

Minutes of the 86th National Association of Free Will Baptists July 24-27, 2022, Birmingham, Alabama

Proceedings

The 86th annual session of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc. met July 24-27, 2022, at the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex in Birmingham, Alabama. "Go the Extra Mile" was the theme of the meeting. Ryan Lewis served as convention manager, and Kevin Justice as convention worship services coordinator.

Sunday School - July 24, 2022

Sunday School began at 9:30 a.m. with Kevin Justice leading the congregation in singing "Blessed Be the Name." Eddie Moody welcomed the body to the convention. Theron Scott introduced Sunday School teacher, Rett Floyd, deacon at Horse Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Turbeville, South Carolina. Bro. Floyd brought the lesson from James 3:1-4:12 on "Faith Chooses Godly Conduct." Sunday School was dismissed in prayer by Eddie Moody.

Morning Worship - July 24, 2022

The service began at 10:30 a.m. with Kevin Justice leading the congregation in singing, "At Calvary" and "Living Hope." Rodney Yerby read Matthew 5:38-48. Eddie Moody welcomed the body, led in prayer, and called for the offering. The praise team sang "How Can It Be?" with Jacklyn Reed as soloist. The congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Glorious Day" with Kristen Crabtree as soloist. Theron Scott introduced the speaker. A men's ensemble sang "I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary." Chris Todd, executive secretary of the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists, brought the message on "Go the Extra Mile in Practicing Forgiveness" from Luke 15:11-32. The praise team sang, "Living Hope." Eddie Moody shared announcements and closed the service with prayer.

Feet Washing Service - July 24, 2022

A special feet washing service was held at 3:00 p.m. The service began with Kevin Justice leading the congregation in singing "O, How I Love Jesus" and "Jesus, Lord to Me." Eddie Moody welcomed the group and led in prayer. Dr. Kevin

Hester shared a message on the washing of the saints' feet from John 13. The ordinance was practiced by the group. Jonathan Locklear dismissed the service with prayer.

Evening Worship - July 24, 2022

The service began at 7:00 p.m. with Kevin Justice leading the congregation in singing "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart." Eddie Moody welcomed the body, called for the offering, and led in prayer. The choir sang "Hallelujah for the Cross." Matt Mouser read Matthew 18:15-35, and the congregation sang "Worthy is the Lamb." The body observed communion, with Eddie Moody leading the ordinance. First Corinthians 11:23-26 was read and prayer offered. The group partook of the bread and then sang, "At the Cross." First Corinthians 11:25 was read and prayer offered prior to partaking of the cup. "O the Blood" with soloist Lynsey Riggs was sung by the congregation. The choir sang "I Speak Jesus" with Kevin Denton and Meredith Locklear providing solos. Jason Miller introduced the speaker. Tim Baumgarten, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Northport, Alabama, brought the message on "Go the Extra Mile to Protect Our Brother" from Romans 14:1-23. "I Speak Jesus" was sung as the invitation, and Eddie Moody closed the service in prayer.

Monday Evening - July 25, 2022

The service began at 7:00 p.m. with Kevin Justice leading the congregation in singing "Great Things." Jason Miller welcomed the body to Alabama and presented welcome baskets to Moderator Tim York and Executive Secretary Eddie Moody. Eddie Moody welcomed the body, called for the offering, and prayed for the service. The choir sang "The Healer" with Stacie Compton as soloist. The congregation sang "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus" with Steve Trail as soloist. The congregation sang "I Need Thee Every Hour" and "Lord, I Need You" with Jonathan Huff as soloist. "Hymn of Heaven" was sung by the congregation, and Melanie Franks read 1 Corinthians 13. Wayne Bess introduced the speaker, and Jim McComas, executive director and CEO of Free Will Baptist Family Ministries, preached on "Go the Extra Mile in Helping the Hurting" from Luke 8:40-48. "I Speak Jesus" was sung as the invitation. Eddie Moody offered a prayer for the congregation. Clerk Randy Bryant called the meeting to order and introduced the moderator, Dr. Tim York. The moderator announced the following committees and closed in prayer.

Resolution Committee

Stan Bunch (MO) - Chairman

Mike Trimble (MI)

Jeff Jones (NC)

Chris Todd (SC)

Jeremy Estep (KY)

Nominating Committee

Ben Crabtree (OH) – Chairman

William Smith (GA)

Tim Eaton (OK)

Isaiah Hatfield (WV)

Terry Hindes (IN)

David Taylor (AR)

Elizabeth Hodges (TN)

Tuesday Afternoon – July 26, 2022

Moderator Tim York called the business session to order at 1:30 p.m. He brought a message on “Ministry Philosophy” from Acts 20:28-35 and led in prayer.

The clerk read the Credentials Committee report. Motion carried to adopt the report and seat the delegates.

The clerk read the partial report of the General Board. Motion carried to receive the report and adopt item by item.

Motion carried to adopt Item 1 of the General Board report.

Executive Secretary Eddie Moody gave the reports of the Executive Office, *ONE Magazine*, and Building Services.

Auditor Terry Hill gave the financial reports. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budgets. David Shores was recognized for his tenure on the Executive Committee.

The clerk read the nomination for the unexpired 2024 term for General Board for Northwest Association. Justin Traver was elected for that position.

The clerk read the nominations for the 2025 terms for the General Board. The slate nominated was elected.

The clerk read the nominations for 2025 terms on the Executive Committee. David Taylor (AR), Danny Williams (AL), and Mike Kilcrease (CA) were elected.

Director David Brown gave the Free Will Baptist Foundation report. Richard Davis gave the financial report. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budget.

Director David Crowe gave the North American Ministries report. Board Chairman Jeff Jones recognized Brian and Emily Williams for establishing a self-supporting church in Buffalo, New York, and Marc and Casie Nepl and Kevin and Beth Bass were recognized for establishing a self-supporting church in Portsmouth, Virginia. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budget.

The clerk read Item 2 of the General Board report. Motion passed to table the item.

Director John Brummitt gave the Board of Retirement report. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budget.

Doug Little gave the Music Commission report. Motion passed to receive the report. Doug Little was elected to the 2027 term on the commission.

Josh Owens gave the Media Commission report. Motion passed to receive report. Devon Dundee (AR) was elected to the 2027 term on the commission.

Matthew Pinson gave the Commission for Theological Integrity report. Motion passed to receive the report. Kevin Hester (TN) was elected to the 2027 term on the commission.

Eric Thomsen gave the Historical Commission report. Motion passed to receive the report. Willie Martin (GA) was elected to the 2027 term on the commission.

Eddie Moody shared a prayer request for Greg Floars and for Brad Ransom's family. Ken Akers led in prayer for these requests.

Tuesday - July 26, 2022

The service began at 7:00 p.m. with Kevin Justice leading the congregation in singing "This Is Amazing Grace" and "Your Grace Is Enough." Eddie Moody welcomed the body and prayed for the service. The congregation sang "Grace Greater Than Our Sin" and "He Giveth More Grace," with Doug Little as soloist. Jason Miller read Mark 2:13-17. Eddie Moody called for the offering and prayed for the offering. The choir, with Kevin Denton as soloist, sang, "My King Is Known by Love." William Smith introduced the speaker and "I Speak Jesus" with Fawn Gibson as soloist was sung by the congregation. Kent Barwick, pastor of the Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church in Colquitt, Georgia, preached on "Go the Extra Mile to Reach the Hard to Reach" from John 4:1-10. Eddie Moody closed the service in prayer.

Wednesday - July 27, 2022

The morning business session began at 9:00 a.m. with Assistant Moderator William Smith reading Psalm 121 and leading in prayer.

Director Clint Morgan gave the IM, Inc. report. Rob Conley gave the financial report. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budget. Jerry and Barbara Gibbs were recognized for 50 years of service to IM with the presentation of a globe. Neil Gilliland was recognized for his 26 years of service to IM with the presentation of a watch. Will Harmon (AR), Cameron Lane (AR), and Rodney Yerby (AL) were elected to 2028 terms on the board.

President Matthew Pinson gave the Welch College report. Craig Mahler gave the financial report. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budget. Mike Armstrong was recognized with a plaque for two terms of service on the college board. Rusty Campbell (TN), Brad Ryan (IL), and Wayne Miracle (GA) were elected to 2028 terms on the board.

Interim Director Phyllis York gave the WNAC report. Terry Hill gave the financial report. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budget. Ruth McDonald, the new director of WNAC, was introduced to the body. She then gave greetings to the body. Jonda Patton (KY), Lee Ann Wilfong (MO), and Sharon Dickey (TX) were elected to 2028 terms on the board.

Director Ron Hunter gave the Randall House Publications report. Motion passed to receive the report and adopt the budget. Ron Hunter introduced a change in their charter to change their name from Randall House Publications to D6 Family Ministries. Randall House Board chairman Mike Trimble presented Dr. Hunter a plaque recognizing 20 years of leadership at Randall House. Jay Baines (VA), Tim York (David Marks Heritage), and Darren Gibbs (NC) were elected to 2028 terms on the board.

Ron Hunter gave the Vertical III report. Motion passed to receive the report.

Motion passed to remove Item 2 of the General Board report from the table. Motion passed to approve Item 2.

The clerk read the Registration report. Motion passed to receive the report.

Eddie Moody gave the Budget Committee report. Motion passed to receive the report.

The Obituary Committee report was given in video form. Motion passed to receive the report. Following a moment of silence, Glen Johnson led in prayer in remembrance of those who have passed away.

Motion passed to receive the Resolution Committee report and adopt item by item.

Wednesday Afternoon - July 27, 2022

Assistant Clerk Ernie Lewis read Psalm 133:1-3 and led in prayer.

Motion passed to adopt Item 1 of the Resolutions Committee report. The delegation stood in thanksgiving for the recent Supreme Court decision regarding abortion, and Mark Price led in prayer.

Motion to adopt Item 2 from the Resolution Committee report. Motion passed to table this item and refer it to the Executive Committee.

Motion to adopt Item 3 from the Resolution Committee report. Motion passed to table and refer the item to the Commission for Theological Integrity for further study relating to "the husband of one wife."

Motion passed to adopt Item 4 from the Resolution Committee report.

Motion passed to adopt Item 5 from the Resolution Committee report.

Motion made to request that resolutions be turned in by Sunday night, and that the Resolution Committee report be made available by Tuesday morning. Amended to have resolutions handed in by Monday evening. Motion passed as amended.

Motion passed to edit the 2021 Minutes to reflect the following statement from the Commission for Theological Integrity report, which had been tabled as an Appendix to Chapter IV, Section 1 of the *Treatise*:

"Scripture and nature also affirm that two sexes, male and female, distinct and complementary by divine design, undergird the foundation of marriage, and that the denial or alteration of one's embodied biological identity constitutes a repudiation of the divine intent of creation."

Motion passed to remove the statement from the table. Motion to adopt was passed.

Motion passed to raise the honorarium for the moderator and clerk to \$1,000 each.

Motion passed to adjourn. The body gathered at the altar to join in a prayer of repentance and ask God's blessings on our denomination. Tim York led in prayer.

Wednesday Evening - July 27, 2022

Prior to the service, a video on IMPACT Birmingham was shown. The evening worship service began with a kids choir and praise team singing "God So Loved" as missionaries marched in. Sam McVay introduced North American Ministries church planters and chaplains and Curt Holland introduced IM, Inc. missionaries and partners. A commissioning

ceremony was held for new missionaries and church planters, with Clint Morgan offering the charge and David Crowe praying the commissioning prayer. Danny Williams read Revelation 7:9-17. Eddie Moody welcomed the body, called for the offering, and led in prayer. The congregation sang "Great Are You, Lord" and "Hymn of Heaven." David Crowe introduced the speaker, and Fernando Bustamante, church planter in Florence, South Carolina, preached on "Go the Extra Mile in Reaching Out to the Whole World" from Acts 10:11-18. "Wherever He Leads I'll Go" was sung as the invitation. A preview video for the 2023 National Convention in Raleigh, North Carolina, was shown, and the service dismissed.

2022 Nominating Committee Report

The 2022 Nominating Committee presents the following nominees to be considered for the 2022 convention election:

Welch College - 2028 Term

Brad Ryan (IL)

Wayne Miracle (GA)

Rusty Campbell (TN)

IM, Inc. - 2028 Term

Will Harmon (AR)

Cameron Lane (AR)

Rodney Yerby (AL)

Randall House - 2028 Term

Jay Baines (VA)

Timothy York (David Marks Heritage)

Darin Gibbs (NC)

WNAC - 2028 Term

Jonda Patton (KY)

Lee Ann Wilfong (MO)

Sharon Dickey (TX)

Commissions:

Theological Integrity: 2027 Term - Kevin Hester (TN)

Historical: 2027 Term - Willie Martin (GA)

Music: 2027 Term - Doug Little (TN)

Media: 2027 Term - Devon Dundee (AR)

General Board

2024

Northwest Association: Justin Traver

2025 Term

Alabama: Danny Williams

Arizona: John Gibson

Arkansas: David Taylor

Assn. of Mexico: Luis Felipe Tijerina

Atlantic-Canada: Oral McAfee

California: Mile Kilcrease

Colorado: Terry Miller

David Marks Heritage: Tom Jones

Florida: Allan Austin

Georgia: Tim Horne

Idaho:

Illinois: David Shores

Executive Committee - 2025 Term

David Taylor (AR)

Danny Williams (AL)

Mike Kilcrease (CA)

Note: Board of Retirement, FWB Foundation, and North American Ministries do not elect board members in 2022.

Submitted,

Johnny Miller (AR), Chairman;

Ben Crabtree (OH)

Jonathan Locklear (MI)

Shirley Jackson (MO);

Todd Black (SC)

Curtis Smith (IL)

Kent Barwick (GA)

2022 Obituary Report*

Alabama

Glenn Hood
Ernest Walker
Richard Wright

Arkansas

Randy Burris
Glen D. Faulkner
John Freeman
Robert Smith
RueDell Smith

Florida

Tony Henderson

Georgia

Burt Hall
Bruce Kimbrel
Billy Sumner
Terry Tribble
Janice Wallace

North Carolina

Volney Bryan
Marvin Carson
Robert Rose
Ray Smith

Missouri

Howard Anderson
Richard Barker
Larry Bodine
J.D. Caffey

Bill Gilkerson
Gary Hutsell
Marvin Loftin
Jerry Norris
James Lee Reed
Ed Ruble
Don Strausser
Shirley Turner

Oklahoma

Joe Conn
Nathaniel Craig
Bobby Jenkins
Thomas Marberry
Dennis McBride
Orval Minyard
Amos Everett Peace
Gary Ridley
Steve Shaw
RueDell Smith
Jesse Wallis
Ollie Wright

West Virginia

Jerry Casteel

*Report includes pastors, national leaders, and missionaries, as submitted by state associations.

2022 Convention Registration Report*

National Convention

Board/Commission Member.....	65
Local Church Delegate.....	45
NAFWB Attendee	2,740
Ordained Deacon	64
Ordained Minister.....	502
State Delegate.....	36
Total	3,452

Vertical Three**

V3 Attendee.....	1,488
V3 Child Attendee	90
V3 Grades 4-6	233
V3 Grades 7-12.....	761
V3 Grades K-3.....	244
V3 Preschool Worship.....	78
Total.....	2,894

*Unique: 4,038

**Statistics in the Vertical III report do not reflect final registration totals.

2022 Resolutions Committee Report

Resolution 1 – Resolution on the Roe v. Wade Decision

WHEREAS abortion on demand has been a terrible scourge on our land, costing the lives of tens of millions of babies; and
WHEREAS many have prayed, preached, written, and voted in an effort to see abortion laws changed in our country; and
WHEREAS the Supreme Court of the United States has recently overturned the infamous Roe v. Wade case so that now laws related to abortion rest in the hands of legislators in individual states; Therefore, be it
RESOLVED that we thank God for answering our prayers, that our Executive Secretary write a letter to the Supreme Court expressing our denomination's appreciation of the Court's recent ruling, and that we redouble our efforts to see each state's abortion laws reflect the value of the life of the unborn.

Resolution 2 – Resolution on Pastoral Ordination

WHEREAS God created all persons in His image as male and female to serve under Him on earth to order it as His representatives and therefore, men and women possess equal worth and honor (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:18-24; Matt. 19:4-6; Mk. 10:6-9); and,
WHEREAS God equips persons for varying roles in the divine order, which begins with Christ, who is the head of all, including the home and the church (1 Cor. 11:3; Col. 1:18); and,
WHEREAS God's divine order is further manifested in the home as the husband loves his wife as a servant-leader and the wife assists and faithfully follows her husband's leadership in the fulfillment of the divine purpose for the home (Eph. 5:22-6:4; Col. 3:18-19); and,
WHEREAS God also equips believers for varying roles in the governance of His church (Eph. 4:11-16; 1 Cor. 12:4-5; Rom. 12:4-8); and,
WHEREAS God's order for the church is manifested in pastors/elders/bishops who are charged with the humble oversight and shepherding of the church (Eph. 4:11-13; Acts 20:28; 1 Tim. 5:17); and,
WHEREAS all members of the body are charged to strive together to fulfill the mission of Christ's church (1 Pet. 4:10); now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED that, while men and women are stewards of divine gifts of service in the church, ordination to the office of pastor/elder/bishop is intended only for qualified men as a reflection of God's order for the home and church (1 Tim. 2:8-15; 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9).

Resolution 3 – Resolution of Reaffirmation

WHEREAS the question regarding the ordination of men that have been divorced and remarried to the office of pastor and deacon, has once more been raised amongst our ranks, and be it therefore

RESOLVED that we reaffirm the stated position that was included in the following 1976 resolution of the National Association of Free Will Baptists:

III. PROPER MARITAL STATE OF MINISTERS AND DEACONS (1976)

WHEREAS there continues to be a need to state the position of the National Association of Free Will Baptists on the proper marital status of ministers and deacons; and

WHEREAS each body comprising said National Association is hereby encouraged to adopt the herein presented statement or a similar position on marriage for ministers and deacons; while not insisting that any new position be made retroactive but rather established as a standard to be upheld for all new candidates for ministers and deacons; therefore,

Be it **RESOLVED**:

1. That Paul's statements in 1 Timothy 3:2, 12 and Titus 1:6, namely "The husband of one wife," be looked upon as making ineligible as ministers or deacons anyone who has been divorced and remarried, regardless of the cause of the divorce or the guilt or innocence of either partner.
2. That said persons, whose marital state disqualifies them to be elders or deacons, not be discouraged in their Christian lives or Christian service, but that they be encouraged to live faithfully for Christ and serve him in the education, music, youth, or any other department or activity of the local church; and that such be reminded that deacons and elders are the only church officers for whom the "husband of one wife" prohibition is given. (While certainly it is the ideal for all believers, it is Biblically insisted upon as a requirement for deacons and elders.)"

Resolution 4 - Resolution of Repentance

WHEREAS God has graciously brought about the existence of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and used them for His glory, and

WHEREAS God alone is Worthy of all honor and glory and power; but we have pridefully sought to steal His glory by claiming ministry successes as our own, and have been complacent and callous toward our spiritual condition and others,

WHEREAS God has created all peoples in His image for His glory and called us to love them and reach them with the Gospel, regardless of race, ethnicity or socio-economic status, we have instead failed in our attitudes and actions, particularly by failing to evangelize and disciple all peoples in our communities.

WHEREAS God has called us to unify amid our diversity to accomplish His work in the world, we have instead divided over matters of opinion and preference, failing to focus on His priorities, and often displayed a critical spirit toward leadership and those not in our group, creating factions among us resulting in a state of crisis revealed by:

- *the decline of nearly five hundred churches*
- *the decline of Sunday School enrollment by nearly 75,000*
- *the decline of ordained ministers by 1,100*
- *the decline of ordained deacons by 2,500*
- *and the staggering reduction in baptisms to an annual average of 1.6 per church, and*

WHEREAS God's Word warns that failure to obey His precepts results in chastisement, weakness, and removal of His blessing, and

WHEREAS God has called His church to be a community of holiness and reconciliation, and because we have sorely neglected the practice of Biblical and redemptive church discipline and are in desperate need of godly sorrow and urgent repentance; Therefore, be it

RESOLVED that we as a denomination corporately acknowledge our sin before God and implore Him to forgive us as we repent of these sins, evidenced by changes in attitude and action. Be it further

RESOLVED that those of us who are redeemed by God's power and strong hand to individually call upon the Lord in fervent prayer and fasting, pleading for Him to hear our prayer and grant us as members and churches of the National Association of Free Will Baptists fruitfulness in obeying His Word. Be it finally

RESOLVED that we set aside the first Tuesday in November which commemorates the organization of The National Association of Free Will Baptists as a day of fasting and prayer as evidence of our resolve and repentance.

Resolution 5 - Resolution of Rising Vote of Thanks:

Be it therefore *RESOLVED* that this body give a rising vote of thanks to the Alabama State Association for hosting the 2022 National Convention.

Respectfully Submitted:

Stan Bunch (MO), Chairman

Jeff Jones (NC)

Jeremy Estep (KY)

Mike Trimble (MI)

Chris Todd (SC)

2022 Credentials Report

The letters have been examined and representation fees paid from the following state associations, districts, and local churches and found to be in order as presented below:

1. From the following state associations, which are entitled to be represented by five (5) delegates: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Mexico Association, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.
2. From the following district associations, which are entitled to be represented by three (3) delegates: Canada, Colorado, David Marks, Iowa, Mid-Atlantic, and Northwest.
3. From the following local churches, which are entitled to be represented by one (1) delegate: the Free Will Baptist Church of St. Croix, Virgin Islands.
4. We recommend delegates from the Arizona District, California Association, Association of Mexico, Harvest Time Free Will Baptist Church of South Dakota, Northeast District, the Waipahu Free Will Baptist Church of Hawaii, and the Twin Valley Free Will Baptist Church of Wisconsin be seated upon reception of fees and/or reports.
5. We recommend delegates from the countries, state associations, district associations, and local churches listed above, along with other properly registered delegates, be seated for this session.
6. We recommend all lay delegates entitled to representation by virtue of their positions on standing boards be seated if properly registered.

Randall House VIII Conference Report

Registration Total:	2021	2022
VIII Adult Attendee:	1,216	1,476
VIII Child Attendee	83	90
VIII Grades 1-3:	184	242
VIII Grades 4-6:	186	233
VIII Grades 7-12:	484	760
VIII Preschool Worship:	83	77
VIII Total Attendees:	2,236*	2,878**

Competitive Activity Entries:	2021	2022
Entries (up 155)	592*	747**
Competitors (up 327)	1,085*	1,412**

*Both Vertical III and CTS were affected in 2021 due to competitors inability to gather and practice or concerns regarding the COVID pandemic.

**Both Vertical III and CTS still below pre-pandemic levels.

Serve the City

The 2022 Vertical III Conference saw the return of Serve the City after not being able to do so in Memphis. On Monday, men, women, and children from different states packed 76 homeless bags to be handed out on the streets of Birmingham and in emergency shelter placements.

On Tuesday, 16 men, women, and children hit the streets to share Christ and hope in the dark world of homelessness. Backpacks containing personal items, snacks, and fast-food restaurant gift cards were given out. At First Light Women & Children's Shelter, teams prepared, cooked, and served lunch for those staying in the shelter. First Light serves, on average, 1,000 women and children each year by offering a safe place to stay and sleep. Pathways, a shelter and daycare for homeless women, received donations from churches across the states. Pathways cares for 500 to 600 homeless women and children a year, some dealing with mental illness. Meals were prepared and served at First Light.

Buck-A-Week

Tuesday's Buck-A-Week Offering: \$5,029.56

Ministries receiving funds in 2022:

North American Missionaries: Alfredo Botello – Hispanic Bible Institute

International Missionaries: Doug and Miriam Bishop – Japan

Total Truth & Peace Participants

164 students and 17 staffers, for a total of 181

Youth Evangelistic Team

YET was comprised of 13 students led by Mike and Bethany Lewis. The team traveled to four states, leading worship in seven churches (of which five were mission churches) and a youth camp. The team also participated in a service project at a North American Ministries church plant.

VIII "God Moments"

During the Sunday evening service of the Vertical III Conference, one young lady came to the front during the response time and made Jesus Christ the Lord of her life. Throughout the week, many students, parents, and sponsors came forward during response times to pray, rededicate their lives to the Lord, and make commitments.

During YET's two-week tour, they met a teenage boy who was so impacted by the service that he quickly told his pastor he wanted to attend the Vertical III Conference and participate in all the various activities. This boy's decision was a direct result of the Lord using YET during their tour.

During Serve the City on Tuesday morning, while distributing homeless care packages to the homeless on the streets of Birmingham, nine-year-old Paul Greer opened his Bible on multiple stops and, without hesitation, shared the Word with all who would listen...and they all did! Out of the mouths of babes the truth was spoken in the darkness, and seeds were planted that God can use.

Also, while serving at First Light Women and Children's Shelter, one of the ladies said that she could see Jesus in our faces.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

The National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc., has approved in this convention the following budgets for 2023:

Executive Office (Includes:)		\$929,343.00
Administrative	\$444,000.00	
Convention	<u>485,343.00</u>	
Free Will Baptist Foundation		2,490,000.00
IM, Inc.		8,850,000.00
North American Ministries		5,000,000.00
Randall House Publications		4,641,500.00
Retirement and Insurance		855,850.00
Welch College		8,363,889.00
(Includes \$1,395,000 in unrestricted gifts)		
Women Nationally Active for Christ		246,669.00
Commission for Theological Integrity		6,800.00
Historical Commission		5,680.00
Media Commission		9,425.00
Music Commission		<u>9,320.00</u>
 TOTAL		 \$31,408,476.00

All these ministries are non-profit and receive funds through The Together Way Plan.

The Budget Committee recommends that gifts received through The Together Way Plan be allocated to the national ministries on the following basis:

1. Underwrite the Executive Office Administrative Budget above designated gifts, not to exceed 45% of cooperative gifts.
2. Disburse the balance of cooperative gifts to the following national ministries according to these percentages:

IM, Inc.	21.0%
North American Ministries	21.0%
Welch College	21.0%
WNAC	17.0% *
Retirement and Insurance	11.0%
Randall House Publications	4.5% *
Commission for Theological Integrity	1.0%
Historical Commission	1.0%
Media Commission	1.0%
Music Commission	1.0%
Free Will Baptist Foundation	<u>0.5%</u>
 TOTAL	 100.0%

Respectfully Submitted, Your Servants,

Edward Moody, Executive Secretary
 David Brown, General Director of Free Will Baptist Foundation
 Clint Morgan, General Director of IM, Inc.
 David Crowe, General Director of North American Ministries
 Ron Hunter, General Director of Randall House Publications
 John Brummitt, General Director of Retirement and Insurance
 Matt Pinson, President of Welch College
 Phyllis York, Interim Director of WNAC

*The Executive Office will contribute the equivalent of 1% Co-op to WNAC and Randall House.

Statistical Report

The 2021 Statistical Report will be compiled in the coming weeks (based on final associational reports) and added to the Proceedings when completed.

Statistical Report (continued)