



Thanks be
to God...



for his
unspeakable gift!

TheVision

THEVISION

Home With the Lord



Kenny Fant

Kenneth “Kenny” A. Fant, age 66, made his heavenly flight on Friday, September 15, 2023, with his loving family by his side.

He was born on March 21, 1957, in Huntington, Indiana, the son of the late Cecil and Billie Ruth Fant.

After graduating from Dierks High School in 1975, Kenny married his high school sweetheart and the true love of his life, Brenda Kizer, on July 25, 1975. They shared 48 years of marriage filled with love and devotion.

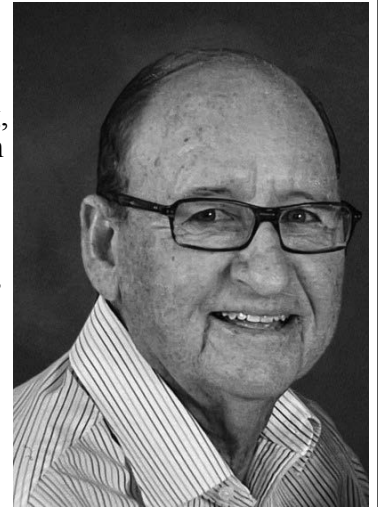
Professional, Kenny worked for Weyerhaeuser Forestry for 29 years. Additionally, he dedicated 13 years of service to the State Forestry. However, Kenny’s proudest work was as a minister. Ordained in 1992 to the ministry, he served as the Pastor for Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church for 21 years. His faith was an integral part of his life. He found great joy in serving his congregation, and touched countless lives through his spiritual guidance and caring nature as a pastor. His dedication to ministry leaves a lasting legacy within the community.

Kenny was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, who cherished moments spent with his family, especially with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Kenny lived a fulfilling life dedicated to his family and community.

Kenny had various interests and hobbies that brought him joy. He possessed exceptional craftsmanship skills and could often be found tinkering in his workshop making beautiful crafts. Kenny’s greatest joy was making deliveries for his special friend.

He is survived by his loving wife, Brenda Fant; two daughters and sons-in-law, Kindra and Avery Fatherree of New Hope, and Katrina and Jason Kendrick of Russellville; three grandchildren, Dylan (Sarah) Fatherree, Jaxon Fatherree, and Destini Fatherree; two great-grandchildren, Preslee Fatherree and Caroline Fatherree; two sisters, Kay and Lee L. Cook, and Kelly and Robbie Miller, all of Dierks; his mother-in-law, Edna Kizer of Dierks; his sister-in-law, Paula Hemund and her husband, Robbie, of Glenwood; his brother-in-law, Ronnie Kizer of Dierks; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members, and an entire community of family and friends who will forever hold Kenny’s love in their hearts.

Cecil Sanders



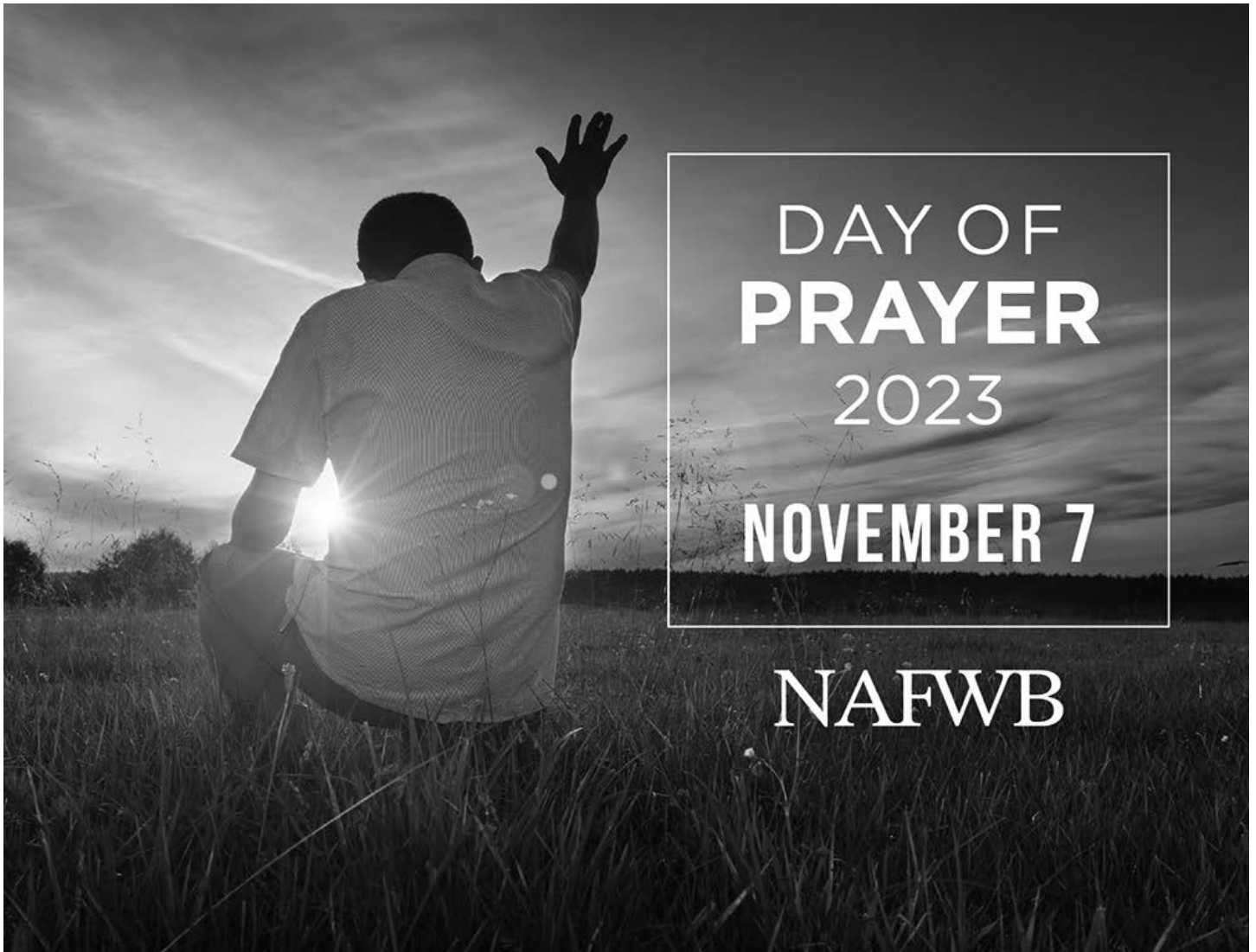
Rev. Dr. Cecil Sanders, age 89, of New Edinburg, Arkansas went to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at his home. He was born on April 26, 1934, in the Macedonia Community to the late Walter Ernest Sanders and Ruby Lee Chambers Sanders.

Rev. Dr. Cecil Sanders was a member of Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church in New Edinburg, Arkansas where he served the Lord faithfully and he was a former pastor there.

Cecil seemed to excel in two sports, baseball and basketball. He was privileged to play basketball on the New Edinburg High School team. In 1952 New Edinburg won both county and district championships. Cecil was also blessed academically. He earned his academic credits from nine different institutions, earning four different degrees and Arkansas teacher certification.

Dr. Sanders spent his life as a clergyman and educator. He taught for sixteen years at Warren High School and served as chairman for the department of Social Studies. He left Warren to become an instructor in religion at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College (now Randall University). Dr. Sanders was a published author. In 1990 he released a book titled *The Future: An Amillennial Perspective*. In 2017 he released another book titled *Eschatology: End-Time Views Compared*. The book was a product of Cecil’s retirement.

Other than his parents, he is preceded in death by his brothers, Leon Sanders, Curtis Sanders, and Wayne Sanders. He leaves behind to cherish his memories, his high school sweetheart and loving wife of 70 years, Geraldine McClellan Sanders of New Edinburg, Arkansas whom he married on December 20, 1952; his sons, Randy Sanders and spouse Debbie of New Edinburg, Arkansas and Ray Marvin Sanders and wife Michelle of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; his grandchildren, Rebecca Cowan and spouse Brad, Brandi Green and spouse Eric, Renee Robertson and spouse Preston and Marvin James Sanders and his great-grandchildren, Abby Mae, Emily Joy, Jarrett, Ella Grace and Penelopi Raylynn along with a host of extended family members and friends.



DAY OF
PRAYER
2023

NOVEMBER 7

NAFWB

Resources, including promotional graphics, a prayer guide, bulletin inserts, and more can be found at <https://nafwb.org/pray>.

2024 State Meeting

Write the dates down on your 2024 calendar ... the Arkansas State Meeting will be **May 20-21** at Camp Beaverfork.

Ministers' Wives' Retreat

February 8-10, 2024

Camp Paron - Arkansas



Guest Speaker: Rose Jones

Tentative State Calendar

2023

November

- 5 Day Light Saving Time *Ends*
- 19 North American Ministries Offering Sunday
- 23 Thanksgiving Day (State Office Closed)

December

- 4-5 NAFWB Leadership Conference, Nashville, TN
- 25 Christmas Day (State Office Closed)

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
- 31 Easter Sunday



RANDALL
UNIVERSITY
A FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE SINCE 1959

Fall Enrollment Update

For the fall 2023 semester a total of 293 students are enrolled at Randall University. This number represents a 13% increase from the 275 students that were enrolled last fall semester.

These numbers include 263 undergraduate degree-seeking students, 35 online students at the Moore campus, 39 students at the El Camino, California teaching site, 16 dual enrollment students, 92 residents, and 16 graduate students. Full-time equivalency (FTE) is at 242 students. Randall continues to have a significant international student ministry as 31 International Students comprising 10 countries are represented.

“We are currently enjoying our largest incoming freshmen class, since COVID-19,” said Dr. Brent Sykes, Academic Dean. He continued, “The energy on campus is palatable and our administrators, faculty, and staff have a renewed energy as a result of God’s provision of students. We are now focusing on retention by presenting the Gospel through mentoring and community-living so that we can impact and transform students’ academic experiences at Randall.”

Please continue to pray for the work that God is doing through Randall University. If you have a student that you would like to see come to Randall, please encourage them to visit ru.edu/prospective-students.

MISSION NORTH AMERICA OFFERING

November 19, 2023



NORTH AMERICAN
MINISTRIES

Willing
gather | give | go

PO Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011 // 877.767.7674 // fwbnam.com

Reclaiming Glory

hope for our churches

2023 Leadership Conference

Featuring Mark Clifton

December 4-5 | Nashville, TN

nafwb.org/leader

The 2023 Leadership Conference features Mark Clifton as keynote speaker. Breakout sessions include reaching and keeping college students, knowing and reaching your community, reaching the hard to reach, and creating healthy church systems. Find a schedule, registration, and hotel reservation information at <https://nafwb.org/leader>.

ACTS 1:8

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

***August / September
Receipts***

\$54,019.84

Pulpit Vacancies

The following churches are searching for a pastor:

- Chester FWB Church, Chester
- Corbin Ferry FWB Church, Lake Providence
- First FWB Church, Booneville
- First FWB Church, Fayetteville
- First FWB Church, Newport
- Hope FWB Fellowship, Siloam Springs
- Oak Grove FWB Church, Eaton
- Old Reyno FWB Church, Reyno

2023 State Minister's Retreat

Former NAFWB Executive Secretary, Keith Burden, was this year's speaker at the annual Minister's Retreat, held at the Comfort Suites in Hot Springs. Brother Keith shared during four sessions, encouraging the 34 attendees in our spiritual walk and ministry. Brother Johnny Miller led the music in each session. Following free time on Tuesday afternoon, the CEM Board gifted the pastors with a barbecue dinner, catered by a local restaurant.

The 2024 retreat is scheduled for September 16-18 at DeGray Lake Resort State Park. Mark your calendar for this special time.



2023 Arkansas Women's Ministry Retreat

Excitement was in the air as 170 women gathered at Camp Beaverfork, September 15-16, for the annual Arkansas FWB Women's Ministry Retreat. "Girl Friends" was the theme taken from Proverbs 17:17. The banquet style event was decorated in beautiful fall colors provided by women from the Fellowship District.

The retreat began with an encouraging video from Ruth McDonald, WNAC Executive Director. She thanked the ladies for all their support, and challenged them to continue in the work.

Women from Zion Hope #2 association provided entertainment during Fun Time. The restaurant setting was fitting as they sat around a table encouraging each other and learning from each other's experiences. After an icebreaker, the women began singing praises to the Lord as Marissa Allen and Debbie Stripling led the worship music.

Larissa Coleman was the speaker for the weekend. She referenced passages from the book of Ruth, sharing highlights of their friendship. She stated that faith, mentorship, and influence can change the course of one's life. She also reminded us that friends are crucial for our spiritual walk, friendship can pierce through religious and cultural barriers, and friendships are crucial to win others to Christ.

Friday evening, Jana Ray led the Young Women Active for Christ in a craft decorating wooden picture frames. The girls had a wonderful time wrapping and gluing decorations onto their frames.

Saturday morning began with coffee, pastries, and fellowship. Four missionaries shared information about their ministries during the Missionary Time, Heather Gonzalez of Faith in Action Church in Star City; Karen Delgado and Karah Delgado, both going to Spain; and a video from Callie Stox, going to Japan. After worship and special music from Marissa Allen, Larissa shared more spiritual and practical highlights from the book of Ruth.

The 2023 retreat was an amazing event. We are so thankful for everyone who attended. Plans are underway for the 2024 AWM retreat!



2023 Arkansas Women's Ministry Retreat (continued)



**Scholarship Application
Christian Education Board**

Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists

State Office Use Only

Date Received: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

Date of Birth _____

Information of Arkansas Church where you are a member:

Church Name _____

Church Address _____

Church City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Pastor's Name _____

Date graduated from High School _____

Name of High School _____

Name of College you will be attending _____

Semester(s) attending _____ Fall, _____ Spring, _____ Summer

Are you pursuing an Undergraduate degree? _____

If yes, what degree? _____

Are you pursuing a Graduate level degree? _____

If yes, what degree? _____

Last semester grade point average (high school or college) _____

You will be enrolling as a: (circle one) Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
Graduate Student

Please list two references:

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Phone (_____) _____

Agreement

I agree to repay the funds that I receive from the Arkansas Free Will Baptist Christian Education Scholarship if I fail to be active in a Free Will Baptist church for five years after completing my course of study. I am enrolling in a Free Will Baptist College (or approved Seminary if Graduate level) and understand the conditions for receiving scholarship funds and agree to those conditions.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

This application, along with a **reference letter, testimony, and statement of need** must be received in the State Office by no later than February 28th. **NOTE: IF YOU ARE REAPPLYING YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SUPPLY THE TESTIMONY OR STATEMENT OF NEED DOCUMENTS. YOU DO NEED THE REFERENCE LETTER.**

Mail applications to:

Arkansas Free Will Baptists, PO Box 2110, Conway, AR 72033

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

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

Remember Our ACTS 1:8 Missionaries this Christmas Season:

Doug & Miriam Bishop & children (Japan)
Jose & Suhey Correa (Puerto Rico)
Daniel & Shelby Culwell & children (Japan)
Shane & Joy Davison (Spain)
Keren Delgado (Spain)
Daniel & Karah Delgado (Spain)
Anthony & Lea Edgmon (Spain)
Hannah Goucher (Japan)
Heath & Joni Hubbard & children (Japan)
Daniel & Katie Speer & children (Japan)
Len & Amy Scott (Jamaica)
Abby Walker (Japan)



start
leadership challenge

APPLICATIONS OPEN
NOVEMBER 1, 2023

www.arstudentmin.org

First FWB Church, Star City -- Blessings

God is truly blessing the congregation at First Free Will Baptist in Star City. After almost two years of services in their Family Life Center, on August 6, 2023, the congregation celebrated with the Dedication of their new Sanctuary. The congregation met outside the sanctuary for a group photo to commemorate this occasion. Present was Bro. David and Debe Taylor, Bro. Travis and Shari Alexander, and National Hispanic Director Bro. Rick Bowling—friends who came to help us celebrate.

Pastor Tim Forman read scripture and encouraged the people to continue to support and bind together to grow the church. A ribbon cutting followed as the congregation cheered with excitement. We continued inside with several speakers sharing their testimonies that have played a major part in the building of the sanctuary. Worship service began with the choir singing “This is God’s House” which truly portrayed the hearts of the members of our church. This is God’s House, and we pray for God to use it to bring the lost and hurting inside to hear the wonderful, good news of Jesus Christ.

We later met in the Family Life Center for a wonderful meal prepared by the ladies of the church and at 1 pm we met back in the new sanctuary for our first baptisms in the new church. Two young men and eight young ladies were baptized!! God is blessing and we can’t wait to see how He will use the congregation and this new sanctuary to grow His church. Thank you to all you have prayed and sent monetary donations to help us build this beautiful building for the glory of our Lord and Savior.



Cooperative Receipts -- August & September 2023

Allen Chapel	2,880.00	Generations Church		Welcome Home	352.96
Arbor Grove	553.90	Grace Fellowship	85.00	West Ridge	
Ballews Chapel		Harmony, Russellville		Willoughby	
Bethlehem	3,544.39	Harmony, Warren		Wilson	
Blackland Chapel	1,514.57	Hector		Woodlawn	1,395.00
Calvary	1,574.00	Hillview		Yorktown	
Cavanaugh	21,315.63	Kenner Chapel			
Center Point, Vilonia	1,312.55	Lake Hills	1,341.03	Individual Giving:	
Centerville	325.00	Lodi	376.13	Cornerstone	2,400.00
Central, Central City	757.29	Macedonia, Mt. Pleasant		Glenwood	208.00
Chapel Lane		Macedonia, New Edinburg			
Clifty Chapel		Maple			
Connect Church	1,503.00	Mt. Bethel	3,270.60		
Corbin Ferry		Mt. Harmony, Saffell	2,493.00		
Corley	232.00	Mt. Olivet		Total Receipts	\$94,228.96
Crossroads, Jacksonville	1,385.48	Mt. Pleasant, Hamburg			
Daisy	1,250.39	Mt. Vernon	400.00		
Danville	225.00	Mt. View, Charleston			
Eighty-Eight , Rudy		New Bethel	200.00		
Enterprise		New Sulphur	135.10		
Fairview, Warren		Oak Grove, Atkins	454.40		
Faith, Jonesboro	2,660.00	Oak Grove, Wilmar			
Faith, Warren		Old Reyno	2,225.00		
First Benton		Oliver Springs			
First Cave City	150.00	Ozark	775.01		
First Charleston	1,499.94	Phillips Chapel	1,666.66		
First Conway	60.75	Plainview	372.11		
First Crossett		Pleasant Valley			
First Dardanelle	118.00	Ranger	633.00		
First Fort Smith		Riverdale			
First Greenwood	2,735.83	Rolling Oaks	1,200.00		
First Hot Springs	90.00	Rose Hill			
First Jonesboro		Sharon	956.40		
First Malvern		Slaty Crossing	400.00		
First Mt. Home		South Heights	783.00		
First Mulberry		South Side			
First North Little Rock	1,835.21	Spring Hill			
First Pocahontas	2,332.58	St. Joe	1,035.40		
First Star City		Sutton	6,771.93		
First Tuckerman	2,061.30	Union Grove	4,308.72		
First Walnut Ridge	4,362.21	United	1,524.65		
First Warren		Upper Spring Creek	207.00		
Friendship	914.94	Weavers Chapel	1,064.90		

Arkansas
Free Will Baptists
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Conway, AR 72033
(501) 329-8193

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Merry Christmas

from your State Personnel:

*Travis Alexander ... Diana Caswell ... Rolando Delgado ...
Brian Kesterson ... and David Taylor*

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david@arfwb.org

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The editor reserves the right to accept or reject any articles submitted for publication. All printed articles represent the views of the authors and do not reflect the policy or position of Arkansas Free Will Baptists.