

# PROMOTER

May - June 2020

Volume 41 Number 3



*God is our refuge  
and strength,  
a very present  
help in trouble.*

PSALM 46:1



# David and Mimi Reeves Report on Ministry in France

It is so exciting to be back with you in the US and especially in a state very dear to our hearts, Oklahoma. As we were crossing the state line into Oklahoma I looked over at my wife's face to see a little tear running down her cheek. She said to me, "I just love Oklahoma." So, Oklahoma you have a French girl who is very proud to be an adopted Okie.

First and foremost, we just wanted to thank you so much for your support. Through your prayers and finances, you have made the work in France possible and for that we are eternally grateful. Oklahoma Free Will Baptist have had a broken heart for French people for many years and we are so thankful for your commitment to the Great Commission and reaching the unreached. May you be encouraged by what you read here and that you can see first, God is moving in France and second the future is bright!

As I tried putting my thoughts to words I kept wondering how I would compile three years of ministry into one story but I feel God leading me to tell you the story of Anna. When we first met Anna, she was just 17 years old. She was young, but curious beyond her years. She enjoys philosophy, debate, and deep conversation. We invited her to youth group, Jpense, and really any event that would give us a chance to spend time with her. She faithfully came to our youth group events always staying afterwards to ask questions about what we believed. She came to Jpense and was very curious about Jesus and Faith. She didn't always agree with our ideas but that didn't stop her from building a strong friendship with us.

One week she reached out to Myriam and asked if we could talk. She came over to our apartment



to discuss questions she had as it came to Christianity. She felt comfortable with us and that blossomed into a friendship and she became especially close to Myriam. When she had a question, she would ask Myriam and one by one these walls that were built up between her and Christianity were being torn down.

One day she came over to our apartment to talk about faith but this time she became very passionate with the debate. She said, "But wait... You Christians you don't believe abortion is okay, how could you believe something like that?!" Myriam very calming responded "If you would like to hear my opinion I would be glad to share it with you" and Anna immediately calmed down and said she would like to hear Myriam's point of view. Myriam could have gone any number of ways but we believe the Holy Spirit directed her to speak on the topic of abortion of special needs and specifically Downs Syndrome children. Myriam explained that as believers we believe every life is created by God and because of that every life has inherent value. She concluded that no one has the right to determine whose life is valuable and whose life isn't, we are all wonderfully

made in the eyes of our creator. After hearing this Anna's whole demeanor changed. She said "My mother was told by the doctors I would be Downs Syndrome and it was strongly suggested that I be aborted".

Myriam responded, "How many children do you think have been killed like that. Not only that, how many precious, joyful souls have been killed because someone without the right has determined it would be better if they were never born." We believe in this instance another wall fell.

Not long after that Anna moved to Paris and we were somewhat broken to see her leave without making a decision. However when she arrived in Paris, Myriam suggested she go to church with her sister. The first Sunday she went, the pastor asked if anyone wanted to know Jesus and she raised her hand. We are so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the spiritual journey of Anna. As should you, you have prayed and invested in France. The Harvest is here and may we be the labors God is calling us to be!

If you would like to know more about our ministry, please follow us on our Facebook page: "David & Myriam (Mimi) Reeves Serving in France". If you would like to be part of our email newsletter or support us financially, please go to iminc.org scroll down to Missionaries and find our pictures. And finally, if you would like us to come and visit your church please don't hesitate to email or even give us a call we would love to come visit your church. God bless you all.

*In the Love of Christ,*

David and Mimi Reeves  
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## God has seen us through before

My first semester as President has definitely gone different than I would have ever expected. We started strong with a high retention rate from the Fall but ended up transitioning to online classes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the last few months, things have just not been normal. No students in the classrooms, online chapel services, an empty baseball field, no graduation—everything has changed, and we are not certain how things will look this Summer and, even more so, this Fall.

In the midst of this storm, I believe our history can serve as a beacon of hope. The way we view our past shapes the way we view the present, and therefore it influences our reactions to the problems that we face. I vividly remember a time in the nineties when our college came close to losing its accreditation and closing our doors. But, when the time was right, God intervened and our doors remained open. Now, 25 years later, we are encountering similar feelings. This time we face an invisible enemy, the Coronavirus, but still, I am reminded that we serve an invisible God.



President Bob Thompson meets with his Administrative Team to discuss the next steps in the COVID-19 pandemic.

I don't know about tomorrow, but I know who holds tomorrow. It is God Almighty. The Bible tells us, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow, for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

We covet your prayers during this time as we prepare to weather the

Summer and get things in line for the Fall semester. We are believing that God will provide for our needs.

Even though it may be contrary to our protective nature during uncertain times, I encourage you to remain generous and give. Not just to Randall University, but to all of the Kingdom-building efforts that the Holy Spirit leads you to support. This is not the time to be selfish, but this is the time to trust God and to display that trust through giving compassionately unto the necessities of others. We know that God provides for the fowls of the air. Are you not better than they?

Rev. Robert G. Thompson  
President  
Randall University



President Jim Shepherd and Academic Dean Timothy W. Eaton work to keep the school afloat during the 1996 crisis.



P.S. If you would like to give to Randall University go online to [www.ru.edu/donate](http://www.ru.edu/donate).



encountercamp



We are so excited about this years teen camp line up. Ryan Golightly (pronounced go-lite-lee) is a Kingdom minded communicator who will challenge your students to change the world for Jesus. Adam Leichner (pronounced lite-ner) is as talented as he is passionate about serving Jesus and leading people in worship. Your students are going to be equally challenged and blessed!

Encounter 1: June 7-12  
Encounter 2: June 21-26

Cost: \$150 by May 15th  
\$170 after May 15th

Remember each church must fill out a "church registration form" and a \$1,000 deposit. See details at [okstatece.com](http://okstatece.com)  
Or contact  
Daniel Sweet: 405.655.9468  
[daniel.sweet42@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.sweet42@gmail.com)

Speaker///  
Ryan Golightly

Family Ministries Pastor  
Rejoice Church in Owasso  
[rejoicechurch.com](http://rejoicechurch.com)

Worship///  
Adam Leichner

Worship Pastor  
West Church in Wichita  
[westefc.org](http://westefc.org)



We are so excited to welcome Johnny Miller to our kids camps. Johnny brings a wealth of experience in children's ministry and has served as a camp director, kids evangelism crusades, and even oversees the kids production at the national convention. He will be leading worship, preaching, and entertaining the kiddos

Evangelist///  
Johnny Miller

Children's Pastor  
Cavanaugh Church in Fort Smith  
[cavanaughchurch.com](http://cavanaughchurch.com)

Encounter Kids1: July 12-15  
Encounter Kids2: July 15-18

Cost: \$180 by June 15th  
\$190 after June 15th

Remember each church must fill out a "church registration form" and a \$1000 deposit. See details at [okstatece.com](http://okstatece.com)  
Or contact  
Daniel Sweet: 405.655.9468  
[daniel.sweet42@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.sweet42@gmail.com)



Hey there everyone. Wow! There was no way to see a global pandemic when we first started planning competition and camps. As you know state competition has been called off. However, all Oklahoma churches need to register on the state level for Nationals. As far as camp goes, we are moving forward as planned at this point in time. Please understand information is changing daily so there's no great way to predict what is going to happen come June and July. We all hope by then life is back to normal. However, there hasn't been anything normal about the past 2 months. Please know that any money or deposits that are turned in will be completely refunded in the event that our camps have to be cancelled. We are praying for our churches, please be in pray for our state and national leaders during this time as well. Blessings!

THE WORLD HAS SHIFTED - HOW WILL YOUR DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY CHANGE MOVING FORWARD?

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# I Didn't See It Coming



Mike Wade,  
Executive Director  
for Oklahoma  
Free Will Baptists

These are crazy times we are living through right now. Two months ago my Promoter article was about the importance of being prepared for the second coming of Christ. I know that He will come back because He said He would. I do not know the time but I know He is coming. What I did NOT know two months ago was that a deadly virus was coming to America that would dramatically change our way of life. Proverbs 27:1 says *“Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring”*.

Man oh man that Scripture rings true in a frighteningly new way. We do not know what a day may bring. I didn't see this coming. As I write, most states have declared “Stay At Home” mandates except for essential activity such as food and pharmacy distribution. Because the virus is so contagious, group gatherings are presently discouraged and even forbidden. Churches are having to do ministry in new and uncommon ways. Many of us who have been reluctant to join the social media bandwagon are having to become more open to it so that we can continue to minister to our people during this time of social separation. It is my sincere prayer that by the time you are reading this article that things will be getting better. At this moment however, I will not be boasting about tomorrow for it is very clear to me that I do not know what a day may bring.

I have been trying to watch at least portions of services from as many of our FWB churches as possible. I need to tell you that I have been so encouraged by what I have seen. Our guys, even those who admit that the video efforts are way out of their comfort zones, are doing a tremendous job. The preaching and the mid-week lessons and devotionals have been full of encouragement, full of optimistic

faith and full of calls to repentance and prayer. All of these are spot on for such a time as this.

I am hearing some amazing reports of salvations, of acts of compassion, and of community ministry. Folks, God will use even this crazy time to direct our lives and others to Himself in amazing ways. My prayer for us believers is that we will use this time to reflect on areas where we had grown complacent. Maybe some of us had lost our evangelistic fervor, our desire for fellowship and maybe even our personal passion to grow closer to Christ. May we humble ourselves, repent and pray that God will renew a right spirit in us. Most certainly pray for those who have lost love ones, those who are sick and those who are caring for the sick.

If the virus is still raging as you read this, please do your best to protect yourself and others.

I have no idea what tomorrow may bring and I certainly did not see this coming, but I know that my Heavenly Father has not been caught by surprise. He will accomplish His work even during these unsettling times and He will be glorified. The following verse is always true but seems especially significant for these days:

*“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven,”*

**MATTHEW 5:16**

# Promoter

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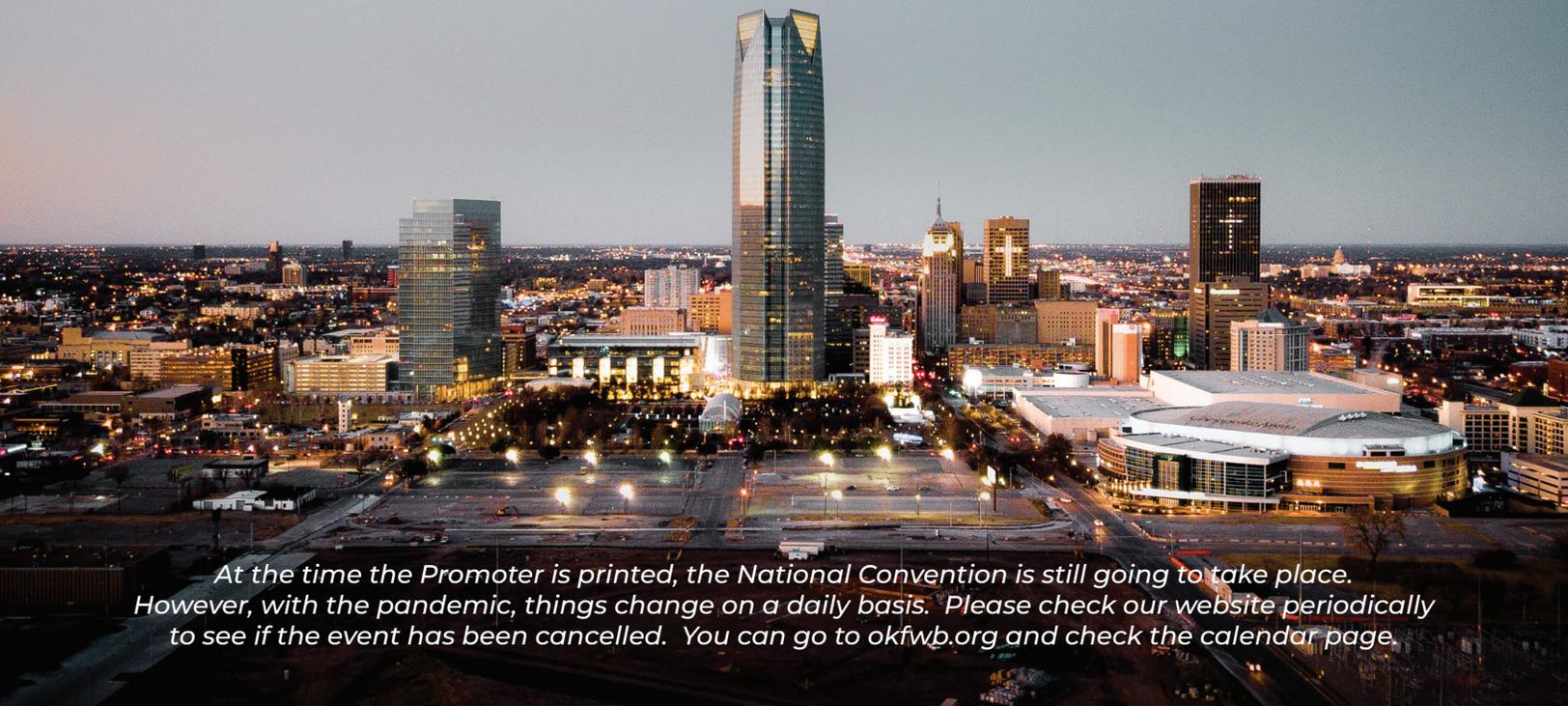
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# 2020 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The annual Free Will Baptist National Convention will be held in Oklahoma City  
**July 19-22, 2020**

For more information, please go their website at [www.nafwb.org](http://www.nafwb.org)



*At the time the Promoter is printed, the National Convention is still going to take place. However, with the pandemic, things change on a daily basis. Please check our website periodically to see if the event has been cancelled. You can go to [okfwb.org](http://okfwb.org) and check the calendar page.*