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# 2021 FREE WILL BAPTIST LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

DECEMBER 6-7
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

# MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

3:00 pm Registration Open Ballroom Foyer

5:30 Supper Salon E-H

7:00 Evening Session\* Cumberland Ballroom

Speaker: Dr. Thom S. Rainer

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:30 am Breakfast Salon E-H

9:00 Seminar Session One

Thoughts for the Next Generation Salon A of Free Will Baptist Leaders

Speaker: Derek Altom

Lessons Learned From Revitalization Cumberland Ballroom

Speaker: Shiloh Hackett

What Every National Association Salon B

Delegate Needs to Know /

Lo que todo Delegado de la Convención

Nacional Necesita Saber Speaker/Orador: Tim York

10:00 Seminar Session Two

Letting Go: Developing a Sending Salon A

Culture in Your Local Church Speaker: Josh Baer

Discipleship in Church Revitalization Cumberland Ballroom

Speaker: Terry Pierce

Being and Participating: Two Imperatives Salon B

for Hispanic Free Will Baptist Leaders / Ser y Participar: Dos Imperativos para los

Líderes Bautistas Libres Hispanos Speaker/Orador: Jose Rodriguez

10:50 Refreshment Break Ballroom Foyer

LEADERSHIP 4 CONFERENCE

11:10 Seminar Session Three

Church Revitalization and

Worldview Thinking

Speaker: Matthew S. Bracey

Tips for Effective Stewardship Preaching

Speaker: Will Harmon

Curso Liderazgo Importa: Un Vistazo

a la Delegación

Oradora: Kristi Johnson

12:00 pm Lunch Salon E-H

1:30 Seminar Session Four

How to Avoid a Pastoral Collapse /

Como Evitar Un Colapso Pastoral Speaker/Orador: Rufo Gomez

Leadership Matters Course: A Glimpse Salon A

at Delegation

Speaker: Kristi Johnson

Getting Outside of Your Ministry Bubble Cumberland Ballroom

Salon A

Salon B

Salon B

Cumberland Ballroom

Speaker: Chris Truett

2:30 Seminar Session Five

Panel: What Does "Husband of One Wife" Cumberland Ballroom

Really Mean?

Disaster Response Teams: Where Do Salon A

You Fit?

Speakers: Master's Men DRT Coordinators

Hispanic Ministry as a Tool for Salon B

Revitalization /

El Ministerio Hispano Como Una Herramienta en la Revitalización de

Una Iglesia

Speaker/Orador: Francisco Vasquez

5:30 Dinner Salon E-H

7:00 Evening Session\* Cumberland Ballroom

Speaker: Dr. Thom S. Rainer

### \*Q&A Panels After Evening Sessions:

Monday: Q&A With Thom S. Rainer

Tuesday: Facing the Pastoral Shortage and the Need for Revitalized Churches

# CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## Thom S. Rainer

Dr. Thom Rainer is the founder and CEO of Church Answers, an online community and resource for church leaders. Prior to founding Church Answers, Rainer served as president and CEO of LifeWay Christian Resources. Before going to LifeWay, he served at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for twelve years where he was the founding dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism. He is a 1977 graduate of the University of Alabama and earned his Master of Divinity and Ph.D. degrees from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.



In addition to speaking in hundreds of venues over the past 20 years, Rainer led Rainer Group, a church and denominational consulting firm, from 1990 to 2005. The firm provided church health insights to over 500 churches and other organizations over that period.

Rainer and his wife, Nellie Jo, have three grown sons: Sam, Art, and Jess, who are married to Erin, Sarah, and Rachel respectively. The Rainers have ten grandchildren: Canon, Maggie, Nathaniel, Will (with the Lord), Harper, Bren, Joshua, Collins, Joel, and James.

Rainer has authored more than two dozen books, including I Am a Church Member, Breakout Churches, Autopsy of a Deceased Church, Who Moved My Pulpit?, and Anatomy of a Revived Church.

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# KEYNOTE ONE **MONDAY EVENING**

**CUMBERLAND BALLROOM Speaker: Thom S. Rainer** 

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# KEYNOTE TWO TUESDAY EVENING

**CUMBERLAND BALLROOM Speaker: Thom S. Rainer** 

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LEADERSHIP 10 CONFERENCE




# A REALITY CHECK: WHAT THE DATA SAYS

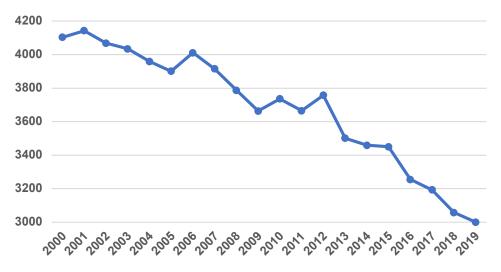
## By Eddie Moody

### Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds (Proverbs 27:23).

Each year, churches in the National Association of Free Will Baptists submit a form reporting vital statistics. This information was once recorded in the Free Will Baptist *Yearbook*, but now, the previous year's information is found in the *Digest of Reports*.

Proverbs 27:23 teaches us to look at our situation and consider it closely. This article examines the data by comparing 2000 and 2019 reports as a way of "knowing the state of our flocks."

## **Ordained Ministers**



The graph above demonstrates a sharp, sustained slide in the number of **ordained ministers** over time. In 2019, churches reported 27% fewer ordained ministers than in 2000. We find a similar decline in licensed ministers, with 32% fewer licensed ministers in 2019 than 2000. No doubt this decline has contributed to the current problem of 187 churches without pastors.

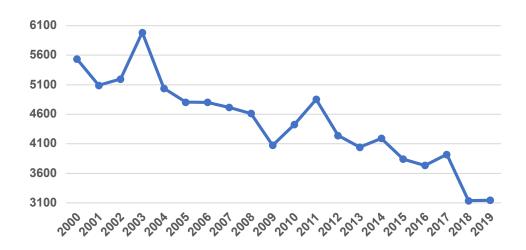
A similar decline is found after examining the data on reported **deacons** (page 13). In 2019, churches reported 43% fewer deacons than reported in 2000, though we are 47% lower when compared to 2003. In 2019, we had the lowest number of reported deacons at any point since 1955.

We also have experienced significant losses in the areas of **Sunday School enrollment** (page 13). It should be noted this decline in Sunday School enrollment has been taking place since 1975. We have experienced a 58% reduction in Sunday School enrollment since 2000.

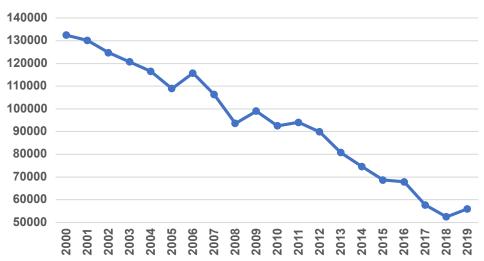
We have fewer churches today than in 2000, so enrollment per church may provide a better comparison. We dropped from an average enrollment of 55.62 people per church in 2000 to 27.5 enrollees in 2019.

LEADERSHIP 12 CONFERENCE

### **Deacons**







However, the most significant drop came in the area of **baptisms** (page 14). We saw a 63% reduction in baptisms since 2000. On a per-church comparison, we have dropped from 3.63 baptisms per church in 2000 to 1.64 baptisms per church in 2019.

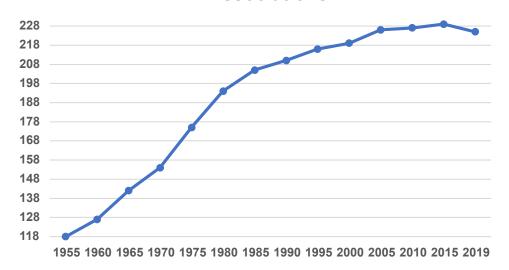
The only area where the denomination has experienced numerical growth is in associations. We have grown from 118 associations in 1955 (219 in 2000) to 225 in 2019 (page 14). However, while associations have increased, actual membership has decreased. **More associations have not resulted in more members and churches. Currently, we have the lowest number of churches since 1955** (page 14).

There is no escaping the fact that this data is very discouraging. However, we should note that our data is consistent with what other denominations are experiencing. In fact, our findings mirror those from the Southern Baptist Convention. On every measure, we match the SBC. Perhaps the only difference is that our decline has been more gradual. For example, Sunday School enrollment has been declining since 1975, and the number of member churches have been declining since 1985.

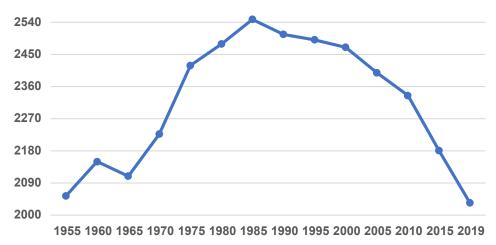
# **Baptisms**



## **Associations**



# Churches



LEADERSHIP **14** CONFERENCE

## **Analysis**

The reason to know the state of one's flock is so critical adjustments can be made that will lead to healthier flocks. What do we need to do after examining this data?

**Pray.** Pray for and look for laborers. Pray that God will call more servants (ordained and otherwise) who will actively serve in our churches. Ask God to help our congregations identify and utilize their spiritual gifts for the building of the Kingdom.

Stress the Importance of Church Health. Without a doubt, we have a church health problem. We would do well to invest time, energy, and resources into helping pastors and churches become healthier. In other words, church health must become a priority. We can do this by creating an environment where we encourage pastors and churches to use the tools available to them. For example, encourage pastors and churches to take advantage of the Refresh resources by attending a boot camp or utilizing a Rekindle coach. Encourage churches without a pastor to utilize the church questionnaire. Take advantage of our Sunday School and small group curriculum and the resources provided by Welch and our other colleges. It doesn't matter how good our tools are if we do not use them.

**Embrace 3 for 30: Reach, Train, Give.** As a denomination, we are focused on **reaching** people with the gospel throughout this decade. If we truly embrace this initiative, our churches will average more than 1.64 baptisms per year. Similarly, if we become serious about **training**, we will see higher enrollment in Sunday School. One could hypothesize that the training deficit has contributed to the pastor and deacon shortage. It would be good to focus on increasing the number of Sunday School and small groups in our churches that utilize our curriculum. The emphasis is to equip all our congregants to identify and utilize their spiritual gifts. As a result, we will undoubtably have churches engaged in reaching their communities, discipling others, and **giving** generously to support the work of the Kingdom.

**Develop Effective Associations.** One key to the kind of training pastors and churches need is the local association. Sadly, adding more associations has not resulted in growth. We can find help in this area by looking back to our roots. The Free Will Baptist Church Covenant indicates "We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences." **We must be present, supporting one another and helping** *all* **our churches to be healthy.** We can do this by having healthy churches and pastors come alongside those going through a difficult time. Local church associations and presbytery boards also need to fulfill fellowship and training needs.

**Work Together.** We all face these problems. Let us identify ways we can work better together to become more effective and make a lasting difference in our communities. Follow the final paragraph of the Church Covenant as we seek a way forward:

"To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the World. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

**About the Writer:** Dr. Edward E. Moody, Jr., is executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.







# Thoughts for the Next Generation of Free Will Baptist Leaders

Salon A Speaker: Derek Altom

This seminar takes the principles from **Thoughts for Young Men** by J. C. Ryle (written in 1888) and adapts them to the next generation of Free Will Baptist leaders. The only way this message will be received by the next generation of Free Will Baptist leaders is if the current generation of Free Will Baptist leaders makes intentional efforts to do so. The seminar briefly answers four questions:

- 1. Why should we exhort the next generation of Free Will Baptist leaders?
- 2. What dangers should we warn the next generation of Free Will Baptist leaders about?
- 3. What pieces of advice should we give the next generation of Free Will Baptist leaders?

**Derek Altom** is the director of events and development at Randall House and D6 Family Ministry. Born in New Castle, Indiana, Derek accepted Christ and the call to vocational ministry through the min-

4. What should the next generation of Free Will Baptists leaders resolve to do?

istry of First Bible FWB Church. Upon graduation from high school, Derek attended Welch College where he earned a degree in Bible and Christian Education (2007). In 2021, Derek earned an M.A. in Theology and Ministry. While at Welch College, Derek met and married Jennifer, his wife of over 16 years. Together, they live in Hermitage, Tennessee, with their four boys (Stephen, Larry, Josiah, and Silas) and two dogs, Peyton Manning and Phoebe. Derek enjoys watching his boys play sports, reading good books, spending time at the lake with family and friends, and watching Indianapolis Colts football.






## **Lessons Learned From Revitalization**

# **Cumberland Ballroom Speaker: Shiloh Hackett**

Revitalization begins with assessment: seeing where you are as a church. This is followed by accepting what you find and taking ownership of the plan to address it. Next comes changing the atmosphere to pursue excellence in all the church does to reach the community. This period includes a focus on appearance: both the physical appearance of the church and how the church is portrayed in the community. As you reach people, the focus shifts to assimilation, revamping Sunday School or Life Groups to help people find their place. Finally, you activate members to take ownership in their own places of ministry.

**Shiloh Hackett** is a child of God, husband to his beautiful wife Nicole, and father of the three reds: Ayden, Camden, and Braxden. He has been in ministry for 21 years. He currently pastors Bethlehem FWB

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# What Every National Association Delegate Needs to Know | Lo Que Todo Delegado de la Convención Nacional Necesita Saber

Salon B
Speaker/Orador: Tim York

Explore the responsibility and function of being a delegate to the annual convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

**Tim York** has been pastor of Grove FWB Church in Smyrna, Tennessee, since June 2010. He is a volunteer chaplain coordinator for the Smyrna Police Department and Stonecrest Hospital. York serves as an adjunct professor for Randall University and Millard College. He is the director of development for Final Command Ministries and the moderator of Mount Empire Association of Free Will Baptists. He has served as the moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists since 2003 and also served six years as assistant moderator. York was Kentucky's representative to the General Board for seven years, served 11 years as the Kentucky state promotional secretary, and 15 years as moderator of the Blue Grass Association. He graduated with B.S. and M.Div. degrees from Liberty University and will complete his Doctorate of Ministry from Liberty later this year. He and his wife Phyllis have three children and three grandchildren.

La responsabilidad y función de ser un delegado de nuestra Convención Nacional Anual de los Bautistas Libre.

**Tim York** comenzó a servir como pastor de la Iglesia Bautista Libre Grove en Smyrna, Tennessee, en junio de 2010. Es coordinador voluntario del capellán del Departamento de Policía de Smyrna y del

Hospital Stonecrest. York se desempeña como profesor adjunto de Randall University y Millard College Es el director de desarrollo de Final Command Ministries y el moderador de Mount Empire Asociación Bautista Libre.
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# Letting Go: Developing a Sending Culture in Your Church

Salon A
Speaker: Josh Baer

As churches and church leaders, we are strapped for resources: money, time, people. The last thing we feel we can afford to do is to release those resources to help build the kingdom through sending out money, people, and ministers. Yet, that is what we are called to do. In this seminar, we will examine biblical, philosophical, and practical ways to develop a sending culture in your local church.

**Rev. Josh Baer** pastors Cramerton FWB Church, a position he assumed in 2015 after serving as associate pastor ten years. He is married to Kristie, and they have three children: Meredith, Jackson, and Mad-

ison. Josh holds a bachelor's degree from Southeastern FWB College, graduate degrees from Bob Jones University (master's and specialist), and is a doctoral candidate for a D.Min. in Leadership at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is passionate about reaching people for Christ and equipping them
for lifelong growth and service in the body of Christ.
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## **Discipleship in Church Revitalization**

# **Cumberland Ballroom Speaker: Terry Pierce**

Explore the four key components of a disciple-making church: the biblical foundation for making disciples through relationships, how to create a culture for making disciples, the practice of making disciples, and how to deploy disciples to make more disciples.

**Terry Pierce** has served since 2001 as the lead pastor of Connect Church in Tupelo, Mississippi. He previously pastored three churches in Georgia from 1988-2001. Terry and his wife Belyn are heavily involved in discipleship and currently are training a second generation of disciple makers. Terry notes, "As a church, our desire is to serve the local community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We endeavor to make disciples who love God and love people. We recently adopted another Free Will Baptist church in southern Mississippi, where we are coaching and providing resources to revitalize their ministry."

Terry is a 1988 graduate of Welch College and also earned an M.A. in Religion and Leadership in 2012 from Liberty University. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees at Welch College for 14 years,

including eight as chairman. Terry and Belyn have three married sons (Aaron, Andrew, and Adam) a four grandchildren he describes as "incredible."				
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# Ser y Participar: Dos Imperativos para los Líderes Bautistas Libres Hispanos

Salon B Orador: Jose Rodríguez

Este seminario tiene la intención de tratar los temas de ser y participar como líderes hispanos en nuestra denominación. El primer aspecto a analizar será la importancia de tener una clara conciencia acerca de nuestra identidad como Bautistas Libres reconociendo el valor de nuestras raíces. El segundo desafío se ocupará de la necesidad de una participación activa en todos los niveles de nuestra denominación. Esta segunda sección del taller traerá información sobre los diferentes niveles denominacionales, ministerios y formas de participar en todos los niveles. El objetivo del seminario será enfatizar nuestras doctrinas centrales y desafiar a los líderes hispanos a comprometerse con la participación dedicada en todos los niveles de nuestra denominación.

<b>El Jose Rodríguez</b> nacido y criado en la Cuba comunista hizo de Estados Unidos su hogar a los 19 años, donde ha residido durante los últimos 35 años. Tiene una licenciatura de Welch College, una maestría de Trinity Evangelical Divinity School y un M.Div. Equivalente del Seminario Teológico Bautista de Nueva Orleans, donde está terminando su título de Doctor en Ministerio. Después de pastorear Iglesias Bautistas Libres durante 27 años, el hermano Rodríguez se mudó con su familia a Gallatin, TN para ser e Decano fundador del Instituto Hispano de Welch College. José y su esposa Maday han estado casados durante 25 años. Tienen dos hijos: Samuel, que es un estudiante de tercer año en Welch College y Daniel, que también estudia su primer año en Welch.




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## **Church Revitalization and Worldview Thinking**

Salon A
Speaker: Matthew S. Bracey

How we work, spend money, entertain ourselves (sports, media), engage our communities, think about justice and voting, and so forth—if the church does not teach people about Scripture's implications for all of life, the world will. Consequently, church revitalization must provide a means for the church to instruct on such subjects. This workshop explains why church revitalization should address these important questions, explores how it can incorporate meaningful discussion about them into its teaching ministry, and provides recommendations for resources to consider.

Matthew Steven Bracey and his wife Sarah live in Ridgetop, Tennessee. They attend Sylvan Park FWB Church, where they are involved in ministry. Matthew works at Welch College, where he serves as vice provost for academic administration, assistant professor of theology and culture, and cross country coach. Matthew holds degrees from Cumberland School of Law (J.D.), Beeson Divinity School (M.T.S.), and Welch College (B.A., History, Biblical Studies). He is currently completing Ph.D. studies in Christian Ethics Public Policy at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a co-founder and senior editor of the Helwys Society Forum (thehsf.com). He has written a number of peer-reviewed articles and/or book reviews in journals such as the Biblical Higher Education Journal, D6 Family Ministry Journal, Evangelical Quarterly: An International Review of Bible and Theology in Defence of the Historic Christian Faith, and Integrity: A Journal of Christian Thought, as well as popular articles in publications like Books at a Glance, The Brink magazine, Christian Academia magazine, FUSION, and ONE Magazine. In addition, he has contributed chapters to The Promise of Arminian Theology (Randall House Academic), which he also co-edited, and Sexuality, Gender, and the Church: A Christian Response in the New Cultural Landscape (Welch College Press). His interests include cycling and running, ethics, gardening, history, law and politics, and theology.

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# **Tips for Effective Stewardship Preaching**

# **Cumberland Ballroom Speaker: Will Harmon**

"You can't outgive God!" No doubt, preaching on stewardship can be a daunting task. In this seminar, you will hear several simple tips to help reinforce biblical principles of stewardship in your preaching. We will also explore practical ways to increase giving in your church dramatically. Plus, you will get a "money back guarantee" that will increase weekly offerings 10, 20, even 50%.

Will Harmon has served as pastor of Cavanaugh FWB Church in Fort Smith, Arkansas, since August

1997. Originally from Midland, Texas, Will accepted Christ at age six, recognized the call to ministry at age 11, and began preaching at age 12. He graduated from Randall University in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in theology. He later earned an M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Will served 12 years on the Randall House Board, 16 years on the Randall University Board, and currently serves on the IM, Inc. Board. He and his wife Angie have three children.
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# Curso Liderazgo Importa: Un Vistazo a la Delegación

Salon B Oradora: Kristi Johnson

En este taller, usted experimentará una muestra de uno de los métodos más innovadores hoy en día para los líderes cristianos, Curso Liderazgo Importa. Este curso práctico será presentado por Kristi Johnson, una entrenadora con ITA (Internacional Alianza de Entrenadores). Ella representará a Internacional Misiones e ITA para introducir algunos de los materiales del curso entero del liderazgo. El director de ITA, Jeff Turnbough, dice: "Kristi va a compartir solamente un trozo del entrenamiento del CLI, delegación. Los que asisten llevarán con ellos una herramienta de administración útil y fácil de transmitir a los demás."

**Kristi Johnson** y su esposo, Tim, llevan desde 1997 como misioneros con IM en España. A lo largo de los años, no solamente ha trabajado como plantadora de iglesias, sino también profesora en la Escuela Dominical, líder en estudios bíblicos de mujeres, organizadora de eventos y fotógrafa. Más que todo, ella valora su de madre para Alejandro y Ana, que nacieron los dos en España. Ahora, Tim y Kristi sirvan como misioneros en residencia en Welch College.





# How to Avoid a Pastoral Collapse | Como Evitar Un Colapso Pastoral

Salon B Speaker/Orador: Rufo Gomez

We are facing a very great need, currently there are hundreds of churches that are struggling. We suffer from the lack of formation in pastoral leaders. John Maxwell says, "Everything goes up and down in leadership." No leader should give up on any circumstance that may arise in his church. We must bear in mind that a leader is not born but made—formed step by step. It is necessary to have an open heart to training and practice until being productive.

**Rufo Gomez** gave his life to Christ June 22, 1985, as the result of the outreach of North American Ministries (NAM) in the Aztec country. He holds a bachelor's degree in counseling, a master's degree in Christian Education, and a Ph.D. in Christian Psychology from Jacksonville Theological Seminary. Currently, he is completing a thesis toward a doctorate in Christian Education from Florida Christian University. As a NAM church planter, Gomez has started churches in Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mexico, and Honduras. Currently, he is planting a church in Smyrna, Tennessee. He and his wife Maria have four sons: Emmanuel, Johnathan, Rufo Jr., and Nathanael.

Estamos frente a una necesidad muy grande, actualmente son cientos de iglesias que están sobreviviendo. Sufrimos la falta de formación en lideres pastorales. John Maxwell dice: "Todo sube y baja en el liderazgo." Ningún líder debería darse por vencidos ante cualquier circunstancia que se pueda presentar en su iglesia. Tenga presente, el líder no nace, se hace, se va formando paso a paso, pero se requiere tener un corazón abierto a la capacitación y a la práctica hasta lograr ser productivo.

<b>Rufo Gomez</b> entregó su vida a Cristo el 22 de junio de 1985, la resultado del alcance de los Ministerios
de América del Norte (NAM) en el país azteca. Tiene una licenciatura en consejería, una maestría en
educación cristiana y un doctorado en Psicología Cristiana del Seminario Teológico de Jacksonville. Ac-
tualmente, está completando una tesis para un doctorado en Educación Cristiana de la Florida Christian
University. Como plantador de iglesias de NAM, Gomez ha comenzado iglesias en Florida, Georgia, Ken-
tucky, México y Honduras. Actualmente, está plantando una iglesia en Smyrna, Tennessee. El y su esposa
María tienen cuatro hijos: Emmanuel, Johnathan, Rufo Jr. y Nathanael.







# **Leadership Matters Course: A Glimpse at Delegation**

Salon A Speaker: Kristi Johnson

In this workshop, you will experience a sample of one of the most innovative training methods available for today's Christian leaders: Leadership Matters Course. This practical session will be presented by Kristi Johnson, a trainer with International Training Alliance. She will represent IM and ITA to introduce some of the leadership materials being formulated now that will be available for pastors in 2022. International Training Alliance's CEO Jeff Turnbough, says: "Kristi will share only one aspect of the LMC training—delegation. Those who attend will receive a useful management tool easily transferable to others."

**Kristi Johnson** and her husband, Tim, have been IM missionaries in Spain since 1997. Over the years, she has worked not only as a church planter, but also a Sunday School teacher, a ladies' Bible study leader, an event

organizer, and a photographer. She most cherishes her role as mother to Alejandro and Ana, born in Spain. Currently, Tim and Kristi are serving as missionaries in residence at Welch Coll		






## **Getting Outside of Your Ministry Bubble**

**Cumberland Ballroom Speaker: Chris Truett** 

Pastors can easily get trapped in a "ministry bubble." If we are not intentional, our entire lives can be centered at the church. That "bubble" has the potential to hinder our church's growth and our own growth as a pastor/leader. How can we talk about our burden and love for the community unless we get out into the community? In this seminar, I will share my story and what I believe God has called me to do. I also will share a biblical basis for reaching others and making disciples in our communities as well as practical suggestions for how pastors can immerse themselves into their communities.

**Chris Truett** has pastored Bethel FWB Church in Kinston, North Carolina, since 2013, following the death of previous pastor Archie Ratliff in 2012. Previously, Chris served from 1997-2012 as worship and executive pastor at Bethel. Chris has been actively involved in the denomination, serving as chairman of the Music Commission and as the music coordinator for the National Convention from 2004-2013. He has held numerous roles in the Palmer Association, served on the North Carolina State Executive Board, and is currently a Welch College Trustee. Chris graduated from Welch College with a B.S. in Church Music in 1993 and earned an M.A. in Worship Studies from Liberty in 2008. He and his wife Kim have three boys: Hunter Blake, Jonathan Brooks (Kendal), and Easton Samuel.



# Free Will Baptist Master's Men

# Disaster Response Team

Salon A

Disaster Response Teams: Where Do You Fit?

eakers: Ken	neth Ake	.13, Jani	ivic vay,	Allali A	ustiii, Ciii	13

LEADERSHIP 44 CONFERENCE




# Hispanic Ministry as a Tool for Revitalization | El Ministerio Hispano Como Una Herramienta en la Revitalización de Una Iglesia

Salon B
Speaker/Orador: Francisco Vazquez

Starting a Hispanic Ministry in a church needing revitalization can be one of the most important tools to bring energy and new life to a congregation. This tool can be used in the process of bringing back to health a declining church. Many local churches are declining due to changing demographics in their communities. Many others will start a Hispanic ministry as part of their commitment to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). Many are looking at the future of their ever-changing community with the vision of being there for many years to come, and being a church that makes the difference in that community. In Acts 1:8, we see in three sections how the implementation of a Hispanic ministry could revitalize a church:

- 1. The Hispanic ministry as a tool to reach the unreached: myths and realities.
- 2. The Hispanic ministry as a tool to make disciples (Acts 8:26-40).
- 3. The Hispanic ministry as a tool to add years to the lifespan of a congregation.

After time has been dedicated to prayer and seeking God's will, a church can be revitalized with this ministry.

**Francisco Vazquez** was born and raised in Guadalajara, Mexico. He moved to the United States at age 16 and came to know the Lord in a Free Will Baptist Church in 2001. He answered the call to preach in 2009. Pastor Vazquez passionately works planting Spanish ministries and bridging the gap between English and Hispanic churches. He is now working on his third ministry in California, Iglesia La Cruz de Bakersfield. He is working alongside Dr. Mark Harrison, pastor of Cross Church in Bakersfield. He is the chairman of the California Youth Board, and he is in training to be a coach in the Rekindle program. Francisco Vazquez and his wife Cookie have one daughter, Elena.

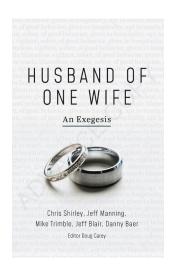
El comenzar un Ministerio Hispano en una iglesia en necesidad de ser revitalizada, pude llegar a ser una de las herramientas más útiles para infectar nueva vida y energía a una congregación. Esta herramienta puede ser usada en el proceso de regresar a una iglesia a un estado saludable. Muchas de nuestras iglesias locales están en declive debido a cambios económicos y demográficos en sus comunidades. Muchas otras iglesias están implementando un ministerio Hispano en su compromiso para cumplir la Gran Comisión (Mateo 28:19-20). Otras más están mirando asia el futuro, en medio de una comunidad cambiante, quieren estar ahí por muchos años más, siendo esa iglesia que servirá a su comunidad más efectivamente (Hechos 1:8).

- 1. El ministerio Hispano como una herramienta para evangelizar a los que no han sido alcanzados: Mitos y Realidades.
- 2. El ministerio Hispano como una herramienta para hacer Discípulos (Hechos 8:26-40).
- 3. El ministerio Hispano como una herramienta para añadir años de vida productiva a la iglesia local. Después de cierto tiempo en oración y de estar buscando diligentemente la voluntad de su Iglesia, una congregación se puede beneficiar.

**El Pastor Francisco Vazquez,** nació y creció en Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. A los 16 años de edad, emigró a los Estados Unidos. Vino a conocer al Señor en una pequeña Iglesia Bautista Libre en California en 2001. El contesto el llamado a Predicar la Palabra de Dios en 2009. El Pastor Vazquez a trabajado diligentemente para plantar y ayudar a revitalizar ministerios Hispanos en nuestra Denominación.

LEADERSHIP 46 CONFERENCE

Trabajando para ser un puente entre los ministerios hispanos y las Iglesias de habla Inglesa dentro de nuestra Denominación. El ahora, está trabajando en su tercera obra ministerial en California, Iglesia la Cruz de Bakersfield. Trabajando al lado del Dr. Mark Harrison en Cross Church Bakersfield. El Pastor Vazquez es el Presidente de la Junta de Jóvenes del Estado de California (CYB) y también es coach del Programa Rekindle. El Pastor Francisco Vazquez vive con su esposa Cookie y su hija Elena en Bakersfield California.



# What Does "Husband of One Wife" Really Mean?

# Cumberland Ballroom Speakers: Danny Baer, Jeff Blair, Doug Carey, Jeff Manning, Mike Trimble

Based on material from the forthcoming volume from Randall House, the panel takes an in-depth look at an important, yet often-controversial subject from Scripture.

#### To purchase the book, visit www.RandallHouse.com

**Danny Baer, Ph.D. Educational Technology, M.A. in School Administration, B.S. in Math Education,** has ministered in Ohio, Virginia, and North Carolina. Danny and his wife Debbie have four children and six grandchildren.

**Jeff Blair, D.Min. New Testament Context, M.Div., B.A. in Theology,** is the husband of Jennie and father of Keith, Jackson, and Julia. He has been pastor of Locust Grove FWB Church in Oklahoma since 2002.

**Doug Carey** pastors Crossroads FWB Church, Jenks, Oklahoma, and has ministered to churches in Florida, Alabama, and Dothan.

**Jeff Manning, D.Min. Expository Preaching, M.Div., B.A. in Bible and Pastoral Training,** is an adjunct professor at Welch College and has been pastor at Unity FWB Church in Greenville, North Carolina, for over 30 years. He and his wife Jennifer have three children and two grandchildren.

**Mike Trimble, M.Div.,** has pastored Kirby Church, Flat Rock, Michigan, for over 28 years. He has also served churches in North Carolina and Kentucky and taught at various missions points around the world.



# **2022 State/District Association Meetings**

(Chronological)

STATE	DATE/	TIME		LOCATION
South Carolina	Starts: Ends:	Feb. 24 Feb. 25	9:00 am 3:00 pm	Turning Point FWB Church 104 Fairview Church Rd Spartanburg SC 29316
Arizona District	Starts: Ends:	Mar. 12 Mar. 12	10:00 am 3:00 pm	West Valley FWB Church 19956 W McDowell Rd Buckeye AZ 85396
Georgia	Starts: Ends:	Mar. 17 Mar. 18	7:00 pm Afternoon	First FWB Church 952 54th St Columbus GA 31904
Illinois	Starts: Ends:	Mar. 17 Mar. 18	6:00 pm Afternoon	Calvary Church FWB Church 2868 S Broadway Salem IL 62881
Indiana	Starts: Ends:	Mar. 25 Mar. 26	6:00 pm 3:00 pm	Emmanuel FWB Church 129 Southwood Dr Wabash IN 46992
Mississippi	Starts: Ends:	April 21 April 22	9:00 am Noon	TBD
Atlantic Canada District	Starts: Ends:	April 23 April 24	2:00 pm 3:00 & 6:00 pm	Bristol FWB Church 20 Tapley Rd Florenceville-Bristol NB E7J 2E1
Alabama	Starts: Ends:	April 27 April 29	7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Hyatt Regency 1000 Riverchase Galleria Birmingham AL 35244
Florida	Starts: Ends:	April 27 April 30	7:00 pm Noon	Southbank Hotel 1515 Prudential Dr Jacksonville FL 32207
Kansas	Starts: Ends:	April 28 April 30	7:30 pm Noon	Cross Point FWB Church 1515 E Harry St Wichita KS 67211
California	Starts: Ends:	May 1 May 2	5:00 pm Evening	LifeGate FWB Church 2217 Geer Rd Turlock CA 95382

Oklahoma	Starts: Ends:	May 5 May 6	9:00 am Noon	Randall University 3701 S I-35 Service Rd Moore OK 73160
Idaho District	Starts: Ends:	May 6 May 7	7:30 pm 1:00 pm	Jerome FWB Church 810 S Cleveland Jerome ID 83338
Northwest Association	Starts: Ends:	May 13 May 14	7:00 pm Noon	Oregon Trail FWB Church 14595 S Henrici Rd Oregon City OR 97045
Arkansas	Starts: Ends:	May 16 May 17	7:00 pm 4:00 pm	Camp Beaverfork 150 Beaverfork Rd Conway AR 72032
Michigan	Starts: Ends:	May 20 May 21	8:30 am Noon	Zehnder's of Frankenmuth 730 S Main St Frankenmuth MI 48734
North Carolina	Starts: Ends:	June 6 June 7	Morning Evening	Embassy Suites Hotel 204 Centreport Dr Greensboro NC 27409
Missouri	Starts: Ends:	June 6 June 8	Evening Evening	Oasis Hotel & Convention Center 2546 N Glenstone Ave Springfield MO 65803
Texas	Starts: Ends:	June 8 June 9	7:00 pm 9:00 pm	First FWB Church 1415 W Wheatland Rd Duncanville TX 75116
West Virginia	Starts: Ends:	June 10 June 11	9:30 am 2:30 pm	Heritage FWB Church 2395 Middleway Pk Bunker Hill WV 25413
Virginia	Starts: Ends:	June 16 June 17	9:30 am Noon	King of Kings FWB Church 12371 E Lynchburg-Salem Tpke Forest VA 24551
Kentucky	Starts: Ends:	June 17 June 18	6:30 pm 1:00 pm	Van Lear FWB Church 2687 KY Rte 302 Van Lear KY 41265
Ohio	Starts: Ends:	June 24 June 25	9:00 am Noon	Heritage FWB Church 575 Obetz Rd Columbus OH 43207

Tennessee	Starts: Ends:	Nov. 7 Nov. 9	7:00 pm 11:00 am	MainStay Suites/Conference Center 410 Pine Mountain Rd Pigeon Forge TN 37863
lowa District	Starts: Ends:	Nov. 19 Nov. 19	9:00 am Noon	Heritage FWB Church 1611 N Utah Ave Davenport IA 52804
Mid-Atlantic District	Starts: Ends:	Dec. 3 Dec. 3	9:30 am Noon	TBD
David Marks Heritage District	Starts: Ends:	TBD	TBD	TBD
Northeast District	Starts: Ends	TBD	TBD	TBD

## Free Will Baptist Colleges

#### Welch College (National College)

1045 Bison Trail Gallatin TN 37066 Phone: 615-625-5255 President: J. Matthew Pinson

www.welch.edu

#### **California Christian College**

5364 E Belmont Ave Fresno CA 93727 Phone: 559-302-9653 President: Timothy Powell www.calchristiancollege.edu

#### **Randall University**

3701 S I-35 Service Road Moore OK 73160 Phone: 405-912-9000 President: Bob Thompson www.ru.edu

#### **Southeastern Free Will Baptist** College

PO Box 1960 Wendell NC 27591 Physical: 532 Eagle Rd Wendell NC 27591 Phone: 919-365-7711 President: Nate Ange www.sfwbc.edu

## **Future National Conventions**

2022	Birmingham, Alabama	July 24-27
2023	Raleigh, North Carolina	July 16-19
2024	Tampa, Florida	July 21-24
2025	Kansas City, Missouri	July 20-23
2026	Charleston, West Virginia	July 19-22

# Free Will Baptist State Publications

STATE	NAME OF PUBLICATION	EDITOR & ADDRESS	CIRCULATION	FREQUENCY AND COPY DEADLINE
ALABAMA	The Digest	Danny Williams PO Box 14 Winfield AL 35594 alfwbdanny@gmail.com	2,500	Quarterly, starting in March; 20th of previous month; print and digital
ARKANSAS	The VISION	David Taylor PO Box 2110 Conway AR 72033 david@arfwb.org	NA	Bi-monthly; 5th of previous month; print
FLORIDA	The Coordinator	Melissa Christian 1151 Gary Hunt Rd Cocoa FL 32926 mchristian1965@yahoo.com	1,000 digital 300 print	Quarterly; print and digital
GEORGIA	Promotional Bulletin	William Smith PO Box 507 Colquitt GA 39837 william@gafwb.org	3,000	Bi-monthly; 1st of previous month
ILLINOIS	Illinois FWB Newsletter	David Shores 401 N Maple St Benton IL 62812 618-927-1284 patdave56@att.net	606 print 148 digital	Monthly; 15th of previous month; print and digital
MICHIGAN	The Menorah	Jimmy Lawson 35845 Avondale Westland MI 48186 pastor_jimmy@ameritech.net	400	Bi-monthly
MISSISSIPPI	MSAFWB Messenger	<b>Dennis Kizzire</b> 120 Parsonage Rd Saltillo MS 38866 messenger@msfwb.comcastbiz.	Online net	Weekly Tuesday Email; digital
MISSOURI	Missouri GEM	Stan Bunch 202 W Commercial PO Box 991 Lebanon MO 65622 stan@mofwb.org	1,600	Bi-monthly; 30th of every other month (starting in January); print and digital
NORTH CAROLINA	Newsletter	Reuben Cason 8902 Stone Heritage Rd Middlesex NC 27557 promodirector@ncfwb.org	Online	Weekly (Friday); digital

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION	Associational Facebook Page	<b>Terry Motte</b> 1390 45th Ave NE Salem OR 97301	200 followers	Facebook: Northwest Association of Free Will Baptists
OHIO	Ambassador	<b>Ben Crabtree</b> 7554 Slate Rdge Rd Blvd Reynoldsburg OH 43068 bcrabtree@ohiofwb.org	4,300	Bi-monthly; 1st of previous month; print and digital
OKLAHOMA	Promoter	Mike Wade PO Box 7527 Moore OK 73153 mwade@okfwb.org	2,700	Bi-monthly; 1st of previous month; print and digital
SOUTH CAROLINA	The Informer	Chris Todd PO Box 9 Turbeville SC 29162 chris@scfwb.com	500	Bi-annually; print and digital
TENNESSEE	Echo	Chris Dotson 2174 Le Conte St Morristown TN 37814 cdotson1700@gmail.com	8,750	Quarterly; 1st of September, December, March, June; print and digital
TEXAS	The Texas Challenge	Kyle Howell 209 Taos Victoria TX 77904 fwbtexaschallenge@gmail.com https://texaschallenge.net/	Digital	As Needed
VIRGINIA	The Plumbline	Bruce Barnes 3100 Shore Dr Apt 630 Virginia Beach VA 23451 dbrucebarnes@yahoo.com	500	Monthly; Monday of the last week of the month; digital
WEST VIRGINIA	The Messenger	Rickie Holstein PO Box 4624 Charleston WV 25364 rickieholstein@yahoo.com	200	Quarterly; digital

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LEADERSHIP **59** CONFERENCE

#### 2021-22 National Boards and Commissions

#### **Executive Committee**

#### **General Officers**

2023 2025

Asst. Moderator: William Smith, PO Box 507, Colquitt, GA 39837 Clerk: Randy Bryant, 2156 54th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32966

Moderator: Tim York, 2015 Harbor Dr, Smyrna, TN 37167 Asst. Clerk: Ernie Lewis, 1176 County Rd 1975 N, Cisne, IL 62823

#### **Executive Committee Members**

2022	2023	2024
David Taylor (AR)	Stan Bunch (MO)	Chris Todd (SC)
Danny Williams (AL)	Wayne Hale (MID-ATL)	Chris Dotson (TN)
David Shores (IL)	Daniel Edwards (IN)	Reuben Cason (NC)

#### **Board of Trustees of Free Will Baptist Foundation**

Chairman: Bobby Edwards, 7112 Chessington Dr, Fairview, TN 37062

2023	2025	2027
Bobby Edwards (TN)	Brent Patrick (VA)	Gene Williams (NC)
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Bob Thompson (OK)	Corey Minter (TN)	Lee Allen (AR)

**Note: The Foundation Board also includes directors of national agencies:** John Brummitt (Board of Retirement), David Crowe (North American Ministries), Ron Hunter (Randall House), Edward E. Moody, Jr. (Executive Office), Clint Morgan (IM, Inc.), Matt Pinson (Welch College), Phyllis York (WNAC)

#### Board of IM, Inc.

Chairman: Jeff Nichols, 173 Pima Trail, Lebanon, TN 37087

2022	2024	2026
Cameron Lane (AR)	Darren Walker (NC)	Janice Banks (TX)
Will Harmon (AR)	Mark Price (OH)	Rick Cason (GA)
Rodney Yerby (AL)	Casey Cariker (OK)	Jeff Nichols (TN)

#### **Board of North American Ministries**

Chairman: Jeff Jones, 10212 Fayetteville Rd, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

2023	2025	2027
Bob Lewis (TN)	Jeff Jones (NC)	Jose Rodgriguez (TN)
Josh Baer (NC)	Bob Brown (FL)	Mike Cash (AZ)
David Sexton (VA)	Frank Wiley (OK)	Marshall Bonèy (VA)

#### **Board of Randall House Publications**

Chairman: Mike Trimble, 27786 Oriole Ct, Flat Rock, MI 48134

2022	2024	2026
Darin Gibbs (NC)	Kendall Ross (AR)	Paul Bryant (MS)
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Jay Baines (VA)	Mike Trimble (MI)	Rick Taylor (AL)

#### **Board of Retirement**

Chairman: Daniel Baer, PO Box 1960, Wendell, NC 27591

2023		2025	2027
	(1.10)		

Daniel Baer (NC) Lance Boyer (MO) Joel Franks (AL)
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Mike Gladson (NC) Randy Wilson (OK) Clayton Hampton (NW)

#### **Board of Trustees of Welch College**

Chairman: Jeff Crabtree, 27 Lewis Drive, Island View, NB, E3E 1A1, Canada

Michael Armstrong (OH)Will Beauchamp (FL)Jeff Crabtree (ATL-CAN)Brad Ryan (IL)Theron Scott (SC)Shiloh Hackett (TN)Wayne Miracle (GA)Tim Campbell (AR)Chris Truett (NC)

#### **Board of Women Nationally Active for Christ**

Chairman: Amy Johnson, 125 County Club Estates, Salem, IL 62881

2022	2024	2026

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#### **Commission for Theological Integrity**

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2022 Kevin Hester (TN) 2025 Rodney Holloman (TN) 2023 Matt Pinson (TN) 2026 W. Jackson Watts (MO)

2024 Cory Thompson (OK)

#### **Historical Commission**

Chairman: Robert Picirilli, 206 Stoner's Glen Ct, Hermitage, TN 37076

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2024 Robert Picirilli (TN)

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Chairman: Stephen Lopes, 1533 Barnbrook Cove, Antioch, TN 37013

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2024 Josh Owens (TN)

#### **Music Commission**

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- Church Planting
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