

PROMOTER

November - December 2020

Volume 41 Number 6





WE'RE THANKFUL FOR YOU

On behalf of our church planters and missionaries serving around the globe, we give thanks for your partnership in the gospel. Please continue to provide both prayer and financial support for these families.



Alfredo & Ruth Botello
Bartlesville, OK



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Tom & Laurel Harkness
Media, PA



Dan and Kami Houghton
Burlington, VT

We currently have two families serving in restricted access areas, who are also thankful and value your prayers and financial support. Please contact our office at (405) 912-9036 for more information and resources to encourage support of all of our church planters and missionary families.

Join us online for our Giving Tuesday Facebook event Tuesday, Dec. 1st! Check out our Facebook page for more details.



Technology Update Completed

“We have now fully entered the 21st century,” said Quentin Loop, Director of Information Technology at Randall University.

Over the last few months, the Administrative Team of Randall University has worked hard in raising support to update the technology in all of our classrooms. While navigating the unknown course of COVID-19, we diligently prepared ourselves for whatever might lie ahead—especially the threatening possibility of online-only learning.

After not returning to campus following Spring Break, we received a taste of what online-only learning looks like. Our faculty and students did well to adjust in a short amount of time, but it was difficult to provide the usual benefits that we are known for: close student-teacher relationships, one-on-one assistance, and class discussions.

Moving towards the Fall semester, it was uncertain if we could return to classes like normal. And if we were to return, how long we would be able to stay. It was clear that we must better prepare ourselves by equipping our classrooms with new cameras, microphones, televisions and projectors. The cost of a project this size totaled over \$20,000.

Naturally, we turned to our churches for help. During the month of July, we sent a letter to the churches of Oklahoma, asking pastors to present our need and respond as they were able. At this time, gifts have exceeded \$26,000 and each of our 10 classrooms have their new hardware and software installed.

President Thompson correctly stated, “Although many churches were forced to temporarily close their doors, the hearts of the



Quentin Loop has been with Randall since 1998 and has served as the Director of Information Technology since 2006.

people remained open to the needs of Randall University. God is good, and His people are faithful.”

The Randall family wishes to express our deepest gratitude to Mr. Loop for leading this initiative and working hard to equip each classroom before classes started on August 13.

We are now working to outfit our two auditoriums with cameras and recording equipment that can be used for Chapel services and the Oklahoma State Meeting. If you would like to be apart of this improvement project, please visit ru.edu/donate and designate your gift to the “Technology Update” donation fund.

For His Glory,
Mason Polk
Director of Church Engagement



Dr. Denny Kuhn teaching Introduction to Philosophy



Christian Education in 2021

Hello there from the Oklahoma Christian Education Board. Several are wondering, so we thought it would be best to address 2021 now. As of today, we are planning 2021 like a normal year. We're hoping our camps and state competition are in full swing. Here are the tentative dates.

State Competition

May 1st, 2021

Encounter Camps

Encounter Teen 1 – June 6th – 11th, 2021

Encounter Teen 2 – June 20th – 25th, 2021

Encounter Kids 1 – July 11th – 14th, 2021

Encounter Kids 2 – July 14th – 17th, 2021

This pandemic has been stressful on families and communities. Churches have certainly not been immune either. Every pastor I know has spoken of disruption on some level. Some big and heartbreaking others minor and annoying. Please know that our board believes that we are here to serve you the Free Will Baptist churches in Oklahoma. We hope that competition and our camps serve an important role in the calendar year of your ministry. Further we hope that you will plan on being with us in 2021, Lord willing!

If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out. We will be releasing more info about our camps very soon.

Blessings,

Daniel Sweet
 Promotional Director
 Oklahoma State Christian Education Board
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COMING FALL 2020

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HONOR *to whom* HONOR

REV. JESSIE ANDREW WALLIS

March 17, 1931 – August 7, 2020



Brother Jessie was born in McAlester, OK. The family then moved to the Midwest City- Choctaw area during Jessie's teenage years. He then served our country in the US Navy. Brother Jessie married Audrey LuFurn Dewitt on July 20, 1956. He later obtained a college degree and furthered his education. He worked and retired from the Civil Service at Tinker Air Force Base. We are extremely grateful for the many years of service to our Lord as a bi-vocational Free Will Baptist minister.

REV. WILLARD LYNN WOOD

September 15, 1931 –

September 4, 2020

Brother Lynn was born in Stratford, Oklahoma. He graduated



from Ada High School in 1949. He and Jo Ann Barber were married on August 19, 1950. A US Army veteran who served our country from 1952-1954 during the Korean War. Brother Lynn was ordained in the ministry in 1950 and was a faithful pastor for over 67 years. After his military service, he pastored churches in Oklahoma, Arizona, Texas, California and Missouri. He and Jo Ann made Owasso their home in 1997 where he served the Rejoice Church, completing his full-time ministry. He served as the first promotional director for Oklahoma Bible College (now Randall University). He served our denomination on both the state and national level on various boards and committees and also spoke at one of our National Conventions. We are thankful for all of his contributions to our

movement. He will be greatly missed.

REV. L. FRANK YOUNG

July 20, 1937 – October 4, 2020



Brother Frank was born in Marshall, Oklahoma. He graduated from Excelsior High School in Seminole County. He married Alnita Collier on June 27, 1958. He was a graduate of our Bible College in Moore, Ok and later graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. Brother Frank pastored churches in Tennessee and Oklahoma for 58 years. Beautiful sanctuaries were built during his pastorates of both the Okemah FWB Church and the Ardmore First FWB Church. Brother Frank has been a faithful minister and loyal Free Will Baptist throughout his many years of service.

MAKING THE MOST OF QUIET TIME

- + **Stop everything and be still** (Psalm 46:10).
- + **Expect to hear from the Lord** (Psalm 119:18) and be changed (Acts 4:13).
- + **Have quiet time at the same time & place** (Mark 1:35).
- + **Note the character and characteristics of God** (Psalm 25:4; 29:2) as you read the Word and delight in it (Psalm 37:4).
- + **Examine your life in light of Scripture** (Proverbs 4:26; 2 Corinthians 3:18) and make needed changes (Proverbs 3:6; John 13:17).

NAFWB

JEREMIAH 29 INITIATIVE

In response to difficult circumstances, the **Jeremiah 29 Initiative** meets the challenge God gave Jewish exiles in Babylon:

- + **Build.** Stay busy. Be constructive and enjoy life (29:5a).
- + **Plant.** Invest in the future. Starting at home, guide, disciple & encourage future generations of believers (29:5b).
- + **Pray.** Rather than despising or resenting a culture hostile to the Faith, seek peace and wellbeing (29:7).

Find more resources:

NAFWB.ORG/JEREMIAH29

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God Bless our Ministers



Mike Wade,
Executive Director
for Oklahoma
Free Will Baptists

On the 28th – 30th of September, 118 ministers gathered for a Retreat at the Sequoyah Lodge in Wagoner, Oklahoma. Our speakers, Bob Russell and Ben Merold were excellent. Both shared encouraging and practical messages to our attendees. By the way, Brother Merold is 94 years young. What a blessing they were to us.

I would like to share something that happened on Tuesday night at the Retreat that I hope will be a blessing to all of you who read it.

On Tuesday night at the close of the service, Randy Wilson, pastor of the Bethany Church shared how that our speaker, Bob Russell, had made an impact on his consideration of generosity. He then spoke to us about the fact that because of COVID-19 we were the first event held at the Lodge since early in the year and how the very friendly serving staff depended on such events for personal income. Naturally they had been greatly impacted by this loss of revenue. Randy then asked all who were able to leave a tip on the table where they were seated. After most had left the area, the money was

collected and counted then handed to the one who was supervising the staff.

The next morning, Randy asked a few at breakfast what they would guess had been collected. The guesses were between \$250 - \$350. Then with a big smile on his face he revealed that our ministers had left a total of \$1,421.00. The ministers in attendance had given ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY ONE DOLLARS!! I will have to admit here that I was blown away by their generosity! I am proud of our guys on a regular basis but this executive director is blessed beyond measure to get to serve these generous ministers.

What I nor any of the others knew until later was that the staff supervisor that received and distributed the funds to the others was the sister-in-law of Dale Haskins, pastor of the Silver City FWB Church. Dale allowed me to read the email she had sent him and then Randy shared what she had written with all of us in the Wednesday morning session. Here are some of the highlights: She said, "I just wanted you to know that the money you gave blessed our servers in so many ways Nick, the one who served the food. He was wowed. He said that they just made possible for me to give my daughter a birthday party. Andy's grandfather died today. He was worried because he has to take off

Friday a busy day that he makes most of his money. Addison, the blonde who did lunch was sick earlier and had missed a few shifts, so she was short on cash. The two girls that were there Monday came in on their day off, not really wanting to be, later said everyone was so nice to them, they were glad they did it. And our entire management team were just awed by the generosity of these men of God." She closed her text with "See you Sunday"

It was very thoughtful of Dale's sister-in-law to let him know the impact of the generosity.

To all of our ministers who participated, let me say, WAY TO GO GUYS!!!

This does not greatly surprise me as I have witnessed many acts of generosity before this. You are a blessing to others and you are a blessing to me.

The Word of God which is always faithful and true tells us in Proverbs 11:25:

The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

God promises that the generous person will prosper and that whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

My prayer is that those who were such instruments of blessing will indeed be blessed themselves.



Promoter

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You never know what's around the corner!

In Uncertain Times, it is good to know you can prepare your estate in a way it will benefit your children and the ministries you love. Free Will Baptist Foundation and Cornerstone Estate Planning provide help in this crucial area of life.

Watch a Brief Video explaining how you can have peace of mind about the future.

On Facebook: Free Will Baptist Foundation

On the web: fwbgifts.org (estate planning tab)



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