

PROMOTER

September - October 2017

Volume 38 Number 5



pg. 6 – Oklahoma FWB State Meeting October 9-11

(see inside for details)

Grace City Church in Irvine, CA and planter Stephen Kimbrell - *"We don't have a religion". Those were the words that Jenna said to me as I talked to her at our first ever Vacation Bible School a couple of weeks ago. On the first night of VBS, she told me how their family had moved from Korea 4 months earlier. She also explained that they had no religion, but that since their move, they were open to religion being a part of their life and their children's. Jenna, her husband, and twin boys, June and Jung, walked down the street every night to take part in our event.*

Then...this past Sunday Morning, they walked into the doors of our church for the very first time. The boys loved the kids' class and their mom said that they would definitely be back. Please be praying as we share the love and Gospel of Jesus Christ with this family and many others just like them.



Updates from the Field

Our prayer is that they find out that Jesus is so much better than a religion!.

Grace has averaged about 140 in attendance this summer and has had 6 salvations and baptisms this year. In their first VBS, they had 195 kids and 150 adults on the final night. Pray that God continues to bless as this church is planted.

Restoration Church in Granite City, IL and planter Larry Lacey - 2017 has been a great year of growth with attendance having more than doubled from last year's 140 average, now running 290 weekly with almost 200 first time guests attending in the first 6 months of 2017. Salvation decisions, baptisms, and the number of volunteers actively serving are all up from the previous year. Pray for Restoration Church as they continue to disciple these new Christ-followers and solidify the church for active ministry in the long haul.

Mt Moriah Church in Baton Rouge, LA and planter Bishop Captville - This summer has been filled with outreach opportunities as churches from Missouri and Oklahoma have gone to Baton Rouge and helped this church plant upgrade their facilities and reach out to the community. Dozens of community members have participated in these outreach events and visited the church campus. This has resulted in salvation decisions, many lives being impacted, and some new families joining the mission. Pray that these multiple contacts in several neighborhoods will result in the beginning of some long-term relationships that can lead to new faith decisions and growth for the church plant. ☑



Do you know of a couple who you think would make great church planters?

We'd love for you to introduce us to them. So we're willing to reward you with a little motivation! If you link us with a prospective church planter who turns in our application form and notes your referral, we'll give you a \$100 Amazon gift card.

And if that applicant ultimately launches a church plant that we support, we'll give you \$3000 for your role in helping us plant churches. Sound crazy? Maybe, but we believe that planting churches and reaching more people for Christ is worth the investment. Contact us today! ☑

Randall University

THEO 1213 FREE WILL BAPTIST HISTORY AND DOCTRINE

This course is a study of the historical foundation of the Free Will Baptist denomination with attention to the men and women who have made significant contributions to its life and thought. The second part of the course consists of a survey of the beliefs of the Free Will Baptists including the distinctive doctrines of this movement.

Quite a Course

This course description may not mean anything to you unless you are an alumnus of Randall University, but it is a center piece course at our institution. As a student, if you want to receive your associate or bachelor degree, you are required to take this three hour course. The name Randall University is not just a name, it is a statement about our history and heritage. We are proud of who we are, and where we have come from. It is important to us, that every student leaves Randall with an understanding of our legacy and allegiance to the Bible.

Our goal is to facilitate a campus where our students will be impacted by the gospel, and then take that gospel to the uttermost parts of the world. In taking this class, students are introduced to the history and doctrine of the Free Will Baptists. One of the doctrines that our founding father, Benjamin Randall, preached and was persecuted for, was the *free will* of man. He believed in the "whosoever gospel," meaning that the gospel was for everyone, not just a select group of people.

In order for our students to share this same "whosoever gospel" their first step must be settling their own faith in Christ. They must completely understand what they believe about the God who created them. Then comes the second step, which is to become committed to being a part of the Great Commission, and sharing the gospel with every man, woman, boy, and girl of every tribe, nation, and language. After completing this course on Free Will Baptist History and Doctrine, students will clearly see their responsibility to share the gospel.

The Results of This Course

The fruits of this course are evident when reading the final summaries students write regarding what they have personally gained from this course. Each semester there are different students enrolled, but the results of this specific course have a reoccurring pattern. We would like to share with you a few excerpts from the student's testimonies written during this last semester.

"I really enjoyed being able to break down Calvinism point by point, and contrast it with what Free Will Baptists teach. It showed me the depths of what the FWB denomination believes and teaches outside of my home church."...Music and Worship Studies major

"Within just three class sessions I learned how much different and open, but yet dedicated to the word of God Free Will Baptists are."...Women's Basketball Player

"Coming to this school and enrolling in this class, even if I was forced to, allowed me to gain a relationship with Christ I never would have had otherwise."...Women's Soccer Player

When we read testimonies like these, we are reminded of the importance of this course. At Randall, we have Free Will Baptist students who want to better understand the history and heritage of our movement, and also students who have not examined their own beliefs enough to begin having a true relationship with God. At first this class may be dreaded by those who are "forced" to take it, but as we have seen multiple times, this class helps students grow in a way like never before. Through this course, students are given an opportunity to say what one Men's Soccer Player said, "I believe I have been brought closer to my faith and to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Even though all of our classes are important, because they are taught from a Biblical perspective, this class might just stand out from the others. Its purpose is never to push an agenda that is solely Free Will Baptist, but to use our belief system to spur on deeper thoughts about God and religion as a whole. In the end, we want to say that every student who graduates from Randall University has had ample opportunities to further their relationship with God.

The mission of Randall University is to prepare students to serve the Lord Jesus Christ both in the church and society at large. As you partner with us in prayer and generous giving, we will be able to continue offering classes like Free Will Baptist History and Doctrine.

We promise to remain faithful to our history, and we want to share Benjamin Randall's legacy with the next generation. ☐



Benjⁿ Randall

2017 NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

| Entry Name | Competition Code | Age Code | Church Name | State | Placement |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|----------------|-------|-----------|
| Bible Twins | 0.04g - Group Bible Memory - Grade 4 | B | Cornerstone | OK | First |
| Lauren Meadows | 1.10 - Vocal Solo (Age A-B) | A | Clarksville | OK | First |
| Cornerstone Praise Him Trio | 2.30 - Trios | B | Cornerstone | OK | First |
| Jakob Story | 3.20 - Brass Solo | D | Mineral Spring | OK | First |
| Jackson Keith | 3.40 - Plucked String Solo | C | Mineral Spring | OK | First |
| Cornerstone Praise | 4.30 - Praise Band | C | Cornerstone | OK | First |
| Emma Strong | 6.11 - Individual Sign Language | B | New Home | OK | First |
| Sin Chair | 6.40 - Human Video | C | Rejoice | OK | First |
| Brynn Jones | 6.51 - Individual Drama | D | Rejoice | OK | First |
| Tara & Hannah | 6.52 - Dramatic Duo | C | Rejoice | OK | First |
| Sergeant Salvation | 6.53 - Group Drama (3+) | B | Rejoice | OK | First |
| Zander Newman | 7.10 - Painting | A | Fellowship | OK | First |
| Zander Newman | 7.20 - Drawings | A | Fellowship | OK | First |
| Katilyn Smith | 7.30 - Mixed Media | C | Clarksville | OK | First |
| Jenna Pinney | 7.51 - Single Photo | D | Cornerstone | OK | First |
| Justina Rhodes | 7.61 - Banners | C | Greenbrier | OK | First |
| Zander Newman | 7.80 - Conceptual Art | A | Fellowship | OK | First |
| Evan Derby | 8.20 - Personal Experience Essay | A | Rejoice | OK | First |
| Jadon Hinson | 0.01 - Individual Bible Memory -Grade 1 | A | Cornerstone | OK | Second |
| Cornerstone Kids | 0.01g - Group Bible Memory - Grade 1 | A | Cornerstone | OK | Second |
| Chris Turner | 0.05 - Individual Bible Memory - Grade 5 | B | Cornerstone | OK | Second |
| Maranatha Missionaries | 0.06g - Group Bible Memory - Grade 6 | B | Maranatha | OK | Second |
| Rejoice Duet | 2.20 - Duets | A | Rejoice | OK | Second |
| Cornerstone Kids | 2.50 - Ensemble (5-12) | A | Cornerstone | OK | Second |
| Cornerstone Youth | 2.50 - Ensemble (5-12) | D | Cornerstone | OK | Second |
| Quentin Derby | 5.10 - Keyboard Solo | B | Rejoice | OK | Second |
| Savannah Smith | 6.11 - Individual Sign Language | A | Foundation | OK | Second |
| Foundation | 6.40 - Human Video | D | Foundation | OK | Second |
| Cornerstone Kids | 6.53 - Group Drama (3+) | A | Cornerstone | OK | Second |
| Clarksville | 6.62 - Recorded Puppetry | C | Clarksville | OK | Second |
| Zoie Newman | 7.10 - Painting | C | Fellowship | OK | Second |
| Sammie Nicholls | 7.10 - Painting | D | Rejoice | OK | Second |
| Molly Cherry | 7.30 - Mixed Media | D | Mineral Spring | OK | Second |
| Colton Smith | 7.80 - Conceptual Art | B | Foundation | OK | Second |
| Chloe Cariker | 0.K5 - Individual Bible Memory - Kindergarten | A | Rejoice | OK | Third |
| Grace Kids-Kindergarten | 0.K5g - Group Bible Memory - Grade K5 | A | Grace | OK | Third |
| Grace Kids-1st Grade | 0.01g - Group Bible Memory - Grade 1 | A | Grace | OK | Third |
| Grace Kids-2nd Grade | 0.02g - Group Bible Memory - Grade 2 | A | Grace | OK | Third |
| Lilah Cariker | 0.03 - Individual Bible Memory - Grade 3 | A | Rejoice | OK | Third |
| Candry Cariker | 0.66 - Bible Sword Drill - Grade 6 | B | Rejoice | OK | Third |
| Mineral Spring | 0.80 - Bible Bowl | D | Mineral Spring | OK | Third |
| Nick Plank | 0.92 - TruthQuest Sr Hi | D | Mineral Spring | OK | Third |
| Cornerstone Queens Quartet | 2.40 - Quartets | D | Cornerstone | OK | Third |
| Clarksville Ensemble | 2.60 - Choir (13+) | D | Clarksville | OK | Third |

CONFERENCE RESULTS FOR OKLAHOMA

| Entry Name | Competition Code | Age Code | Church Name | State | Placement |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------|-------|-----------|
| Jayda Payne | 3.10 - Woodwind Solo | B | West Tulsa | OK | Third |
| Ainsley Burr | 6.51 - Individual Drama | B | Rejoice | OK | Third |
| Jesus Makes a Difference | 6.53 - Group Drama (3+) | D | Rejoice | OK | Third |
| Clarksville | 6.62 - Recorded Puppetry | B | Clarksville | OK | Third |

The D6 Conference is September 20-22 in Dallas TX. The CE Board will be offering a limited number of scholarships to the conference on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested please contact Daniel Sweet at 405.655.9468 or daniel.sweet42@gmail.com

State Meeting Date Change Proposal

Representatives from the Executive, Christian Education, Missions and Randall Boards along with the State officers have met a few times to discuss a possible change of date for the Oklahoma State Association Annual meeting. The recommended proposal will be presented and voted upon at this year's State Meeting in October. If adopted, the State Meeting would be held each year in early May and in conjunction with the youth competitive activities. Several things have been considered that has brought about this combined board recommendation. Please pray for God's direction as the Association considers this possible change.



So Thankful for Faithful Servants

Pictured is Jay Volk with a plaque he was presented for 32 years of service as the Clerk for the Robert's McGee Association. So grateful for the faithful people across the state that labor for the cause of Christ. ☐

2017 OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 9-11 RANDALL UNIVERSITY - MOORE, OK

(Pre-registration information on back cover)

MONDAY

Refreshments and Fellowship 9:00 – 9:30 am
Minister's Conference 9:30 – 11:00 am
Lunch 12:00 – 1:30 pm
General Board Meeting – 1:30 pm

OWAC

Registration – 12:30 pm
Session Begins – 1:00 pm
Worship – 2:30 pm

MASTER'S MEN – 7:00 pm
Speaker – **Make Wade**

TUESDAY

Clerk calls State Meeting into session
Business Session 9:00 – 11:00 am
Morning Worship – **Lewis Perry**
Lunch 12:00 – 1:30 pm
Business 1:30 – 4:00 pm
Evening Service – 7:00 pm – **Johnny Bilby**

WEDNESDAY

Business Session – 9:00 am – until business concludes
Morning Worship – **Ryan Giles**
Adjourn



Lewis Perry



Johnny Bilby



Ryan Giles

HOTEL INFORMATION

La Quinta (1/2 mile north)
2140 Riverwalk Dr.
(405) 759-7700
I-35 & 19th St. Exit
Complimentary breakfast

Holiday Inn Express (3 miles north)
621 N.W. 8th Street
(405) 735-9400
I-35 & Exit #118 (12th St.)
Complimentary Breakfast

SpringHill Suites Marriott (3 miles north)
613 N.W. 8th Street
(405) 759-2600
I-35 & Exit #118 (12th St.)
Complimentary breakfast

Hampton Inn & Suites (3 miles north)
614 N.W. 8th Street
(405) 735-6821
I-35 & Exit #118 (12th St.)
Complimentary Breakfast



Cats and Dogs

Allow me to open up an important debate. Dogs? or Cats?

It will become very evident as you read this article that I fall into the 'Dogs' category. My wife, on the other hand loves cats. A few years ago, we had a tabby cat named Harley. My wife loved that cat. I love my wife so for several years Harley ruled our house. Harley cared nothing about being a good and obedient pet. I'm pretty sure he knew his only chance to survive was to butter up to Jeannene and to be cute in her eyes. He was not fooling me at all. I knew that underneath that cuteness lurked a mean streak that kept our dogs in terror. Harley knew that he was the boss. He looked down on us as his servants. We existed only for his pleasure. He expected us to provide food and a clean environment and to scratch him if he so desired. Otherwise, he wanted nothing to do with us. He would often look at me with disdain. When I came home, Harley would ignore me or go stand by his food dish so I could serve him. I could tell he wondered why I was needed around there. He would have been perfectly content if Jeannene would have booted me out so he could have her undivided attention. I have to be gentle here because my wife will probably read this article, but when Harley finally succumbed to old age and departed it caused a dilemma in my heart. I was saddened for my wife's loss, but could not muster up much sorrow of a personal nature. By now I have angered some cat lovers who will no doubt want to debate the virtues of the feline species, but let me quote something I once heard my Grandpa say. "Don't confuse me with facts, my mind is made up"

Now allow me to share a canine perspective. We pretty much have always had dogs. Dogs are

wonderful creatures. When I come home they can hardly contain themselves for the joy of seeing me. They look at me with adoration in their eyes. They think I'm wonderful. What's not to love? They are delighted to obey and sit near me hardly containing their excitement to do something that will please me. They exist not to be served but to serve. They bask in my attention and find ways to show me that they think I'm special.

I cannot help but make the comparison that some people are like cats in regard to their relation to God. They act as though He exists to be their servant, that He is expected to provide for them with little or no gratitude for what He has done. He is ignored unless there is something that they need from Him. Many folks think they are in control rather than the other way around.

I hope in this regard I fall more into the dog perspective. I want my worship to reflect the uncontainable joy I feel in being in God's presence. May He always be able to see the adoration of my heart. I want Him to know how grateful I am for everything He has done for me. I want Him to know that I am His servant and that He is my Lord.

Whether you fashion yourself a 'cat person', a 'dog person' or a 'no pet' person, I trust you will join the Psalmist when he declares in chapter 147 verse 1, *Praise ye the Lord, for it is good to sing praises unto our God, for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.* ◻



Bro. Mike

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

Promoter

Oklahoma State Assoc.
of Free Will Baptist
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Moore, Oklahoma 73153

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PRE-REGISTER ONLINE for the 2017 Oklahoma State Meeting

If you would like to pre-register for the State Meeting, go to www.okfwb.org.
Click on Calendar and under Oklahoma State Meeting you will see a register here box.

If you don't have access to a computer, please fill out the form below and mail it in.

Pre-registrations must be sent in by October 4, 2017. If you have any questions,
please call the FWB State Office at 405-912-9400.

OKLAHOMA FREE WILL BAPTIST REGISTRATION CARD

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

Email Address _____

Church _____

Please check one:

- Minister Delegate
 Deacon Missionary
 Visitor