

FLORIDA

Coordinator

NOV DEC 2016

2017 Ministers' Retreat

Please join us this year during our 2017 Ministers' Retreat as we discuss "Ministering in the Future" as presented by Jeff Manning. Mark your calendars for January 23-26, 2017 and join us on Amelia Island at The Hampton Inn for a few days of fun and relaxation!

The registration fee is \$215 per couple and includes three



nights stay, daily breakfast, dinner on Monday and the evening seminar fees. During your free time on Tuesday and Wednesday, enjoy all Amelia Island has to offer including, golf, antiques, museums, theatre, shopping, horse-drawn carriage rides, deep sea fishing, dolphin watching, and kayaking. Please visit our website at www.flafwb.com to register.



Indian River Association Picnic

Fellowship was the theme of the day for the Indian River Association! The association hosted a picnic in place of their usual quarterly meeting with business and worship. The picnic was designed to create greater fellowship among the churches that comprise the Indian River Association. Over seventy-five people from seven churches participated in the event that was held at Ballard Park in Melbourne. Samuel Ramos, an official representative of the Cuban Free Will Baptist Association shared a devotion with the group. Thank you to David Johnson from the Graceway FWB Church in Melbourne for arranging for the park, purchasing the meats and cooking for us!



A Reminder for FWAC

You'll remember that, as a group, Florida Women Active for Christ took on a project of raising \$1,000 for Joel and Lydie Teague's account to help them return to France. Thank you to those of you who have already completed projects in your local church and have sent in your money. Please remember that the deadline in reaching this goal is set for the State Meeting in Jacksonville during May 2017. Working together, we can accomplish much! Monies can be sent to our State Treasurer: Gloria Hutchinson, 102 Curtis Circle, Sebastian, FL 32958. Thank you for all that you do!

HELP WANTED



Welch College Update

Welch College has entered a partnership with three other Free Will Baptist ministries to purchase approximately 64 acres of land in Gallatin, Tennessee, according to President Matt Pinson. The partnership will consist of the Free Will Baptist Foundation, Free Will Baptist North American Ministries, both of Antioch, Tennessee, and Free Will Baptist Family Ministries of Greenville, Tennessee.

"We are so grateful to these Free Will Baptist entities for helping us to obtain this valuable property next door to our current 66-acre campus in Gallatin," Pinson said. "We've entered into an agreement whereby we have the ability to

purchase all but ten acres back from these ministries after we have sold a portion of the land to a real estate developer. At the time this transaction occurs, the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc., will receive 4 acres of land, and Free Will Baptist Family Ministries will receive 6 acres of land. I'm so excited about the possibilities this gives Free Will Baptists for the future."



The sale price for the approximately 64-acre parcel, owned by Fifth-Third Bank, is \$2.7 million. Welch's current 66-acre-campus recently appraised at approximately \$5.8 million. "This is an excellent investment. Our property, which has a good bit of flood plain intended for use as athletic fields and parking, appraises at twice-per-acre what we're paying for this new parcel, which has no flood-plain acreage and has commercial zoning and prime road frontage," Pinson said.

"It's a win, win, win situation," Free Will Baptist Foundation director David Brown, said. "This partnership... will allow Welch College to expand their footprint...and it will provide a potential future site for a new Free Will Baptist National Offices Building."



Spirit of Gratitude

by Randy Bryant - Executive Director - cell 772-696-3409

You are probably in the midst of the Thanksgiving season as you read this. We all understand and agree that giving thanks is something we're to do all year long - not just during a particular season on the calendar. When thinking about giving thanks, I remember Luke 17 and the account of Jesus healing the 10 lepers with only one coming back to thank Him. We're very quick to ridicule the lepers for neglecting to show appreciation for what the Lord did for them, but are we not often guilty of the same thing? Colossians 2:6 tells us that we are to "abound in thanksgiving", and Colossians 4:2 reminds us that we are to be "devoted to giving thanks."

So how do we develop a spirit of gratitude in our lives? Here are a few practical ways: First, avoid comparisons. You can always find someone you think has been 'more blessed' than you. However, we need to understand that what we have and where we are come by God's design. Everything we have comes from God, and we might do well to contemplate what we really deserve from the Lord. Secondly, abstain from complaining because the habit of complaining is really just ingratitude and we can determine that we will not be characterized by complaining. Psalm 77:3 says, "I complained and my spirit was overwhelmed." Rather than feeling better, we feel worse. And lastly, we need to acknowledge that we have a personal choice. Having a spirit of gratitude and being thankful is a personal choice we each make. We can make conscious efforts to recognize things to be thankful for and then make a habit out of acknowledging our good gifts from God. No one else can make that choice for you. So let's agree that we have much to be thankful for and choose gratitude all year long!

Executive Director's Schedule

NOVEMBER

4-5 CWC - Destin
12 Central Association

DECEMBER

5-6 Leadership Conf. -
Nashville
7 National Executive
Committee Meeting -
Nashville

2016 Seniors' Summit in Review

Adjustments! That seemed to be the key word for this year's Seniors' Summit. Due to Hurricane Matthew, adjustments had to be made to our location, with our speakers and even with some of our content in order to pull off this annual seniors retreat. However, a record number of attendees gave the retreat high marks for the overall event. Dr. Ken Riggs captivated the attendees as he shared truths about the Bible during his four speaking sessions. The group enjoyed a variety of events during their activities on Tuesday and the excursions included a visit to the Marine Science Center and the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, including a boat tour of the Ponce Inlet.



Worship times were Spirit-filled and uplifting, the meals provided great opportunities for fellowship and the after service events provided humor and fun for attendees. The group's annual silent auction raised over \$500 for the endowment they established to benefit the State Association's programs. Special thanks goes to Lynn Miles and the Daytona Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau for their assistance in securing locations, helping with the excursions and even helping to serve the catered lunch for the group at the park near the Lighthouse. The CVB went above and beyond to help make this retreat a success.

Here's what some of the attendees said: "I wouldn't change a thing." "Loved Dr. Riggs and his emphasis on Bible history." "Enjoyed the fact that we had higher attendance this year." "Let's make it last longer." "It's like youth camp for seniors!" So plan on joining us next year - who would want to miss out on a youth camp for seniors?

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- Church Revitalization Conference
November 4-5 - Destin
- Leadership Conference
December 5-6, 2016 - Nashville
- Ministers' Retreat
January 23-26, 2017 - Amelia Island
- Florida FWB State Meeting
May 3-6, 2017 - Jacksonville

For information about upcoming events
visit the State Website
flaFWB.com

Attention Pastors & FL Coordinator Subscribers! !

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE YOU WILL RECEIVE IN PRINT. In an effort to be more cost-effective, beginning in 2017, The Florida Coordinator will only be made available to you through email. At this time, we are asking all pastors and church secretaries to compile a list of names and email addresses of people within your church who would like to continue to receive The Coordinator newsletter via email. Please send that list, along with any updates as they become available, to Chrissy Kinney, Editor, at mckinney2@live.com with "GOING DIGITAL" in the subject line. Please be advised that a small number of print copies will be mailed to each church for those members who do not have access to a computer. Otherwise, paper copies of the newsletter will be discontinued as of January 2017. As always, you can also access our newsletter on-line at www.flaFWB.com

