

THE

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JAMES FORLINES TO HEAD FOREIGN MISSIONS

When R. Eugene Waddell announced his retirement after 12 1/2 years as General Director of Foreign Missions, the Board of Foreign Missions began praying and searching for his replacement. James Forlines of Batesville, Ark., was the man chosen for the job.

Brother James is the son of Professor and Mrs. Leroy Forlines of Nashville and is a 1980 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He also has taken graduate courses from Anderson School of Theology. James has served as associate and youth pastor in Gastonia, N.C., as pastor of First FWB in Chesterfield, Ind., and as pastor of Allen Chapel FWB in Batesville, Ark.

Brother Forlines has been active in writing Sunday School materials and served five years as moderator of the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists. He served the past four years as a member of the Board of Foreign Missions. He was one of the key figures in the development of the A.C.T.S.

1:8 plan of missionary support adopted by Arkansas Free Will Baptists.

James is married to the former Anita Ganey. They have three children: Daniel, age 19; Rachel, age 15; and Rebekah, age 14.

TENNESSEE WELCOMES MARJORIE WORKMAN TO HEAD WNAC

by Dawn Sweeney

Everything in life undergoes change. Dr. Mary Wisheart has passed the torch on to Marjorie Workman. Marjorie is no stranger to us. She has held various offices in women's work. She served as president of TWAC and served five years on the WNAC Executive Committee. Before that she worked as a bookkeeper, church clerk, and of course, pastor's wife and a mother. She worked at FWBBC for 20 years as Dean of Women. Everything she has done up to this point has been in preparation for her new job as Executive Secretary/Treasurer for WNAC. She approaches each new duty with courage and commitment.

She is a special lady. If you need to talk, she will stop all other tasks and focus on what you are saying. She has a certain level-headedness about her so that when you discuss a problem with her you go away feeling more confident because of the wisdom she shared with you.

Marjorie, we love you and will stand behind you.



20th ANNIVERSARY AND DEDICATION AT LIBERTY IN MILLINGTON

Liberty FWB Church is now twenty years old! This church, which was begun as a mission project of the National Home Missions Board and the Tennessee State Association, continues to be a strong, vibrant, growing work. The present pastor, Brother Gwyn Pugh, has faithfully served this church for more than twelve years.

The church celebrated the anniversary and dedicated a new addition to the church building. A spacious fellowship hall/educational wing was dedicated to the Lord.

After the noon meal in the new fellowship hall, the youth of the church presented the beautiful and moving musical drama, "Amazing Grace." A record attendance was on hand for this day.

Pastor Gwyn Pugh said,

"The 20 years we have been in the Millington community, the Lord has allowed us to touch many lives and to be touched by them. We have seen prayers answered, many people saved, and the Lord's work accomplished in many areas. Even now we celebrate a fellowship hall and Sunday School building addition which has been completely paid for as we built. We look forward with anticipation to what good things the Lord has for the future of Liberty FWB Church!

The mission of our church is to be faithful in sowing the seeds of the Gospel of Jesus Christ our Savior, then to move on in faith, knowing that God is in control of the harvest. *He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing (John 15:5).*"

HEI NEEDED IN MEXICO

One of the most fruitful areas in our denominational outreach is the country of Mexico. The Munseys have done an outstanding job in bringing the work together and also in giving leadership to this mission field. Many souls are won to Christ every year and new churches are being added. God has honored His Word and the effort of both our American missionaries and the precious Mexican believers.

We are greatly blessed to have the Seminary of the Cross, a training institution for Christian leaders. Enrollment was down last year to 11 students but is presently up to 27 students. For this, we give praise and thanksgiving to God. This Bible training school is a very wise investment—we are training our Mexican brothers and sisters to reach Mexicans. These native Mexicans do not have the language or cultural problems to overcome in reaching their people.

And yet, a large and burdensome financial deficit hangs over the Mexican work. Here is the way that Brother James Munsey explains the need:

"We continue to be troubled by the deficit in the Mexico account, which is around \$35,000. It has come down some since last month, and our promotional trips are helping, but we must get it under control. We are going to make a three-fold effort to get this covered once and for all. **We are asking churches who have followed our ministry in Mexico to please put us into your budget for 1999.** We need regular support to keep the field going. Remember, the Mexico account is paying the expenses to train 27 full-time students who are the future of Mexico. It pays the salaries of 13 pastors, the seminary staff, and the Munseys. The total yearly budget for all the work in Mexico is only \$180,000. We are anxious to begin constructing more churches in Mexico, but we must first erase the deficit."

Those of us here in the state of Tennessee really should raise the funds to totally remove this deficit. Will you have your church raise \$1,000 to help? If you cannot raise \$1,000, what about \$750 or perhaps \$500? It is important that we undertake this task immediately.

Please place the Mexican work in your 1999 church budget; or raise the amount, if this work is already in your budget. In this way, such a deficit will not occur again. Please do what you can. I am counting on you. Send your checks to National Home Missions, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. Earmark gifts for "Mexico."

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 12-14	National Youth Workers Retreat, Branson, MO
Feb. 19-21	National Youth Workers Retreat, Corbin, KY
March 7-11	FWBBC Bible Conference
March 18-21	Student Leadership Conference, Conway, AR
March 25-28	Student Leadership Conference, Ewing, IL
March 25-27	Welcome Days, FWBBC
April 23-24	Tennessee CTS Competition, FWBBC



THE HOMEGOING OF BROTHER V. O. PRICE

Brother Virgil Onecy (Pete) Price, age 73, of Whitesburg, went to be with the Lord on November 19. He

was a member and former pastor of Shady Grove FWB Church. He was ordained to preach in 1949 and had pastored seven churches in East Tennessee.

He is survived by his wife, Beulah (Maize); a daughter and son-in-law, Bobbie and Randle Susong; three grandchildren, Kristina, Adam, and Erin Susong; one sister, Virgie Hipshire; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Stubblefield Funeral Home in Morristown, with Brothers Steve Corbett and Lynn Neas officiating.

Brother Price pastored a total of forty years. He pastored the following churches: Mount Moriah, Shady Grove, Johnson's Chapel, McMillian, Bridges Chapel, Community Chapel and Morristown Mission.

This dear man possessed a very pleasant and gracious manner. He was a person of sterling Christian character. He was devoted to his family, his friends and was a true lover of people. He was a faithful preacher of the Word of God. Brother and Sister Price have been a great spiritual help and influence to many lives. This man of God will truly be missed.

BROTHER HERMAN CHRISTIAN CALLED HOME



One of Tennessee's most outstanding ministers, Brother Herman Christian, went to be with the Lord on October 10. He had been a minister for 66 years and was 90 years of age. Brother Christian had been in declining health for several years.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Grills Christian; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Aubrey Russell, Sandra and Archie Bartley, and Joyce and Clyde Quick; a son and daughter-in-law, Sally Christian and Nancy Christian; 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; and a great-great granddaughter; three brothers, Jake, Cecil, and Dennis; a sister, Mabel Smith; mother-in-law, Mrs. Willie Lowe, four stepdaughters and three stepsons-in-law, Rachel Dan, Margaret and Glenn Tyler, Nancy and Coy Johnson, and Beth Ann and Michael Begley, and several nieces and nephews.

Brother Christian may well hold the record among Free Will Baptists for the number of funerals conducted and the number of weddings performed. He had conducted 1,349 funerals and had performed 1,368 weddings.

The funeral for Brother Christian was conducted at First FWB Church of Church Hill on Monday, October 12, by Brothers Bud Beverly, Jack Morelock, Gary Gerhardt, and Charles A. Thigpen.

Brother Christian's life and ministry had touched the lives of numbers of people. In his pastoral and evangelistic work he had led many to become believers in Jesus Christ. He had served as an inspiration and an example to many people, including a large number of ministers. He was a true mentor to me as well as to many others.

He will truly be missed by all us of who knew him. Please pray for his widow, Sister Dorothy Grills Christian, who had given Brother Herman gracious and loving care during the years of illness prior to his death. Pray for her during this time of readjustment.

FROM MY HEART

by Charles A. Thigpen

Say, Brother Pastor, how do you order your life? During the years that I was associated with Free Will Baptist Bible College, I insisted that the preacher boys give special attention to their arrangement of priorities as they faced a lifetime of pastoral ministry (actually, this approach is proper for any believer).

First is a person's relationship to God—this must be primary.

Second is a person's family. Too many Christian workers do not give enough of their time and attention to their families. This is vital and should never be neglected.

Third is a person's calling or vocation. Sadly, some pastors put this second and lose their families.

I verily believe these three priorities should be established by every Christian—but especially by all Christian leaders.

NATIONAL YOUTH WORKERS RETREATS

The annual National Youth Workers Retreats will be held at two locations: February 12-14, 1999, at Stonecraft Conference Center, Branson, Mo.; and February 19-21, 1999, at Cumberland Falls State Park, Corbin, Ky.

If you are a full- or part-time youth worker, Sunday School teacher, children's church worker, parent or pastor who is interested in leading children and young people to a deeper understanding of Jesus Christ, this retreat is for you! The program is designed to help you in the local church and one-on-one ministry. Our featured speaker, Benny Profitt, will address current issues, give insight into the way kids think and act and help you develop a strategy to meet their needs into the next century.

For more information, call Youth Ministries Division, 1-800-877-7030.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

A student leadership conference called "T&P2" will be held at Camp Beaverfork, Conway, Ark., March 18-21, 1999, and another at Camp Hope, Ewing, Ill., March 25-28, 1999.

These are for students in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades. This is modeled after Truth and Peace National High School Leadership Conference. The cost is \$79.

Each of these is a four-day conference filled with challenges, excitement and is designed to motivate teens to become better Christian leaders in churches, schools and homes. The seminars will deal with the real issues faced in everyday life. For further information write to: T&P2 Student Leadership Conference, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217.

Program personalities include Curt Gwartney, James Evans and Michael Hollifield as well as staff from the Youth Ministries Division of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

1998 TENNESSEE STATE ASSOCIATION

Pastor Phil Poston, together with Minister of Youth Steven Cox, and all the people of First FWB Church in Elizabethton, joined together to make all of us feel very welcomed, November 9-11, 1998. These dear people of First Church were gracious hosts to the 61st annual association. The music was uplifting, the preaching was Holy Spirit-anointed, the business was orderly and effectively carried out, and the fellowship was sweet!

Special thanks to the local church choir, directed by Bro. Campbell with musicians Jo Ann Campbell and Carol Bowers. Congregational singing was led by Harvey Crain. Phil Poston and Joel Street blessed our hearts with their singing. Messages were brought by Randy Corn, Terry Mosley, Howard Messer, Hal Calhoun and Norman Heath, with devotionals by Mark Street. The Lord used each of these to speak to our hearts.

Reports from the various areas of work reflected growth and progress. Free Will Baptist Family Ministries had a most outstanding year. Tennessee churches and individuals gave \$187,450 to this great cause this year. The Hope Center for unwed mothers was opened; a licensed professional counselor has been added to the staff; "Fairhaven Ranch" has been purchased, where eight more children will be housed; an emergency shelter has been donated in Virginia and will soon be in operation.

The State Home Missions Board reported that Brother Gerald Fender and his people are now in their new building at West Knoxville. They have had the dedication service. This work continues to grow. Brother Frank Bratcher represents a joint/associate project; he is establishing a church at Carthage.

The following report was made about Tim Osborn and the Memphis work: "We have had to change directions on our Memphis project. The Grace FWB Church has asked to be placed under the Tennessee State Home Missions Board and National Home Missions to help them return to self-supporting status. Brother Tim Osborn, because of his love for the Memphis area, feels that we must help the Grace FWB Church before we begin a church in Cordova. We feel good about Brother Tim's desire to do this. Thank the Lord for a missionary who is willing to allow the Lord to change his thrust."

The State Foreign Missions Board reported that the \$155,000 goal for last year's Walk-a-Thon was reached—and that money continues to be received toward the \$175,000 goal for 1998.

The Christian Education Board reported on the first term of study at New Life Bible Institute in Elizabethton. Fourteen were enrolled. Upper Cumberland Bible Institute continues to make good progress with 30 students this term. The Youth Conference will be December 29-31 at Pigeon Forge. Allen Pointer, youth pastor at First Church, Russellville, Ark., will speak. Call Steven Cox (423/542-8702) for further information.

Tennesseans gave \$1,483,918 to the various national ministries last year—making us, once again, the leading state in national support.

Membership among churches has grown to 22,800, for which we rejoice. Also, we are most thrilled to have received the Tennessee River Association as the newest member of the Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists. This is an association of 14 churches located in the southwest portion of Tennessee. All of us join in saying "Welcome" to our Tennessee River brothers and sisters.

TENNESSEE WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

by Anne Worthington ..

A total of 58 registered for the 53rd annual Tennessee Women Active for Christ Convention November 10, 1998, at First FWB Church, Elizabethton. The session focused on the theme, "Living Sacrifices."

During the business session delegates endorsed the following Plan of Work:

January	Enlistment and support
February	Foreign Student Scholarship Fund (\$1,000 each for two Cote d'Ivoire students)
March	State Project (see below)
April	Foreign Missions (Pre-Easter Offering)
May	Memphis Home Missions Project (Tim Osborn)
June	Local Projects (Crisis Pregnancy Center at Free Will Baptist Family Ministries)
July	Provision Closet
August	WNAC Emphasis
September	Rest of the Family Offering (Executive Office/WNAC/Master's Men/Retirement & Insurance/Commissions/NYC)
October	Tennessee Promotional Office
November	National Home Missions (Pre-Thanksgiving Offering)
December	Free Will Baptist Bible College (Paul Kettelman Offering)

In further business, delegates voted to raise \$3,600 toward an organ for Free Will Baptist Bible College in honor of Dr. Mary Ruth Wisheart as the 1998-99 state project.

Delegates also voted to send the following recommendations to the 1999 WNAC Convention:

- That the Foreign Student Scholarship Fund be named the Cleo Pursell Foreign Student Scholarship Fund in honor of its founder.
- That the Memorial Student Loan Fund be named the Mary Ruth Wisheart Student Loan Fund in honor of her many educational achievements.

As a source of information, Recording Secretary Annie Worthington reported 37 auxiliaries reported, with a total of 459 paying dues to date.

Treasurer Gladys Gragg reported receipts for the year totaled \$34,524.92. Of that amount, \$12,213.50 was designated for Foreign Missions, \$5,510.47 for Home Missions, \$1,119.49 for Free Will Baptist Bible College, \$2,380.58 for Free Will Baptist Family Ministries, and \$9,875.96 for WNAC.

WNAC Executive Secretary/Treasurer Marjorie Workman reported Tennessee Free Will Baptist women gave a total of \$37,717.76, ranking second nationally in giving to the *Co-Laborer* Offering, the *Emphasis* Offering and in total giving to WNAC.

Mrs. Workman reminded everyone of the WNAC Convention in Atlanta, Ga., July 19-20, 1999, and the retreat at Glorieta, N.M., September 24-26, 1999.

Five events highlighted the Tennessee Women Active for Christ Convention:

- President Dawn Sweeney paid tribute to newly elected Executive Secretary/Treasurer Marjorie Workman and presented her with flowers.
- Dawn also paid tribute to former Executive Secretary/Treasurer Mary Ruth Wisheart and presented her with flowers and a \$500 check from the Tennessee women.
- A first: A luncheon rather than a banquet. Trula Cronk spoke.
- Debbie Mitchell's slide presentation of women who have served — "Living Sacrifices."
- Limestone's Women Active for Christ presentation of the mission skit, *Is That A Tear In Your Eye?*, written by missionary Annette Aycock.

Recording Secretary Anne Worthington announced that plans are underway for the 1999 TWAC retreat to be held at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort in Gatlinburg on September 30-October 2. The retreat theme is "Passing the Torch."

305 AT FWBBC WELCOME DAYS

Free Will Baptist Bible College registered 305 visitors from 75 churches in 20 states for its fall Welcome Days, November 12-14, according to the college's Recruitment Office. The total was comprised of 222 prospective students and 83 sponsors.

The largest state representations were North Carolina (41), Illinois (24), and Michigan (21). The largest church group was 26 from Peace FWB Church in Wilson, N.C. The second largest was from Seffner FWB Church in Seffner, Fla. One visitor, it was reported, was saved on the final night of the visit.

FWBBC President, Dr. Tom Malone, noted, "This fall's student prospects appeared more focused in their plans and excited about the college. All indications, from the music and drama presentations to the chapel service, were that this was not only one of our largest fall Welcome Days, but also one of our best."

1999 ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS

Tennessee State Association, November 8-10

Oak Grove FWB Church • Greeneville, TN

Appalachian Association

Jan. 16 Grace
 April 2-3 (annual) Marbleton
 July 10 TBA
 Oct. 16 TBA

Central Association

Jan. 8 First, McMinnville
 April 9 Faith
 July 9 First, Crossville
 Oct. 8 (annual) Victory

Cumberland Association

Oct. 9 TBA

Northern Quarterly

Jan. 9 Oaklawn
 April 10 Pardue Memorial
 July 10 TBA
 Oct. 9 TBA

South Central Quarterly

Jan. 2 New Life
 April 10 Flatwoods
 June 26 Loyal Chapel
 Oct. 2 Faith

Southern Quarterly

Jan. 8 Fellowship
 April 9 Franklin
 July 9 Goodlettsville
 Oct. 1 Grace

Western Quarterly

Jan. 9 Victory
 April 10 Brandon's Chapel
 July 10 Carlisle
 Oct. 2 Dunbar's Chapel

Liberty Association

Jan. 22-23 Cookeville
 May 21-22 Rickman
 Sept. 24-25 (annual) Sparta First

Northeast Association

Jan. 2 Magnolia
 April 10 New Life
 July 10 Parker's Chapel
 Oct. 2 Morrison City First

Union Association

Aug. 10-12 West Knoxville

Central Quarterly

Feb. 13 East Greene
 May 8 Limestone
 Aug. 7 Hot Springs
 Nov. 13 Oak Grove

Eastern Quarterly

April 9 Redeeming Grace
 Oct. 9 TBA

Northern Quarterly

Jan. 23 Goshen Valley
 April 24 Grassy Creek
 July 24 Gray
 Oct. 23 Horse Creek

Western Quarterly

Feb. 6 Oak Ridge First
 May 1 Valley View
 July 31 Burl's Chapel
 Nov. 6 TBA

Tennessee River Association

Jan. 29-30 Adamsville First
 May 28-29 Piney Grove
 Aug. 27-28 New Pleasant Grove
 Sept. 17-18 (annual) Scott's Chapel

Toe River Association

Feb. 20 Little Doe
 May 15 Buffalo Valley
 Aug. 13-14 (annual) Evergreen
 Nov. 20 TBA

West Tennessee Association

Mar. 12 Hope
 June 11 Victory
 Sept. 11 (annual) Grace
 Dec. 10 Liberty

TENNESSEE STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS TREASURER'S REPORT September-November 1998

Income

Appalachian Assn.	
Appalachian Assn.	\$ 98.23
Grace	210.00
Johnson City First	300.00
Keensburg	50.00
Wautauga Valley	165.00
Central Assn.	
Central Assn.	50.00
Crossville	100.00
Cumberland Assn.	
Ashland City	318.98
Bethel	168.77
Bethlehem	180.00
Brandon's Chapel	726.28
Cofer's Chapel	200.00
Cross Timbers	65.00
Cumberland Assn.	288.99
Donelson	912.26
Dunbar Chapel	75.00
East Nashville	75.00
Friendship	45.00
Good Springs	207.21
Heads	307.65
Hendersonville	200.00
Oakwood	350.00
New Hope	150.00
Richland	120.62
Trinity	203.38
Waverly First	75.00
Woodbine	150.00
Liberty Assn.	
Cookeville	150.00
Liberty Assn.	210.42
Northeast Assn.	
Union Street	150.00
Union Assn.	
Bethany	30.00
First, Church Hill	500.00
First, Oak Ridge	144.71
Fellowship	150.00
Forest Grove	75.00
Limestone	75.00
Loudon	25.00
Shady Grove	200.00
Unicoi	75.00
Union Assn.	246.07
West Greene	75.00
Valley Forge	966.18
Free Will Baptist Family Ministries	375.00
Individuals	180.00
Association Fees	7,050.00
Association Registration Fees	558.00
Association Offerings	969.69
Misc. Accounts	111.41
Total Income	\$18,108.85
Total Expenditures	\$10,345.68

Thank you for your gifts to the State Association work. All checks should be made payable to Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists and sent to E. B. McDonald, P.O. Box 685, Ashland City, TN 37015.

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