will run from October 19-21, 2009. We will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a Worship Service on Monday evening and will conclude at noon on Wednesday. The schedule is as follows:

Monday, October 19

Worship Service ~ 7:00 pm
(Fellowship time following)

Tuesday, October 20

Devotion ~ 8:30-10:00 a.m.
Excursion & Lunch

Dinner on Own

Worship Service ~ 7:00 pm
"Singspiration" following the service

Wednesday, October 21

Testimonial ~ 9:00-9:45 a.m.
Devotion ~ 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Departure

Rev. Bill Evans will be the speaker for this year's retreat. Prior to his retirement, Bro. Evans served as the Director of Department of Retirement and of the Free Will Baptist Foundation.



Music for the worship services will be led by Charlie Elliott who will be organizing a special time of singing after the Tuesday evening service. We invite anyone who sings to share your talent with us during this time. Make sure to bring your music or tape for this special time.

The cost for this year's Senior Summit is \$225 per couple (\$200 for single occupancy), which includes lodging for two nights, daily breakfast buffets and coffee breaks, the activities scheduled for Tuesday, and the cost of the scheduled seminars & sessions throughout the retreat. A deposit of \$100 per room is requested when you register and registration must be made no later than September 27, 2009. Payment should be made by check, payable to the Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists (FSA FWB).

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Church: _____

Churches Seeking Pastors

Marvin Chapel FWB – Marianna

Contact Bill Sellers
850-482-5221

First FWB – Malone

Contact Jesse Hart
850-569-5006

Abigail FWB – Vernon

Contact John Cook
850-535-2426

Smyrna FWB Church

386-428-4741

Shiloh FWB – Bratt

Contact John McCall
850-327-6587

Directory Update

John Gilliland
Soul's Harbor - Pensacola

Keith Farquharson
Palm Bay

Mark Burton
Zion FWB, Sanford

EDGMON UPDATE

During the last week in July we celebrated five evenings in a simulated swamp setting at the Alpedrete Church for our Vacation Bible School, "Crocodile Dock". Each day the children experienced some of the important events in the life of Moses that helped teach a lesson about God. We were pleasantly surprised and encouraged by the number of participants this year. While we had an average daily attendance of thirty children, there were a total of 42 attendees. We praise the Lord for a "Gator-iffic" week at VBS and ask you to pray for the seeds that were planted. We also encourage you to take a moment to check out our VBS photos at fwbgo.com.



The life lessons taught at VBS are not just for kids! We too are reminded about God's power and grace during difficult situations: We want to ask you to pray with us for Maria del Carmen, the wife of the pastor in Colmenar Viejo, who is battling breast cancer. She recently completed her last radiation treatment, but doctors have found suspicious spots in her lungs despite treatment. Please pray also for Anthony's dad, Clete, who continues to have problems with his eye after a recent operation. Finally, continue to pray for our daughter, Emily, who has had problems with her knee recently and has undergone physical therapy.

Another topic of prayer is for the spiritual challenges that exist in Spain. Just like the people in your mission field, many people have hardened their hearts to the Gospel message. However, we are thankful that we have had several recent opportunities to share our faith and we are confident that each and every contact with the message of Christ will soften their hearts. We urge you to pray for these opportunities, that God would lead us to fertile ground as we all strive together to reach Spain and the world for Christ.

Your missionaries to Spain,
Anthony and Lea Edgmon

ANDERSON UPDATE

Hello Dear Friends,

Church services, state meetings, conferences, missionary work, five days of vacation, and packing – this was our last six weeks in a nutshell. Verlin returned to Cote d'Ivoire on June 29th with Debbie and Corbin following closely on July 13th. Thanks again to the

wonderful people (our families included) who opened up their beautiful homes to us during this past year. The fellowship was a blessing and the cost savings significant (at least \$400 or more each month!). With those savings, and the consistent financial sacrifices and special offerings made on behalf of our ministry, we return to Cote d'Ivoire encouraged in the Lord. While our general account has not yet reached the \$15,000 mark, the balance was well over half that amount on our last report.

In order to help the Abidjan church-planting efforts we continue the dialogue to develop a transparent revolving loan fund and we've assisted the Education Committee, the Bible Institute Director and the Theological Education by Extension Director with the accounting issues. A no-fee method to transfer money to the field was established which will save our account \$70-\$150 monthly. We continue our field responsibilities from afar but look forward to successfully transferring many of these duties to the Ivorians.

Please be in prayer for the following people:

- Salomon, a Bible Institute student who was recently run over by a motorcycle while awaiting public transportation.
- Continue to pray for our Muslim convert. Her family has eased up, allowing her to have a private Bible study and prayer time with a Christian; however she still cannot attend church.
- We need your prayers for safe travel and wisdom in all of our decisions.
- We ask for God's grace as we leave two children in college.

Grateful to serve the King in communion with you,
Verlin, Debbie, and Corbin Anderson

McVAY UPDATE

Well, summer is in full swing! The weather is hot, the windows are open and our electric fans are running 24/7 in an effort to keep us cooled off since we don't have air conditioning. This is a great time of year!

Since our last report, we have been able to visit all of our FWB churches here in Spain. Exciting things are happening in every location and the gospel is being preached and lives are being changed. But just like in the States, people are suffering financially due to the economic situation. However, your prayers are making a difference!

At the Esperanza church in Alcalá, there was standing room

only as thirty-four people crammed inside the small meeting area. This church has only been in this location for a few months now, and already they are praying for a larger space to meet.

At the Alpedrete church, almost all of the forty seats were full with both members and visitors. A large group of believers from a nearby town have begun to faithfully attend and are even participating in the services. This church recently hosted a "Movie Night" showing the movie "Fireproof", with approximately fifty people in attendance. There was a great response following this event and we ask that you be in prayer for those who were able to view this positive film.

At the Colmenar church, even though the crowd is usually small (15-20), the name of the Lord is being lifted up through the praise and worship of these faithful people. Another item of prayer is for the pastor's wife who recently completed chemotherapy after a diagnosis of breast cancer.

The construction of the Villalba church is moving slower than anticipated. Remember, construction began on Christmas Eve 2007 – almost two years ago! But these faithful believers are still plugging along and adding to their congregation daily.

Just as a reminder, there are two websites you can visit to obtain information on the work in Spain. The Spain website (<http://www.fwbgo.com/spain>) is one we update and post prayer requests from all of our missionaries here in Spain. It has a lot of information that would be interesting for you to read through. The other one is our mission's website (<http://www.fwbgo.com>) and it has a new interactive format with tons of information about what's going on around the world in our mission.

As we close, we ask that you continue to pray for us as we consider possible future ministries and we thank you so much for your financial support and for the encouragement that you give to us.

Your missionaries to Spain,
Sam and June McVay



PRINTING INDUSTRY SALUTES RANDALL HOUSE

Randall House Publications brought home 11 graphic awards from the prestigious 2009 Printing Industry Association of the South (PIAS) regional competition. The PIAS awards were created to showcase top publishing companies and their products and are used to encourage industry professionals to serve as models for others by giving recognition for outstanding accomplishments in the graphics communications industry. The awards included one Best of Category and ten Awards of Excellence.

"What a resounding industry endorsement this is for the Randall House team in its goal to continually raise the bar by producing quality publications and design elements for our products," stated Ron Hunter, Executive Director and CEO of Randall House since 2002. "I'm so proud of our entire team - they made it happen! When the broader printing industry lets us know that what we're creating here is professional grade, it's a big deal for our denomination."

This marks the fourth year Randall House has received several of printing's highest national and regional publishing awards. The 11 printing and graphic awards in 2009 reflect the professional standard Randall House has established for its CLEAR curriculum, D6 materials, devotional magazines, promotional items, small-group resources, and books.

Randall House Publications is the official publishing arm of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, and has served churches across America and around the world for half a century.



CHRISTIAN WORKERS' CONFERENCE 2009

The Christian Ministries Board would like to invite you to participate in this year's Christian Workers' Conference, "Ten Strategies for Effective Worship". The guest speaker will be Bro. Doug Little who has lead worship in churches, camps, retreats, conferences and conventions for over 40 years. His ministry in music extends from coast-to-coast and around the world as a songwriter, singer, choir conductor, arranger, pianist and keyboardist, teacher, pastor, and coach. Doug's songs and arrangements have been published and used in hundreds of churches and he also serves on the Music Commission of the National Association of Free Will Baptists since its establishment in 1988. As Founder and President of Ultimate Priority Resources, he trains and coaches church leaders for impact ministry in developing leadership, worship, evangelism and missions ministries. Doug's heart for God impacts those he leads in worship.

South Conference

September 18-19, 2009
Holiday Inn Select, Orlando

North Conference

November 6-7, 2009
Embassy Suites, Destin

Registration for both seminars is at 6 pm with the conference beginning at 7 pm and concluding at noon on Saturday. The cost for this year's Christian Workers' Conference is \$55 per person, double occupancy and includes breakfast on Saturday. The registration deadline for the South Florida Conference in Orlando was August 26, 2009. Those attending the North Florida Conference in Destin must register by October 14, 2009. Please complete the following registration form and send it to:

THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES BOARD • 2355 ARMADILLO CT. • COCOA, FL 32926
CWC REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

CHURCH: _____ EMAIL: _____

SOUTH CONFERENCE, HOLIDAY INN SELECT, ORLANDO (SEPTEMBER 18-19)

NORTH CONFERENCE, EMBASSY SUITES, DESTIN (NOVEMBER 6-7)

ROOMMATE: _____

Welcome to the Islands, Mon! 2010 Ministers' Retreat

The 2010 Ministers' Retreat is once again being held aboard Royal Caribbean's beautiful cruise ship, the Monarch of the Seas. Come join us for some fun in the sun January 18-22, 2010. The ship will be sailing out of Port Canaveral and will be traveling to Nassau in the Bahamas, as well as to Royal Caribbean's private island, CocoCay. While this cruise is primarily for pastors, deacons and other laypeople with a legitimate ministry in the church are also welcome.

Prices start at \$314.20 per person for an inside cabin and \$344.20 per person for an outside cabin, but you have to hurry because cabin availability is limited. These prices include all taxes, fees and gratuities. A \$200 deposit per stateroom is required at time of booking and is refundable until final payment is made. Final payment is due by October 9, 2009. For more information or to reserve your well-deserved get-away call 888-518-7571.



Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists

Year-to-Date Summary of Receipts
Period Ending 6/30/2009

This is the income report for the first six months of 2009. Thank you for your faithful giving to the ministries of our State Association. Please pray with us concerning these significant budget shortfalls.

Church:	Co-Op	Mission Shares:	Other:	Church:	Co-Op	Mission Shares:	Other:
Central Florida Association	\$629.14	\$180.00	\$3,800.00	Salem Association	\$0.00	\$3,179.38	\$2,628.52
Lighthouse FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Christian Home FWB	\$2,468.42	\$2,022.25	\$0.00
Bethany FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Damascus FWB Church	\$4,799.68	\$5,357.00	\$0.00
Calvary FWB Church	\$0.00	\$360.00	\$0.00	Holly Grove FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christian Home (Bartow)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Lovewood FWB Church	\$261.60	\$240.00	\$0.00
Emmanuel FWB Church	\$61.92	\$360.00	\$50.00	First FWB Church of Malone	\$240.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
Lake Hamilton FWB Church	\$0.00	\$912.15	\$0.00	Marvin Chapel FWB Church	\$720.00	\$420.00	\$0.00
First FWBC of Haines City	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$0.00	New Hope (Grand Ridge)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First FWBC of Highland City	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	Salem FWB Church	\$3,346.80	\$885.82	\$0.00
First FWBC of Tampa	\$180.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	First FWBC of Sneads	\$591.27	\$480.00	\$0.00
Pathway FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Traveler's Rest FWBC	\$0.00	\$910.00	\$0.00
New Hope FWBC (Plant City)	\$747.46	\$352.48	\$0.00	South Florida Association	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$680.00
Orlando FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Renacer FWB Church	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shady Brook FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Calvary Chapel FWB Church	\$988.79	\$1,871.63	\$0.00
Temple FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	West Palm Beach FWBC	\$1,304.65	\$0.00	\$0.00
Unity FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	West Florida Association	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$800.00
Victory FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Beulah FWB Church	\$1,021.44	\$3,829.20	\$400.00
First FWBC Scottsmeer	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	First FWBC of Pensacola	\$434.37	\$335.00	\$0.00
Smyrna FWB Church	\$270.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	Shiloh FWB Church	\$575.28	\$386.68	\$0.00
Parkway FWB Church	\$3,157.77	\$700.00	\$0.00	Soul's Harbor FWB Church	\$683.08	\$4,025.00	\$0.00
Heaven Bound FWBC	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$0.00	Liberty Association	\$0.00	\$893.82	\$1,406.29
Faith FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Abigail FWB Church	\$383.64	\$0.00	\$0.00
Greater St. John's	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$1,200.00	Piney Grove FWB Church	\$1,607.97	\$6,940.00	\$175.00
Blackwelder Memorial FWBC	\$948.30	\$185.00	\$0.00	First FWBC of Chipley	\$1,407.60	\$2,775.00	\$375.00
Faith Chapel FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	St. John's FWB Church	\$378.27	\$0.00	\$0.00
First FWBC of Ocala	\$392.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	First FWBC of Panama City	\$285.36	\$210.00	\$0.00
Grace FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	FL Mission Board	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$1,204.09
Immanuel FWB Church	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	WNAC	\$0.00	\$2,748.50	\$0.00
Suwannee Springs FWBC	\$676.50	\$300.00	\$0.00	Christian Ministries	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,657.82
Harmony FWB Church	\$937.50	\$1,675.00	\$0.00	Encuentro Con Dios	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Hope Community FWBC	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Zion FWB Church	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hispanic Association	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Community Church Gulfshore	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cedars of Labanon FWBC	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	SW FL Launch Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ebenezer FWB Church	\$0.00	\$595.00	\$0.00	March for Missions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
First FWB Church of Hialeah	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Individual Giving	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	\$236.96
Iglesia Hispana Bautists Libre	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$484.10
Libre Dios es Amor Iglesia	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00				
Indian River Association	\$0.00	\$3,060.00	\$1,400.00	Grand Totals	\$36,230.38	\$77,805.51	\$17,972.72
New Hope Fellowship FWBC	\$0.00	\$2,810.00	\$0.00	Budgeted	\$51,452.50	\$95,427.00	
First FWBC of Melbourne	\$661.20	\$2,136.00	\$75.00	Deficit	-\$15,222.12	-\$17,621.49	
First FWBC of Titusville	\$690.00	\$2,440.60	\$0.00				
Ryanwood Fellowship FWBC	\$1,428.25	\$1,940.00	\$0.00				
Trinity FWB Church	\$959.40	\$0.00	\$0.00				
First FWBC of Palm Bay	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00				
First FWBC of Auburndale	\$2,507.72	\$1,100.00	\$0.00				