

Summer 2011

THE TEXAS CHALLENGE

Special Edition!

Home Missions in Texas

Canyon

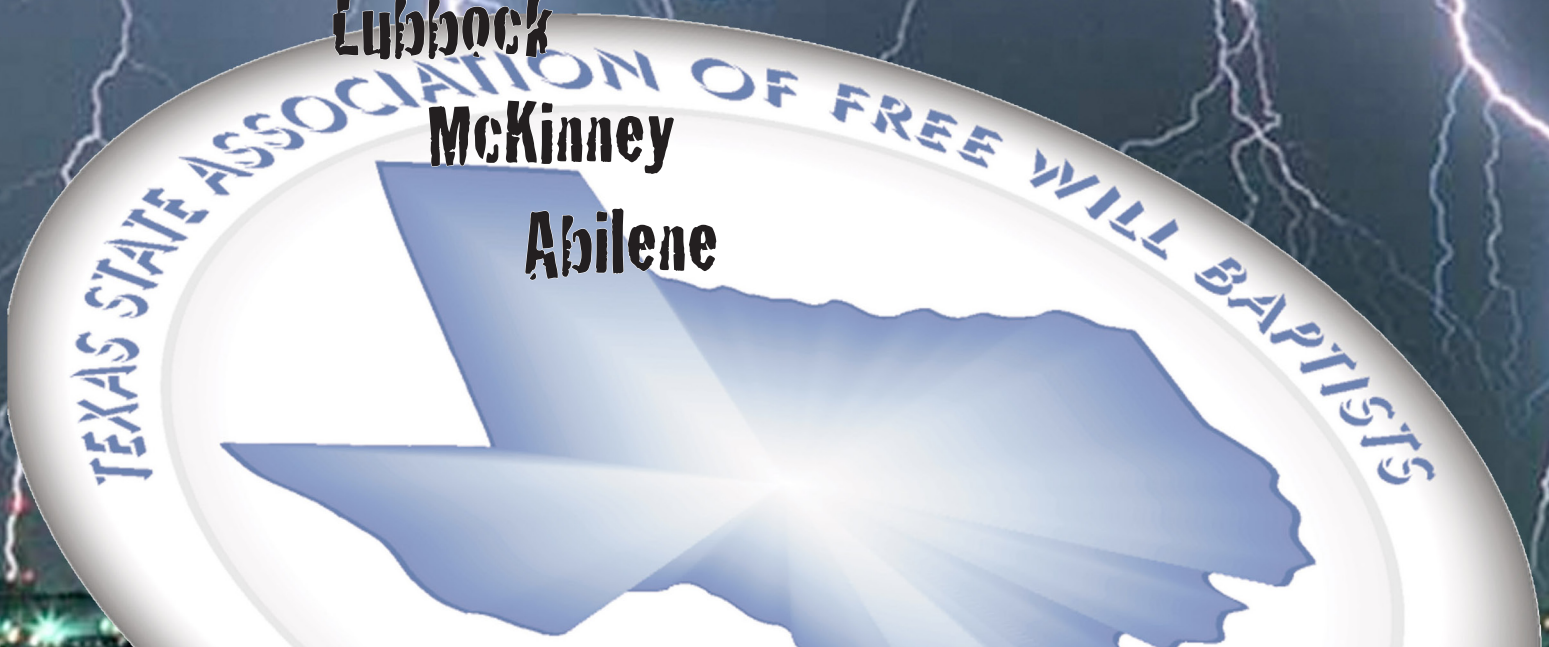
San Antonio

McAllen

Lubbock

McKinney

Abilene





Deep In The Heart Of Texas!

by Larry Powell - National Home Missions Director

I love Texas, but most of all I love Texans. I used to be one. In my heart, I am still a Texan. I loved traveling across the wide open spaces of this great state. One year, we traveled from McAllen to Amarillo to attend the state meeting. It was 800 beautiful miles. When I think of Texas, I think diversity. Whatever you want, Texas has it. As you cross the state

from East to West and North to South there are desert oil fields, forests, swamps, prairies, grasslands, rolling plains, piney woods, hill country, farmlands and finally the mountains of Big Bend.

I am thankful for the heart and spirit of Texas Free Will Baptists. The state has one of the most aggressive mission programs in our church planting movement. I believe that our Free Will Baptist have a heart for reaching its diverse people and communities with the Jesus Saves News!

Great work is in progress with the Pucketts in Sugarland. What a tremendous location and beautiful worship facility. We are thankful for the Richards and the good work in Porter. They are experiencing steady growth. The Gillentines have been faithful in Abilene, and God has given increase. God is blessing the new work in the McAllen area, and also the new mission work in Lubbock with the Scotts. Wow! Texas Free Will Baptist are building His kingdom!

Jeremy and Jill Lightsey are excited about remodeling and moving into their new lease space. This new location will give them greater visibility in the community. God has given them a good connection with young families in their 20's and 30's. They are growing an excellent church at Cross Life in San Antonio.

Don and Sonya Bailey, with great determination, move forward with steady resolve to plant a solid church between the loops on several acres of land. The North Oaks Free Will Baptist Church with its beautiful new facilities will be in view of literally thousands of people as they transverse this great southwest city of San Antonio. My directors and I will be visiting the Lightseys and Baileys very soon.

Jeff and Sondra Cates have one of the most unique Free Will Baptist Missions in North America. Please make an effort to visit our Canyon Country Cowboy Church. Jeff has a passion for the people of this horse and cattle community. His precious folks are dear to my heart. I long to put on my boots and jeans and sit around the campfire and then worship with them in their new facilities.

Randall and Collette Wright with great enthusiasm will capture families for Christ in McKinney. Let's help Randall and Collette plant a strong church in this 130,000-people community with no Free Will Baptist Church. Thousands are moving to this exploding areas of Collin County Texas. Let's pray that Brian and Melissa Lewis will have a short delay in joining them in the work. (Editor's note: Melissa has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer and is undergoing chemo therapy at this time.)

"What can I more say, for time would fail me to tell," of all the good things I want to say about Texas and my fellow Texans. Thank you pastors and people for you great support of Home Missions North America. Pray with me please that God will enable us to connect with more precious souls, "Deep In The Heart Of Texas."

May God Bless The Trail You Ride

by Jeff Cates - Canyon



Why would you want to live in the Panhandle of Texas? I pondered the question as it was posed to me, wondering what he meant. Was he speaking of the climate, the economy, the culture? My response was very quick in coming, why would you not want to live in the Panhandle of Texas? It is beyond a doubt the most wonderful place God has ever created. Yes, the wind does blow, no it almost never rains and the temperature can change forty degrees in the swish

of a horse's tail. Yes, the economy is tough and the culture is definitely rural, western, and independent. Those however are the attributes that make it so uniquely wonderful. And more importantly, it is a place where God is working, blessing and has planted our hearts. It is our home.

Canyon Country Free Will Baptist Church just celebrated its fourth anniversary. Four years of hard work, excitement, disappointment, joy, challenge, victory, blessing, growth, and many more adjectives that I could use describe what takes place with any new church plant. We have watched as God has moved us from a den, to a remodeled garage, to a six thousand square foot facility on fifteen acres. That in itself is worth telling about, yet where the church meets is not nearly as important an issue as the body of the church itself.

God has lifted souls out of the pit of sin and confusion. From a young man who went from the county jail to the front of our services where he leads in prayers and praises, to a man who previously never gave God any thought only to be among those presenting a living Lord's supper this past Easter, God has steadily been transforming lives. Separated families have been reconciled. Others have been brought out of false doctrines. Young Christian singles have met their mates and are now raising a second generation in our church.

God had a plan long before I knew about it or the mission board discussed it. He saw what we see today when He said the first "let there be". And even more exciting, He sees today what Canyon Country Free Will Baptist Church will be thirty years from now. He also knows whose lives will be changed and what they will do for the kingdom. My prayer and hope is to be here to see it too.

Success in a church can be somewhat elusive to define. Is it in ministry activity, numbers, dollars, square feet or years of service? Or is it in the quiet peace that it members have when everything else in life is uncertain? Is it the knowledge that God has the solution for every problem we face? Is it the realization that we don't have to do this alone? God himself is the ultimate judge of our success or failure. So I will leave that to Him. But this one thing I do know, what God sets out to do He does, and He does it through His church.

As I write this today the wind is blowing thirty miles an hour: It could be any day, just pick one. Yet I am reminded that the most powerful wind I have seen blow in the Panhandle does not come down out of the Rockies or up from the South Plains. It is the breath of life that God is blowing across the High Plains of the Panhandle and into the souls of men. Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him!

Thanks for your unwavering prayers and support. We will forever be in your debt.

Jeff and Sondra Cates, at Home in Canyon, Texas



God and Golf Clinic

Jeremy Lightsey - San Antonio

Things are going well on the far west side of San Antonio at CrossLife Church. Hopefully by the time you are reading this we will be working on our new meeting space. God has led us to a space that we can lease and have full use of.

We are currently holding worship services in a daycare that we can use on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings. We are excited about having a space to call our own and to be able to have more ministry opportunities and hopefully be able to be used by God to serve the community in an even bigger way.



This will also put us in a better location to target different neighborhoods and reach more unchurched people. Half of this building is being used for office space for the owner of the building and the other

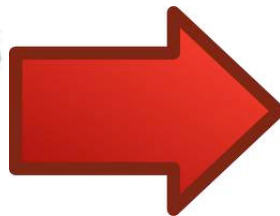


half we will be finishing out to use for church. Pray for us that we will be able to get the work finished quickly and that we will be able to stay within our budget.

In April we held our first golf tournament and we were able to raise \$1,500, which is going towards a "God and Golf Clinic" that we are putting on for 20 children on the south side of San Antonio. This money makes it possible to give free classes for the children where for one week we will teach them about golf, give them each a putter and a pitching wedge, a free meal everyday, and most importantly teach them about God and the salvation that we have through Jesus Christ.

Our goal is to eventually start another church in this area of town so we are trying to find ways to serve and show God's love right now and continue to pray until God opens the door and makes this possible.

Thank you for your prayer, time, and financial support in starting churches. Our church is very thankful for your partnership in building the kingdom of God.



In the Rio Grande Valley

by Faron Thebeaux - Weslaco

The Rio Grande Valley can be a strange and deceptive place. The humidity level is always up near 90 but the ground is usually dry as powder. The most common language is neither English nor Spanish but "Tex-Mex." When you stop to think about it, it's not even a valley. It is one of the poorest regions in the United States and one of the fastest growing at the same time. The latest census calculate the population to be around 1.2 million with Mcallen holding 129,877 of the inhabitants.

In recent years we have only had one Free Will Baptist Church to serve in this area of great need. A

second church seceded and went independent in the



gan with 17 people and have been hovering around the mid 20's in the most recent month.

Bro. Greg and I began to plan a joint Good Friday service as a way of allowing the churches to get to know each other and also tentatively renewing the quarterly meeting. We met to a nearly full house and a wonderful blessing of a bi-lingual service. There was special music, teaching on the Lord's Supper and



late 90's. I have been at the other, Primera Iglesia Bautista Libre since 2006.

About 3 years ago Bro. Greg Yacobian and his family arrived at our church. They had been serving in Mexico for several years but felt called to come start an English-speaking church in the Rio Grande Valley. They immediately went to work in our church, helping with music, children's ministry, and pulpit supply. They also began to offer Bible studies within their home. Multiple times they canvassed their community handing out fliers and made a point of knowing their neighbors. At the same time they became affiliated with the Texas State Missions Board of the Free Will Baptists.

January of this year they located a United Methodist Church in a prime location one block from their house that was willing to rent them their facilities for an unbelievable price. Light of Life Free Will Baptist Church opened their doors to good success. They be-



Footwashing as well as a demonstration. I encourage you to include the Yacobian Family, Light of Life Free Will Baptist Church and the Rio Grande Valley in your prayers.

MISSION?

by Robert Posner

In the movie, “About Schmidt,” Jack Nicholson plays a character named Warren Schmidt, a man leading a life of quiet desperation. He retires from a vice president’s job at an insurance company, looks back on a meaningless life, and ahead to a meaningless retirement.

One day, while watching television, Warren sees an opportunity to give money and write letters to an underprivileged child in Tanzania. Warren responds to the appeal, and throughout the movie he faithfully sends the \$22 a month and writes poignant letters to a child named Ndugu.

One night upon arriving home after a long road trip to his daughter’s wedding, Warren walks into an empty house—a metaphor for his empty life. He reluctantly walks in with an armload of junk mail. Warren ambles up the stairs and looks disappointedly at the disheveled state of his bedroom. Throughout this scene, the audience hears Warren’s voice-over narration of a letter he recently composed to Ndugu. He pours out his intense feeling of emptiness:

“I know we’re all pretty small in the scheme of things, and I guess the best you can hope for is to make some kind of difference. What difference have I made? What in the world is better because of me? I am weak, and I am a failure. There’s just no getting around it. Real soon I will die. Maybe 20 years—maybe tomorrow—it doesn’t matter. Once I am dead and everyone who knew me dies, it is as though I never existed. What difference has my life made to anyone? None that I can think of. Hope things are fine with you. Yours truly, Warren Schmidt.”

Every time I read Warren’s letter, I am filled with sorrow for our world. You see, I am sad to say that many in our world live this way...lives of quiet desperation. What is even sadder, however, is that many within the church live this way, too. Is this what God intended for us? Peter does not seem to think so, for he writes in 1 Peter 2:9, “You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” (NKJV) This is why you are here. This is your mission. This is what missions is

all about. You have been called to proclaim the wondrous work of Jesus to all those around you.



WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Jesus said in John 4:34-35, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!” (NKJV)

Jesus was speaking to His disciples when He said, “lift up your eyes and look...” Why, because like you and I, they were too busy with their own agendas and were unable to see others in need, especially when other’s activities interfered with their own.

Scholar and author D. A. Carson in his book, “When Jesus Confronts the World,” tells of a time when he and a friend were going to the beach for some much-needed peace and quiet. When they arrived they found a horde of high school kids celebrating graduation with lots of beer, loud music and, shall we say, public displays of affection. Carson writes, “Deeply disappointed that my evening’s relaxation was being shattered by a raucous party, I was getting ready to cover my disappointment by moral outrage. I turned to Ken to unload the venom but stopped as I saw him staring at the scene with a faraway look in his eyes. And then he said, rather softly, ‘High school kids! What a mission field!’” (D. A. Carson, “When Jesus Confronts the World”, page 110)

One of the biggest obstacles to accomplishing your mission is blindness to the needs of others. All around us are people who are on the edge of dying without Jesus. Do you see their need for Jesus or the nuisance they are to your agenda? You may be missing God’s mission for you, because you are blinded by your own agenda.

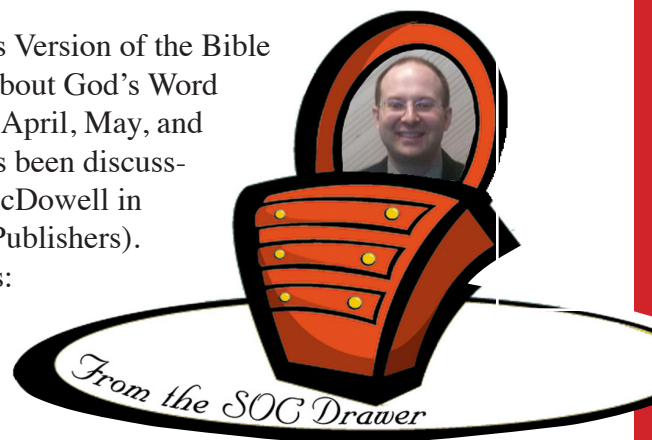
(cont’d on page 19)

As the 500th anniversary of the publication of the King James Version of the Bible is commemorated this year, I'm motivated to share some things about God's Word that we would be prudent to remember. On Wednesday nights in April, May, and June at Fellowship FWB Church, the adults' Bible study class has been discussing 12 truths about Christianity, as described by Josh and Sean McDowell in their book entitled *The Unshakable Truth* (2010, Harvest House Publishers).

Truth #2, as described in chapters 8-11 of that book, is stated thus:

We believe the truth that the Bible is God's revelation of himself to us, which declares His ways for us to follow.

There are several key items the McDowells discuss that can give us confidence over doubt.



1. God's Words Have Been Relayed Accurately

The Bible was written during a 1500-year span through more than 40 generations by more than 40 different authors from every walk of life, including shepherds, scholars, monarchs, masters, servants, and tax collectors. It was written on three continents in three languages, and it tells hundreds of stories, lists hundreds of songs, and discusses hundreds of controversial subjects. Yet, with all its variety, it achieves a miraculous continuity of theme: God's redemption of His children and the restoration of all things to His original design. Meticulous scribes in the Old Testament, whose painstaking process to copy the holy texts have been well documented, ensured that the same words were passed down to successive generations. Multiple copies of the New Testament provide a record of credibility that far surpasses the authenticity standard applied to numerous works of similar age. These are just summaries of two examples that illustrate that the words we have today can be directly traced to the words written by the original authors inspired by God.

2. God's Word Has Been Recorded Exactly

The overwhelming weight of scholarship confirms that the accounts of Jesus' life, the history of the early church, and the letters that form the bulk of the New Testament were all written by men who were either eyewitnesses to the events or were contemporaries of those eyewitnesses. Such careful inspiration and supervision of the Bible underlines God's purpose that not a single piece of this revelation about Himself or the human condition be left to chance or recorded incorrectly.

3. God's Word Has Been Reinforced Externally

In all of history, the Bible is by far the most widely referenced and quoted book. The New Testament alone is so extensively quoted in the ancient manuscripts of nonbiblical authors that all 27 books could be reconstructed virtually word for word from those sources. Biblical archaeology has also established the historicity of the people and events described in the Bible, yielding over 25,000 finds that either directly or indirectly relate to Scripture.

This is but a brief sampling of evidences to support the authenticity of the Bible as God's Word. There are many others they document in their book and reference in other similar works of Biblical apologetics, not to mention the other 11 unshakable truths they list and provide similar, documented support, not the least of which are the virgin birth of Christ and the resurrection of Christ. So, while our Christian life does require faith, we can be confident in knowing that our faith is based on plenteous evidence, which God Himself has provided so that we might be comforted in knowing that He wants us to live victorious lives in Him and that we can trust His plan for our lives.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Timothy 3:16-17, KJV)

The Bible Is Inspired

by Thurmon Murphy

Condensed from a sermon preached at the Central Texas District Association of Free Will Baptists on Saturday, May 14, 2011, at Tomball, Texas

There are a number of fundamental, cardinal, essential teachings or doctrines which are the very foundation of Christianity. These would include the existence of God, the deity of Jesus Christ, and the bodily resurrection of Christ. If any one of these teachings is not true, then Christianity is not true, it is a false religion. Added to this list is the inspiration of the Bible.

It is the inspiration of the Bible that makes it unique, different from any other book in the world. It is inspiration that makes the Bible the Word of God and gives it its authority. Evangelical, Bible-believing Christians view the Bible as the final authority on matters of faith and practice.

Whatever we correctly believe about God, about the human spiritual condition, salvation, heaven, hell, and salvation comes from the Bible. It is our source of correct religious beliefs.

What makes the Bible so special are what we call divine revelation and inspiration. The human authors of Scripture gathered their information through a number of ways: oral histories, written records, what they witnessed with their own eyes, personal interviews, and careful research (Luke 1:1-4). But much of the information contained in the Bible could not be discovered in any of these ways, and so it was given to the authors of Scripture by divine revelation. Revelation refers to information which God Himself made known to the human authors of Scripture, information they could not have discovered any other way. Examples of this would include things of the far distant past, such as the creation of the world and the creation of Adam and Eve. It would also include prophecies of future events. Very importantly, it would include most of what we know about God Himself and how we can be right with Him. We know much about God because He has revealed Himself to us in Scripture.

While revelation has to do with receiving special information from God, inspiration has to do with the process of writing down that revelation, along with other information gathered by Bible writers, in such a way that it was written down correctly. We refer

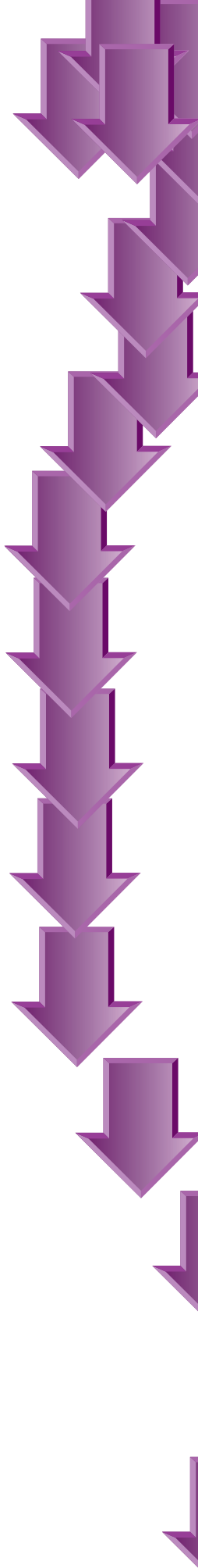
to this as inspiration, which the Bible claims for itself in 2 Timothy 3:16-17: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works"(KJV).

It is important to know the meaning of the Bible word inspiration. What the Bible means by inspiration is different than what we usually mean by inspiration in the common vernacular. We say that William Shakespeare, John Keats, Ralph Waldo Emerson and other writers of poems, sonnets, comedies, dramas, tragedies, and epics were inspired. We read Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Sonnets from the Portuguese, in which she writes in Sonnett XLIII: "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways..." and we say that she was inspired as she wrote those beautiful words to her husband, poet Robert Browning. You might even be inspired to write a love poem to your sweetheart.

The Bible word inspiration is different, though. It means God-breathed. That's why the NIV translated 2 Timothy 3:16 as "All Scripture is God-breathed...." But what does that mean?

Inspiration, or God-breathed, means that as the human authors of Scripture wrote down what they wrote, the Holy Spirit superintended their writing so that what they wrote was written down accurately, without error. This superintendence by the Holy Spirit guarantees that the Bible is inerrant (without error) and infallible (incapable of error).

That means that whatever the Bible affirms to be true is true. The Bible affirms that God created the universe, He created Adam and Eve, who committed original sin and plunged the whole human race into sin, He sent His one and only Son into the world to redeem us from sin, Jesus rose bodily from the dead, ascended to heaven, and is coming again. These things we believe because



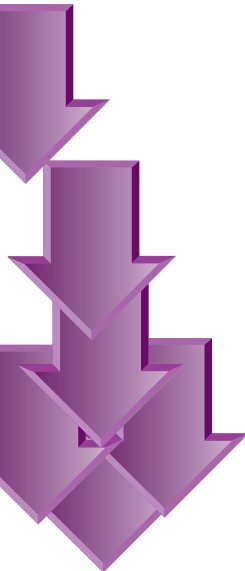


God affirms them to be true.

Just as an aside, let me point out that God did not dictate the Bible word for word to the human authors of Scripture. Each Bible writer used his own vocabulary and style as he wrote. For instance, Luke the physician, who wrote the Book of Luke and the Book of Acts, wrote in more of a classical Greek, indicative of his higher education. On the other hand, the Apostle John, who was a simple fisherman, wrote in a much more common, everyday form of Greek. Paul's writings reveal that he himself was a man with a very scholarly background, as he was, having been trained in the famous school of Gamaliel (Acts 22:3).

Free Will Baptists are a diverse denomination. We recognize and allow much diversity on a number of issues: amillennialism/premillennialism, backsliding and apostasy, the Lord's Supper, and feet washing, among other things. There is even diversity on the meaning of the death of Christ. Most of us believe what we call the penal satisfaction view of the atonement, that is, that Jesus died on the cross as our substitute, bearing the punishment for our sins. Some deny this and hold to the governmental view of the atonement, namely that Christ died on the cross to preserve God's government.

However, we do not allow for diversity on the issue of the inspiration of the Bible. If you are a Free Will Baptist you believe this cardinal doctrine.



The inspiration of the Bible is what we call a watershed doctrine. What you believe about the inspiration of the Bible determines which way your beliefs will flow, which direction they will take. Deny the inspiration of the Bible and you'll end up being theologically liberal, or an atheist. Believe in the inspiration of the Bible and you'll end up believing the Bible is the Word of God, supernatural in its origin, and life changing in its power.

Sometimes we are forced by our studies, and by better insights, to change our interpretation of particular passages of Scripture. Let me illustrate. During the Middle Ages the church believed in a geocentric view of the universe, that is, they believed that planet Earth was the center of the universe and that the sun, planets, and stars all revolved around it. They held to this view for at least two reasons. First, they said that any fool could see with his own eyes that the earth was standing still and that the sun, planets, and stars were all revolving around it. That argument was hard to argue against. Secondly, they believed that the Bible taught that the Earth did not move, that it was stationary and immovable. They pointed to such biblical statements as these to prove that the Earth did not move: "...The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved"(Psalm 93:1); "...The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved"(Psalm 96:10); and "He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved" (Psalm 104:5).

Then along came two men who challenged the prevailing view in the church. Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543), a Polish cleric, mathematician, and astronomer, and Galileo Galilei (1564-1642), an Italian physicist, mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher, taught a heliocentric view of the universe, that is, that the Earth was not the center of the universe and that Earth and the other planets revolved around the sun.

This created a huge controversy in the church and in the academic institutions of Europe. The church, which at that time was the Roman Catholic Church, condemned Copernicus and Galileo as heretics. But the church was wrong, not because the biblical passages in question were wrong, but because their interpretation of those passages was wrong.

The proof texts used by the church were not saying that Earth was stationary, that it did not rotate on its axis and revolve around the sun, the verses were simply making a statement about the stability of the created order because God still keeps it in His care. The context of the passages has nothing to do with the physical cosmology and motion of the Earth.

And so it is. Sometimes we have to change our interpretations of a certain passages of Scripture. Most of us have had to do that if we have learned anything at all over the years. Studying the Bible will do that to you.

But the important thing to keep in mind here is that the Bible in the inspired Word of God, inerrant and infallible in its teachings. Whatever the Bible affirms to be true is true.

From Texas...

Anthony and Lea Edgmon

Spain

I trust that you all are doing well. May God bless your ministries:

FAMILY: We enjoyed a few vacation days last week. Our kids got out of school last Thursday and Friday for Alpedrete's patron saint days. There is always a fair in town during these days, and we have tried to "escape" each year because it is near our house and is very loud until into the wee hours of the morning. This June 8, Lea and I will be celebrating our 15th wedding anniversary. Every 5 years we plan a trip to a European city. So, this time we decided to go to Lisbon, Portugal, and take the kids with us, especially since we did not go away during their spring break. We had a great time, but could have used a little more time. We are all doing okay right now. We continue with the kids treatments so that their allergies don't react too bad. So far we have been able to manage them. Theoretically, once we get through the month of June, we shouldn't have to worry about allergies again until January.

WEATHER: We've had some springtime thunderstorms the last couple of weeks. Two days ago there was a DOWNPOUR and several areas around town were flooded, because the drainage system is not able to handle such quantities of water. The temperatures this week are a little cooler with highs between 70-75.

IN THE NEWS: Spain just recently celebrated municipal and provincial elections. The right wing party (lots of ties to the Catholic Church) was the clear victor contrary to the left wing socialist party of the current Prime Minister Zapatero. This was a big blow to the Socialist Party. Next May Spain will celebrate the national elections (i.e., President & Senate). Germany recently blamed Spanish cucumbers for an ecoli outbreak. Several people have died from it. Several countries since then began to boycott Spanish cucumbers and some other produce from Spain. Yesterday, a European Union sanctioned investigation revealed that the Spanish cucumbers were not to blame, although they don't know what the source is yet. Spain is studying presenting a lawsuit in which they will seek a monetary settlement because of the financial loss that Germany has caused Spain.

CHURCH / MINISTRY: We continue to preach through 2 Corinthians in the services in Alpedrete. This past Sunday I spoke from 2 Corinthians 8.1-15. This Sunday Tim Johnson will preach from 2 Corinthians 9.6-15. This coming Sunday our church will vote in a church board. This is another step in the growth of the church. Pray with us that God would be glorified and that this will further help the church to grow and be even more effective in ministry.

Anthony & Lea Edgmon

Dodsons to Return to the States

Antioch, TN—Interim General Director Clint Morgan announced today that David and Kendra Dodson will leave Montevideo, Uruguay, May 26, 2011 to return to the States. Through prayer, discussion with others, and in consultation with field and Mission leadership—we have come to the conclusion that Uruguay is not the best ministry fit for the Dodsons to fulfill their commitment to the Great Commission.

"This talented and dynamic couple truly wish to serve God wherever He wants them to be," stated Jeff Turnbough, deputy director of field operations. "It is with disappointment that they acknowledge that Uruguay is not the place for them."

"The Mission is committed to assisting David and Kendra as they seek to determine where their personalities, gifts, talents, and abilities can best be used to expand the Kingdom," affirmed Morgan. "It took extreme courage to accept and admit that the work for which they'd trained and had entered with excitement was not where they needed to be. I look forward to helping them work toward a move that will allow them the opportunity to maximize their giftedness."

The Dodsons plan to live in Monett, Missouri, while seeking additional guidance, reassessing their gifts, and retooling for ministry.

David and Kendra were appointed in April 2008 and departed for Uruguay in September 2009.

To the uttermost parts of the earth

Bud and Ruth Bivens

Mexico

Greetings from IBLAC, where we are sitting with our feet up this evening. The 2nd semester ended on May the 27th. The students graduated on the 28th. Families and friends came from near and far. Monday evening, the 30th, the last ones left on the bus for Guadalajara.

While all of that was going on, besides having the final week of school and a week of final exams: Brother Rodrigo Guzman Senior was ordained at the Quarterly Meeting in Celaya on the 21st. His son Rodrigo Jr. was married to a lovely young lady from Cacalilao in a service at Panuco on the 29th. Today Bud and Bro. Lazaro went up the river by boat to Cues de Palmas Altas. One of his members, who have lots of family there, went with them. There were only about 35 people present for the service; most of the men were in the fields harvesting jalapeños. The women had a lovely meal prepared for them of fried fish from the river.

Bud has been busy, working here on campus and, buying lumber and supplies to finish the construction of the new duplex. There are two new couples who have expressed an interest in coming to school in August and we need a place for them. Brother Mark Cole, our carpenter missionary, will be here later this week, along with three other faithful brothers, Bro. Don Allen from OK and Bro Ricky Carroll and Bro. Frank Maxwell from AL, who will be helping get the building up. Sis. Theresa Parker will be coming from Alabama also, to help with the meals. With my energy level, I need all the help I can find.

June 4th will be the dedication service of Iglesia La Cruz, the new church building here on campus, pastored by Bro. Felix Escobar. Construction is coming along rapidly on the new National Offices here on campus. Bro. Ruben Munoz is in charge and they hope to have everything completely finished and in operation by the national convention at the end of July. Our dear teacher, Rosie Sanchez, will be flying home on the 2nd of June. She will not be coming back next semester. Please pray for a replacement for her. The college/teen camp will be here on campus the week before the national association. Join us as we are pray for the Lord to call young men to come to IBLAC and prepare for full time service.

There has been a long drought here, and the heat has been unbelievable. This afternoon, as I was working upstairs, I noticed the thermometer and it was 96 degrees in our bedroom. How we appreciate the folks in Bro. Tim Baumgarten's church, the First Free Will Baptist Church in Northport, AL, who raised money for us to have an air conditioner. We had it installed upstairs and we turn it on at

night and can get some rest. Believe me, every night, when we come up the stairs, I ask the Lord to bless them.

The violence throughout the country just continues. I believe that every thug in the country is taking advantage of the fact that the drug cartels are going to be blamed for every crime committed. We try to be careful and wise each time we have to leave campus. And, we rely on your daily prayer for us. God bless you richly as you serve in your mission field.

Stan and Brenda Bunch

Chame, Panama

Classes began March 14, 2011 at the Seminary in Chame, Panama. Stan is teaching every Thursday and Friday.

Lazaro and Ariadna have been approved by Panama to come and work at the Seminary. Pray for their quick approval from Cuba. They will be preparing to administrate the Seminary.

Colossians 1:11 "Being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience," We are studying Colossians 1 in Sunday School and it has been a real blessing.

It was so refreshing to have Allen and Sandy Smith (Brenda's sister) and Bob Selvey (Brenda's Dad) visit for a week. Allen was able to give a devotion at the Seminary and preach at the Good News FWB Church.

We are so delighted to talk with Jonathan, Amanda and Audrey about once a week on Skype. She will be one in April. Alicia continues to send us newsletters from Bolivia that tug at our hearts. Amanda is finishing her masters in education while teaching Kindergarten. She always has a funny story to tell us about her class. Love it.

What a privilege to be part of a baptism in Las Tablas. They had 7 baptized that day. Their Pastor will be ordained soon. We have several wanting to be baptized at the Good News FWB Church.

Please pray with us for Benjamin and Stephany (not married yet). They will be teaching and preaching in El Capuri and Los Sauces to start new churches from the Good News Church. They will need people to go with them to help them.

Financial Recovery Remains IM Board Priority

Antioch, TN—The Board of Free Will Baptist International Missions met April 24-26, 2011, in the Antioch, Tennessee, offices. Throughout the three-day session the board continued its focus on clarifying International Missions' current financial standing and reviewing long-term solutions toward complete financial recovery. "Preliminary reports concerning the World Missions Offering are extremely encouraging," Board Chairman Danny Williams indicated. "Of course, we still have a long way to go, but I have a tremendous appreciation for our missionaries, ambassadors, pastors, and others who worked hard to raise awareness and encourage people to give."

The board approved a \$7.25 million framework budget for 2012. The 2011 framework budget was initially set at \$7.8 million and reduced to \$6.5 million in December 2010 as income failed to meet projected goals. The board stressed their intent to end 2011 in the black and continually assess the Mission's progress toward financial health.

Missionaries Tim and Kristi Johnson (Spain), Sam and June McVay (Spain), David and Angie O. (Central Asia), and Steve and Becky Riggs (France) were reappointed to their fields of service.

The board also appointed Don Robirds, former missionary to Brazil and former director of communications, to a six-month, specialized, professional servant

status. Robirds will teach at the Bible institute in Campinas, Brazil, while Kenneth Eagleton is on stateside assignment.

Alice Smith's request for retirement after 36 years of dedicated service in Côte d'Ivoire was approved with a special commendation for her faithful service.

During executive session, the board began outlining the selection process for a new general director. The board plans to review the general director's job description, compile a profile of a desirable candidate, and propose a timeline for the selection prior to a board meeting at the 2011 National Association in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The board reviewed and accepted the audit, heard various reports, and dealt with additional general business. They also reelected current officers to fulfill their roles for another year: Danny Williams, chairman; Randy Wilson, vice-chairman; Tom McCullough, secretary.

Board members present were Paul Creech (GA), Nelson Henderson (AR), Greg McAllister (CA), Tom McCullough (MI), Rob Morgan (TN), and Danny Williams (AL). Although unable to attend in person due to a death in his congregation, Jeff Manning (NC) participated in much of the meeting via SKYPE and speaker telephone.

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Deborah St. Lawrence
Communications Manager
Free Will Baptist International Missions

South Carolina Pastor Mike Edwards Joins FWBBC Staff

NASHVILLE, TN—Reverend Mike Edwards, pastor of Horse Branch Free Will Baptist Church (Turbeville, South Carolina), will join the Free Will Baptist Bible College staff in a dual role this summer, according to David Williford, vice president for institutional advancement. Edwards has been named director of the college's annual fund and will travel as a fundraiser and public relations representative with FWBBC's Institutional Advancement Office. He will also serve as men's resident director and live in Goen Hall with his wife Karen, who has been named assistant to the resident director.

Mr. Williford said, "Mike is a 1995 FWBBC graduate. In addition to being a strong supporter of the col-

lege, wherever he pastored he encouraged a number of students to attend, including his own children. He understands financial principles and is a respected community leader as a pastor and father. He brings spiritual energy and denominational insight to the table. He's just what we need both on the road and on campus."

"We're delighted that the college is bringing another experienced pastor on campus," said Dr. Jon Forlines, vice president for student services and dean of students. "Brother Edwards will be able to mentor the young men in Goen Hall, plus he has a proven ability to function within an organizational structure."

Reverend Edwards resigned his church on May 1. He will transition from his successful ministry with the Horse Branch Free Will Baptist Church and relocate to Nashville in July.

300 Eggcellent Ways!

by Michael Scott - Lubbock

That's right- 300 eggcellent ways to get God's word out to the lost! CrossRoads Free Will Baptist Church in Lubbock, TX used 300 eggs in their 1st annual Easter egg fellowship. The kiddos hunted the eggs and believe me; it took several people a lot longer to make and hide the eggs than it did for the kiddos to gather them up!

Sister Nita and I are still praising God for the volunteers (Shayne and Krista, a young couple in the church who have been with us for a while now) who took this event upon themselves and did such a wonderful job. Even with four young children of their own, they stepped in and ran with the ball (or should I say egg), handling all the advertising, grocery buying, and egg stuffing! What a blessing! I do have to tell you a short story Krista shared with us. She and Shayne were stuffing eggs one night while he played his Nintendo and when they were done Shayne says, "Well, I finished the eggs!"

Krista said, "Finished the eggs? You barely got one bag done!"



So I think we really need to thank Krista for the kiddos having the eggs to hunt and Shayne for being such a good sport about us telling this on him, as well as all the other things he did to make this outreach a success!

This was the first "CrossRoads Free Will Baptist Eggcellent Easter Fellowship." We grilled about 100 hot dogs and had over 60 adults and children come eat and hunt eggs with us. What a blessed time we had in



fellowship and sharing God's Word with them all. Many hungry people showed up and this event opened a wonderful door to feed some of them the only thing that will truly fill them up: Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life!

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of the Free Will Baptist Churches who support us and the other FWB home mission works in Texas. Spreading God's word and growing our denomination out here in West Texas is an important mission and it is one that we are honored to be a part of. But you are ALL an integral part of it as well and we wouldn't last long out here by ourselves. Thank you and may our great and wonderful God bless you all!



In Christ,

Pastor Michael Scott

CrossRoads Free Will Baptist Church, 2876 34th St, Lubbock, TX 79410

We Made It!

by Randall Wright



Randall, Collette, Joshua, Rebekah, and Leah Wright

“Hey Dad, we’re one of the 94!”

“Do what son?”

“We’re one of the 94 people that moved into Collin County today.”

“I guess you’re right, there are another 89 people who are doing the same thing that we are today.”

That was a piece of the conversation between me and my son Joshua, in our moving truck, on April 14th as we rolled into Collin County, our new home.

It has been quite a journey. It is hard to believe that just a little less than a year ago, my wife and I came to Texas to look at the area, attend the state meeting, and to meet with the Texas mission board. We had been praying about planting a church and seeking God’s direction on where He wanted us. As we visited that week, we enjoyed meeting the great people here in Texas, seeing the wonderful sights, and being amazed at how much the Collin County area of North Dallas was growing.

We went home with the encouragement of having been approved by the board, the excitement about the possibility of planting a church in one of the country’s fastest growing areas, and a passion to get here as soon as we could.

So after nearly a year, we made it!

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayer and support over the past year and to ask for your continued prayer and support.

My family and I have gotten settled into our house in McKinney and have already started making a few contacts. We are excited about several families that are making plans to move here, to help be a part of the launch team. We have made inquiries about a place to

meet and would like to launch the church sometime this fall.

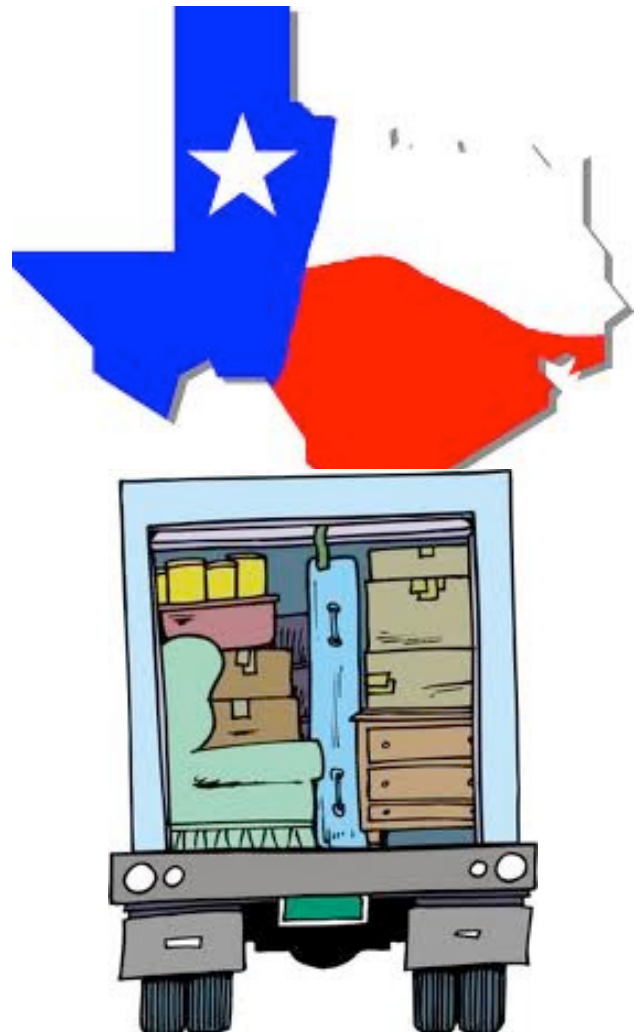
Please pray for the families that God is sending to help us. We would like for you to particularly pray for Brian and Melissa Lewis. The Lewis’s are our Home Missions team members, and they were planning on moving here this summer; however last month Melissa was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and is undergoing chemo therapy now. This will delay their arrival until possibly next summer.

We are confident that God has great plans for a new Free Will Baptist Church here in Collin County. If you have friends or family in the McKinney area that are unsaved or unchurched, please contact us with their information. We would love to visit them and try to share the Gospel with them or get them involved in this new ministry.

You can contact us at 2112 Catherine Lane, McKinney, TX 75071, email us at crandallwright@gmail.com or call us at (252) 521-1008.

Your McKinney Missionaries

Randall Wright Family



Board of Trustees Recommends FWBBC Name Change

NASHVILLE, TN—During its May 4-5 meeting preceding commencement exercises, the Free Will Baptist Bible College Board of Trustees voted 8-1 to recommend that the college change its name to Welch College, according to Chairman Terry Pierce. The name change proposal will be presented to delegates for discussion at the 2011 national convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, and will be voted on during the 2012 national convention in Memphis.

The vote to recommend a name change came one year after the Board authorized college officials to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of such a move. This spring FWBBC surveyed nearly 10,000 constituents about the proposed change, and results indicate that alumni, donors, and other denominational stakeholders strongly support the idea. Meanwhile, college administrators continue to speak with pastors, churches, and focus groups about issues driving the name change—recruitment, graduate access to restricted-access countries, alumni concerns, campus relocation, donor support, and more.

In related action, the Board voted to initiate discussions with prospective buyers to sell individual campus buildings that do not directly impact student life and studies. All funds from the sale(s) will go toward relocation efforts and will be applied to debt reduction on the Gallatin property purchased in 2008 where the college plans to build on a 66-acre tract in nearby Sumner County. Funds from the sale(s) will significantly lower the loan's principal and interest payments. A portion of the savings will be board-directed toward a limited amount of capital repairs on the West End campus.

The Board also voted to honor Dr. Milton B. Fields, FWBBC's vice president for institutional planning, who retires this summer after 17 years of professional leadership at the college. Dr. Fields was presented with a plaque during commencement activities citing his role as an innovative and visionary educator. He filled a number of critical positions during his FWBBC career, including chairman of the Teacher Education Department (1994-1999), academic dean (1998-2006), and vice president for institutional planning (2006-2011). He will continue to serve the college in an advisory capacity and as a field representative.

Eastside Homecoming

Eastside FWB celebrated "Homecoming" on March 27, 2011, with a bilingual service, and several songs sung in both English and Spanish. These specials included "Rise Again", sung by Bro. Red Ross, and "Cubreme" (translated "Cover Me"), sung by Giselle Trevino. Sister Irma Trevino sang "Cual Grande Es El (How Great Thou Art)" and was joined by the congregation in both languages. Bro. Juan Trevino, pastor of the hispanic congregation, sang his own original songs "When I was in the Lost World" and "Hopefully" in Spanish.

Dr. Thomas L. Marberry, of Hillsdale FWB College, was introduced by Dr. Kenneth Mayo, pastor of Eastside. Dr. Marberry delivered a bilingual service from Hebrews 11:13-17. The presence of the Holy Spirit was much felt.

Following a closing hymn sung by Bro. Chuck Topping, the service was closed and the food blessed.

The 79 members, visitors, and alumni feasted on a wonderful meal prepared by many loving hands. Wonderful fellowship, and lots of laughter accompanied the dining, with every nook and cranny of the church foyer, kitchen, and hallways filled with voices.

After the meal, those who remained were treated to a slide show of photos dating back to the beginning of Eastside. The slide show was prepared by Bro. Ryan Erskins, and his wife Sister Aimee Mayo Erskins, who had delighted everyone with the announcement they are expecting their first child.

All in all, the entire day was a blessing for all who attended.

Thank You, Lord, for leading us to Eastside FWB, and thank You for the difference our church makes in the lives of those who call it home.

President Pinson said, "We had a great Board meeting, and I thank God for those nine good men who gave so generously of their time and insight to provide direction and oversight of Free Will Baptist Bible College. They grappled with the harsh reality of the worst American economy since the Great Depression. They set the course for FWBBC to compete in the educational market for more Free Will Baptist students. They pray for the college. They love the faculty, staff, and students. It's an honor to work alongside them."

The Work in San Antonio Continues...

by Don Bailey - San Antonio

Hello Texas Free Will Baptist

It is a great joy to share our heart with you concerning our mission work in San Antonio. We are so thankful for each of you who have supported us financially and prayed for God's work to be established in San Antonio. It truly has been a large undertaking but well worth the toil to see God's work accomplished.

There are many times when the tasks seems almost impossible when we look at the task of planting churches from the flesh and blood perspective, we feel inadequate and limited by our human abilities. But when we put our limited resources into the hands of Christ he can accomplish the building of His Church that the gates of Hell cannot prevail against.

We know that our Lord is able to do exceedingly abundantly more than we ask or think. The Lord Jesus can take our limited ability and resources and make them multiply in the lives of people in our churches far more than we think is possible.

We have faced many obstacles in the construction of our church building. In fact, we are still working with our civil engineer and the city water department to be able to move forward with our sewer and water supply. Please keep this situation in your prayers.

We are moving forward with the staining of the church floors, installing interior doors and trim work, painting of interior and exterior and the suspended ceiling installation. Along with many other cosmetic issues, while we wait for our sewer and water connections.

We are seeing our church touch the lives of the people of San Antonio. We have passed out several thousand door hangers and tracts over the last 6 months. Mrs. Clara Corbin received a door hanger and has begun attending our church. She knows the Lord as her Savior but was seeking a church home. Please pray for her daughter Bonnie, we have been ministering to her and she has some major health issues.

We met the Mitchell family while passing our door hangers on a Sunday afternoon. This is precious family. They have been attending periodically over the last couple of months. Pray for their 17-year-old son. He is in a stage of rebellion.

They are broken hearted for him to turn his life around. Please pray for him.

There are so many broken, hurting people in this city of 2 million people who need the Lord that Christ has for them. Pray our church can continue to grown and be fruitful to the task. There is such a need for new churches. Pray God would raise up church planters to go into the fields that are white unto harvest.

In Matthew 14 Jesus was ministering and healing people all day, and his disciples saw it was evening. They told Him to send the people away and find food and lodging. Jesus told them, "They don't need to find food; you feed them!" They told Jesus we only have 5 loaves and 2 fishes. I'm sure they were thinking, how can we feed 5000 people with this small meal. John 6:6 tells us Jesus as testing them, He already knew what he was going to do. In vs. 18 of Matthew 14 He said, "Bring them to me! Sometimes God gives us impossible situations so that we will realize that leaning on him is our best option. We must be willing to place ourselves in the hands of the Lord, when things seem impossible and watch Him work.

It is our desire in San Antonio to lean on the Lord as the best option. We have to accomplish the work he has called us to. We are going to put ourselves in His hands and watch Him work, and you must do the same where he has placed you. Please continue to pray that just as he fed the 5000. He can also meet the needs of a mission church in San Antonio.



Riggs Publishes Book - “They Call Me Doc”

Dr. Ken Riggs, former professor at FWBBC, youth pastor, family conference speaker, teacher and educator, has written a book and would like to make it available to you. The title of the book is “They Call Me Doc.”

Perhaps Dr. Robert Picirilli, retired Dean of FWBBC says it best in his endorsement of the book. “Listen as you read this book and you’ll hear the heartbeat of a true teacher. You’ll also hear what it takes to be a good teacher, only you’ll find the qualities illustrated rather than explained in dull prose.

Ken Riggs draws from his own experiences and from teachers he’s known and you can’t miss what makes them effective. If you’re a teacher or thinking about becoming one, or even if you like to watch good teachers at work, this book is for you. And, for good measure, Ken tosses in a revealing dose of his philosophy of education and commitment to Christian education.

Here’s my recommendation!” Anyone desiring to order a book may contact Dr. Riggs by email, kennethriggs2001@hotmail.com, by phone (615) 382-7843, or by writing him at 3829 Hwy 49-W, Springfield, TN 37172.



Griffin Resigns to Care for Mother

Antioch, TN—The board unanimously voted on May 5, 2011, via email ballot, to accept the resignation of Debbie Griffin, missionary to Japan, with commendation for 26 years of faithful service. Griffin



submitted her letter of resignation on May 3, 2011.

“I went to Japan in obedience to God’s call on my life,” Debbie wrote, “and now I believe that it is His plan for me to return home to fulfill another of His commands, to honor my mother.”

Debbie returned to her home in Georgia toward the end of January at the request of family members. Using personal vacation time, she spent February caring for her mother. The board granted a leave of absence for March and April to allow her to seek God’s guidance for her future. She believes God is leading her to continue caring for her mother during Mrs. Griffin’s illness.

“It has been a joy to work alongside the wonderful missionaries of the Japan team. They are hard working people who love the Lord and are dedicated to seeing His church built in Japan,” Debbie affirmed. “May God richly bless FWB International Missions.”

“Debbie was a tremendous asset to the Japan missionary team,” stated Dale Bishop, regional director for Asia. “We will miss her, but know she is following God’s leading. We will continue to pray for her and know God will use her to build His Kingdom regardless of where she is located.”

Debbie Griffin was appointed to missionary service in April 1985.



In a time when so much is going on across our nation and throughout the entire world, we have witnessed firsthand devastation in our own backyard after a tornado ripped through the beautiful community of Camp Creek and other surrounding areas on April 27th. For Family Ministries, these recent events have certainly evoked feelings of ultimate gratitude for our Almighty God and His bountiful blessings and His protection during these times. We are reminded that in our storms, Jesus is not far from us. Matthew 8: 23-27.

Due to the massive destruction from the recent F3 tornado, Free Will Baptist Family Ministries and many emergency responders, volunteers, supporters, area churches and rescue units have answered the call in the community by providing shelter, food and water to those in need. Family Ministries plans to continue its efforts in helping friends, family, and neighbors in the surrounding communities during this time of rebuilding and healing.

Our campus has been appointed the official site for the disaster relief center in the Camp Creek com-

munity. We have shower and laundry stations set up at The Oaks Retreat Center, and our cafeteria staff and numerous volunteers have prepared and served over 12,300 hot meals, logging over 2,800 hours of volunteer service since this tragedy. FEMA's command post has been moved adjacent to our campus, and all relief efforts are centralized in or around Family Ministries. Because God spared our ministry from any major damage, we consider it an honor and privilege to serve those who have lost so much. We feel very strongly that God protected us so that we could be a witness to our community. There have been added expenses in ministering to the community, but it has blessed us beyond measure to be able to be a help to others.

In other news, we have seen 68 young men receive Christ as their personal Savior this year – 12 on one Sunday! Rev. Tim Roach, who leads our Sunday worship services, along with the house parents, ensures the boys realize the commitment they are making and encourage them in their new walk with the Lord.

Above all, we covet your daily prayers on our behalf. The evil one seeks to destroy anything good, and we ask that you pray for God's protection on every facet of our ministry.

In His Service,
Dr. James Kilgore
FWB Family Ministries

TORNADOS

Most everyone is aware of the great devastation wrought by the numerous tornados in Mississippi. The Smithville First Free Will Baptist Church building was virtually destroyed. On behalf of interim Pastor, Brother Reid Wilkerson, and the congregation, THANK YOU for your prayers and various means of help.

Efforts to help to restore and rebuild will continue to be updated on our website MSFWB.ORG.

At this point, the insurance company's lack of action has greatly curtailed progress.

If you or your congregation or organization want to help. Gift cards are a wonderful way to help this congregation help others. The burden of distribution is somewhat diminished.

Financial help can be sent to the Smithville congregation thru the Mississippi State Association at: Director of Finances Rev. Steve Nichols 304 Hwy 348 Guntown, MS 38849

ALL FUNDS will be forwarded to the church.





Arise Woman of God

by M.S. Lowndes ©

Rise up O woman of God
In what He has given you
The things God has laid on your heart
Rise up, go forth, and do

Unlock what God has placed within
The potential you have inside
The world is waiting for your release
To expand your wings and fly

Arise in your God-given gifts
For this is your finest hour
Arise in the Lord's holy might
Ignited and empowered

For God is calling you to come forth
To impact this world for Him
Don't hold back or limit yourself
Let His power arise within

And take His message to the world
To those that have lost their way
For you can surely make a difference
If you'd hear His voice and obey

You shall be strengthened in the Lord
As you begin to arise
Conquering those doubts that pull you down
And believe who you are in Christ

For you shall surely be transformed
As, in you, God increases more
And become a woman of true excellence
Bringing honour to her Lord

MISSIONS? *(cont'd from p.6)*

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Missions clearly requires seeing the spiritual needs of others; however, it must go beyond seeing and move to action...sacrificial action. In the movie "Beyond the Gates of Splendor" there is a scene, where Frank Drown, a pilot and missionary, recalls leading the search-and-rescue team in an effort to find five slain missionaries: "They [the slain missionaries] had guns with them. They had said that they would never kill the Aucas, even if they attacked them, because: 'They're not ready for heaven, and we are.'" The Apostle Paul, who was no stranger to sacrificial action, put it this way in 1 Corinthians 10:24, "Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor." (ESV)

What do you do when you see the spiritual needs of others?

- Live holy – If the rest of the world lives like you, would the world glorify Christ more? 1 Peter 2:12

- Pray regularly – If the Lord answers all of your prayers this week, how many individuals would have come to know Christ as Savior and Lord? Matthew 5:43-45a, Ephesians 6:19

- Speak the truth – If everyone obeys your words, would they be closer to Christ? Ephesians 4:15

- Give sacrificially – If everyone gives to missions like you, would missions be financially better off? 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

Warren Schmidt's questions, "What difference have I made? What in the world is better because of me?"

When it comes to life's mission, these are good questions to ask! May each of us examine our mission's heart and find in eternity someone there because of it.

Your servant,
robert posner
Texas Free Will Baptist Mission Board



Texas State FWB Association
13293 Tommy Smith
Conroe, TX 77306

Michael Oliver, FWBBC Men's Resident Director, Shifts Focus

NASHVILLE, TN—Reverend Michael Oliver, who completes two years as men's resident director at Free Will Baptist Bible College in May, announced plans to shift his FWBBC ministry focus this summer. Oliver plans to invest more time and effort in the college's Institutional Advancement Office where he currently serves as administrative assistant.

"My family and I had a wonderful experience working with the young men in FWBBC's Goen Hall," Oliver said. "We watched with joy as dozens of teen-aged boys enrolled as freshmen and matured as serious students and Christian gentlemen these past two years. We faced a number of challenges and opportunities, and God gave us grace for it all."

Oliver completed studies for his bachelor's degree in General Christian Ministries in December 2010 and will graduate in May. Michael, his wife Kim, and sons Seth (12) and Jon-Albert (9) plan to relocate from Goen Hall to a new parsonage now under construction at Stony Point Free Will Baptist Church in Vanleer (Tennessee) where Oliver pastors. He will commute daily to FWBBC.

David Williford, vice president for institutional advancement, said, "For the past two years, Michael has worn a lot of hats—full-time college student, pastor, resident director, administrative assistant for the Advancement Office, as well as husband and father. He first joined the Advancement Office in 2008, and we look forward to again having more of his time and attention. He's a great asset to the college and a fine example as an employee."



Editor, Layout, Design – Sally Wilcox

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