

# CONVENTION NEWS

2023 FREE WILL BAPTIST NATIONAL CONVENTION

TUESDAY, JULY 18 | RALEIGH, NC | WWW.NAFWB.ORG

## A NEW CONVERSATION

INTRODUCING A NEW PODCAST FOR **FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMEN**

Ladies, don't you wish you could sit down and chat with your favorite women? Well...now you can!

At Free Will Baptist Women's Ministries, we are committed to helping women find and fulfill their role in the Great Commission. With that in mind, we are excited to introduce our new podcast **As You Go** at this year's convention. Our first episodes are now live and available at [www.podcastics.com/podcast/6113/link/](http://www.podcastics.com/podcast/6113/link/)



**As You Go** focuses on growing as disciples and disciplers. WNAC Director Ruth McDonald serves as host, interviewing women who have a deep relationship with Christ. As you listen to each podcast's rich content, you will enjoy stories, testimonies, and inspiring insights.

Episode 1 (**He's Still Teaching Me**) and Episode 3 (**A Life-long Learner**) feature Lorene Miley, who shares from her 95-plus years of life experience. You do not want to miss these precious conversations and her wonderful words.

### AS FOR YOU **TAKEAWAYS**

**TUESDAY | Can you...**

**Train youth in CTS?**

**Lead a D-Group or teach Sunday School or Life Group?**

**Mentor a young married couple?**

**Teach on money management?**

**Start or work in Awana?**

**Start or work in a women's ministry?**

**Help special needs youth & families?**

**Develop a ministry to widows?**

**Watch podcasts with Amos Dillard (Special Needs), Derek Altom (VIII), and Jeff Jones (D-Groups).**

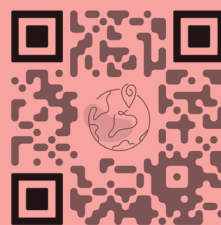
NAFWB

Episode 2 (**Never Stop Growing**) and Episode 4 (**Just Breathe**) feature down-to-earth biblical instruction by Ruth McDonald.

Each month, the WNAC staff will upload two new episodes alternating between interviews and a devotional message from Ruth. Video options also will be available on YouTube for individual or group viewing.

Stop by the FWB Women's Ministries exhibit for more information. The first 300 people who follow the podcast will receive a beautiful **As You Go** campfire mug.

Scan the QR code below to go directly to the podcast.



Learn more about  
Free Will Baptist  
Women's Ministries:  
[wnac.org](http://wnac.org)

## FINDING HOPE IN THE **HOPE INITIATIVE**

EDDIE MOODY, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The lack of evangelism is a problem for the North American church. Last year, research by Dr. Thom Rainer of Church Answers discovered **only 4% of churches have any type of evangelistic outreach**, and less than 1% of churches have a year-round evangelistic outreach approach.

As a result, Rainer began to develop **The Hope Initiative**, which uses prayer and Scripture as the foundation. He concluded that, to be successful, this approach would need to be efficient, taking less than 20 minutes a day for participants.

Because it is difficult to engage the entire congregation in the revitalization process, The Hope Initiative seeks to change the culture of a church 3-5 participants at a time over a 12-month time period.

Dr. Rainer asked Free Will Baptists to partner in the development of this new initiative. As the year went by, our churches that participated in the beta testing discovered The Hope Initiative works. Rainer expressed his thankfulness for these churches, noting, "I am confident God will use their desire to be obedient to the Great Commission to reach many people for Christ, and that many of their churches will see abundant fruit in the days ahead."

The Hope Initiative works, and I encourage you and your church to participate. We offer the initiative through Church Answers at cost. Email [questions@nafwb.org](mailto:questions@nafwb.org) to get started.

# MAKING AN **IMPACT** ON RALEIGH

IMPACT had another great turnout as 80 Free Will Baptist volunteers from across the country arrived a day early to help make an impact on Raleigh! This year, teams worked in three locations: **Shady Grove FWB Church, Haven FWB Church, and With Love From Jesus Ministries.**

## IMPACT Raleigh

Haven hosted a free car wash and a cookout complete with a bounce house for kids. Forty people showed up to help at this location. "IMPACT at Haven was a great success!" noted Impact Director Ken Akers. "We washed more than 20 cars, which meant we made more than 20 new contacts for the church."

While the cars were being washed, visitors enjoyed hot-dogs, and children enjoyed the bounce house. One of the church members from Haven said, "It was so encouraging just to have people from the convention come and help."

With Love From Jesus Ministries reaches both Wake and Johnston counties, offering needed food and clothing to the community. They also offer furniture whenever possible. Twenty-five volunteers gathered Saturday morning to sort produce and perishables for distribution.

Shady Grove FWB Church hosted a community outreach. Fifteen church members and visiting volunteers delivered flyers to a large housing complex to let the surrounding community know more about the church. Pastor Tim McCreight said, "We were excited to have everyone here, and we appreciate them coming to help us."

When asked why they continue to return to IMPACT every year, perennial volunteers Mark and Marcia McCarty (OH) answered with a chuckle: "We are gluttons for punish-



ment!" Then, more seriously, they added, "We love doing this. It's a great opportunity to share the gospel and help other churches. We wouldn't miss it."

**For updates on IMPACT 2024,  
visit [FWBMastersMen.org](http://FWBMastersMen.org)**

**Special Notice:** You'll notice some attendees wearing red lanyards and nametags this year. That is because they are from areas of the world that require "creative access" to share the gospel. **Please refrain from taking or posting photos online of anyone wearing a red lanyard** as a precaution for their safety and the safeguarding of their ministries around the world.

## News, Updates & Announcements

### Registration and Exhibits

Registration is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the RCC Main Lobby. The Exhibit Hall (RCC Hall A) will be open until 10:00 p.m. tonight; Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Note: **the Exhibit Hall closes** from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for evening services.

### Lost and Found

- + Blue hoodie
- + Denim jacket
- + Green Hydroflask water bottle
- + Wireless ear buds (black, green)
- + Camera
- + Pink backpack
- + Bibles (many)

### 2023 CONVENTION COMMITTEES

#### Nominating Committee

Terry Hinds (IN), Chairman  
Jimmy Lawson (MI)  
Mark Harrison (CA)  
Melanie Franks (AL)  
Ken Simpson (MO)  
Mark Walker (GA)  
John Collier (TX)

#### 2023 Resolution Committee

Dick Terry (OK), Chairman  
Stephen Hood (AR)  
Brent Patrick (VA)  
Curtis Smith (IL)  
Will Beauchamp (FL)