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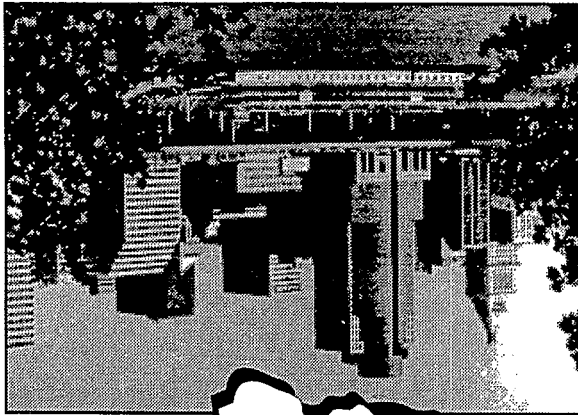
Free Will Baptist National Convention

to Meet in Cincinnati

61st Annual Session National Association of Free Will Baptists

Cincinnati, Ohio • July 20-24, '97

Theme: "Church Aflame"



The Delta Queen Steamboat at her home port, Cincinnati, Ohio

The National Association of Free

Will Baptists meets in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 20-24 for its 61st annual session. More than 6,000 delegates and visitors from 40 states are expected at the Cincinnati Convention Center for the five-day meeting.

The National Association of Free Will Baptists includes 2,500 churches with more than 215,000 members in 40 states. The denomination supports 103 missionaries in nine foreign countries and 102 home missionaries in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

National convention delegates are expected to approve denominational budgets which will exceed \$15 million. First-year moderator Carl Cheslier (Fort Smith, Arkansas) will gavel the voting body through electing 39 board and commission members, and general officers. Each national agency and commission will submit an annual report to delegates during the two-day convention business session on Wednesday and Thursday.

The 1997 convention theme is "Church Aflame." Five men will deliver major addresses developing the theme. The speakers include four pastors—Robert Prichard (Ohio), Matt Upton (California), Earl Hendrix (South Carolina) and Jerry Norris (Missouri), and Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington (Tennessee).

Meeting simultaneously with the National Association are the 30th annual National Youth Conference with an

expected 2,000 registrants, and the 62nd annual Women National-ally Active for Christ (WNAC) Convention with more than 1,000 women anticipated. Jeff Crabtree, missionary to Canada, will keynote the WNAC's missionary service. Mary R. Wiseshart, WNAC Executive Secretary, will speak at the Tuesday Fellowship Dinner.

The four-day National Youth Conference (NYC) which includes Bible competitive activities as well as a music and arts festival will rally around the theme "Walk in the Light of the Lord." NYC will conduct separate worship services for all youth. The youth will meet with the adults Wednesday evening.

Tuesday morning the Church Growth Forum will meet at Omni Netherland Plaza Hotel. Three pastors will address the three-hour forum: Richard Atwood (Delaware), Ronnie Adkins (Tennessee) and Connie Cariker (Oklahoma). More than 800 ministers and laymen are expected to gather for the sessions.

The Hyatt Regency Hotel will serve as headquarters hotel for the national convention. The National Youth Conference will be headquartered in the Regal Cincinnati Hotel. All plenary sessions will meet at Cincinnati Convention Center. All Tennessee ministers and laymen are encouraged to attend this great convention.

1

Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists Treasurer's Report • Dec.-Feb. 1997

Appalachian Assn.	\$100.70
Grace	\$100.70
Kenburg	75.00
Watuga Valley	165.00
Appalachian Assn.	151.59
Central Assn.	
Faith	498.31
Crossville	100.00
Cumberland Assn.	280.34
Ashland City	119.50
Bethel	180.00
Bethlehem	534.52
Coker's Chapel	60.00
Cross Timbers	65.00
Cumberland Assn.	143.44
Donelson	690.23
Dunbar Chapel	75.00
East Nashville	75.00
Friendship	30.00
Goodlettsville	273.40
Good Springs	163.95
Head's	297.08
Hendersonville	200.00
New Hope	100.00
Oakwood	75.00
Pardue Memorial	48.00
Richland	94.21
Trinity	135.64
Waverly First	75.00
Woodbine	200.00
Liberty Assn.	
Cookeville	150.00
Liberty Assn.	250.66
Northeast Assn.	
Union Street	150.00
Bethany	40.00
First, Church Hill	900.00
Doran Addition	75.00
Fellowship	150.00
Forest Grove	75.00
Limestone	75.00
London	25.00
Oak Ridge	198.34
Shady Grove Sunday School	150.00
Unicoi	50.00
Union Assn.	427.63
West Greene	75.00
Toe River	
Berea	15.00
Others	
Valley Forge	367.17
Individuals	435.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$8,614.01
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$6,612.07

Thank you for your gifts to support the State Association work of Free Will Baptists and sent to E. B. McDonald, P.O. Box 685, Ashland City, TN 37015.
—E. B. McDonald, Treasurer

Tennessee Is Number One Again in Foreign Missions Giving

Tennessee Free Will Baptists continued to demonstrate a heart for world outreach as they ranked number one in giving for foreign missions for at least the tenth consecutive year. In 1996, Tennessee gave more to foreign missions than any other state in the National Association.

Churches and individual contributed \$720,365.61 in 1996 sparked by \$125,910.96 for the annual Don and Billie Sexton Walk-A-Thon for Foreign Missions.

"Tennessee has continued to play a significant role in getting the gospel to the unreached," commented General Director R. Eugene Waddell. "Without your help, we could not have seen the hundreds come to Christ as reported by our missionaries. We thank you for your faithfulness and sacrificial giving."

Below you will find churches in Tennessee which gave more than \$5,000 for the year.

Donelson	Nashville	\$66,228.68
Coker's Chapel	Nashville	31,817.46
Limestone	Limestone	30,777.89
Fellowship	Kingsport	29,360.05
Cross Timbers	Nashville	22,100.00
New Hope	Joelton	20,558.36
Bethlehem	Ashland City	14,616.51
Forest Grove	Knoxville	13,133.05
Good Springs	Pleasant View	11,170.38
Horton Heights	Nashville	10,293.95
First	Erwin	10,046.00
Head's	Cedar Hill	7,901.62
Glamorgan Chapel	Wise, VA	5,020.00
First	Church Hill	7,706.00
Heritage Baptist	Johnson City	7,200.00
First	Newport	6,842.64
First	Greeneville	6,682.38
Keystone	Johnson City	6,639.90
Wooddale	Knoxville	6,589.72
Shady Grove	Clarksville	6,564.26
Valley Forge	Elizabethton	6,510.80
Franklin	Franklin	6,363.12
Faithview	Heiskell	6,318.50
Burbank	Elizabethton	5,971.51
Richland	Nashville	5,939.35
Faith	Knoxville	5,512.00
East Nashville	Nashville	5,501.77
Olivet	Clarksville	5,401.20
Fellowship	Antioch	5,137.49

Congratulations to Donelson Church

Donelson Free Will Baptist Church, pastored by Brother Robert J. Morgan, was the number one church in the entire denomination in giving to foreign missions in 1996. This great church gave \$66,228.68 to foreign missions through the Department of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. This is a very high achievement and we applaud everyone who had a part in this. We pay special recognition to Pastor Morgan and to all his people for this outstanding record of missions giving.

26 Tennesseans on Bible College Dean's List

Twenty-six students from Tennessee were among the 81 students on the Dean's List for the fall semester at Free Will Baptist Bible College. This is a high honor and we congratulate each student.

"A" HONOR ROLL

- Nashville Charles Curtin (Sr.)
- Nashville Allysa Hampton (Soph.)
- Nashville Susanah Patton (Fr.)
- Nashville Mike Smith (Jr.)
- Nashville Pleasant View

"B" HONOR ROLL

- Madison Aaron Baker (Soph.)
- Nashville Aaron Baldridge (Fr.)
- Nashville Carmen Claire (Jr.)
- Nashville Tom Cross (Jr.)
- Nashville Tim Crowson (Soph.)
- Nashville Heather Daniel (Sr.)
- Nashville Phillip Eller (Fr.)
- Nashville Kelly Goodfellow (Jr.)
- Elizabethton Julie Grindstaff (Sr.)
- Ashland City Bryant Harris (Sr.)
- Ridgetop Heather Hasty (Jr.)
- Greenville Kyle Hood (Jr.)
- Nashville Steven Lewis (Fr.)
- Nashville Joy Mangrum (Sr.)
- Nashville Danelle Mann (Soph.)
- Nashville Marie McDougald (Jr.)
- Nashville Cynthia Milom (Sr.)
- Chapmansboro Mackenzie Price (Fr.)
- Columbia Brian Sargent (Sr.)
- Nashville Chris Sargent (Fr.)
- Nashville Dianne Sargent (Jr.)
- Nashville Mark Sass (Soph.)

From My Heart

by Charles A. Thigpen

At the Tennessee State Meeting in November, I urged our ministers to join me in paying off Tennessee's portion of the National Offices Building. I asked each pastor to raise or give \$100 and each minister not pastoring to raise or give \$50. Since then, \$5,934 has come in. Many thanks to you dear ones who have responded.

We are now closer to the finish line then we have ever been. Only \$15,883 more is needed. We still need the pastors and ministers who have not shared in this final thrust to help us.

Others are also needed. Even churches that have given before—and those who have not—should send in an offering. Perhaps Sunday school classes, Master's Men, and Women Active for Christ should join in and help.

All of us in the entire denomination benefit from this National Offices Building. Let's all work together and finish this by June 30, so that it can be announced at the National in Cincinnati that "Tennessee has paid its share!"

Send gifts to the Executive Office, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002.

Bible College Summer Camp Announced

Calling all high school basketball players, musicians, missionaries, and stage performers! Free Will Baptist Bible College invites you to spend a week of your summer on campus in Nashville at Summer Camp '97—June 22-28.

You will enroll in one of four camps. Each is designed to develop your skills in a specific area: basketball, music, world missions or drama. By the end of the week, you will find that your interest and abilities are far greater than when you began. More importantly, you will be refreshed and challenged spiritually. You will learn how to cultivate a meaningful devotional life and how to share your faith with others. Don't miss out on this life-changing opportunity. The cost is just \$175 (\$25 per camper discount if five or more attend from the same church or church-related school). Register by June 15 to allow sufficient time to process your application.

Call now for a free brochure: 1-800-76-FWBBC.

Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering

The Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering is the first of four annual offerings under "The Together Way" of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. This year, Foreign Missions Sunday falls on April 27. Churches are encouraged to participate with a sacrificial offering to undergird the Foreign Missions program.

In 1996, Free Will Baptists gave nearly \$79,000 to the LBB World Missions Offering. Although this fell short of last year's goal, churches and individuals are urged to participate this year with a determination to help Foreign Missions meet the goal of \$100,000.

In memory of the first Free Will Baptist missionary, Miss Laura Belle Barnard, churches are asked to send an offering designated "Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering" to Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. Offerings can also be sent through the district or state association but should be clearly designated as indicated.

Oak Ridge Honors Mosleys

Pastor and Mrs. Terry Mosley were honored for ten years of faithful service by First Free Will Baptist Church of Oak Ridge on Sunday, March 16. This anniversary marks ten years of outstanding service to the church and to the community by the pastor and his family. In addition to statements of appreciation, there was special singing and a delicious meal served for everyone. The church also showed their appreciation by presenting a gift to the Mosleys.

THE ECHO

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Dates to Remember

April 25-26 State CTS Competition, FWBBC	May 15 FWBBC Graduation FWB Family Ministries Mother's Day Offering, World Missions Offering
April 27 FWBBC	May 11 World Missions Offering

National Offices Building

Tennessee's Portion \$78,557
Amount Given \$62,674
Yet Needed \$15,883

MAIL OR FAX
By June 20, 1997 — To:
GCCVB
Free Will Baptist
Housing Bureau
300 West 6th Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
FAX — 513/621-2156

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
PHONE (____) _____

PERSON TO WHOM CONFIRMATION SHOULD BE MAILED: _____
(1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
(4) _____

CHECK ENCLOSED. CHECK # _____
ROOMMATES: (LIST ALL OCCUPANTS OF ROOM) _____
APPLY DEPOSIT TO: MASTERCARD VISA DINERS CLUB DISCOVER AMEX
CARD NUMBER _____
NAME ON CARD: _____
SIGNATURE _____
EXP. DATE _____

ARRIVAL DATE / / TIME / /
DEPARTURE DATE / /

Indicate Special Requests: Wheel chair Accessible Non-Smoking Crib Other _____
 Rollaway (Upon availability or on additional charge)

Rates do not include tax which is currently 10.5% in Ohio. Value Parking is \$13 per day at hotels listed.

Hotel choices	Number	Hotel choices	Number
QUAD	4	2 beds / 3	persons
TRIPLE	3	2 beds / 2	persons
DOUBLE	2	1 bed / 1	person
DR/DBL	2	1 bed / 1	person
SINGLE	1	1 bed / 1	person
Hyatt Regency Cincinnati	\$115.00	Hyatt Regency Cincinnati	\$115.00
Omni Netherland Plaza	\$102.00	Omni Netherland Plaza	\$102.00
Regal Cincinnati Hotel	\$95.00	Regal Cincinnati Hotel	\$95.00

(Rooms with two beds are limited. Please utilize room with one bed whenever possible.)
◆ ◆ ◆ CIRCLE ROOM TYPE REQUESTED BELOW ◆ ◆ ◆

Print or type all information requested and mail or fax form to GCCVB/Free Will Baptist Housing Bureau by June 20, 1997. If form is faxed, do not call Bureau to check on receipt of fax. Keep your transaction report as proof of transmittal. You will receive acknowledgment by mail of your hotel assignment within two weeks of the time the form is received by the Housing Bureau. No telephone reservations will be accepted by the Bureau or the Hotel.

DEPOSIT REQUIRED: An advance deposit of \$100.00 is required for each room. Your deposit will be charged to your credit card by providing the information requested below. Deposits being made by check should be for \$100.00 per room payable to the GCCVB Housing Bureau and mailed to the address below. Forms received without credit card information or a check for the deposit will be returned and reservations will not be processed. Hotel refund policies vary.

Changes or cancellations should be made in writing to the Housing Bureau by June 20, 1997. You may fax changes to 513/621-2156 or mail to address below. After June 20, you must contact the hotel directly to make changes or cancellations. Check your hotel confirmation for instructions regarding cancellation policies and check-in times.

Number all hotels in numerical order of preference. Rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If your hotel choices are not available, you will be assigned to the next closest available hotel. Failure to receive your first choice hotel does not constitute an error.

Housing Form National Association of Free Will Baptists / National Convention Cincinnati, Ohio • July 20-24, 1997

