

PROMOTER

March - April 2018

Volume 39 Number 2

pg.6 – **Oklahoma FWB State Meeting May 3-5**

(see inside for details)





Ed Stetzer to Address OK State FWB Convention

Ed Stetzer, guest of the Oklahoma FWB State Mission Board, will highlight the opening activities of the newly reformatted Oklahoma FWB State Convention that will meet May 3-5, 2018 at Randall University. Ed Stetzer, Ph.D., holds the Billy Graham Distinguished Chair for Church, Mission, and Evangelism at Wheaton College. Ed also serves as the Executive Director of the Billy Graham Center, and as chair of the Evangelism and Leadership Department in the Graduate School. Ed is a prolific author, and well-known conference speaker. He has planted, revitalized, and pastored churches, trained pastors and church planters on six continents, holds two masters degrees and two doctorates, and has written a dozen books and hundreds of articles. Stetzer is a contributing editor for Christianity Today, a columnist for Outreach Magazine, and is frequently cited or interviewed in news outlets such as USA Today and CNN. He is also the Executive Editor of The Gospel Project, which is used by over 1 million individuals each week. Stetzer co-hosts (with John Stonestreet) BreakPoint This Week, a radio show started and formerly hosted by Chuck Colson, and now airing on over 400 media outlets. He is the interim teaching pastor at Moody Church, a historic congregation in downtown Chicago.

On Thursday, May 3, Stetzer will speak at the Ministers Conference held at Randall between 1:30-3:30pm. He will also be the keynote speaker at a meal that will be held at Calvary Church in Norman. This complementary dinner will begin at 4:45pm and wrap up at 6:15pm. **Seating for the meal will be limited so RSVP to the state mission office at 912-9036 or info@westartchurches.com as tickets will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.** The day will conclude with Stetzer bringing the message at the evening worship service back at Randall at 7pm. We're encouraging you to join us and invite others who are passionate about evangelism and discipleship, church planting, and helping advance the Kingdom of Christ. Stetzer has become one of the leading voices helping revitalize the church planting efforts of our board through Church Planting Leadership Fellowship (CPLF). His practical experience as a church planter and pastor, combined with his developed expertise in these areas, gives him the ability to

authoritatively speak truth and provide guidance for us as we work together to advance the Good News message and impact eternity throughout our state, nation, and the world. Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of these great events!

WMO Offering

FWB International Missions holds its annual WMO (World Missions Offering) on Sunday, April 29, 2018. The goal is for that day to be set aside to encourage individuals and churches to participate in this effort to go above and beyond in supporting our global outreach cause. While you don't have to give on that designated day, take the time this spring to participate in this vital offering that fills in the funding gaps and helps extend our reach around the globe. This past year's WMO allowed IM to once again erase the financial deficits of every missionary family (include some supported by TSP) at the end of 2017, just like they did at the end of 2016. Praise the Lord! It's easy to see how supporting this offering directly benefits our missionaries. If you plan to participate, you can go to www.fwbgo.com/wmo to find resources that will help you promote the effort within your church. When you participate, you can send your gift through the Oklahoma state office and the gift will then be sent directly on to IM. We're encouraging our Oklahoma FWB churches to take up a one-time offering for the WMO, pass out the TSP Plus cards at that time, and promote the opportunity for individuals to make a faith-promise pledge and give monthly to TSP and/or We Start Churches through their local church. If your church is interested in supporting one of our international church planters through the Reaching the Unreached program, you can do that as well. If you need additional resources and more information on how you can participate, please contact us. You can visit our website at www.okfwbmissions.com or contact us by phone at the state office (405) 912-9036 or by talking to board member Gary Curry at (580) 320-1473. Gary can also help you book a missionary or a representative to come to your church. Thank you for choosing to partner with Oklahoma Free Will Baptists and taking the Good News around the world! ☑

HAVE YOU HEARD WHAT'S HAPPENING AT RANDALL?

This year we are inviting all alumni, former employees, friends, families, and faithful donors of Randall University to join us for a special event called, "RU Connected? Randall Reunion." The gathering will include fun, food, and fellowship in a familiar setting.

In addition to reconnecting and enjoying fellowship together, the Reunion will be a wonderful opportunity for you to consider investing in a place that has invested in you. Each year Randall funds over 25 scholarships for students in need, making it possible for them to study and grow at the university. We need each of you in order to make this possible for our students!

There is **no fee** for attending the Reunion, but registration is needed so that we can have an accurate count for our meal preparation. You can register your family for this event by filling out and submitting the brief form at www.ru.edu/reunion. Then stay tuned to this page for updated event information.

Our day will start at 10:00 a.m. with registration and brunch, and will conclude with a President's Banquet that will end no later than 5:00 p.m. The intent of this schedule is to accommodate drive times in the region.

During the middle of the day, our campus will come alive with various events that we encourage you and your family to take full advantage of.

EVENTS:

- Alumni Basketball Game (games and prizes during halftime, and a \$500 scholarship for the fan who makes a 1/2 court shot)
- Alumni Soccer Game
- Disc Golf Tournament
- Escape Rooms
- Canvas and Palette painting class
- Singing and Storytelling: a time for alumni to share talents and memories
- Future Saints Theater: faculty-led mini theatre workshop for kids ending with a performance for the parents
- Inflatable games for kids
- Campus Tours
- Photo Booth
- What's New: Degree chairs talk about current programs

We truly hope you will plan to join us for this special event! "Save the Date" – Saturday, April 14, 2018

Celebrate with your fellow alumni and friends of our university.

Questions? Contact Mason Polk at 405-912-9458 or ruconnected@ru.edu. 📧



L to R: Amy "Red" Jenkins, Beth Shaw, Leslie Thomas, Kristie Miller, Rae Puckett, and Rachel Emmons. (Harvester 1991)



L to R Front Row: Jan Banks, Heather Frank, and Courtney Lewis. Back Row: Jeff Sloan, Sarah Hodges, Ashley Carter, Justin Clemons, and Justin Bailey. (Harvester 2009)

Oklahoma State Christian Education Board

2018 State Camps

2018 CAMPS	Early-bird Rate & Date	Regular Rate & Date	Sponsor Rate	Pre-Camper Rate
ENCOUNTER1 June 10-15	2018: \$130 By May 14th	2018: \$150 After May 14th	2018: \$130	2018: \$70
ENCOUNTER 2 June 24-29	2018: \$130 By May 22	2018: \$150 After May 22	2018: \$130	2017: \$70
Oakridge 1 July 15-18	2018: \$160 By May 31	2018: \$170 After May 31	2018: \$160	2018: \$160
Oakridge 2 July 18-21	2017: \$160 By May 31	2017: \$170 After May 31	2017: \$160	2017: \$160

1. We are requiring every church to pay a \$1000 non-refundable deposit to secure your church's spot at any camp.
2. We are going back to mail in registration. All of your form are on the website www.okstatece.com and you can mail in your payment and form to the State Office @ Oklahoma FWB State Office; Att: Daniel Sweet; PO Box 7527; Moore OK 73153

2018 Senior Adult Retreat

Due to high cost we are moving our Senior Adult Retreat from the Sequoyah State Lodge to run in conjunction with the State Meeting that is coming up in May. On Thursday May 3rd (2pm-6pm) The CE Board will be hosting a dinner, fellowship, and time of worship for all of our Senior Adults. To register your church for this event simply call Daniel Sweet @ 405.655.9468 with the number of people you think will be attending. ☐

State Youth News..

The Friday evening service of the State Meeting will feature Speaker Tommy Swindol. We encourage all churches to bring their youth groups to this important service on May 4th. The 7:30 pm start is to allow a bit more travel time for groups to make it to the campus. The Youth Competitive Activities will be conducted on Saturday, May 5th. ☐

Honor to Whom Honor....

Orvel Lee Romine

March 23, 1933-October 15, 2017



Brother Orvel was born in Cement, Oklahoma. He married Betty Jean Southard on July 24, 1954. Orvel served our country in the U. S. Army and is a decorated war veteran with many awards and medals. He was ordained into the ministry in 1962 as a Free Will Baptist minister.

Brother Orvel pastored several of our Oklahoma churches and was active in our District, State and National Associations. He served his nation and his Savior faithfully and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Ronnie L. Baker

July 11, 1954-November 14, 2017



Ron was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He married Paula Diann McCracken on January 17, 1976. Ron began leading choirs at the age of 16 and served in a variety of churches throughout his life. He was on staff as Minister of Music at the Faith FWB Church in Glenpool at the time of his death. While living in Cincinnati, he served as a police officer for 8 years. He loved serving others and was dedicated to community involvement.

Jerry Seaton Rhoades

September 24, 1928-December 21, 2017



Jerry was born in Cleveland, Oklahoma. After serving in the U.S. Navy, he was honorably discharged. He hitchhiked from Florida back to Cleveland, OK to marry the love of his life, Ellen Swaffar. Brother Jerry was a Free Will Baptist minister and also worked for Oklahoma Department of

Corrections until his retirement. His ministry spanned 60 years and was serving the Crosspointe FWB Church in Norman in various capacities until his death.

Winfred Lowe

May 3, 1921-January 7, 2018



Brother Winfred was born in Dardenelle, Arkansas. His family moved to Holdenville, OK when he was 5 years old. Winfred served in the U.S. Army from 1942-1945. He was a decorated war veteran. After the war, Winfred married Juanita Jackson on November 23, 1946. He was ordained as a

Free Will Baptist minister in 1961 and pastored several of our Oklahoma churches. He also worked for the Continental Oil Company and for the Chickasaw Telephone Company.

Danny Lee Farmer

June 28, 1934-January 15, 2018



Brother Dan was born in Checotah, Oklahoma. Dan married Joyce Wood on July 17, 1952. Brother Dan was called into the ministry when he was 16 years old and pastored his first church when he was just 18. He continued to pastor until 1963 when he began teaching at what is now Randall University. He returned to the pastorate in 1972. He pastored the First Free Will Baptist Church of Moore, OK for 36 years. Brother Dan was known for his love of books and also for his loving pastoral care. He has influenced the lives of many through his teaching and through his godly example.

James Hardy Haas

November 29, 1924-January 27, 2018



Jim was born in Braman, Oklahoma. He married Reatha Jenkins on December 10, 1944. As a Free Will Baptist minister, Brother Jim had a vision to plant a church in Skiatook, OK. The Skiatook FWB Church became a reality in 1968 and is still a vibrant church today. Brother Jim also worked for Douglas,

McDonnell Douglas and Boeing from 1955-1970. Jim influenced many lives for the Lord.

(Editor's Note: We are saddened for our loss of these servants, but rejoice in the ultimate victory they now enjoy.)

2018 OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULE MAY 3-5 RANDALL UNIVERSITY – MOORE, OK

(Pre-registration information on back cover)

THURSDAY

General Board Meeting – 9:30 am

Lunch – 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Minister's Conference – 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Speaker – **Ed Stetzer**

Evening Service – 7:00 pm – **Ed Stetzer**

FRIDAY

Clerk call State Meeting into session

Business Session 9:00 – 11:00 am

Morning Worship – **Bill Adcock**

Lunch 12:00 – 1:30 pm

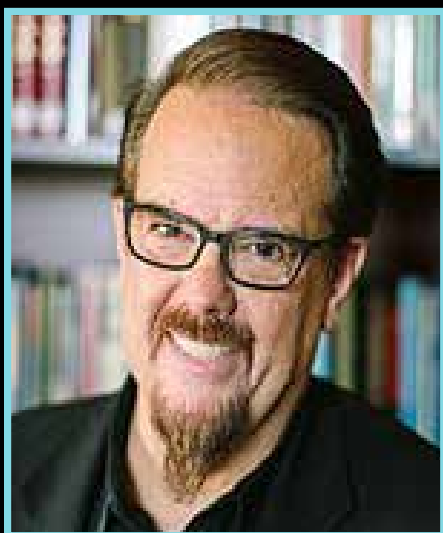
Business 1:30 – 4:00 pm

Evening Service – 7:30 pm – **Tommy Swindol**

SATURDAY

Close of Business – 9:00 am

CTS Competition – 9:00 am



Ed Stetzer



Bill Adcock



Tommy Swindol

HOTEL INFORMATION

LaQuinta (1/2 mile north)

2140 Riverwalk Dr.

(405) 759-7700

I-35 & 19th St. Exit

Complimentary Breakfast

Spring Hill Suites Marriott (3 miles north)

613 N.W. 8th Street

(405) 759-2600

I-35 & Exit #118 (12th St.)

Complimentary Breakfast

Holiday Inn Express (3 miles north)

621 N.W. 8th Street

(405) 735-9400

I-35 & Exit #18 (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

It Won't Be Long...

There are many clichés using the word 'home'. A couple of them I am sure you are familiar with are: 'Home Sweet Home' and 'Home is where the heart is'. The last few days I have been attending a meeting out of town. Today I am on my way home. I have noticed that any time I am traveling whether it is a day or two or several days, I am always ready to be headed home. I have never associated the word 'home' with a particular house for I have lived in several different houses in the course of my life. When I was a child, home was wherever my parents were living. I might only be across the street playing with the neighborhood kids but when it started getting dark and I started getting hungry, I was ready to go home. I knew that I had a place to eat, to sleep and a place where I was loved by family. My heart truly aches for those who do not have good memories of 'home' as a child. Recently in the news, a man and his wife were arrested for holding their 13 children captive in a house where they were abused and even starved. I cannot imagine the horrible and distorted concept of 'home' those poor souls must harbor in their minds. I am so very grateful for the healthy concept of 'home' instilled in me by godly-Christ following parents.

From the day I was married, 'home' has been the place where my wife and I lived. When our children were growing up they were very much a part of what I looked forward to when I thought of going 'home'. The word 'home' is indeed a very precious concept to me. Each and every time I am away, whether for a few hours or a few days or several days, I love going 'home'.

While I have been blessed with a wonderful experience of an earthly home, I find myself thinking more and more about my heavenly 'home'. As each year passes more of my family and friends who love the Lord are leaving this world and moving to a better place. My mom is over there. So many folks that I love and long to see are there. When I cross over I will get to be in the presence of my Lord and Savior. Whether my own passing is very near or many years away, I have a growing anticipation and excitement of my heavenly 'home'. I know that it will abundantly surpass any earthly experience I have ever known.

A song recorded by Andre Crouch entitled *It Won't Be Long* came to mind that I haven't heard in a long time. Some lyrics that stand out to me are "Count the years as months, count the months as weeks, count the weeks as days, any day now, we'll be going home."

To each one reading this article I hope that your earthly home is a place you love and cherish. To every believer in Christ I have wonderful news. Whatever your earthly experience, remember that we are simply sojourners and strangers looking for a city whose builder and maker is God Himself. As the song conveys, **it won't be long till we'll be going home.** ☐



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

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oklahoma City, OK
Permit No. 305

Mike Wade, Director • 405.912.9400 • Email: mwade@okfwb.org

PRE-REGISTER ONLINE for the 2018 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 May 1, 2018. 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