

The Michigan Free Will Baptist

Menorah

February Published Monthly by the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists 2008



Michigan FWB Junior Camp

June 23 - 27 2008

Tyrone Valley Camp & Conf. Center
Fenton, Michigan

Creating lasting memories, fun-filled activities and a great week of God's teachings. These are just a few reasons to attend the Michigan Free Will Baptist Junior Camp! Get ready to come west with us, pack your bags and pick your cabin buddies. **Michigan Junior Camp (MJC) 2008** is nearly here! Michigan Junior Camp is for children ages 6 to 13 years old. This year we are going to Tyrone Valley Conference Center and Campgrounds in Fenton, Michigan and plan to have a better camp than ever! A fun-filled week is in store where we can have a blast with old and new friends. We also get to learn more about how awesome God is and what wonderful things He has planned for us. Everything is scheduled for **June 23- 27**. MJC gives you the chance to get together with old friends, make some new ones and let God speak to your heart and challenge you to make a difference for Him. So don't *DELAY!!!* Start saving your money and send your registration in ASAP!!! Remember it's a first come-first serve basis, so make your plans early to be there!

See your Pastor or Youth Leader for Registration Materials and more information or call Steve Conner, Camp Director, at 248 583 9739.

Melissa Lewis Resigns FWBBC Administrative Assistant Post



NASHVILLE, TN—Melissa Lewis plans to vacate her post as Administrative Assistant to the President in the spring of 2008, according to President Matt Pinson. Mrs. Lewis has served eight years with Free Will Baptist Bible College, six years as administrative assistant and two years with the college's Enrollment Management office.

Pinson said, "Melissa is the consummate professional—efficient, calm in times of stress, skilled with computers, and people-oriented. She has a can-do outlook and an uncanny ability to meet deadlines while coordinating multiple events and projects. She has been the contact person for my office since I came on as president, and we're all going to miss her."

An Illinois native, Mrs. Lewis is a 1997 FWBBC graduate. She expects to finish her duties with the college by March 1, 2008, and focus on the needs of her growing family. She and her husband (Brian)

will travel to Korea in February where they plan to adopt 17-month-old Rory Katherine SaRang. Rory Katherine will be the Lewis's second Korean child. They adopted Camden (now 4 ½) in 2004.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed my time at FWBBC, both as a student and as an employee," Melissa said, "and it has been a pleasure to work with President Pinson. While I won't miss the daily drive in from Cheatham County or those ever-present deadlines, I will miss all my good friends."

Brian and Melissa Lewis are members of Oaklawn Free Will Baptist Church (Chapmansboro, TN) where Brian serves as youth and children's pastor and Melissa serves as pianist. Brian also teaches fourth grade at Pleasant View Elementary School.

After Melissa graduated from FWBBC in 1997, she worked two years with the Enrollment Management staff. She and Brian then relocated to Green Rock Free Will Baptist Church (Colona, IL) for three years where he served as youth and children's pastor. They returned to FWBBC in 2002.

"I'm so excited that Rory Katherine will be joining our family. I can hardly wait to bring her home to Tennessee," Melissa said. "Brian and I feel that this is God's plan for us, even though we will all have some adjusting to do. Give us a few years, and we hope to see both of our children enrolled as students at FWBBC."

FWBBC Seeks Administrative Assistant

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College is accepting resumes for the position, Administrative Assistant to the President. Mrs. Melissa Lewis has announced plans to vacate the post she has held for six years in the spring of 2008, according to President Matt Pinson.

Pinson said, "We'll be looking for a special person to fill this important role after Mrs. Lewis leaves. We hope we're able to locate a successor in time for Melissa to spend time with orientation before she completes her work with us in the early spring. I encourage the college's many friends to help direct candidates to us in a timely manner."

Administrative Assistant to the President is a high profile position with broad responsibilities that include (but are not limited to) managing the President's schedule and clerical needs, serving as liaison with the Board of Trustees, assisting the President's wife with social functions, compiling reports, working with the advancement office and the relocation campaign, maintaining the chapel

schedule, website and publications oversight, events coordinator, and other projects that arise.

The ideal candidate will be in agreement with the Mission of Free Will Baptist Bible College "to educate leaders to serve Christ, His Church, and His world through Biblical thought and life," possess an understanding of how FWBBC fits in the broader ministry of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, be a member in good standing of a local Free Will Baptist church, and have the educational background as well as professional and business skills to maintain the ongoing multi-layered work of the President's Office.

Persons interested in applying for the Administrative Assistant to the President position should send resumes to:

President's Office, Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205-2403
Or call 615-844-5248



Feb. 22, 2008

[Exclusively for Jr. High & Sr. High students]

- \$25/person (Youth workers and pastors welcome!)
- Service at Riverside Fellowship FWB Church @ 9:30pm (Joe Jones, pastor at West Wayne, will be preaching)
- The service will be followed by a lock-in at Joe Dumars Fieldhouse, where students will be picked up by church drivers at 5am.

Go to the website <mifwb.com> and click on State Youth Board for more information.

&&&&&

Attention Pastors and Churches: I have compiled the email addresses of pastors in the Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists. This

enables me to contact pastors with vital information quickly. Please send your email address to gnorris101@comcast.net. And, please, notify me of any change of address. Thanks.

The Michigan State Association of
Free Will Baptists email address:
gnorris101@comcast.net
Web Site: mifwb.org

Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists

Master's Men Golf Tournament
May 15, 9:00 a.m.

State Convention/Michigan Youth
Conference

May 16 – 17, 2008

Hilton Grand Rapids Airport Hotel

March District Meetings

New Hope District

March 8, 9:00 a.m.

Heritage Free Will Baptist Church

12670 Pardee Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180
Telephone: 734/287-8214

Rev. Tom Sienkiewicz, Pastor/Moderator

Wolverine District

March 8, 9:30 a.m.

Stony Creek Free Will Baptist Church

8735 Stony Creek Road, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
Telephone: 734/484-0077

Rev. Wayne Jacobs, Pastor

Rev. Joseph Jones, Moderator

Want to know the dates and locations for future
District Meetings, and other activities in Michigan?
Go to [<mifwb.com>](http://mifwb.com) and click on 'Calendar.'

Dr. Grady McMurtry is Coming!

May 11-14, 2008

- 20 Years an Evolutionist
- 1 ½ Years a Theistic Evolutionist
- 30 Years a Biblical Scientific Creationist
- Ordained Minister

- Church Elder

Stony Creek Free Will Baptist Church

8735 Stony Creek Road, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
Telephone: 734/484-0077

Rev. Wayne Jacobs, Pastor

Greetings from Mexican Town

Hola, this is pastor Rigo, I just want to say Hi to you, and tell you that we are back in Michigan, after some weeks. We spent Christmas in Mexico and we had a great time with family and a lot Mexican food everyday. The weather was perfect – in the 60s .

On our way back we stopped in Missouri to visit some friends, and we had the opportunity to speak in two churches. Also we had a thunder storm, and a tornado that killed two people and took away some houses. The electricity went away for one night.

On the way back to Mi I got sick, and when we got home I was completely sick, I didn't get better so I went to hospital at 3 A.M in the morning and stayed there for 3 days, I was released last Saturday at 4 p.m. I'm waiting results from a biopsy they made. Just pray for my health.

One family I was working with is going back to Guatemala, I don't like it but that is the way it is.

I'm organizing my agenda for the coming months and if any of you want us to come to your church for a service on Wednesday we would be willing to do it.

Keep praying for us, and I thank you for your love and concern for us.

God bless you.

Rigo [Rigoberto Lumbreras]



Latin America Region

February 2-5, 2008

Our missionaries in Panama, Brazil, and Uruguay have high hopes that churches in the U.S. will

participate in the prayer initiative for Latin America (February 2-5, 2008) during the days of the *Carnaval* celebrations in their ministry areas.

Churches may use the materials to involve their people in intercession through any format that fits the church's needs and calendar. The important thing is not how we pray, but that we pray.

To receive the free resource packet, go to <fwbgo.com> and give mailing information and contact numbers. You may also preview and print the materials.

To date 23 FWB churches have registered to participate. If yours is not one of them, it's not too late. Contact us immediately and the materials will be sent.

Your partner in the harvest,
Doug Little
Cell: (615) 419-4180

Michigan FWBBC Students on Honor Roll

NASHVILLE, TN—The fall 2007 semester at Free Will Baptist Bible College ended with 98 students earning academic recognition, according to Provost Greg Ketteman. Twenty-eight students made all A's and were placed on the President's List—10 seniors, five juniors, eight sophomores, four freshmen, and one post-baccalaureate student. Seventy students earned a B average or higher and were placed on the Dean's List—22 seniors, 15 juniors, 16 sophomores, and 17 freshmen.

The students from Michigan include Senior **John Landing, Jr.** on the "A" Honor Roll. On the "B" Honor Roll are Seniors **Lauren Helms** and **Christina Zink**; Sophomore **Lindsay Wolf**; and Freshmen **Robin-Lynn Bogart** and **Christopher Talbot**.

Master's Men

As we begin 2008, we are excited at the opportunities that await our men through the programs of Master's Men.

There is only one thing we need for this to be another great year. YOU!

You can have the greatest programs and ideas around, but without people, you're wasting your time. Master's Men have faced the same problem for over 50 years. That problem is lack of participation. It's getting pastors and men in leadership positions to see the need and importance of a men's ministry. In the Bible we

read of Jesus calling men to get involved. While I realize many men are involved on local levels, we need to get them to see the importance of a national men's ministry. As local churches there is just so much we can do. But by being part of the National Association of Free Will Baptist, we are part of something bigger and can do more things collectively.

The same is true by being part of Master's Men. While your church may have an active men's ministry with several guys involved, other smaller churches need programs to help them. They need Master's Men to produce high quality Bible studies. They need mission projects, work projects, retreats and rallies to attend. By you being part of the bigger picture, it doesn't just help you; it helps others that need what Master's Men offers.

Would you prayerfully consider being part of the Master's Men ministry?

Kenneth Akers
General Director

2008 Master's Men Deep South Golf Tournament March 26, 27, 28 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

The Master's Men Deep South Golf Tournament is a 54-hole three-day two-man scramble tournament. This event is a fund raising event of the Master's Men Department of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. The fee for this tournament is \$300 per golfer. This fee includes: Green fees and cart for the tournament, breakfast (three days) dinner (two days), and three nights lodging. Golfers may play additional golf at no charge. However, cost for a cart will be \$10.00 / 9 holes or \$15.00 / 18 holes. If one of the team chooses wife package or single occupancy, other team member will need to pay wife price.

Master's Men Department gets new car

For those that are not familiar with our department car, it's a Daewoo. Now stop laughing. The "Woo" as it has become known, now has over 202,000 miles. Our board felt like with me driving over 40,000 miles each year representing our department, we needed to do something. With the help of Board member Rudy Taylor's GM discount, retired GM employee, we were able to get a Chevy HHR. This vehicle will serve our department for many years. Now there is only one question, how are we going to pay for it? Several people have pledged to help by giving to this need. A couple of our board members challenged each other and are

now challenging all our chapters. They have pledged to raise \$300, amount of one month's payment, and are challenging other chapters to do the same, or others could raise that amount and put the board in an awkward position, just a thought. Please consider and pray about this matter. By the way, the "Woo" will still be used for local driving.

Master's Men Mission Trip

Dates: April 17-28, 2008 Cost: \$3000

(Includes airfare from Nashville, transportation, lodging & most meals)

Purpose: Work on the Baptist Camp in Krasnodar (There will also be a day of sightseeing in Moscow)

Brick and block layers NEEDED!!

Master's Men Restoration Project of the Ridge Church in New Durham, NH
First Phase of Restoration - - - COMPLETE
Phase II beginning NOW – if you have a men's group that could go and spend a week painting please let us know and we'll make the arrangements.

Workers Needed CALL 1-877-767-8039 or email the office at masters@nafwb.org for more information

Master's Men Ride Across America – May 17th

Have you ever wanted to be part of something really big? Something no one else you know has ever done. Well here's your opportunity. Join Master's Men Board chairman Cliff Donoho and General Director Kenneth Akers as the Master's Men Department sponsors a one day ride across America.

I know what you're thinking, and we don't expect you to ride all the way in one day. But, if we get enough riders to participate, we can cover Interstate 40 all the way from Wilmington, NC to Barstow, CA, a total of 2,555.10 miles.

You might be asking why we would do such a thing. Well for several reasons. First, it's going to be fun. The fellowship enjoyed by the folks participating will be priceless. Second, this will be a fund raiser for the Master's Men department and third, just because we can.

Each rider will need to register and will receive a certificate of participation and a T-shirt with a special design to commemorate the event. Master's Men will charge a \$50 registration fee per rider plus sponsors will be able to get their name on the back

of the shirts for \$100. Who can be a sponsor? Any individual, church or Master's Men group.

We need state captains to help us recruit riders to cover all of I-40. If you can and are willing to help, contact our office.



2008 Events

Master's Men Regional Rally

**First Free Will Baptist church of Benton, IL
 April 4 – 5**

National Golf Tournament

**July 31, 2008
 Mt. Juliet, TN**

National Softball Tournament

**August 1- 2, 2008
 Nashville, TN area**

Visit our NEW website, www.fwbmastersmen.org for the latest updates on Master's Men Events. Or email us at masters@nafwb.org

Michigan Mission Board News


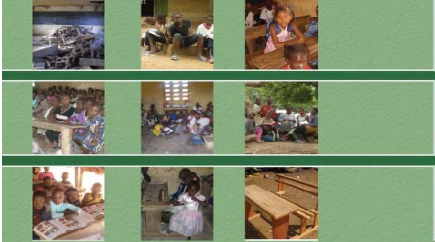
Souls are being saved, and our mission churches are growing. There is one major roadblock – money! Please note the current account standings as of December, 2007.

Jeff Isaacs..... -- \$ 2,005.56
Greg Floars..... -- \$ 1,058.65
Rigoberto Lumbreras \$ 10,868.65

Please start the new year by praying regularly for our Michigan missionaries – Jeff Isaacs, Greg Floars, Rigoberto Lumbreras, Tim Johnson [Spain], Verlin Anderson [Africa], Keith Bartlett [California], Steve Riggs [France]. Also remember to pray for your Michigan Missions Board. Making decisions on behalf of our missionaries is a responsibility that is not taken lightly, especially with two accounts in the red. It is unfair for Home Missionaries to work under such duress. How about setting aside one Sunday in the next month and receive a special offering for the Isaacs and Floars accounts! This is a special call to all churches who do not contribute monthly to these accounts to do something within the next thirty days. Thanks.


Please visit us on the web at mifwb.org. You may email the editor of the *Menorah* at gnorris101@comcast.net.

What if you discovered
you can
change
your world?



...and help start
a love revolution
that could change these children's world too.

Help change this
boy Soldier..





into a School boy

Change this:


Into this:

CHANGE THEIR WORLD

Each new desk costs \$50. The Hanna Project wants to provide 500 new desks for these forgotten children.

send your donation to:
The Hanna Project
PO Box 417
Antioch, TN 37011



or give online at
www.hannaproject.com

a \$25 non-refundable deposit, with the balance due at the retreat.

GPS-X is a component of the Global Purpose Seekers (GPS) ministry of FWBIM. The primary objective of GPS is to train young teens to make decisions in the will of God, with global missions as a context for their application of biblical principles. Led by International Missions' mobilization team, the GPS-X retreat provides interactive learning and service for students and adult sponsors with missionaries and IM staff.

"We expect a capacity crowd for our second GPS-X retreat," says Doug Little, IM mobilization director. "Youth pastors are helping develop the program, lead the retreat, and expand the ongoing GPS ministry. Ten years from now I anticipate seeing newly appointed FWB missionaries whose first consideration of God's will for their lives came as a result of their involvement with Global Purpose Seekers. That alone makes this program worth the time and energy we are investing."

Retreat activities include teaching sessions, evangelism training, prayer groups, worship times, team-building exercises, cross-cultural exposure, and service projects.

More information and on-line registration is available on the Mission's website (www.fwbgo.com). Contact the IM mobilization team by email (go@fwbgo.com) or by phone (877-767-7736).



2nd Annual GPS-X Event Announced
Antioch, TN—Free Will Baptist International Missions will host the second annual GPS-X, a weekend retreat for students in grades 7-9, on September 18-21, 2008, at Horton Haven Christian Camp in Middle Tennessee. Registrations are being accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Space is limited to 100 students and sponsors. Registration fees remain the same as in 2007: \$140 per student or adult sponsor. Registration includes

TRUST

A pilot was experiencing difficulty in landing his plane because of the fog; and the airport decided to bring him in by radar. As he began to receive directions from the ground he suddenly remembered a tall pole in the flight path, and appealed in panic to the control tower about it. The reply came bluntly, "You obey instructions; we'll take care of obstructions." How many Christians hesitates to obey God's Word because of problems and difficulties! If we only obey, He is capable of dealing with the problems and difficulties.

God sends trials not to impair us, but to improve us.

Prayer Requests from the Johnsons



Hola everyone,

This month we'd like to share three prayer requests with you:

1. Pray for the **Villalba Church's building project** as they move forward. On December 24, ground was broken and construction began on the very first free-standing evangelical church in the whole northwestern province of Madrid. This is very exciting, but we ask you to pray that God will continue to guide the church leaders as they go through the project and transition time over the next year.
2. Pray for the **work in Alpedrete**. The Outreach Center will continue its regular activities, with only the Edgmons there to organize and lead everything. Pray that the church will continue to grow and that the Christians will take on more responsibilities while we are gone.
3. Pray for our **family as we are on stateside assignment**. We will travel many miles, so please pray for our safety. Pray for Alejandro and Ana as they attend new schools. Pray also that God will burden many people to give to our mission account (both special offerings and monthly support) so that we can return to Spain on schedule.

Our upcoming services:

- January 26--Liberty FWB Church WAC (Kristi)
- January 27--High Point FWB Church
- January 27-30--Michigan Pastors/Laymen retreat
- February 3--(AM) Little Bethel FWB Church
(PM) High Hill FWB Church
- February 5--Westside FWB Church WAC (Kristi)
- February 6--Grace FWB Church
- February 10--(AM) Southside FWB Church
- February 16--Central District WAC meeting
- February 17--(AM) Northgate FWB Church
(PM) Lockhart FWB Church
- February 23--South Carolina District WAC
- February 24--(AM) Horse Branch FWB Church
- February 28-29--South Carolina State Meeting

March 2--(AM) First FWB Church (Greenwood, SC)

March 9--(AM) Hillside FWB Church
(PM) Bethany FWB Church

Praises!

Jerry Renfro, the Michigan representative for Free Will Baptist Family Ministries expresses his deepest gratitude for the response of Michigan Free Will Baptists in making it possible for the children at the FWB Family Ministries to enjoy Christmas. If Jerry can be of any assistance to you or your church, please contact him.



Just taking a moment to reflect on this past year, it is not hard to see how good God has been to FWB Family Ministries during the past year. ***In 2007, God allowed us to see 101 young people accept Jesus Christ as their Savior, there were 52 rededications, 36 followed Him in Christian baptism and one young man announced his call to preach!*** We thank you for your vital role in helping us meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of children and families.


We want to take this opportunity to specifically thank all of you who responded in December by reaching out to our children with your special Christmas contributions. We appreciate the outpour of giving to ensure all our young people experienced a joyful Christmas.

Because your involvement is key to the continuance of the work God has commissioned us to do, please consider partnering with us this summer through our "**Children Helping Children**" **VBS Campaign**. If your church is already in early planning sessions in preparation for VBS, our campaign is ideal if you are in search of a bible school mission project. We'll be happy to send you a free VBS poster for your bulletin boards, give you fun ideas of how to get your youth involved, and answer any questions you have. We'll celebrate in the fall before school starts back with a cookout and games for participating churches. Call us today at 423-278-1564 for more information.

Through your continued prayers and supports, we are excited about what God has in store for us

**Michigan State Association
Of Free Will Baptists**

37838 Hayes Road
Clinton Twp., MI 48038

in 2008. We are honored that you are such an intricate part of this ministry. Together, we are **“Changing Families, One  at a Time”**.

Coin Banks Available for Distribution

Antioch, TN—Free Will Baptist International Missions recently began distribution of the 2008 *Change the World* coin banks and DVD.

Now in its third year, the *Change the World* coin bank program is a component of the World Missions Offering (WMO) received each April. The 2007 goal of \$500,000 was surpassed by more than \$10,000. As a result, missionary accounts received \$2,000 each; and students in Bible institutes in four countries continue their training.

More than 500 churches utilized the coin banks in 2007. “We’d like to see that number increase significantly,” stated Barry Simpson, director of development. “In fact, I’d like to see a coin bank in every Free Will Baptist home in America.” The coin bank provides a way for children, teens, families, and seniors on fixed incomes to participate in reaching the world for Christ.

The 2008 WMO goal has been placed at \$750,000. Funds raised in 2008 will continue to support Bible institutes in Cuba, Côte d’Ivoire, Russia, and India, as well as reduce our missionaries’ fundraising burden by placing \$5,000 in each account.

In January the Board of International Missions voted to use any funds received over the 2008 WMO goal to expedite the departure of new and stateside missionaries to their fields of service.

Change the World coin banks and DVDs are available by visiting International Missions’ website (www.fwbgo.com) or by calling the office’s toll-free number: 877-767-7736.

I am only a small cigarette. I am not much of a mathematician, but I can **ADD** to a person’s nervous trouble. I can **SUBTRACT** from his physical energy. I can **MULTIPLY** his aches and pains. I take **INTEREST** from his work, and **DISCOUNT** chances for success.

Our Bible contains 810,697 words. This is about four times as many as are found in a book of average length. Although so long a book and dealing with the greatest theme that can engage the mind of man, its vocabulary is singularly limited. Only 6,000 different words are used; which is very small compared to the 20,000 employed by Shakespeare in writing his plays. Not only is the vocabulary limited, but the average word in the Bible contains only five letters. Many of these short words in the Bible are, however, full of the deepest meaning and are worthy of earnest study. Such as these short five-letter words, grace, peace, faith, saved, serve, glory, and Jesus.

—Oxford University Press
