



Prayer for the New Year

Give us the kindness to hear with compassion,
to offer support,

loving comfort, and care.

Give us the courage to do what is needed,
the wisdom to choose

what is right and most fair.

Give us the vision to see what is possible.

Give us the faith

that will help pave the way

for a present that's hopeful,

a future that's peaceful--

give us the heart to bring joy to each day.

TheVision

THEVISION

Kesterson Resignation

After fifteen years serving as Director of Arkansas Student Ministries. (ASM), Rev. Brian Kesterson has announced his resignation, effective July 31, 2024.



In his role as State Youth Director, Brian has faithfully served the youth of our state. He has led in bringing major improvements to Camp Beaverfork that have placed the camp as a much desired camp location even outside Free Will Baptist circles. He has promoted and guided our youth in state and national competition. During his tenure, a number of our youth have answered the call to ministry. These are a small sample size of the growth of our state youth ministry during Brian's time in office.

While Brian will be greatly missed, the ASM Board is excited for God's plan for the future of the Free Will Baptist Student Ministry throughout the state.

The ASM Board will be accepting resumes for the position of ASM Director beginning February 1, 2024 and ending at 5:00 pm (central time) on February 29, 2024. Any resumes submitted before or after this timeline will not be accepted.

Resumes may be sent to:

email: asmresumes@outlook.com

or,

mail: PO Box 3, Plainview, AR 72857

For answers to any questions regarding resumes call Daniel Young (479.965.5060) or Loyd Miller (479.453.6121).

We thank Brian for his years of service to our state's youth, and pray God's blessings and success for Brian and Tonya in the next chapter of their ministry.



2024 Ministers' Wives' Retreat

February 8-10
Camp Paron



Guest Speaker - Rose Jones

With the Lord

Rev. Roy Williams, age 82, of Pleasant Valley, Arkansas, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday, October 29, 2023. He was born Friday, April 4, 1941, in Warren, Arkansas, the son of the late Rev. Lloyd Williams and Lena Adams Williams. He was a member of the Faith FWB Church.



Roy ministered for over 65 years, his longest pastorate being at the Corbin Ferry FWB Church in Lake Providence, Louisiana. He retired from the Hermitage Public School system after 16 years of service. He was also a tomato farmer, and had a passion for woodworking in his cabinet shop where he built handcrafted roll top desks, cedar hope chests, gun cabinets, and just about anything else anyone wanted him to build. He supplied handcrafted items at every opportunity he could to the Corbin Ferry FWB and East Side FWB church auctions.

Roy was preceded in death by his son, Michael Keith Williams; a grandson, Kyle White; and a brother, Cecil Williams.

He is survived by his wife, Phillis Doggett Williams, whom he married on July 14, 1967, at the Rose Hill FWB Church in Monticello, AR. She was the love of his life, and they enjoyed 56 years of marriage. He is also survived by a son, Rev. Anthony Williams (Laura) of Muldrow, OK; a daughter, Christy White (Kenny) of Warren, AR; a brother, Rev. Max Williams (Kathy) of Warren, AR; eight grandchildren: Crystal McAllister (Daniel), Ashley Wilmoth (Colton), Samantha Henderson, Tabitha Miles, Heather Henderson, Amanda White, Logan Williams, and Ashton Williams; 13 great-grandchildren, and a sister-in-law, Amy Williams of Warren, AR.

Hispanic Pastors & Leaders Retreat

On September 29-30, the Hispanic Association celebrated a pastors and leaders retreat at the New Horizon Hispanic Church in Springdale. 28 pastors and leaders from the different Free Will Baptist churches in the state met and fellowshiped. Bro. Steve Torrison (former IM missionary) was the guest speaker, sharing on the topic of resolving conflicts as a team.



Hispanic Church Dedication

On July 29th, Iglesia Cristiana Fe En Accion in Star City held their inauguration service for their new church building. The theme of the day was “Commit Your Way,” based on Psalm 37:5. Started in 2014 in the fellowship hall at First FWB, Star City, the church has grown to 36 in attendance.

Sitting on 4.5 acres, the new complex was funded by a loan from the ARFWB Mission Board, along with many, many donations from individuals, churches, associations, grants, and the Arkansas Women’s Ministry. Built mostly by volunteer labor, ARFWB Mission Director Travis Alexander oversaw the project. Along with a sanctuary, the church has a baptistery, changing rooms, a foyer, two classrooms, two restrooms, and a fellowship hall with a serving kitchen.

Pastor Micael Gonzalez says, “We are so excited to hold services in our new building. We look forward to generations of Hispanic and bilingual families learning about God and His word in the church. We want to say thank you to the many brothers and sisters in Christ who gave money, donated materials, cooked meals, came and helped build, and prayed for our church. We cannot begin to name them all, but we pray that God blesses you all for your time and sacrifices.”

The church asks that you pray that their current families put down roots in church to grow spiritually, that new families will come, and that God will provide to pay off the construction loan earlier than expected,

Dios los bendiga (God bless you)



Star City Christmas Boxes

First FWB Church in Star City completed 1,337 shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. They held their celebration prayer service on Sunday night, November 12th. The service included testimony videos, as well as testimonies from members who packed boxes, followed by a special prayer time. The service was a wonderful time knowing that, in a small part, the congregation was spreading the good news of great joy to children around the world.



Tentative State Calendar 2024

January

1 New Year's Day (State Office Closed)

February

8-10 Ministers Wives Retreat, Camp Paron

23-24 Kids Retreat, Camp Beaverfork

March

1-2 Teen Retreat, Camp Beaverfork

9 The Gathering (AWM)

10 Daylight Saving Time Begins

29 Good Friday (State Office Closed)

31 Easter Sunday

April

27 State CTS Expo

May

20-21 ARFWB State Meeting

27 Memorial Day (State Office Closed)

June

2-7 Teen Camp

9-14 Jr. High Camp

16-22 Kids Camp (split week)

July

4 Independence Day (State Office Closed)

21-24 NAFWB, Tampa, FL

August

16-17 Evangelism Conference (Missouri)

September

2 Labor Day (State Office Closed)

16-18 Ministers Retreat, DeGray Lake Resort

20-21 AWM Retreat, Camp Beaverfork

October

7-8 Theological Symposium, Welch College

November

28 Thanksgiving Day (State Office Closed)

December

25 Christmas Day (State Office Closed)

ACTS 1:8

Thank you for your continued and generous support of missions through our ACTS 1:8 program.

***October / November
Receipts***

\$78,796.32

Pulpit Vacancies

The following churches are searching for a pastor:

CenterPoint FWB Church, Vilonia
Chester FWB Church, Chester
Corbin Ferry FWB Church, Lake Providence
Daisy FWB Church, Kirby
First FWB Church, Booneville
First FWB Church, Greenwood
First FWB Church, Newport
Huntsville FWB Church, Huntsville
Oak Grove FWB Church, Eaton
Old Reyno FWB Church, Reyno

2024 ARFWB Nomination Schedule

Position	Term Ending	2023 Nominating Committee
<u>Executive Board</u> Jason Sullivan* Randall Ray	2027	Nominations are now being accepted by the 2023 Nominating Committee for officers, board members, and trustees to be elected at the May 20-21, 2024 Arkansas State Meeting.
<u>Mission Board</u> Tim Forman* Larry Little	2027	The schedule in the column to the left shows the positions to be filled.
<u>ASM Board</u> Andy Haskins* Daniel Young*	2027	Send your nominee(s) <u>no later than February 28, 2024</u> in order to be considered by the committee. Nominations from the floor may be made during the State Meeting.
<u>CEM Board</u> Jason Nichols* Greg Tucker	2027	Send nominee(s) to the Nominating Committee chairman. His contact information is,
<u>AWM Board</u> Melissa Haralson April Sullivan	2027	Andy Haskins Balews Chapel FWB Church 8839 Hwy 37 N Newport, AR 72112 pastorandy1984@gmail.com
<u>Randall University Trustee</u> Jason Nichols	2026	Again, February 28, 2024 is the <u>deadline</u> for nomination submissions.
<u>FWB Family Ministries Trustee</u> Johnny Miller	2027	2023 Nomination Committee
<u>State Officers</u>		Andy Haskins, Chair Kim Landers Larry Little Ronnie Garrett Doug Jones
<i>Moderator</i> Tim Landers		
<i>Assistant Moderator</i> Kevin Barnett		
<i>Clerk</i> Amy Fitzgerald		
<i>Assistant Clerk</i> Ben Campbell		

*ineligible for reelection

Arkansas Christian Education Board

Scholarship Program

Mission

The mission of the Scholarship Program is to promote Higher Education among Arkansas Free Will Baptist students – both in Graduate and Undergraduate programs and to promote increased involvement of Arkansas Free Will Baptist students in attendance of a Free Will Baptist College.

Undergraduate Eligibility Requirements

The student shall....

1. Be a member and maintain membership in good standing in an Arkansas Free Will Baptist Church.
2. Maintain a minimum of 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
3. Be enrolled in a Free Will Baptist College.
4. Be enrolled as a full time student maintaining a minimum of 12 hours per semester.

Graduate Eligibility Requirements

The student shall....

1. Be a member and maintain membership in good standing in an Arkansas Free Will Baptist Church.
2. Maintain a minimum of 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
3. Maintain a minimum of “part-time” status enrolled in at least 2 courses per semester or a combined total of 4 courses per year.
4. Be enrolled in an approved, accredited seminary.

Income Source & Plan

The Scholarship Fund shall be funded by the Christian Education Board with a specific amount established each year with the adoption of the annual budget.

Administration and Disbursement

1. The scholarship program will be administered by the Christian Education Board of Arkansas Free Will Baptists.
2. Disbursement of funds will be by the State Office in conjunction with the approval of the Christian Education Board.
3. Applications are due in the State Office no later than February 28th. Recipients will be announced at the State Meeting in May.
4. In addition to the application, the student must submit a reference letter, a testimony and statement of need.

Awards

1. The scholarship award will be payable to the educational institution.
2. Scholarship award will be for one (1) year and recipient must re-apply for each year of eligibility.
3. Scholarship will be limited to five (5) years of undergraduate work and three (3) years of graduate work.
4. Members of the Christian Education Board are not eligible to receive scholarships.
5. The recipient of the scholarship agrees to repay the funds which he/she receives from this scholarship if he/she fails to have an active ministry in a Free Will Baptist Church for five (5) years after completing his/her course of study.

“Educating and edifying Arkansas Free Will Baptists for the furtherance of the Gospel”

2024 Winter Retreats

Worship • Games • Fellowship

KIDS RETREAT
FEBRUARY 23-24

FRIDAY-SATURDAY

CAMP BEAVERFORK
150 BEAVERFORK RD

TEEN RETREAT
MARCH 1-2



Cooperative Receipts -- October & November 2023

Allen Chapel	2,880.00	Generations Church		Welcome Home	881.76
Arbor Grove	469.46	Grace Fellowship	85.00	West Ridge	
Ballews Chapel	2,314.00	Harmony, Russellville	543.64	Willoughby	42.00
Bethlehem	3,631.56	Harmony, Warren	4,422.36	Woodlawn	
Blackland Chapel		Hector	25.00	Yorktown	416.59
Calvary	1,514.00	Hillview	514.50		
Cavanaugh	21,891.60	Kenner Chapel			
Center Point, Vilonia	509.00	Lake Hills	1,919.81	Individual Giving:	
Centerville	325.00	Lodi	383.90	Cornerstone	2,937.00
Central, Central City	584.93	Macedonia, Mt. Pleasant			
Chapel Lane		Macedonia, New Edinburg	630.00		
Clifty Chapel		Maple			
Connect Church	1,373.15	Mt. Bethel	3,073.80		
Corbin Ferry	105.00	Mt. Harmony, Saffell	1,020.00		
Corley	273.50	Mt. Olivet		Total Receipts	\$114,522.42
Crossroads, Jacksonville	3,232.95	Mt. Pleasant, Hamburg	10.50		
Daisy	1,094.65	Mt. Vernon	400.00		
Danville	200.00	Mt. View, Charleston			
Eighty-Eight , Rudy		New Bethel	100.00		
Enterprise		New Sulphur	143.09		
Fairview, Warren		Oak Grove, Atkins	454.40		
Faith, Jonesboro	2,106.00	Oak Grove, Wilmar	114.58		
Faith, Warren	118.09	Old Reyno	1,118.00		
First Benton		Oliver Springs			
First Cave City	100.00	Ozark	704.19		
First Charleston	1,499.94	Phillips Chapel	1,666.66		
First Conway		Plainview	498.50		
First Crossett	700.00	Pleasant Valley	1,685.15		
First Dardanelle	223.00	Ranger	440.98		
First Fort Smith		Riverdale			
First Greenwood	2,317.59	Rolling Oaks	600.00		
First Hot Springs	135.00	Rose Hill	700.00		
First Jonesboro	2,500.00	Sharon	391.10		
First Malvern	600.30	Slaty Crossing	400.00		
First Mt. Home	1,626.00	South Heights	643.00		
First Mulberry		South Side			
First North Little Rock	3,488.87	Spring Hill	70.00		
First Pocahontas	2,364.15	St. Joe	1,166.90		
First Star City	3,557.68	Sutton	7,720.69		
First Tuckerman	2,219.20	Union Grove	4,266.32		
First Walnut Ridge	4,541.67	United	1,539.09		
First Warren	2,103.55	Upper Spring Creek	170.50		
Friendship	962.37	Weavers Chapel	1,061.20		

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