



# TheVision

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# Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists

Arkansas Free Will Baptists will gather for our 126th State Meeting on May 22-23 at Camp Beaverfork to worship, fellowship, and conduct the Lord's business. This year's theme is *"Heaven"--When We All Get to Heaven*, taken from John 14:1-6. Speakers for the meeting will be,

Rev. Tim Forman (First FWB, Star City), *Heaven: A Prepared Place*.

Rev. Daniel Young (Mt. Bethel FWB), *Heaven: A Prepared Pathway*.

Rev. Tim Campbell (First FWB, Walnut Ridge), *Heaven: A Prepared People*.

Michael Brashears will open the Monday night session (6:45pm) with music, and will lead the music in each session.

Moderator Tim Landers is prepared to lead the business, as each of the State's five ministries will share ministry reports and budget proposals. We look forward to hearing from many of our national agencies, as well. The nomination schedule can be found on page five. Financial information can be previewed on the State website ([www.arfwb.org/state-meeting-2023](http://www.arfwb.org/state-meeting-2023)). The Digest of Reports will be distributed to all who register.

As in past years, FWB departments, agencies, and various ministries will have representatives at display tables. This is a wonderful time for you to learn more about the broader scope of FWB ministry in God's kingdom. You might also find a new outreach opportunity for your church.

## State Meeting Hotel Information

**Hotels:** ask for Arkansas Free Will Baptist rate. Cut off date: May 1, 2023. Both offer free breakfast buffet. Rates are as follows:

|                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Fairfield Inn &amp; Suites</b> | \$99 plus tax -- double or king |
| 2260 Sanders Road                 |                                 |
| Conway, AR 72032                  | 501.505.8034                    |

|                    |                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Hampton Inn</b> | \$99 plus tax --double or king |
| 2400 Sanders Road  |                                |
| Conway, AR 72032   | 501.327.0200                   |

## ASM Announcement

The Arkansas Student Ministries Board would like to announce a website page launch. Stay informed with news about what's taking place with ARFWB youth!



**NAFWB  
registration  
information  
can be found on  
page 10**

## 2023 Minister's Retreat

September 18-20, 2023 is the annual Arkansas Minister's Retreat. It will take place again this year in Hot Springs at the Comfort Suites. Keith Burden, former NAFWB Executive Secretary, is this year's speaker. This year, on Tuesday evening, a free barbecue meal (pulled pork and smoked chicken) is being provided to all attendees by the Christian Education Ministry Board.

Brochures with registration and hotel information will be available at the State Meeting, May 22-23.

Mark your calendar and plan on being at this year's retreat.

## Tentative State Calendar 2023

### *May*

**22-23** ARFWB State Meeting, Camp  
Beaverfork

**28** State Office Closed, Memorial Day

### *June*

**4-9** Teen Camp

**11-16** Jr. High Camp

**18-24** Kid's Camp (split week)

### *July*

**4** State Office Closed, Independence Day

**16-19** NAFWB Convention, Raleigh, NC

### *September*

**4** State Office Closed, Labor Day

**15-16** AWM Retreat, Camp Beaverfork

**18-20** Minister's Retreat, Hot Springs

### *November*

**23** State Office Closed, Thanksgiving Day

### *December*

**4-5** NAFWB Leadership Conference, Nashville,  
TN

**25** State Office Closed, Christmas Day

## ACTS 1:8

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

### *February - March Receipts*

**\$65,327.87**

## Pulpit Vacancies

The following churches are searching for a  
pastor:

Chester FWB Church, Chester  
Corbin Ferry FWB Church, Lake Providence  
First FWB Church, Fayetteville  
First FWB Church, Jonesboro  
First FWB Church, Monticello  
First FWB Church, Newport  
Hope FWB Fellowship, Siloam Springs  
Oak Grove FWB Church, Eaton  
Old Reyno FWB Church, Reyno  
Macedonia FWB Church, New Edinburg

**2023**

**ARFWB Nominations**

**For terms ending in 2026:**

Executive Board    Josh Moss

Will Harmon

Mission Board    Joe Ray Short

Chuck Fitzgerald

ASM Board        Matthew Barnett

Trent Bradley

CEM Board        Jonathan McEntire

Nick Coleman

AWM Board        Lisa Bowden

Janie Campbell

**For term ending in 2025:**

Randall University Trustee:    Jason Nichols

**State Officers for 2023-24:**

Moderator            Tim Landers

Assistant Moderator    Kevin Barnett

Clerk                  Amy Fitzgerald

Assistant Clerk        Ben Campbell

## Hispanic Ministries Training

On Saturday morning, every other week, at the Union Grove FWB Church, Rolando Delgado leads a leadership training for pastors and lay leadership in our Hispanic churches. The program takes three years to complete--one year for each level. Each level has five subjects. The first level is basics. The second is intermediate. The third level is advanced. The class is currently studying Biblical Hermeneutics.

Ten students are currently enrolled, from four different churches.

It has also been reported that one pastor, after completing the course study, has begun leading his church leadership through the same program.



# 2023 SUMMER CAMP!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ENCOUNTER JUNE 4-9

IGNITE JUNE 11-16

SUBMERGE #1 JUNE 18-21

SUBMERGE #2 JUNE 21-24

@ARKANSASSTUDENTMINISTRIES

## Survivor Sisterhood

Using Proverbs 31:25 as our passage, the theme for the 2023 Ministers' Wives' Retreat was "Survivor." How exciting to have 30 pastors' wives come together for a weekend of fellowship and worship. In that number were four first timers, who are already planning to come next year. Ranging in age from 25 to 86, it was exciting to see everyone visiting, laughing and sometimes crying together.

On Thursday evening, guest speaker Ruth McDonald, WNAC Executive Director, shared "Surviving the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly." She talked about authenticity and being able to honestly face all that ministry involves for us as pastors' wives. Our lives and ministries include both "yay" and "yuck." It is quite all right to feel both. After the evening session, the ladies were able to show their creativity as they made wooden door hangers.

When twenty-four pastors' wives descended on Conway shopping centers on Friday, the city had no idea what hit 'em! And it did get a little loud in the restaurant with all of us talking at once. However, we are pretty sure they were glad we boosted the town's economy!

"Surviving Stress" was the topic on Friday evening. Focusing on defining and identifying the stresses of ministry, Ruth shared ways to manage stress and prevent burnout. With a simple handout, Ruth encouraged us to score ourselves on the stress scale.

Before Friday night's bedtime (if there is such a thing at retreat) we divided into four teams and had some "friendly" competition with Round the Table, Ping Pong Bounce, Shoot Out the Candle, and Obscure Bible Trivia. By the way, we did discover a couple of sharpshooters in our midst. We won't name names!

Saturday dawned cold and wet, but we did not let that dampen our enthusiasm to hear Ruth share two more sessions. Session #3 was "Surviving Transition." During this time, we talked about changes, moves, and life milestones that we all face. Using the process of being "transplanted," Ruth encouraged us each to discover in which stage we were during this point in our ministries – the rooted stage, pulling up stage, rootless stage, surface stage, or newly rooted stage.

In the final session, Ruth shared very practical ways for "Surviving the Desert/Dry Times." She talked about the importance of keeping our spirits nourished and thriving. Ruth admonished us to make sure our souls remain healthy so that we might be able to minister from the overflow.

There is a special bond between ministers' wives. Here we share our joys and sorrows. Here we pray together. Here we find encouragement to continue in ministry. Why don't you plan to join us next year: February 8-10 at Camp Paron?





# Arkansas Women's Ministry

On Saturday, March 11th, the Arkansas Women's Ministry hosted "The Gathering" at Camp Beaverfork. April and Madison Sullivan led the women in songs of worship and praise. The theme "I Can: (Philippians 4:13) was developed by Lisa Bowden, Melissa Haralson, Sheila Harris, and Janie Campbell. Ninety-five ladies attended this initial event.

Lisa spoke on the topic of Man, sharing things a man cannot do without Christ, and things a man can do through Christ. Melissa developed the thought of God, pointing out that God cannot be anything other than what He is. Sheila spoke on Sin. She stated that sin cannot please God, and only brings death, temptation, and enslavement to man. Janie wrapped up the theme sharing that God is perfect, our Savior, all-powerful, and our protector. Meanwhile, man is imperfect and sinful, and that sin affects our lives daily. Her concluding quote was, "When we depend on prayer, we get what God can do, because we know He can do exceedingly abundantly above what any of us ask or think--that is what God can do" (A.C. Dickson).

We were so blessed to have Heather Gonzalez (Faith in Action Church, Star City), Keren Delgado (IM missionary to Spain), and Cindy Cunningham (Village of Hope, Uganda) each share about their respective ministries.

Kim Landers led activity time with some healthy competition and laughter with the game, "Minute to Win It." She ended the fun time with a whole group ice-breaker passing candy left or right depending on the answer to the question read. The Faith in Action Church brought Mexican sweet bread to go with coffee and other snacks during break time. It was their way of saying "thanks" to the women for all their support in their church plant.

A special thanks to all who brought canned food for the Arkansas Food Bank, the 2023 AWM special project. And a big thanks to Rachel Haralson for running the sound booth.







# 2023 Winter Retreats

## Kids Retreat

Speaker: Josh Aufdengarten  
Worship: Oak Grove Praise Team  
162 in attendance

## Teen Retreat

Speakers: ASM Board Members  
Worship: John Cross & friends  
181 in attendance



# Pre-Registration

2023 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

NAFWB | V3 | Raleigh, North Carolina | July 16-19

One Form Per Person | **Register Online: [www.nafwb.org](http://www.nafwb.org)** | Name Badges Required for All Convention Events

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Country (if outside USA) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Church You Attend \_\_\_\_\_ Church City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

## National Association (All voting delegates must be members in good standing of a FWB church.)

### Voting Delegates

- ☐ National Board/Commission Member
- ☐ Ordained Minister
- ☐ Ordained Deacon
- ☐ State Delegate (Authorization Required)
- ☐ Local Church Delegate (Delegate Card Required)

### Non-Voting

- ☐ Attendee (All Ages, Including Infants and Toddlers)

### Tickets

WNAC Laughter and Latté..... Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Monday, July 17, 8:30 p.m. (\$30 onsite; limited quantity available)

Welch Alumni & Friends Luncheon..... Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$45 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday, July 19, noon (\$55 onsite; no tickets will be sold between  
pre-registration closing and convention; limited availability onsite)

**National Association Info: 877-767-7659 | [www.nafwb.org](http://www.nafwb.org)**

## Vertical Three Conference

### Preschool

- ☐ Ages 3-5, Attending Preschool Worship - \$25 (\$35 onsite)
- ☐ Ages 0-5, Not Attending Preschool Worship - NO FEE

### Students: \$25

Any student or competitor\* attending any CTS competition or event  
MUST pay \$25 V3 conference fee (\$35 onsite).

- ☐ Grades K-3
- ☐ Grades 4-6
- ☐ Grades 7-12

\*Competitors must pay this V3 conference fee **in addition to**  
CTS competition fees already paid.

### College Age | Adults: \$20

Adults attending any competition or event MUST pay \$20.

- ☐ Adult Attendee

V3 Event: Fun With Forrest .....Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, July 18, 9:00 pm (\$15 onsite/at the door)

**V3 Information: 800-877-7030 | [www.verticalthree.com](http://www.verticalthree.com)**

**Register April 3 - June 16 | No Refunds After June 16**

### Payment Options:

- + Check (Payable to FWB Convention)
- + Visa, Discover, or MasterCard only (both debit and credit cards accepted)

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**NAFWB Questions: 877-767-7659 | [convention@nafwb.org](mailto:convention@nafwb.org)**

### Return to:

**Convention Registration**

PO Box 5002

Antioch, TN 37011 / FAX: 615-731-0771

AS FOR  
you

2023  
NATIONAL  
CONVENTION

Office Use Only: Date \_\_\_\_\_ CK# \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_

## Cooperative Receipts -- February & March 2023

|                          |           |                         |          |                    |              |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------|
| Allen Chapel             | 4,160.00  | Generations Church      |          | West Ridge         |              |
| Arbor Grove              | 618.88    | Grace Fellowship        | 85.00    | Willoughby         | 42.00        |
| Ballews Chapel           |           | Harmony, Russellville   | 1,089.00 | Wilson             | 104.00       |
| Bethlehem                | 3,285.46  | Harmony, Warren         | 3,541.97 | Woodlawn           | 1,099.00     |
| Blackland Chapel         |           | Hector                  | 25.00    | Yorktown           | 500.87       |
| Calvary                  | 1,318.00  | Hillview                | 1,056.30 |                    |              |
| Cavanaugh                | 25,146.78 | Kenner Chapel           |          |                    |              |
| Center Point, Vilonia    | 1,377.00  | Lake Hills              | 1,673.82 | Individual Giving: |              |
| Centerville              | 275.00    | Lodi                    | 332.82   | Cornerstone        | 2,388.00     |
| Central, Central City    | 590.13    | Macedonia, Mt. Pleasant |          |                    |              |
| Chapel Lane              | 213.08    | Macedonia, New Edinburg | 630.00   |                    |              |
| Clifty Chapel            | 370.80    | Maple                   |          |                    |              |
| Connect Church           | 1,582.21  | Mt. Bethel              | 3,582.40 |                    |              |
| Corbin Ferry             |           | Mt. Harmony, Saffell    |          |                    |              |
| Corley                   | 357.00    | Mt. Olivet              |          | Total Receipts     | \$116,738.62 |
| Crossroads, Jacksonville | 1,873.65  | Mt. Pleasant, Hamburg   | 10.50    |                    |              |
| Daisy                    | 2,390.84  | Mt. Vernon              | 200.00   |                    |              |
| Danville                 | 200.00    | Mt. View, Charleston    |          |                    |              |
| Eighty-Eight , Rudy      |           | New Bethel              | 200.00   |                    |              |
| Enterprise               |           | New Sulphur             | 228.59   |                    |              |
| Fairview, Warren         | 70.00     | Oak Grove, Atkins       | 390.40   |                    |              |
| Faith, Jonesboro         | 2,195.00  | Oak Grove, Wilmar       | 199.68   |                    |              |
| Faith, Warren            | 64.33     | Old Reyno               | 1,277.00 |                    |              |
| First Benton             |           | Oliver Springs          |          |                    |              |
| First Cave City          | 100.00    | Ozark                   | 674.75   |                    |              |
| First Charleston         | 1,499.95  | Phillips Chapel         | 1,666.66 |                    |              |
| First Conway             | 395.55    | Plainview               | 440.15   |                    |              |
| First Crossett           | 700.00    | Pleasant Valley         | 1,723.75 |                    |              |
| First Dardanelle         | 95.00     | Ranger                  | 437.65   |                    |              |
| First Dover              |           | Riverdale               |          |                    |              |
| First Fort Smith         |           | Rolling Oaks            | 1,200.00 |                    |              |
| First Greenwood          | 2,624.27  | Rose Hill               | 700.00   |                    |              |
| First Hot Springs        | 90.00     | Sharon                  | 814.50   |                    |              |
| First Jonesboro          | 5,000.00  | Slaty Crossing          | 400.00   |                    |              |
| First Malvern            |           | South Heights           | 638.00   |                    |              |
| First Mt. Home           | 948.66    | South Side              |          |                    |              |
| First Mulberry           |           | Spring Hill             | 140.00   |                    |              |
| First North Little Rock  | 771.44    | St. Joe                 | 1,882.92 |                    |              |
| First Pocahontas         | 2,505.30  | Sutton                  | 6,649.85 |                    |              |
| First Star City          | 3,453.10  | Union Grove             | 3,533.55 |                    |              |
| First Tuckerman          | 1,883.60  | United                  | 1,474.66 |                    |              |
| First Walnut Ridge       | 4,709.53  | Upper Spring Creek      | 150.00   |                    |              |
| First Warren             | 2217.50   | Weavers Chapel          | 996.00   |                    |              |
| Friendship               | 900.49    | Welcome Home            | 577.28   |                    |              |

Arkansas  
Free Will Baptists  
PO Box 2110  
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**BOARD OF RETIREMENT INTRODUCES  
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|   | <small>NEW!<br/>Set Asset Allocation</small>  |   | <small>NEW!<br/>Set Asset Allocation</small>   | <small>NEW!<br/>Custom Asset Allocation</small>                                       |

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### Publication Data

The VISION is published 6 times yearly by the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc. Executive Director, David Taylor, is the editor. Subscription rates are \$6.00 per subscription per year. The editor's email contact information is:

**david@arfwb.org**

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.

### Submission Deadlines:

Jan-Feb Issue ... December 5th.  
Mar-Apr Issue ... February 5th.  
May-June Issue ... April 5th.  
July-Aug Issue ... June 5th.  
Sept-Oct Issue ... August 5th.  
Nov-Dec Issue ... October 5th.