

PROMOTER

May - June 2017

Volume 38 Number 3



**And when they had seen it, they
made known abroad the saying...**

Luke 2:17

Pioneers Needed

Church planters are pioneers - not unlike the Apostle Paul who said in Romans 15:20 that he wanted to *“preach the gospel where Christ was not known”* so that he would not be building on someone else’s work. That’s a pioneer – going where others haven’t gone before, reaching people that others haven’t reached, and making an impact in ways others have not previously. Not everyone has this pioneer spirit. Not everyone has this call from God. Not everyone has the right spiritual gift mix and God-given characteristics that a church planter needs. But some do. And God uses these pioneers to plant churches.

Some of these church plants take place in undisputed “pioneer” locations. Currently, Oklahoma Free Will Baptists are partnering with pioneer church planters in both the Ivory Coast and India through our Reaching the Unreached (RTU) program. These church planters are reaching their native countries by sharing the good news message of Jesus Christ where others have not previously heard it. Church planters in the Ivory Coast are each planting multiple churches at the same time. In India, most planters use a bicycle to get around and reach unreached people for Christ. These are obvious church planting pioneers.

Our TSP International Missionaries are working to impact frontier territories with this same good news message. Some are in the post-Christian environment of France. Others are in Uruguay, a country that has traditionally been resistant to the gospel. Still others are in Japan where Evangelical Christians make up less than 1% of the population. These missionaries are pioneers as well.

We get it that these “far away” places need “pioneers” to *“preach the gospel where Christ was not known”*. But what about here in the good ol’ USA? Pioneers are still needed to plant churches. A few years ago, I was shocked to hear the testimony of a Christian Ministry student at Randall (Hillsdale at the time). She grew up in the Wichita, Kansas area and gave her life to Christ as a high school student. The shocking detail was that she had no idea who Jesus was or what the good news was about prior to her conversion. She grew up in the heartland of America. Yet for her, this was a place *“where Christ*

was not known”. Thank the Lord, she heard the truth of the gospel and put her faith in Jesus. But the truth is that much of America is a pioneer setting. We need church planting pioneers here just like we need them across the seas.

Oklahoma Free Will Baptists have had the opportunity to partner with “pioneer” church planters across the states. Currently, a new Free Will Baptist church is being planted in Irvine, California where Asians make up more than 40% of the city’s population. Another Free Will Baptist church plant is changing lives in Granite City, Illinois where residents battle a drug addiction epidemic. Still another of these Free Will Baptist church plants is in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where a predominantly African American church family is impacting their community with the gospel. We’re grateful for each of these “pioneer” church planters who have sought to *“preach the gospel where Christ was not known”*.

But guess what? Oklahoma is not exempt from the need for “pioneer” church planters. We too need men to answer the call and use their unique giftedness to reach people existing churches have not reached. For decades, Oklahoma Free Will Baptists have seen more churches close than churches planted. We have many Oklahoma communities without a local Free Will Baptist church or a strong gospel witness. Other areas like our urban cores of Oklahoma City and Tulsa and the surrounding suburbs have a great need for additional church plant outposts where the good news message will be delivered to a new frontier.

The bottom line is that we need church planting pioneers. Are you one? Do you know one? You can visit our website at okfwbmissions.com for more info. I’d love to visit with you more about this personally as well. You can contact me directly at (405)627-3161. Above all, partner with us in prayer for these pioneers. We need them and God’s ready to use them. ☐

Jim Harris

Chairman, Oklahoma FWB State Mission Board

Remember Your University!



We are now approaching the end of our first academic year as Randall University which means that summer break is right around the corner. During this time of year, with the absence of students on our campus, comes the need for an increase in financial support. Over the past 58 years, our institution has been kept alive by the faithful support of donors who believe in our mission. As time has gone on, there have been new ways for people to support our university. Of course we always welcome individual checks and love offerings from our churches, but beyond these methods there are some new ones that we would like to make you aware of.

Amazon Smile



Many of us have shopped online at Amazon at one time or another. Maybe for a book, some electronic device, or even clothes. In order to be charitable, Amazon created another extension of themselves called Amazon Smile. This new website is the same Amazon that you know. Same products, same prices, same service. The main difference between the two websites is that whenever a person shops through Amazon Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible Amazon Smile purchases to the charitable organization of their choice. **Randall University Inc.** is one of the charitable organizations that people can choose to donate to, and we encourage you to do this when you shop on Amazon Smile.

The process is simple. Go to smile.amazon.com/ and log in with your Amazon account information, or make a new account if you don't already have one. Once you log in, you have the opportunity to search for and select the organization that you would like your proceeds to go to—please choose **Randall University Inc.** at this time. All you have to do then is begin shopping, and all the while you will be supporting Randall with each purchase, at no extra charge to you.



Mustard Seed

Another way that we are now encouraging you to give is through the Mustard Seed. This program is set up to where you

can effortlessly donate to Randall University, literally pocket change at a time. What happens is anytime that you make a purchase using the debit or credit card of your choice, the end total of your purchase will be rounded up to the nearest dollar. The amount of change rounded up will be donated to the organization of your choice. What this program allows you to do, is donate a very small amount that will add up over time to make a big difference for our school.

This program is also easy to get set up. Begin by downloading the app to your smartphone or going to www.mustardseedapp.org on your computer and set up your account. From there you will be given the option to choose which ministry you would like to give to—please choose **Randall University in Moore, Oklahoma**. Next, you will need to link your Mustard Seed app to the bank or credit card of your choosing followed by the account you want the donations to come from. The best part of this program is that there is an option to set a limit for your giving per month, that way no matter how many transactions you make you can be sure that only a certain amount will be donated from your account. This means you could limit the maximum amount of your monthly donation.

Amazon Smile and the Mustard Seed! Two New Options for Giving

By expanding the options for our constituents to give to Randall University, we are providing two new options making it easy for you to support our students.

- Online shoppers, try going to Amazon Smile so that your purchases can go further, with no extra cost to you.
- Continue to use your debit/credit cards, and with the small amount of change (a penny to 99 cents) at a time left over from your purchases, invest in changing lives here at Randall.

As always, we appreciate your continued support of *your* University. Rest assured that lives are being changed and men and women are being prepared to serve the kingdom of God.

The goal of Randall University continues to be equipping men and women to make a difference for Christ in whatever career they are called to or wherever they go in the world.

Pray for the staff and students of Randall University! 📍



Oklahoma Free Will Baptist
victory kids
CAMP 2017



Speaker:
Ketric Newell

Worship Band:
Alex Jones Band



Speaker:
Kolby King

2017 STATE CAMPS

2017 Camps	Early-Bird Rate & Date	Regular Rate & Date	Late Rate & Date	Sponsor Rate	Pre-Camper
Encounter Teen KBA 1 June 11-16	\$130 By May 15	\$150 After May 15	\$150 After May 15	\$130	\$70
Encounter Teen KBA 2 July 26-July 1	\$130 By May 22	\$150 After May 22	\$150 After May 22	\$130	\$70
Victory Kids Camp 1: July 12-15 2: July 16-19 3: July 23-26 4: July 26-29	\$160 pre-register by by May 31 by May 31 by May 31 by May 31	\$170 register by after May 31 after May 31 after May 31 after May 31	\$170 register by after May 31 after May 31 after May 31 after May 31	\$160	All campers at Victory must be at least 7rs old

*Registration must be POSTMARKED by the given dates.

Mail to:

OK State Office

P.O. Box 7527

Moore, OK 73153

For more information: okstatece.com

or contact

Daniel Sweet 405-655-9468 – daniel.sweet42@gmail.com

Arms of Compassion

Dear Compassionate friends.

We, here at Arms of Compassion are very grateful for all the love and support that has been showed to us by all the churches in Oklahoma. Because of your love for God we have been able to send out love gifts to our widows, and support six different children's homes here in the United States, Mexico and Brazil. We've had a meeting with our disaster teams on 2/11/2017 and I must say that this meeting was very informational.

We have teams in Woodward, Ponca City, Lawton and Gore. We pray that we will be able to add more teams in the future. We also have had a Board meeting on 4/1/2017, where we are very proud to have our first financial statement, which will be available to all pastors if you would like to see one. It is my honor to introduce our new Board Members. Starting from left to right we have, Mike Griffin, from Friends FWB Church, Brent Jarrett from Canadian Shores FWB Church, Earl Jenkins, from Crystal Hills FWB Church, Havner Reid Jr, from the



Earlsboro FWB Church, and Jim Benedict from Earlsboro FWB Church. These great men of God are an inspiration and a great help to me. As we continue to serve as an extension

of God's Arms of Compassion we ask that you keep all of us in your prayers! ☐

*May God Bless you all,
Brother Jim Benedict*



2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The annual Free Will Baptist National Convention will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, July 16-19, 2017.

For more information please go to their website at www.nafwb.org.





50 Years In Ministry

A reception was held for Rev. Buddy Drake, pastor of the Richmond Ave. Free Will Baptist Church on April 1, 2017 celebrating 50 years in ministry. Bro. Buddy was pastoring an Oklahoma church even before he was old enough to get a driver's license. We are thankful to Bro. Buddy and Sis. Janice for these many years of faithful service and wish them many, many more. ☐



With the Lord

Rev. Max Campbell, long time pastor of the Dawson FWB Church in Tulsa, entered his eternal home on March 29, 2017. Bro. Max was born in Wichita, Kansas on November 6, 1929. He loved to preach and to tell folks about Jesus. He loved music, wrote songs and could play a variety of instruments. He will be greatly missed by family and friends. ☐

Woodward FWB Church Mortgage Burning

In 1988, the Oklahoma State Mission Board voted to place a church in Woodward. The Oklahoma Free Will Baptist churches supported us for 4 years before we became self supporting.

During the 28 Years we have been in Woodward, we have gone from 1 acre to 4 acres, built a multipurpose building and purchased 3 additional buildings. We are thankful to the Lord for all of His provisions and we are thankful to the Oklahoma Free Will Baptist people for your prayers and support that enabled this work to begin! We look forward to serving the Lord in Woodward until Jesus returns! ☐



Pastor Allen Mabra

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

State CTS Competition – Randall University, Moore, OK
May 6, 2017

State Camps

- Encounter 1 Camp – KBA – June 11-16, 2017
- Encounter 2 Camp – KBA – June 25-30, 2017
- Kids Camp 1 – Victory – July 12-15, 2017
- Kids Camp 2 – Victory – July 16-19, 2017
- Kids Camp 3 – Victory – July 19-22, 2017
- Kids Camp 4 – Victory – July 23-26, 2017
- Kids Camp 5 – Victory – July 26-29, 2017

National Convention – Louisville, Kentucky – July 16-19, 2017

Oklahoma State Meeting – Randall University,
Moore, OK – October 9-11, 2017

Tell Me The Story...

I love a good story. I always have. While in elementary school, teachers did not have to force me to read. I loved to read. I especially loved biographies of the frontiersmen like Daniel Boone, Davy Crocket and Jim Bowie. I read books about every mountain man I could find. When I ran out of stories about those adventurers, I began checking out books about horses and cattle drives and gold miners. I read every book I could get my hands on about Indians and how the various tribes lived. To this day I still love a good western novel or a good western movie.

Often while driving the highways of this great state, I listen to audio books. I especially like the books written by the late Louis L'Amour. In my opinion, Mr. L'Amour has just the right amount of descriptive narrative and an uncanny knack to instill an action sequence at just the right intervals throughout his books. I have listened to all of his audio books that my local public library has in stock at least 3 or 4 times each. I never seem to get tired of hearing or reading the good stories contained therein.

That brings me to the point of this article. My favorite story to read and to hear is not a work of fiction. It is a true story. My favorite story is not even a western story. It is from a time long ago but much further back than the stories mentioned above.

Earlier today I was preparing for a sermon that I plan to preach this coming Sunday. For the last couple of weeks I have been reading through the four Gospels. I have read them many times before but as I was finishing up John's Gospel it dawned on me that no matter how many times I read them, I never tire of it. It is without a doubt the best story I have ever heard or read. It is the true story of God's love to us. In spite of our unworthiness, our faithful and true God came to earth as a man to save us from our sin. The Scriptures tell us of His birth, His ministry, His arrest, His crucifixion, His burial, His resurrection and His promise to come again one day and receive us. These beautiful words of life speak to my heart time after time after time.

It is indeed the 'Greatest Story Ever Told'. It is no wonder why we sing, "Tell me the story of Jesus, write on my heart every word. Tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard". ☐



Bro. Mike

Written by Mike Wade,
Executive Director for
Oklahoma Free Will Baptists

Promoter

Oklahoma State Assoc.
of Free Will Baptist
P.O. Box 7527
Moore, Oklahoma 73153

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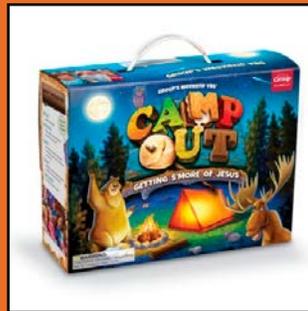
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