



Michigan State WAC Executive Board:

Officers:

President:

Mattie Riley

Vice President:

Sherry McBroom

Sec'y/Treas:

Pauline Penix

Ass't Sec'y/Treas:

Helen Joslin

Field Worker:

Katy Taylor

Ass't Field Worker:

Rosemary Fairchild

Members at Large:

Fellowship District

President:

Jill Daniels

Trainee:

Debbie Heard

Liberty District

President

Rose Evers

Trainee:

Joyce Kincaid

Western MI District

President:

Patty Ouding

Wolverine District

President

Chris Kuhn

Trainee:

Debbie Guinn

President's Corner!



OBSTACLES/PROMISES

Webster's dictionary defines the word "obstacles" as *anything that stands in the way; an obstruction; a hindrance.*

We confront many obstacles in our daily lives, both physically and spiritually. Health issues, family problems, the current economy causing chaos in many homes and lives plus unexpected problems create obstacles that are often hard to overcome. These can cause many to go into sadness and/or deep depression or even stepping away from the Lord and His goodness. Instead they need to allow our Lord to

help them overcome any and all problems.

Webster says the word "promises" is defined as *a cause or grounds for hope; to give; an undertaking to do or not to do something.* People's promises may or may not be followed through. But God always does as He promises. His promises never fail. God has promised to be with us at all times and He will help when we call on Him. We need to put our faith and trust in Him, not with well meaning friends or family.

Our State Retreat, September 18th and 19th, has "Promises" as our theme using Romans 4:21 "And being fully persuaded that what he has promised, he was able to perform." Seminars will be presented on "The Promise of Salvation", "The Promise of Strength" and "The Promise of Sustaining.

I encourage each lady and teen girl to join us to learn more about God's promises and have a fun filled time, fellowship and a time of refreshing so we will return home uplifted to do more for Him in our local church, our auxiliaries and our mission work. Remember Mona Dukes is returning by popular demand as our guest speaker. You will enjoy her if you have not heard her.

Let's get together at the Retreat as "Sister's in Christ" united together by the bond of God's love.

See you in September!

Mattie



"Promises of" a blessed retreat!

Hopefully you are all prayerfully preparing for the retreat! Even if you cannot attend, we trust you will pray for God's anointing on this special week-end in September.

Reminder: The application deadline of August 10th is quickly approaching. Don't drag your feet and if you are hesitating and are undecided about going, settle it now. You will not be sorry you attended!

Once again you will be able to

purchase **used books** during the retreat. If you have any books you would like to donate, you can bring them with you, but we ask that you price them before you come. That will make it easier for the sisters working the book table. It will save time and allow the ladies to simply place the books where needed. We voted at our State meeting to donate the book sale proceeds to the WNAC office.

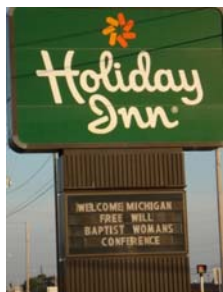
You are also reminded to let Sis. Mattie know in advance if

your local auxiliary is doing something special for those in attendance. Many of you have made special gifts for each lady, and it is a gesture that is very much appreciated. But, the distribution of the items must be coordinated, so please make sure you let her know if you plan to "treat" us again.

We trust you are going to enjoy the retreat this year. It seems every year we say "this was the best one ever." As Sis. Mattie mentioned in her article, there **(continued on page 2)**

Inside this issue:

President's Corner	1
Retreat Update	1
Retreat continued	2
Humility	2
WNAC convention report	3
Int'l Missions	4
Home Missions	5
Creative Arts Winners	5
Report on National	5



38th Annual Women's Retreat

Sponsored by
Michigan State Women
Active for Christ

Holiday Inn –
French Quarters
Perrysburg, Ohio
September 18-19, 2009

Promises of:

Romans 4:21
And being fully
persuaded that, what
he had promised, he
was able to perform.

MI WAC Newsletter
Published by:

Sherry McBroom
North Warren FWB

E-mail:
slmcbroom@comcast.net

Retreat continued!

is no better time than now, with our economic situation, and the degradation of the moral values in our country, to be reminded of God's promises.

Thursday Night registration will start at 7:00 PM in Room 2230. It will end at 9:00 PM in time for the **Prayer Room** that will be held in the Club Car Room. We hope you will plan to attend this prayer room if you are present Thursday evening. It will be led by Sherry McBroom, and the theme will be: *The Past is a Promise*. Last year there were about 50 women who joined together for prayer. We had such a sweet fellowship and the Holy Spirit was present in a mighty way. The surveys indicated that it was a perfect start for the retreat.

Friday morning registration is from 9:00–10:00 AM. In the Depot Foyer. The General Assembly, held in Depot Track I & II, will begin at 10:00 AM. Get there early so you can find your seat, peruse the Used Book table, renew old acquaintances and make new ones.

There will be three seminars Friday morning: **Promises of Salvation** by Angela McGinnis, **Strength** by Katy Taylor and **Sustaining** by Sandra McGowan.

The meeting will be dismissed at Noon and you will be on your own until 6:00 PM when the banquet starts. There are lots

Humility!

A city boy visiting on a farm for the first time saw a field of ripening wheat. He noticed that some of the yellowing stems stood up tall and straight while others gracefully bent their heads. "Those stalks that stand up so tall and straight must be the best," he remarked to the farm

boy who was his companion. "They look as if they were proud of what they were doing." The country boy laughed. "That's because you don't know much about wheat," he explained. He plucked a head of each and rubbing them in his hands showed

of places to have lunch and shop. Or maybe, this would be a good time to read one of those books you purchase at the Used Book table. A nap anyone?

Friday evening we will start at 6:00 PM, Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. And we will dismiss for prayer rooms at 9:00 PM. The list of prayer rooms is being published again so you will have an opportunity to look them over and decide in advance which one you would like to go to. We hope you will not worry so much about which rooms others from your church go to, but rather pick a topic that is timely for you.

Friday Night Prayer Rooms:

Encouragement: Sue Newton

Freedom: Amera Vanover

Energy: Barbara Bratcher

Peace: Vicki Paul

Renewal: Patty Ouding

Wisdom: Rosemary Fairchild

Forgiveness: Rose Evers

Pastor's Wife: Kim Slater

Teen Scene: Rebekah Seymour

We will begin again Saturday morning at 9:00 AM with our General Assembly. You will truly enjoy the **Praise and Worship** service. We should wrap up around 11:30 AM.

Mona Dukes from Johnsonville, South Carolina will be speaking Friday evening and Saturday morning. Mona is a lot of fun and includes some "comedy" with her presentations. She will

make you laugh and cry. Her birthday is Saturday, September 19th, so perhaps we can remember to sing "Happy Birthday" to her

Lastly, we encourage our **teens** to attend the retreat. We have added a special prayer room for you this year. If the number increases we will look at adding special programs in the future.

Charges for Teens - 13 and up must pay full price listed on the application. Of course, an adult must be in the room. Those under 13 years of age will be charged \$10.00 for the banquet and a charge that has not been provided as of yet, for the brunch on Saturday. This money is due upon check in. Those under 13 may sleep on sleeping bags in the room with a parent. We are passing on the charges that WAC has to pay, and we are abiding by the rules of Holiday Inn as far as sleeping arrangements. If you have other questions regarding this, please let us know.

We are looking forward to seeing each of you in September!



If your trouble is
of long standing,
try kneeling!!



that the tall, straight stalks held very little grain, while the bending heads were filled with the promise of a rich harvest.

One of the surest evidences of greatness is a humble spirit.

MI WAC Newsletter

Now on State
Association website:

www.mifwb.com

Look for the WAC
tab and find updates
and our newsletter.

**We appreciate
WNAC for all
they do for
FWB women
and missions.
Thank you!**



WNAC
P.O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN
37011-5002
www.wnac.org

WNAC Report from NAFWB Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio

A special "thank you" to Bro. Gene Norris for providing the following report from the WNAC convention held July 20-21, during the NAFWB convention. This report will also be published in the "Menorah" next month.

~ ~

Women Nationally Active for Christ

Theme: That You May Know

Registration: 776

Speakers: Carol Pinkerton (former missionary to Cote d'Ivoire); Donna Crabtree (Canada)

That You May Know

That You May Know, the 74th annual convention of Women Nationally Active for Christ (WNAC), combined elements of past, present, and future. The two-day event drew 776 attendees and offered women opportunities to understand the changing ministry of WNAC and its participants.

Past

A Monday afternoon fashion show spanned the decades as it showcased the goals and accomplishments of WNAC from the 1930s to present. Christina Hopper (AL), Sandy Forman (AR), and Ellie Sargent (OH) shared moving testimonies about the impact of WNAC upon their lives. Women from Missouri presented a humorous view of what life would be like without WNAC.

Fellowship Luncheon Speaker Carol Pinkerton inspired laughter as she recalled her eventful years as a missionary in Africa and shared her perspective on her recent reentry into American culture. Worship speaker Donna Crabtree shared how God prepared her and her husband Jeff for ministry in Canada. Like a puzzle, each "piece" of their lives strategically fit into place, making the picture clear.

Present

During the convention business session, a new promotional DVD highlighted what today's women want and need from a women's ministry. WNAC is listening. A membership study committee offered a host of practical suggestions for improving and expanding present women's groups. Auditor Joel Collum addressed the crowd about the organization's current financial challenges that required elimination of a full-time staff position. He offered suggestions for eliminating the shortfall and boosting financial stability. Delegates accepted the report and approved a streamlined 2010 budget.

Women also viewed "Faces of Christmas Joy 2009" and added two new faces to its leadership when Amy Johnson (IL) and Pam Hackett (SC) were elected to the WNAC Executive Committee as members-at-large.

In other business, women voted to extend the 20/20/20 Building for the Future project until July 2010. They also agreed to award Cleo Pursell Foreign Student Scholarships to Aida Zhankabayeva (attending FWBBC) and two students attending the Gwen Hendrix Hispanic Bible Institute. Women gave a rising vote of appreciation for Yvonne Hampton's 22-plus years of service in the WNAC office.

Delegates approved resolutions asking for placement of Gideon Bibles in hotel rooms and recommending women to contact authorities with concerns about crumbling morality. They authorized the WNAC staff and Executive Committee to review the current constitution and by-laws in order to offer recommendations for needed updates and changes.

Ohio Women Active for Christ combined taste and talent in welcoming the event. Women

throughout the state made buckeyes (chocolate and peanut butter candies) for everyone who attended the Fellowship Luncheon. Young people from Chapel Hill FWB Church in Columbus, OH presented a dramatic presentation, and Malari Helman of Ohio's Hillview FWB Church led in worship.

Future

"The future is bright," Executive Secretary-Treasurer Danita High emphasized during her first annual report. For the first time in several years, WNAC saw numerical growth and a steady increase in inquiries for starting new groups.

Several attendees took note of younger faces on the stage and in the crowd. Others observed a different spirit and an air of anticipation as WNAC celebrates its 75th year in 2010.

"In the months leading up to the 2010 convention," says Mrs. High, "We will learn from countless others whose legacy leaves a lasting impression on our lives. We will focus our efforts on ministering to the needs of women while providing an array of ministry ideas and opportunities to serve within their sphere of influence and beyond.

"Our vision is to offer a balanced ministry containing both tools for spiritual growth and opportunities to put faith into action. Our name says it well; we must be spiritually strong—*Women Active for Christ.*"

Danita contends that the new ministry focus will require a pioneer spirit and complete dependence upon God's power. Realizing that support from pastors and church leaders is essential to the organization's mission, she welcomes input and participation as laborers together with God.

Free Will Baptist International Missions

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-5002

Phone

(615) 760-6123

www.fwbgo.com

Pray for our Missionaries!

Tim and Kristi Johnson
tjohnson@fwbgo.com

Verlin and Debbie Anderson
vanderson@fwbgo.com

Steve and Becky Riggs
sriggs@fwbgo.com

A Message from Tim and Kristi Johnson – Spain

Dear Michigan ladies, learning to break down strongholds, know God better, find our complete satisfaction in Him, and have the peace of God in our lives. As we near the end of our study, I am thankful that God has given us these months together.

The above verse may read like gibberish to many of you who don't speak Spanish. But its meaning is full of life. In fact, this is the verse that I have been memorizing this week for my Bible study. For the past nine months, I've been spending one evening a week with Marilo as we have been doing a Beth Moore study called "Living Free" (Viva Libre). We've been

God has taught us things that might help you as well. Read along as I give you the translation of each phrase:

"Hazme oír por la mañana Tu misericordia" . . .

Lord, help me to listen each morning to your compassion...

"Porque en Ti he confiado"...

Because of my trust in You...

"Hazme saber el camino por Donde ande" . . .

Help me to know which way I should go...

"Porque a Ti he elevado mi alma"...

Because my spirit has been lifted up to You.

May your weeks be filled with "knowing which way you should go" and your spirit "lifted up to Him".

Kristi Johnson

From the Riggs: Steve and Becky—France

Dear Michigan Ladies:

We rejoice in the birth of Ruben Courcoul, newest addition to the family of Jean-Charles & Magali. A short story about this family. We first met Jean-Charles & Magali about 9 years ago when they visited our church in Nantes. It was the first time ever Jean-Charles had been inside a Protestant church. A few months after they had been attending church, Jean-Charles gave his heart to Christ, and Steve had the privilege of baptising both Jean-Charles & Magali, and shortly after, an added joy was given to perform their wedding ceremony.

Their first years of marriage saw disappointment and pain. They were unable to have

children and asked the church to pray. Joshua was born, but a second pregnancy ended with a medically forced interruption that caused them tremendous pain. Magali again became pregnant only to hear the doctors tell her this baby suffered severe problems and she should abort. They sought other opinions, and chose not to abort though the doctors encouraged her to even in her 9th month of pregnancy.

Jarod was born with a hole in his spine, but with medical care he is doing well today and they have every hope that he will be able to walk with the help of braces. So you see a little of our concerns when she was pregnant with their third child. Ruben was born last week with no complications,

and we are rejoicing with this couple who sincerely love the Lord.

Presently our small church is meeting in their home as we continue to look for a building. Jean-Charles said to us this week when we visited them; "Who would have thought 9 years ago that I would enter a Protestant church, and today we would be working with you to start a new church in Chateaubriant?"

Steve & Becky Riggs

In filling out an application for a factory job, a man puzzled for a long time over this question: "Person to notify in case of accident." Finally he wrote, "Anybody in sight."

Free Will Baptists National Home Missions

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-
5002

Phone

Toll Free:
(877) 767-7674
(615) 731-6812

www.homemissions.net



**Special Need for
the Provision
Closet this
coming year is:
Blankets
Please keep in
mind!**

Jeff and Charissa
Isaacs
pastorjeffisaacs@yahoo.com

Greg and Lea
Floars
g.floars@yahoo.com

Greetings from Battle Creek!

Friends,

The new building is changing every day. The new roof is up and the new floor is in. All of this work has happened since the last time I wrote to all of you.

We have had a second tremendous work group from Kirby without which we would not be as far along as we are. Local volunteers have also been working daily in various ways. We are seeing God moving in our community through the people stopping by and offering services and promotions for our project and grand opening.

We are continuing to meet new families who are interested on what is going on and when the church will open in their community.

Thanks for all of you help so far, we are currently ahead of schedule and glad to see every

day of progress. This week the youth group from Central Free Will Baptist in Royal Oak are here to help with the project and to help announce our grand opening at the end of September.

Please continue to pray for this project and the growth of the work.

Your Home Missionaries in Battle Creek, Michigan,

Jeff, Charissa, Clay and Sarah Isaacs

I've found a little
remedy to ease the
life we live,
And make each day a
happier one,
It is the word,
"FORGIVE"!

What did the National Convention mean to you?

The following two sisters were kind enough to report their experiences from the NAFWB convention:

I am in Texas visiting family after our trip to Cincinnati, Ohio to attend the National FWB Convention. It was very nice, and well organized. The church services were awesome. There was lots of great singing for the Lord and many, many Sisters and Brothers in Christ attended. I got up early one morning to attend the talk given by two young men in Christ from Tajikistan. They gave their testimonies about living on the streets since they were eight years old. There is a great need for support of a Rehabilitation center (orphanage) building project going on there. They talked

about thousands of children there on the streets with nobody to take care of them. It was very moving. It was a great convention and I hope to be able to attend every year. Love in Christ **Sis Linda Jones**—Friendship FWB Church, Davison, Mi

From **Mary Johnson**—North Warren FWB Church: The convention meant: A time of refreshing the spiritual vigor and vitality. A time of meeting and fellowshiping with old friends. A time of making new friends. This was the best National I have ever been to. The WNAC day (Tuesday) was just a tremendous day. They did a skit on "Framing the Past and Focusing on the Future" that just tore my heart up. Donna Crabtree from Canada spoke and it

Creative Arts Winners!

What a thrill to announce two Michigan winners in the WNAC Creative Arts contest for 2009. They are: Beatrice Daniels from North Warren Free Will Baptist who won third place with her program (devotion) entitled "What Not to Wear".

Michelle Lee Moyer, Roseville, MI, won third place in the poetry division with her entry "Follow You Anywhere". (I'm sorry I do not know which church Michelle attends, but I would be glad to post it next month if someone lets me know.)

Congratulations to both of you! Thank you for sharing your God given talent.

WNAC's annual Creative Arts Contest encourages women to develop their talents in art and journalism, while contributing to the ministry of *Together With God* magazine. Categories include: Photography, Art, Poetry, Devotionals, Articles, Programs, Skits/Plays and Scrapbooking

was just great. Also, Carol Pinkerton spoke at the banquet and had us laughing and crying at the same time.

The National Convention will be held in Oklahoma City, OK next year, July 18-21. The 2010 convention will be a 75th Anniversary Celebration of the initiation of the modern era of worldwide missions. All of the missionaries will be present and it should be a phenomenal time!

2010 will be a year of celebration. Watch for the studies from WNAC leading up to the convention. I'm sure you will find them very meaningful as they will relate to the feelings that women know much about. Stay tuned for more!