

**79<sup>th</sup> Annual Session**  
*of the*  
**West Virginia State Association**  
***of Free Will Baptists***

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> 2025

**“Behold I Stand At The Door”**

*Scripture: Revelations 3:20*

**Central Free Will Baptist Church**





## PROGRAM 2025

Central Free Will Baptist Church, at Huntington, WV  
welcomes you to the 79th annual session of the  
West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist

June 06 & 07, 2025

**THEME “Behold I Stand At The Door” Scripture: Revelations 3:20**

### *Agenda Friday, June 06, 2025*

- 9:30 Welcome and instructions by Host Pastor Steve Williams  
9:35 Moderator’s Challenge  
9:40 Recognition of Visitors  
9:45 Executive Board Report of Conference Letters, and highlights of meeting minutes.  
9:50 Treasurer’s Report  
9:55 Election of Officers and Committees  
Business Committee – 5 Members: -  
3 Ministers, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Deacons, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Program Placement Committee – 7 Members: -  
2 Ministers, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Deacon, \_\_\_\_\_  
4 Delegates, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Executive Committee – 2 Members at Large from Executive Board, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Audit Committee – 5 Members, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Nominating Committee – 5 Ordained Ministers, (for next year) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
  
10:10 Group Session/Fellowship, (Possible Committee time).  
11:00 Devotional – Rev. Rickie Holstein  
Speaker – Rev. Roscoe Chafin  
12:00 Lunch

### *Friday Afternoon Session*

- 1:15 Devotional – Rev. Jody Fortner  
Moderator calls session to order  
1:30 Obituary Report  
1:40 Promotional Directors Report  
2:00 Partial Business Committee Report  
2:20 State Association Executive Board Report  
3:00 Mission’s Board Recognition of Churches and plaques presentation  
Adjournment

### *Friday Night Worship*

- 7:00 Devotional – Rev. Steve Williams  
Offering for Missions  
Speaker – Rev. Tom Blake  
Recognition of Ordained Ministers and Deacons with thirty years or more combined service.

***Saturday Morning, June 07, 2025***

- 9:00 Devotional – Rev. Mark Price  
9:10 Moderator calls session to order  
9:15 Hand of Fellowship  
9:25 National Reports  
National Executive Office  
Randall House  
Representatives from Children’s Homes  
College Reports  
National Missions Report (North American Ministries, International Missions)  
National Master’s Men Report  
National Women Active for Christ Report  
Other Reports
- 10:00 Committee Reports / Digest of Reports, Questions and Answers  
10:10 Initial Nominating Committee Report
- General Board Member to the National Association, \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer, \_\_\_\_\_  
Christian Education Board, 7 year member \_\_\_\_\_  
Masters Men Board, 7 year member, \_\_\_\_\_  
6 year member vacant, \_\_\_\_\_  
4 year member vacant, \_\_\_\_\_  
Mission Board, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Obituary Committee, \_\_\_\_\_  
Parliamentarian, \_\_\_\_\_  
Publication Board, \_\_\_\_\_
- 10:20 Letter to the National Association, elect 5 National Delegates \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- 10:25 Partial Business Committee
- 10:40 Fellowship  
Adjournment for Morning Worship  
Devotional – Rev. Isaiah Hatfield  
Speaker – Guest from National Association
- 12:00 Lunch

***Saturday Afternoon Session***

- 1:15 Devotional – Rev. Jonny Slazo  
1:25 Moderator calls session to order  
1:30 Program Committee Report  
1:35 Final Business Committee Report  
1:40 Final Nominating Committee Report (if needed)
- Tabled items of business
- Elect Moderator / Assistant Moderator
- Adjournment

## 2025 Mid-Year Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist met in session February 22, 2025, at the Central Free Will Baptist Church, at Huntington, WV at 10:00am, with 21 in attendance.

Moderator Rev. Isaiah Hatfield welcomed the assembly and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Hymn: What A Friend We Have In Jesus. Pianist: Sister Jody Sullivan, Song leader Bro. Thomas Hoffmaster.

Prayer requests were taken, prayer led by Rev. Christopher Bishop. Cathy Whitt of Beckley Conference passed away this morning!

Scripture: Acts 3: 1-9

Message by Rev. Isaiah Hatfield.

Meeting called to order by Moderator Rev. Isaiah Hatfield.

### Roll Call of Local Conference EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Beckley -	Wayne Peters,	present
Brotherhood -	Randy Jeffers,	present
Calvary-	Roger Tolliver,	absent
Christian Fellowship -	Johnny Faine,	absent
Eastern Panhandle -	Thomas Hoffmaster II,	present
Elk River -	Dennis Vance,	absent
Freedom -	Jody Brown,	absent
Greenbrier Nicholas -	Alva "Bud" Casto,	present
Guyan Valley -	Michel Mullins,	present
Huff Creek -	Shane Bryant,	absent, proxy Rev. DJ Scarberry
Huff Creek #1-	Steve Hunt,	absent
Kanawha -	Rickie Holstein,	present
Liberty -	Scott Erwin,	present
Logan -	Larry Light,	absent
#1 Mingo -	Jason May,	absent
Tug River -	GW Mounts,	absent, proxy Curtis Hall
Unity -	Christopher Bishop,	present
Upper Ohio Valley -	Tom Blake,	present
Wayne -	Rodney Scott,	present
Wyoming -	Raybon K. Cook,	absent

12 of 20 Executive Board Members were present for roll call. A quorum was present.

Our Assistant Moderator GW Mounts was unable to attend today.

M / S was moved to elect Rev. Rex Cox as Assistant. Motion carried.

**Question and Answer period** from 2024 State Meeting minutes. (Unfinished business covered later on!) No questions.

### Reports:

**State Promotional Director's Report:** Bro. Rickie Holstein. He highlighted his 9,474 miles traveled and 915 hours worked since June 2024. He is concerned about struggling churches. The state-wide calendar is in use to see meetings and events, dates and times. Has been working with the Mounts brothers to get the Lilly of the Valley Church re-opened. Working with Kentucky and Ohio Bible Institutes. Mentioned that so far no venue has been found for the 2026 National Convention.

M / S to receive Promotional Director's report. Motion passed.

**Treasurers Report:** Bro. Curtis Hall gave the treasurer's report.

Current Balances as of January 31, 2025 are;

General Fund Account	\$20,183.06	
Promotional Directors Fund	\$ 3,436.47	Promotional Directors Account with FWB Foundation \$53,562.99
2026 National Conv. Fund checking \$	1.72	2026 National Conv. Fund with Foundation \$51,199.68
Masters Men Account	\$ 253.49	
Contingent fund	\$ 56.33	
General Ledger Total Assets	\$ 23,931.07	M / S to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

**Moderator calls Assistant Moderator to take over while he gives the Executive Committee report.**

**Executive Committee Report:** Report was given by Isaiah Hatfield. The Committee has met 4 times. He highlighted the activities of the Committee. He talked about finances being down and mentioned the history of Co-Op and that we should give to support the State. A definition of Co-Op will be covered later. Isaiah told of the situation behind the 2026 National Convention not being hosted by WV. The City of Charleston let us down by not notifying the National Association of the Municipal Auditorium being condemned until 9 months after the fact! With the increase in attendance and based on last years numbers the Civic Cener is not capable of holding the expected attendance. (As a side note, the Civic Center has been remodeled and the large area that the Youth Competitions were held in previously, is no longer capable of hosting that large of a crowd). Discussions have been held on what to do with the designated funds for the 2026 Nationals. We will cover this later.

M / S to receive the report. Motion passed. Assistant Moderator hands meeting back to the Moderator.

**Mission Board Report:** Report was given by Rev. Jody Fortner. Scholarships are available and are for attending FWB colleges only! The Morgantown work is still on hold and we have not found anyone willing to go there. There is now a form Churches can fill out for requested assistance. The Awtrey's will be in WV in March.

M / S to receive the Mission Board report. Motion passed.

**Mission Board Financial Report:** Report was given by Rev. Rickie Holstein.

2023	Beginning Balance	\$ 120,223.11
	Total Income	\$ 186,676.49
	Total Expenses	\$ 180,447.31
2023	Ending Balance	\$ 126,452.29

Hurricane/flood relief money given was \$46,640.

March for Missions giving for 2024 giving was \$42,715.63.

M / S to receive the report. Comments during question period were, maybe the Mission Board can help with the Promotional Directors Fund, and what is being done with the money for the Morgantown work? Motion passed.

**WAC report:** Report by Sister Jody Sullivan. All women are welcome to join with us! We have a few new Auxiliaries. We are having an impromptu meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup> here at Central so Lydia Awtrey can speak to the women. Our May Convention will be May 17, 2025, at Park Circle FWB Church at Kenova, WV. Our theme is "My Hiding Place". Our Missions project for this meeting will be to bring an offering for Ebenezer Outreach Clinic, of Huntington, WV. They help those who cannot afford hearing aids. Our Fall Retreat will be September 5 – 6, 2025, and will be held at the Cornerstone FWB Church at Crab Orchard, WV. The theme will be "The Goodness of God". Our mission project is to receive an offering for the Snows, and Shannon Little, Missionaries to Japan. Please encourage your ladies to join in our meetings. If you are a FWB woman, you are part of the Women's Ministry!

M / S to receive the written report. Motion passed.

**Christian Education Board:** Report given by Bro. Randy Jeffers. They have met 3 times. The 2025 Bible, Music and Arts Festival is April 5, 2025, at the Harmony FWB Church, at Wayne, WV at 8:30am. We are preparing to record and share the BMA Festival activities. We have invited Youth Groups to come and sing to showcase their talent even if they do not want to compete. They can watch and learn how things work. We have scheduled the inaugural FWB Youth Night for September 26, 2025 at the Brotherhood Conference Center in Salt Rock, from 5-8:00pm We will highlight our activities during the Group Session time slot during the Friday Morning session at State.

Financial Report for June 1, 2024 - February 22, 2025

Beginning Balance	\$ 8,405.82
Total Income	\$ 1,702.65
Total Expenses	\$ 127.74
Ending Balance	\$ 9,980.73
Balance with Foundation	\$ 5,982.97

M / S to receive the report. Motion passed.

**General Board Member to National Association:** Report, none.

**Historical Committee:** Brother Rickie Holstein. We still lack information on many of our Churches. Please help us gather this information before it is lost forever! M / S to receive the report. Motion passed.

**Masters Men: Bro. Mike Mullins.** We apologize for our last minute attempt at having a retreat last year. We were not able to register the required number of men to hold the available space at Cedar Lakes, and we did lose our deposit of around \$180. We feel that due to the short notice is why we couldn't get enough men registered. We would like to hold one this year on September 12 & 13. Brother Ken Akers from the National Master's Men has agreed to come and preach. We would like your input on accommodations. The Masters Men asked if we need liability insurance, or do we have coverage to take young men to work Activities? (Side note) (The moderator discussed with Mike during lunch that they could not take young men to work activities. They would need the fathers to go, and the fathers could bring the young men with them). M / S to receive the report. Motion passed.

**Nominating Committee:** Report given by Rev. Randy Jeffers. He has been contacting people and several have committed to serve. Need to find a couple people to fill positions. M / S to receive the report. Motion passed.

**Publication Board:** Report was given by Rev. Rickie Holstein. He still needs email addresses so he can get information to more people. They plan to get back to doing three Messengers. We will be using Facebook to post anything the Publication Board puts out. (WV FWB Messenger) M / S to receive the report. Motion passed.

**Clerk's Report:** Given by Bro. Keith Hadley. Subscription due in early March for Microsoft Office, it has risen to \$130 per year. The State Letter packets are ready to mail to the Conference Clerks. M / S to receive the report. Motion passed.

**Web Master:** Bro Thomas Hoffmaster. The State Calander can be opened up to see the listed activities by scrolling to the bottom and clicking Google Calander View. Received as a point of information.

**Other Reports:** None.

**Unfinished Business:**

- 1- Masters Men Board Chairman was given power to appoint members to fill vacant positions. Steve Hunt has agreed to serve.

**New Business: The Executive Committee recommends that the Executive Board address the following items!**

**1- Co-operative Giving definition.**

The Clerk said we still have Executive Board members that do not know what co-op is. Brother Keith did an extensive search through the National and State records as to what co-op is. The only thing he came up with is, the Church is to give 10% to the Cooperative plan of giving. We need to come up with a clear definition.

His definition of cooperative giving is; **The basic concept of Co-Operative Giving is Tithing! We are taught to tithe 10% to God (to the Church) The Church should tithe 10%, either to the Local Conference or directly to the State Association. The Local Conference should tithe 10% to the State Association. The State Association tithes 10% to the National Association.**

Rickie said he would work on writing a definition. Isaiah will double check the video to make sure it says co-op is an offering to the State.

The definition could be placed in the Constitution under Article 3, section 2, Duties of the Officers, IX The Executive Board, at the top of page 12 in the Minutes Book, or under Article 4 and add as Section 4, at the bottom of page 14. (On page 14 is a better fit!)

Here is Brother Rickie's definition.

**Cooperative Giving**

**The term Co-Op, is a simplified form of saying Cooperative Giving.**

**Co-Op is a plan of giving; whereby, churches (in this case, those of the West Virginia State Association of FWB), give regularly and consistently, to a single fund, which is then divided and distributed to various church related organizations, that we may better fulfil the Great Commission.**

**How does it work? Each church gives a portion of their tithes and offerings to the Co-Op fund (usually 10%). Then the Co-Op fund is divided and distributed to various works of the Free Will Baptist organization.**

Currently, WV Co-Op is divided as follows: General Fund 22%; Christian Education Fund 10%; WV Missions Fund 10%; Promotional Director's Fund 48%; and the National Co-Op Fund 10%.

The principle of Co-Op giving. One church can give a little, which can help others a little. Several churches, coming together, and giving co-operatively can help more, and have a far greater impact. Hundreds of churches coming together and giving co-operatively can have a substantially greater impact.

Co-Op giving allows us to do more together – than we ever could individually.

M / S was moved to accept this item of business. After a lengthy discussion,

M / S was moved to amend the motion to limit the description to the following, and to add this to the Constitution as Article 4, Section 4 on page 14. "The Executive Board shall promote participation of our Churches and Conferences in supporting the Co-Operative Giving Plan," as described,

**Cooperative Giving**

The term Co-Op, is a simplified form of saying Cooperative Giving.

Co-Op is a plan of giving; whereby, churches (in this case, those of the West Virginia State Association of FWB), give regularly and consistently, (usually 10%) to a single fund, which is then divided and distributed to various church related organizations, that we may better fulfil the Great Commission. After further discussion the amendment was voted on and passed. A vote was taken on the main motion and was passed as well. The Clerk noted that he could add the rest of the description to the Recommendations page listed on page 21 of the minutes book.

- 2- The Executive Committee recommends that the Executive Board consider using the existing funds raised for hosting the 2026 National Convention in Charleston WV to;

Start a WV State Association of FWB Endowment, as follows;

- a. WHEREAS, this Endowment will provide ongoing support and regular income to aid the WV State Association in its goal of the success of Free Will Baptist Churches in West Virginia.
- b. WHEREAS, the ongoing endowment will be a "True Endowment" that is kept perpetually until the Lord returns.
- c. WHEREAS, the Executive Committee will act as an oversight committee to retain 30% of the earnings to be used by the State Association of FWB. Retained earnings will be drawn monthly (12 times per year); received and accounted for through the General Fund. (dependent on allowable transaction guidelines)
- d. ADDITIONALLY, a three-month (3 mo.) window will be opened for any church desiring their funds returned by a written request. The original purpose of the funds was to host the 2026 National Convention, which we are no longer hosting.

Notes from discussion, discussion was held and the 70% / 30% split on interest earnings was determined to be a good starting point. Many churches will probably want their designated money back. A yearly Endowment Fund Offering was also suggested. Other State Associations utilize Endowments that work well. **It was determined to delay any decision on this matter until the pre-state meeting and consider this as a point of information.**

**Lunch:** M / S to adjourn for lunch, carried. Dismissed at 12:10pm. **Blessing on food:** by Rev. Mike Mullins

**Afternoon Business session:** was called to order at 1:12pm by Moderator Rev. Isaiah Hatfield.

**Other New Business: None.**

M / S to thank the Central Church for their hospitality, and the meal. Motion passed by a standing vote of thanks.  
Announcements:

Announcements: Our Pre-State meeting will be held on May 31st.

With no other business,

M / S was moved to close the business session until our next regularly scheduled meeting. Motion carried.

Dismissal prayer was led by Rev. Rex Cox

Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.

Keith Hadley, Clerk



## 2025 Executive Board Pre-State Meeting Minutes

The Executive Board of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist met in session May 31, 2025, at the Central Free Will Baptist Church, at Huntington, WV at 10:00am, with 23 in attendance.

Moderator Rev. Isaiah Hatfield welcomed the assembly and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Hymn: What A Day That Will Be.

Prayer: Rev. Shane Bryant.

Scripture: Acts 3: 11

Moderators Challenge by Isaiah.

Business meeting called to order.

**Roll Call:** 11 of 20 Executive Board Members (quorum present).

Beckley -	Wayne Peters,	absent
Brotherhood -	Randy Jeffers,	present
Calvary-	Roger Tolliver,	absent
Christian Fellowship -	Johnny Faine,	absent
Eastern Panhandle -	Thomas Hoffmaster II,	present
Elk River -	Dennis Vance,	present
Freedom -	Mike Brown,	absent
Greenbrier Nicholas -	Alva “Bud” Casto,	present
Guyan Valley -	Michel Mullins,	present
Huff Creek -	Shane Bryant,	present
Huff Creek #1-	Steve Hunt,	absent
Kanawha -	Rickie Holstein,	present
Liberty -	Scott Erwin,	absent, had a funeral
Logan -	Larry Light,	absent
Mingo #1 -	Scott Nelson	absent
Tug River -	GW Mounts,	present
Unity -	Christopher Bishop	absent
Upper Ohio Valley -	Tom Blake,	present
Wayne -	Rodney Scott,	present
Wyoming -	Raybon K. Cook,	present

### Reports:

**Clerk’s Report:** Minutes of the last meeting were review by Asst. Clerk, Shane Bryant. See digest for minutes. M / S to accept minutes. Motion carried.

**State Promotional Director’s Report:** Rev. Rickie Holstein. See Digest of Reports for complete report. M / S to accept the report. Motion passed.

Moderator call Assistant Moderator to take charge. Assistant Moderator calls Moderator to give report.

**Executive Committee Report:** Rev. Isaiah Hatfield. The 2026 National Convention will be held in Colombus, Ohio. See Digest of Reports for complete report. M / S to approve the report. Motion passed.

Assistant Moderator gives charge back to Moderator.

**Conference Letters Report:** Report given by Keith Hadley. Letters have been received from all 20 Conferences. There is still much of the requested information that is not being reported. Two letters were delinquent (lost in the mail). I called their Clerks and got the letters completed via telephone. Will have to wait on dues checks to come. The following Conferences have new Executive Board members, Beckley - Terry Hatcher replacing Wayne Peters. The following Conferences did not list an Executive Board member. Christian Fellowship, Eastern Panhandle, Huff Creek,

and Logan. So I assume last years members will retain their positions. The following Conferences have new Clerks, Beckley – Ministerial Clerk is Cherri Farley, and Mingo #1 clerk is Brian Lowe. Church dues- 21 Holden Church from the Christian Fellowship Conference is \$25 short on State Dues. Huff Creek Conference gained the Kitchen Community Church in Chapmanville, and the Kanawha Conference lost Loudendale Church. We have 130 Churches in the State Association. After review of the letters,

I move a motion that we receive all 20 Conferences into fellowship, and accept their Ministers, Deacons, Delegates and Executive Board members as listed.

Seconded to approve the report. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Written report and proposed Co-Op Budget was reviewed by Treasure Bro. Curtis Hall. The General Fund Account balance beginning January 1, 2024 was \$32,173.11 Total assets \$94,033.90. Ending Dec. 31, 2024 General fund was \$ 19,915.79, and the total asset closing balance was \$129,967.30 . The current general fund balance as of May 31, 2025 is \$ 21,437.82

It was recommended by the Treasurer to adopt the following Co-Op budget.

General Fund	22%
Christian Education	10%
WV Mission Board	10%
Promotional Director	48%
National Co-Op	<u>10%</u>
	100%

See Digest of Reports for complete report.

M / S to accept the annual Treasurers Report and proposed Co-Op budget, motion passed.

#### **Board and Committee reports:**

**Mission Board Report:** Rev. Jody Fortner. The Morgantown work has been suspended. We voted to suspend funding of Josue Rivera in the Eastern Panhandle. See Digest of Reports for complete report.

M / S to accept the report. Motion passed.

**Mission Board Financial Report:** Written report was handed out and reviewed by Rev. Rickie Holstein. The 2024 beginning balance on January 1, 2024 was \$120,223.11, ending balance December 31, 2024 was \$126,452.29.

The 2024 March for Missions giving was \$42,715.63

See Digest of Reports for complete report.

M / S to accept, motion carried.

**WAC Report:** Sister Jody Sullivan. The Fall Retreat is September 5-6, 2025, at Cornerstone FWB Church, in Crab Orchard, WV. (We Need Your Women)! See Digest of Reports for complete report.

M / S to accept the report. Motion passed.

**Christian Education Board:** Rev. Randy Jeffers reported for John Gorrell. Written report and treasurers report was handed out and reviewed. See Digest of Reports.

M / S to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Nominating Committee Report:** Rev. Randy Jeffers. He said most positions have been filled, still working to fill the remaining slots.

M / S to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Audit Committee Report:** Rev. Bud Casto. All four accounts (State Association, Missions Board, Christian Education Board and the WAC) were audited and found to be in good order. External Auditor agreed. See Digest of Reports for internal and external audit reports.

M / S to accept the report. Motion passed.

**General Board Member to National Association Report:** Dr. Jim Cox. See Digest of Reports.

M / S to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Historical Committee:** Report was given by Rev. Rickie Holstein. “HELP”.  
See Digest of Reports for complete report.  
M / S to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Publication Board:** Brother Rickie Holstein reviewed the report and said he had an item of business concerning the Messenger he will present later. See Digest of Reports for complete report.  
M / S to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Masters Men Board Report:** Report given by Rev. Shane Bryant and Mike Mullins. Working on possible fall retreat. Ken Ackers has agreed to come. Talked to Jerry Bryant this morning and he is waiting to hear back from his contacts supervisor later today from Chief Logan Lodge. We are willing to take suggestions for ideas of things to do. We try to keep costs down since we have no budget, all costs are passed along to those attending any functions.  
M / S to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Web Master:** Rev Thomas Hoffmaster. If I can place anything on the site for any boards or committees let me know. Can arrange for on-line payments through the church account.  
M / S to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Co-Op Report: from any Executive Board member. None.** Bro. Isaiah reminded the Executive Board Members that they are to represent the Co-Op to their Conferences.

**Trustee Board Report:** None

**Un-finished Business:** None

**New Business:**

- 1- The Executive Committee is recommending to the Executive Board that we would utilize the existing funds raised for hosting the 2026 National Convention, to start a WV State Association of FWB Endowment, utilizing the Church Extension Loan Fund Investment Program, (CELF) through the North American Ministries, and to allow the interest to build for a period of 5 years, before drawing 30% of interest earned, semiannually (every 6 months).

The endowment is to be set in place as follows;

- a. WHEREAS, this Endowment will provide ongoing support and regular income to aid the WV State Association in its goal of the success of Free Will Baptist Churches in West Virginia.
- b. WHEREAS, the ongoing endowment will be a “True Endowment” that is kept perpetually until the Lord returns.
- c. WHEREAS, the Executive Committee will act as an oversight committee to retain 30% of the earnings to be used by the State Association of FWB. Retained earnings will be drawn semiannually, received and accounted for through the General Fund.
- d. ADDITIONALLY, a three-month (3 mo.) window will be opened for any church desiring their funds returned by a written request. The original purpose of the funds was to host the 2026 National Convention, which we are no longer hosting.

M / S to accept this item of business and present this to the State Association. Questions; Should we give a portion of the money to Ohio the help with their cost of hosting the 2026 National Convention? Brother Isaiah said he had talked to the Ohio people several times and they never mentioned needing funds or help in hosting.  
Vote taken, Motion passed to accept this item and present to the State Association.

**2- To re-hire Rickie Holstein as our 2026 Promotional Director.**

M / S to retain Brother Rickie as Promotional Director for 2026. Motion carried.

M / S to adjourn for lunch, motion carried. Resume business at 1:00pm.  
Prayer and blessing by Rev. Isaiah Hatfield at 11:56am

**Afternoon Business Session:** Business was called to order by the Moderator at 1:00pm

Promotional Director Rev. Rickie Holstein presented an item of business that we no longer do the Messenger, and just do newsletters. He states that it takes multiple steps to prepare the Messenger and it takes about 2-1/2 weeks to work

through the process. A news letter can be ready in just a few hours. Thus getting more up to date information out to our people.

M / S to accept this item and present to the State Association. Questions and comments- Will this eliminate the Publication Board? No. We will need to clean up the Constitution and By-Laws where the Messenger is mentioned, at a later date!

Vote was taken and motion passed.

The Clerk mentioned by not receiving the two Conference letters delayed by the Postal Service, that the State maybe could cover the National dues of \$1600 for the 8 churches from the Freedom and Guyan Valley Conferences, so there is no delay in getting the Letter to the National sent out on time.

M / S was moved to give the Treasurer the authority to pay these dues, while we wait for the conference checks to come through. Motion passed.

**Business Items to bring before the State Association: From Mid-Year meeting.**

Constitution change as Article 4, Section 4 on page 14. "The Executive Board shall promote participation of our Churches and Conferences in supporting the Co-Operative Giving Plan.

M / S to give the Church a rising vote of thanks for the great meal and their hospitality.

Announcements, We need a host church for the 2027 State Association. Trinity Church decided they cannot facilitate us.

M / S to adjourn. Motion carried.

Dismissed in Prayer by Pastor Steve Williams, at 1:15pm

Keith Hadley Clerk

# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 2024 - 2025

**Minutes of the West Virginia State Association Executive Committee meeting** held at the Bob Evans Restaurant at Charleston, WV on August 12, 2024.

Member's present were Isaiah Hatfield, GW Mounts, Rickie Holstein, Scotty Erwin, John Gorrell, Jody Fortner, and Keith Hadley.

Meeting was called to order by Isaiah Hatfield. Prayer requests given and prayer led by Bro. Scotty Erwin.

Brother Isaiah reads scripture from 2 Kings and makes comments.

## **Reports:**

**Treasurers Report:** Brother Scotty Erwin reviewed the written report provided by Brother Curtis. As of July 31, 2024, the General Fund was \$27,096.43. The Promotional Directors Fund was \$6,008.87 and is getting low. Only enough left for about 3 months. General Ledger total was \$34,364.56. Total with FWB Foundation for 2026 National is \$47,364.56. Promotional Directors account with the FWB Foundation is \$52,249.60. M / S to accept report, carried.

**Christian Education Board:** Report reviewed by John Gorrell. John mentioned Jim and Linda Hutchison and is thankful for all their work over the years that Sister Linda had done for the BM&A Festival. Jim was right there working with her! The next Bible Music and Arts Festival will be in April 2025 but the date has not been set yet. We will reach out to Dr. James Cox, Jr. who hosts the Brotherhood Conference annual Minister and Deacons Seminar to see how we can assist. We have two wonderful additions to the C E Board. M / S to accept report. Carried

**Promotional Directors Report:** Rev. Rickie Holstein reviewed his activity since April. Hours worked was 509, and miles traveled was 5547. Rickie mentioned the following items:

- 1- Teaching Church Health.
- 2- National Christian Law and Liberty. Would like to possibility get them to come to WV in December.  
M / S to accept report. Carried

Rickie further discussed the following.

- a. Working with the FWB Foundation to come tentatively October 19<sup>th</sup>. We would discuss Estate Planning (living trust), annuities, endowments, probate, etc. This could be a way to financially help with our lack of funds. A percentage of the interest from individuals that invest can have money come back to the State general fund.
- b. Christian Law Seminar- Tentatively available to come Dec 7<sup>th</sup>. One of several things they would cover are, Protection Youth. Examples are, no single texting, only use group texting pastor included. Have a witness when counseling both male or female. Incorporation of Churches, they are working to address this issue.  
They do not charge for the seminar, but we would need to pay their expenses. We could charge a registration fee or get churches to sponsor. Rickie will contact them to get an estimated cost of their expenses. We would need to get approval from the Executive Board if we were to pay anything out of the general fund. There may not be enough time to get approval and make arraignments to do this year. We could do a one call to see if there is interest in both sponsoring and attending a seminar.
- c. State Calander. Gathering schedules for different boards and committee meetings.

- d. Discussed the Masters Men Retreat scheduled for September.

**Mission Board Report:** Jody Fournier. Everyone is doing well. Had reorganizational meeting in July. We voted to continue efforts for the Morgantown work. We will be meeting with Josue Rivera and discuss the work in the Eastern Panhandle. It was mentioned that Christopher Priestley (Dwight's son) was in Morgantown trying to start a Church. It was discussed that maybe he could take on the Morgantown Mission work. John Gorrell will check with him to see if interested. M / S to approve. Carried.

**Publication Board Report:** Report given by Rickie.

**Clerks Report:** The minutes books are at the printer and will be out soon. Printing 350 books again this year. Overall cost is the same, due to printing a few pages less.

**Co-operative Giving** was discussed. The Clerk said we still have Executive Board members that do not know what co-op is. I did an extensive search through the National and State records as to what co-op is. The only thing I come up with is, the Church is to give 10% to the Cooperative plan of giving. We need to come up with a clear definition. My definition of cooperative giving is; **The basic concept of Co-Operative Giving is Tithing! We are taught to tithe 10% to God (to the Church) The Church should tithe 10%, either to the Local Conference or directly to the State Association. The Local Conference should tithe 10% to the State Association. The State Association tithes 10% to the National Association.**

Rickie said he would work on writing a definition. Isaiah will double check the video to make sure it says co-op is an offering to the State. The definition could be placed in the constitution under Article 3, section 2, Duties of the Officers, IX The Executive Board, or under Article 4 and add as Section 4. M / S to accept the report. Carried.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

Continue to pray for the 2026 National. We need to continue to raise funds for it.

Next meeting will be October 14, 2024, Meeting adjourned.

Dismissal prayer by Rev. John Gorrell

Keith Hadley, Clerk

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**Minutes of the West Virginia State Association Executive Committee meeting** held at the Bob Evans Restaurant at Charleston, WV on October 14, 2024.

Member's present were Isaiah Hatfield, GW Mounts, Rickie Holstein, Curtis Hall, Scotty Erwin, John Gorrell, Thomas Hoffmaster II, and Keith Hadley.

Meeting was called to order by Isaiah Hatfield. Prayer requests given and prayer led by Bro. Scotty Erwin.

Brother Isaiah reads scripture from John 4 and makes comments.

**Reports:**

**Treasurers Report:** Brother Curtis Hall reviewed the written report. As of September 30, 2024, the General Fund was \$19,046.37. The Promotional Directors Fund was \$6,556.59. General Ledger total was \$26,859.80.

Total with FWB Foundation for 2026 National is \$47,876.94. Promotional Directors account with the FWB Foundation is \$52,249.60. M / S to accept report, carried.

**Christian Education Board:** Report reviewed by John Gorrell. The next Bible Music and Arts Festival will be April 5, 2025, at the Harmony Church. We plan to invite all Conference Youth Choir's to sing one song at the BMA Festival, to sing 1 or 2 songs not for competition but as a exposition. We discussed having a Youth Nite Event a few times a year. M / S to accept report. Carried

**Promotional Directors Report:** Rev. Rickie Holstein reviewed his activity since August 12. Hours worked was 174, and miles traveled was 1861. Rickie mentioned the following items:

- 3- Teaching Church Health.
- 4- Flooding, \$9000 has been received thus far.
- 5- Calander, is being used and is on web-site.

M / S to accept report. Carried

Rickie further discussed the following.

Conferences with few Churches. Calvary only has One Church. Clerk to check to see how many Conferences have only 2 or 3 Churches. It was suggested that going forward a Conference must have 3 or more Churches to join the State Association.

**Mission Board Report:** Rickie Holstein. Everyone is doing well. Still no interest shown for the Morgantown work. We did have a meeting with Josue Rivera. He continues to work in the Eastern Panhandle. M / S to approve. Carried.

**Publication Board Report:** Report given by Rickie. Please utilize our web page. Will change calendar appearance.

**Clerks Report:** I have updated the information request from The National Office. Nothing was done on the definition of Co-operative giving. M / S to accept the report. Carried.

**Old Business:** Discussion on the 2026 National. We need to continue to raise funds for it. Still looking for trinkets to offer visitors.

**New Business:** None.

Tim York wants to help WV and is offering web meetings to our people.

Next meeting will be December 16, 2024, Meeting adjourned. Dismissal prayer by Rev. Rickie Holstein.

Keith Hadley, Clerk

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**Minutes of the West Virginia State Association Executive Committee meeting** held at the Bob Evans Restaurant at Charleston, WV on December 16, 2024.

Member's present were Isaiah Hatfield, GW Mounts, Rickie Holstein, Curtis Hall, Scotty Erwin, John Gorrell, Jody Fortner, and Keith Hadley.

Meeting was called to order by Isaiah Hatfield. Prayer requests given and prayer led by GW Mounts.

Brother Isaiah reads scripture from Romans 10:1, and makes comments.

**Reports:**

**Treasurers Report:** Brother Curtis Hall reviewed the written report. Down about \$800. As of November 30, 2024, the General Fund was \$19,889.34. The Promotional Directors Fund was \$5,854.67. General Ledger total was \$26,049.22. Total with FWB Foundation for 2026 National is \$49,981.94. Promotional Directors account with the FWB Foundation is \$52,249.60. M / S to accept report, carried.

**Christian Education Board:** Report reviewed by John Gorrell. We have had no meetings. The Bible Music and Arts Festival will be April 5, 2025, at the Harmony Church. The cutoff date for registration is March 5<sup>th</sup>. M / S to accept report. Carried

**Promotional Directors Report:** Rev. Rickie Holstein reviewed his activity since the October meeting. Hours worked was 254.4, and miles traveled was 3898. Rickie mentioned the following items:

- 1- Randal House Meeting and State Leaders Meeting.
  - 2- Money received for hurricane relief. National interested in an article for the magazine.
- M / S to accept report. Carried

**Mission Board Report:** Jody Fortner. Everyone is doing well. Still looking for someone for the Morgantown work. Working with Josue Rivera in Eastern Panhandle. Hurricane relief money received is \$46,200. We are working on formalizing the protocol for the Church Financial Assistance Program. Approved giving support for a student out of McCorkle that is going on a missions trip this summer. The Awtrey's will be with us in March. M / S to approve. Carried.

**Publication Board Report:** None.

**Clerks Report:** I have made a list of Conferences with 3 or less churches. They are CALVARY 1, CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 3, ELK RIVER 2, FREEDOM 3, LIBERTY 2, MINGO 3, WAYNE COUNTY 2. We may address this in the future as to what constitutes a Conference. This would not address current Conferences, but one's formed in the future. M / S to accept the report. Carried.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Isaiah said we have a major issue concerning the 2026 National Convention to be held in Charleston. Dr. Eddie Moody and Ryan Lewis received notification from the City of Charleston that they cannot facilitate us due to the Municipal Auditorium being condemned in February of this year. They offered a different location for the Youth Competitions and offered to transport the Youth 20 minutes across town on City Buses. This is unacceptable for security reasons plus many parents dislike even being on a different floor from where the children are. The city of Charleston let us down by not notifying the National Association until 10 months after the fact. The National Association does not include the local State people in the planning process; therefore, our people did not know the Municipal Auditorium was part of the facilities to be used for the 2026 Convention. Another option is to possibly host the 2026 Convention in the Morgantown area. Of course, there are no Churches in that area, and this would affect the Impact portion of the pre-convention work that is performed prior to the convention. However, with such a short time to plan it will be difficult for the National Association to secure a venue. The City of Charleston has released the National and the State from all hotel obligations.

The designated funds for the National Convention were discussed and we will need to offer to return the money to those who sent it. Some felt there will be those that have given will want the money to be used for other State work, and the possibility of starting a CD or an Endowment to grow this money for future use was



discussed. Of course, this is a decision the Executive Board will have to make. Brother Rickie will prepare a newsletter and e-mail it and also do an all-call, to let our people know about this situation, and these will be sent by the end of this week. So as of now the 2026 National Convention will likely not be hosted by WV. Dr. Eddie Moody and Ryan Lewis were both very apologetic of this news which is neither caused by the National or State Association. M / S to accept this as a point of information and to address it at the February 22 Mid-Year Executive Board meeting. Carried.

Other Business concerning By-Law #20 was discussed. Reimbursed funds to cover the National Association, and the Leadership Conference is not enough to cover expenses. The Leadership Conference itself has a \$275 registration fee, which does not include the hotel rooms. The discussion was just a heads-up that we need to address a possible increase in the future. M / S to accept this as a point of information. Carried.

Brother GW brought up the fact that some of our churches are closed and locked and have dropped out of their local conference. Some are looking for pastors. Pray that they will reopen and continue in the Lord's work.

Rickie mentions the Ohio Bible Institute and the Big Sandy Institute in Kentucky. He would like to do something like they are offering in WV. M / S to accept these items as a point of information. Carried.

Next Executive Committee meeting will be February 10, 2025,

Mid-Year Executive Board meeting will be at the Central FWB Church in Huntington, on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am.

Meeting adjourned. Dismissal prayer by Rev. Scotty Erwin.

Keith Hadley, Clerk

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**Minutes of the West Virginia State Association Executive Committee meeting** held at the Bob Evans Restaurant at Charleston, WV on February 10, 2025.

Member's present were Isaiah Hatfield, GW Mounts, Rickie Holstein, Curtis Hall, Scotty Erwin, Jody Fortner, and Keith Hadley.

Meeting was called to order by Isaiah Hatfield. Prayer requests given and prayer led by GW Mounts.

**Reports:**

**Treasurers Report:** Brother Curtis Hall reviewed the written report. As of January 31, 2025, the General Fund was \$20,183.06. The Promotional Directors Fund was \$3,436.47. General Ledger total was \$23,931.07. Total with FWB Foundation for 2026 National is \$51,199.68. Promotional Directors account with the FWB Foundation is \$53,562.99. Will need to transfer funds from the Foundation to the Promotional Directors fund. Would like to leave \$40,000 with the Foundation. M / S to accept report, carried. M / S to transfer \$13,562.99 from Promotional Directors Fund with the Foundation to the Promotional Directors (General Fund). Carried.

**Christian Education Board:** Report reviewed by Isaiah; John Gorrell was working out of town. There will be Youth Nights in March and October. The Bible Music and Arts Festival will be April 5, 2025. Discussed moving money to the FWB Foundation to earn interest. M / S to accept report. Carried

**Promotional Directors Report:** Rev. Rickie Holstein reviewed his activity since the December meeting. Winter weather and flooding has caused several Conference cancellations. Hours worked was 124, and miles traveled was 1070. Rickie mentioned the following items:

- 1- Money received for hurricane relief was around \$48,400. I have written an article for One Magazine concerning these funds!
- 2- Plan to attend a meeting at Southeastern Bible College to address the graduating preachers to hopefully spark interest in someone coming to Morgantown.
- 3- Working with the Mounts brothers to re-open the Lilly Of The Valley FWB Church.
- 4- Still hoping to contact David Gibbs to possibly conduct a workshop on various issues facing our Churches. Brother Rickie will try to get a price and timing on a workshop. M / S to accept report. Carried.

**Mission Board Report:** Jody Fortner. Everyone is doing well. The Awtrey's will be with us in March. Still looking for someone for the Morgantown work. Working with Josue Rivera in Eastern Panhandle. M / S to approve. Carried.

**Publication Board Report:** None.

**Clerks Report:** Bro. Keith Hadley. We still need to act on a definition of Co-Operative Giving, discussed at the August meeting. Rickie will complete definition. M / S to accept the report. Carried.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

We again discussed the designated funds received for the 2026 National Convention. An Endowment seems to be the best way to use any remaining money after refunds are offered. A percentage of the interest earned would go into the General Fund, and the remainder will be added to the perpetual amount and remain untouched. After much discussion, a M / S was moved to recommend to the Executive Board that they would utilize the existing funds raised for hosting the 2026 National Convention in Charleston WV, to;

Start a WV State Association of FWB Endowment, as follows;

- a. WHEREAS, this Endowment will provide ongoing support and regular income to aid the WV State Association in its goal of the success of Free Will Baptist Churches in West Virginia.
- b. WHEREAS, the ongoing endowment will be a "True Endowment" that is kept perpetually until the Lord returns.
- c. WHEREAS, the Executive Committee will act as an oversight committee to retain 30% of the earnings to be used by the State Association of FWB. Retained earnings will be drawn monthly (12 times per year); received and accounted for through the General Fund. (dependent on allowable transaction guidelines)
- d. ADDITIONALLY, a three-month (3 mo.) window will be opened for any church desiring their funds returned by a written request. The original purpose of the funds was to host the 2026 National Convention, which we are no longer hosting.

After the M / S, further discussion was held and the 70% / 30% split on interest earnings was determined to be a good starting point. A yearly Endowment Fund Offering was also suggested. Other State Associations utilize Endowments that work well. Vote was taken and motion passed to present to the Executive Board at the Mid-Year Meeting.

Other Business: None

The Mid-Year Executive Board meeting will be at the Central FWB Church in Huntington, on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am.

Meeting adjourned. Dismissal prayer by Rev. Isaiah Hatfield.

Keith Hadley, Clerk

**Minutes of the West Virginia State Association Executive Committee meeting** held at the Bob Evans Restaurant at Charleston, WV on April 14, 2025.

Member's present were Isaiah Hatfield, GW Mounts, Rickie Holstein via phone, Curtis Hall, John Gorrell and Keith Hadley. Scotty is in revival; Huff is recuperating from surgery. (Tornado warnings, hail, and storms were in effect.)

Meeting was called to order by Isaiah Hatfield. Prayer requests given and prayer led by GW Mounts.

**Reports:**

**Treasurers Report:** Brother Curtis Hall reviewed the written report. As of March 31, 2025, the General Fund was \$21,423.75. The Promotional Directors Fund was \$16,796.02. General Ledger total was \$38,587.18. Total with FWB Foundation for 2026 National is \$51,199.68. Promotional Directors account with the FWB Foundation is \$40,000.00. Transferred \$13,562.99 from Promotional Directors Fund with the Foundation to the Promotional Directors (General Fund). M / S to accept report, carried. M / S Carried.

**Christian Education Board:** Report reviewed by John Gorrell. Met 3 times. The Bible Music and Arts Festival was held on April 5, 2025, with 127 in attendance. We were able to record this year's event. There will be a Youth Night on Friday September 26 at the Brotherhood Conference Center from 5:00 - 8:00pm. M / S to accept report. Carried.

**Promotional Directors Report:** Rev. Rickie Holstein reviewed his activity since the February 10 meeting. Hours worked was 301.8, and miles traveled was 2382. Rickie mentioned the following items:

- 1- Big Sandy Institute having classes now. (Rev. Tim York).
- 2- Attended a meeting at Southeastern Bible College and address the graduating preachers, encouraged them to consider our Morgantown work.
- 3- Working with the Mounts brothers and the Lilly Of The Valley FWB Church.
- 4- Still hoping to contact David Gibbs to possibly conduct a workshop on various issues facing our Churches. Brother Rickie will try to get a price and timing on a workshop. M / S to accept report. Carried.

**Mission Board Report:** Rickie. Everyone is doing well. We gave \$1000 to the Lily Of The Valley Church. Trying to work with Josue Rivera in Eastern Panhandle. He is not reporting as required. M / S to approve. Carried.

**Publication Board Report:** Working on Messenger. Would like to utilize news letters more often than doing a Messenger.

**Clerks Report:** Bro. Keith Hadley. There will be a 2026 National Convention, waiting on venue announcement. Waiting for State Letters to be returned. M / S to accept the report. Carried.

**Old Business:** Co-Op video will be reviewed and should be up-dated before State. Still working on what constitutes a Conference. Have requested a copy of By-laws from Ohio, on their language.

We again discussed the designated funds received for the 2026 National Convention, which will not be held in WV. An Endowment seems to be the best use the money. Brother Isaiah had talked to a few people, and he is recommending that we utilize the Church Extension Loan Fund (CELf) through the North American Ministries. They are currently paying 4% for \$500-\$24,999, 4.5% for \$25,000-\$49,000, 5% for \$50,000-\$99,999. This CELf account is less volatile and not driven by the stock market, is currently paying the highest interest rate of our National Association options and is much higher than Banks.

We discussed the time interval on receiving interest payment from the endowment fund growth. The Treasurer recommends that we allow the endowment to grow for a period of five years, before any of the interest is used. Some think we need to use the interest immediately, looking at the current giving. Hopefully the Co-Op giving will increase as we roll out the definition and promoting of Co-Op. Also if we have an endowment, people are more likely to leave part of their estate for future support of the State Association. Another thought was to use 10% of the growth after one year and reevaluate, use 20% after two years and reevaluate, and use 30% after three years and hold. We still recommend the 30% / 70% split on interest growth. 30% of the interest earned would go into the General Fund, and the remaining 70% will be compounded when added back to the principal amount and remain untouched.

We discussed the desire to bring in special speakers and host seminars, but we currently do not have funds to do so. It was mentioned that the General Fund, Christian Education Board, Mission Board and various Churches could possibly help with finances until our endowment grows and can aid in supporting such seminars and speakers. Rickie will try to get a firm cost for speakers that he has been in contact with. David Gibbs would be valuable to inform our people on how to protect ourselves!

After much discussion, a Motion was moved by John Gorrell and seconded by Curtis Hall to recommend to the Executive Board that we would utilize the existing funds raised for hosting the 2026 National Convention, to start a WV State Association of FWB Endowment, utilizing the Church Extension Loan Fund Investment Program, (CELF) through the North American Ministries, and to allow the interest to build for a period of 5 years, before drawing 30% of interest earned, semiannually (every 6 months). A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

The endowment is to be set in place as follows;

- a. WHEREAS, this Endowment will provide ongoing support and regular income to aid the WV State Association in its goal of the success of Free Will Baptist Churches in West Virginia.
- b. WHEREAS, the ongoing endowment will be a "True Endowment" that is kept perpetually until the Lord returns.
- c. WHEREAS, the Executive Committee will act as an oversight committee to retain 30% of the earnings to be used by the State Association of FWB. Retained earnings will be drawn semiannually, received and accounted for through the General Fund.
- d. ADDITIONALLY, a three-month (3 mo.) window will be opened for any church desiring their funds returned by a written request. The original purpose of the funds was to host the 2026 National Convention, which we are no longer hosting.

Other Business: Sister Alice Smith had contacted Isaiah about possibly using the monies raised for the 2026 Nationals to help the Awtrey's to build a new Church in Bulgaria. Isaiah let her know the Executive Board had already set an endowment plan in place.

The Pre-State Executive Board meeting will be at the Central FWB Church in Huntington, on May 31st at 10:00am.

M / S for meeting to adjourn. Dismissal prayer by Rev. Rickie Holstein.

Keith Hadley, Clerk

# Items of Business for 2025

1- To add the following to the Constitution as Article 4, Section 4 (on page 14).

“The Executive Board shall promote participation of our Churches and Conferences in supporting the Co-Operative Giving Plan,” as described,

Cooperative Giving

The term Co-Op, is a simplified form of saying Cooperative Giving. Co-Op is a plan of giving; whereby, churches (in this case, those of the West Virginia State Association of FWB), give regularly and consistently, (usually 10%) to a single fund, which is then divided and distributed to various church related organizations, that we may better fulfil the Great Commission.

(Need to accept this item and lay on the table)!

2- To re-hire Rickie Holstein as our 2026 Promotional Director.

3- That we no longer publish the Messenger, and just do newsletters.

4- The Executive Board is recommending that we utilize the existing funds raised for hosting the 2026 National Convention, to start a WV State Association of FWB Endowment, utilizing the Church Extension Loan Fund Investment Program, (CELFI) through the North American Ministries, and to allow the interest to build for a period of 5 years, before drawing 30% of interest earned, semiannually (every 6 months).

The endowment is to be set in place as follows;

a. WHEREAS, this Endowment will provide ongoing support and regular income to aid the WV State Association in its goal of the success of Free Will Baptist Churches in West Virginia.

b. WHEREAS, the ongoing endowment will be a “True Endowment” that is kept perpetually until the Lord returns.

c. WHEREAS, the Executive Committee will act as an oversight committee to retain 30% of the earnings to be used by the State Association of FWB. Retained earnings will be drawn semiannually, received and accounted for through the General Fund.

d. ADDITIONALLY, a three-month (3 mo.) window will be opened for any church desiring their funds returned by a written request. The original purpose of the funds was to host the 2026 National Convention, which we are no longer hosting.



**West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist**

Yearly Financial Report

January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

Starting Balance as of January 1, 2024 \$ 32,173.11

Total collections for year \$61,813.80

Designated Gifts \$44,281.66

Cooperative Gifts \$17,532.14

Interest Now Acc. (checking) \$46.99

Total \$61,860.79 \$ 94,033.90

**Cooperative Gifts \$ 17,532.14**

General fund \$3,857.08

Christian Education \$1,753.21

WV Mission Board \$1,753.21

Promotional Director \$8,415.43

National Association \$1,753.21

TOTAL \$17,532.14

**General Fund**

Balance brought forward \$ 19,546.04

Cooperative Gifts \$3,857.08

Designated Gifts \$41,176.66

Honorariums (\$150.00)

National Association Dues (\$22,575.00)

Minute books (\$3,578.38)

Redirected funds (\$8,673.02)

Other (\$1,898.00)

Callmultiplier (\$971.89)

Reimbursements (\$1,021.81)

att. National & Leadership (\$3,800.00)

Brotherhood Mutual Ins (\$1,995.89)

Expenses TOTAL (\$44,663.99)

Closing Balance \$ 19,915.79

**2026 National Convention fund**

Balance Brought forward with Foundation \$ 45,950.43

Amount sent to Foundation this year \$ 3,105.00

Interest received \$2,144.25

Total with FWB Foundaton for 2026 Convention \$ 51,199.68

Closing balance in checking account \$ 1.72

TOTAL \$ 51,201.40

**Promotional Director's Reserve Account**

Balance Brought forward		\$	51,227.77
Interest received	\$2,335.22		
Closing Balance		\$	<u>53,562.99</u>

**Promotional Director's Account**

Balance Brought forward		\$	11,825.67
Cooperative Gifts	\$8,415.43		
Designated Gifts	\$7,536.20		
Rickie Holstein	(\$22,800.00)		
Closing Balance		\$	<u>4,977.30</u>

**Contingent Account (interest on checking)**

Balance Brought Forward		\$	109.34
Bank of Mingo Interest	\$46.99		
Expenses	(\$100.00)		
Closing Balance		\$	<u>56.33</u>

**WV Masters Men Account**

Balance Brought Forward		\$	413.49
Expenses	(\$160.00)		
Closing Balance		\$	<u>253.49</u>

Ending Balance as of December 31, 2024	with Bank	\$	<u>25,204.63</u>
Ending Balance as of December 31, 2024 with funds at FWB Foundation	\$104,762.67	<b>Total holdings</b>	\$ <u>129,967.30</u>

**The Proposed Co-op Budget for the Coming Year 2025 / 2026**

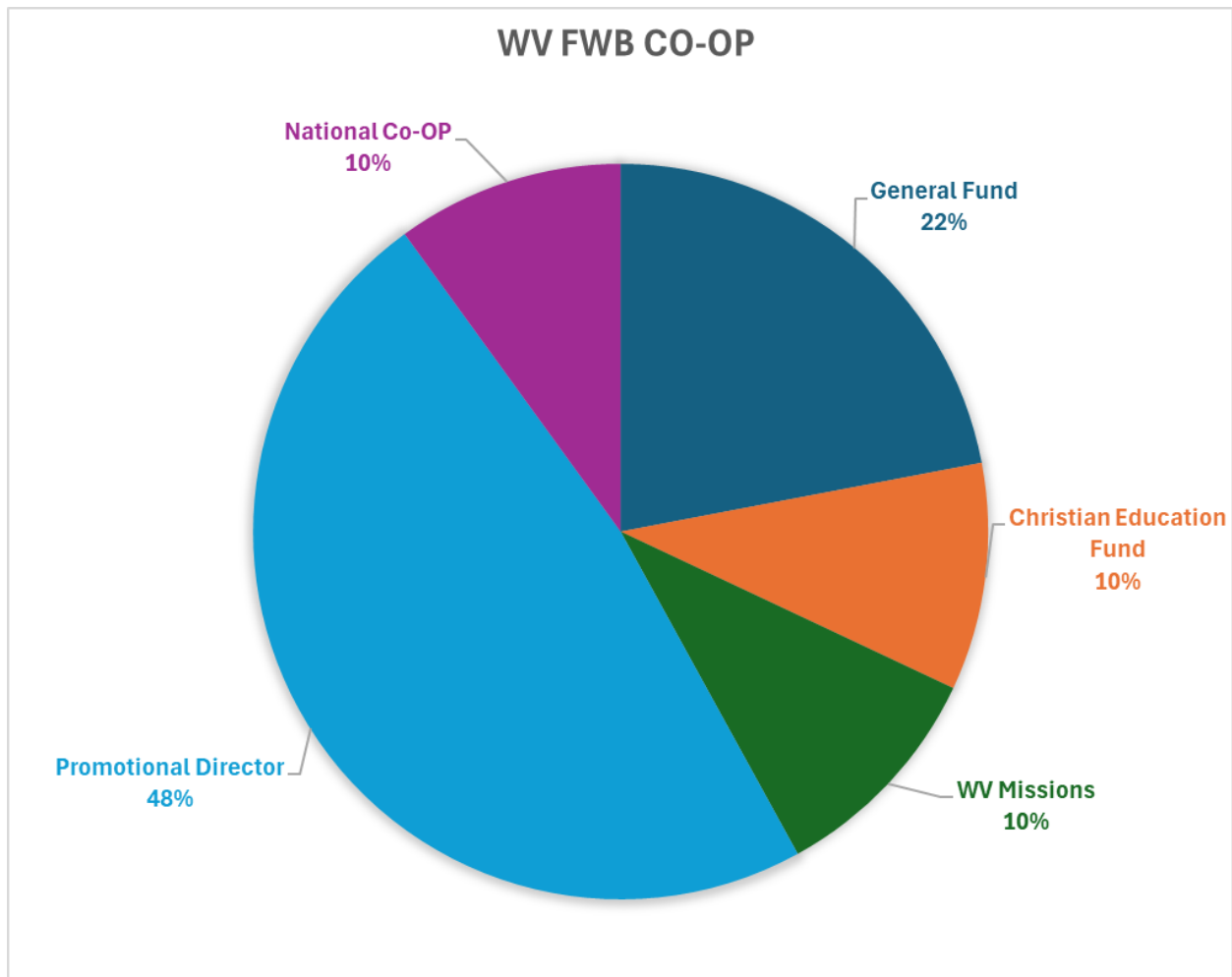
Same as last year

General Fund	22%
Christian Education	10%
WV Mission Board	10%
Promotional Director	48%
Natonal Co-op	10%
TOTAL	100%



# WV FWB CO-OP

## Percentages





## **MISSION BOARD of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist**

Greetings to the Executive Board of WV Association of FWB

May 27, 2025

.... Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15

### **The board continues to work in many ways for the state:**

- Board members have visited some conferences as circumstances permitted.
- Mission Board Scholarships are still available. The Board voted to reconfirm established criteria that scholarship funds only be used for Free Will Baptist Colleges.
- The Board voted to financially contribute to a young lady from the McCorkle Free Will Baptist Church who will be going on a mission trip this summer.
- The Board voted to make a special donation of \$15,000 to the building of the church building project in Bulgaria. The property, plans, and permits have already been secured, so this donation would go towards the building of the first Free Will Baptist Church in that country.
- The Board developed a Church Health Application to assist churches on the verge of closing their doors. Thanks to Brother Huff for getting this on our state's web page.
- The Board has been working with and provided some financial assistance to the Lily of the Valley Free Will Baptist church that had previously closed its doors, but is trying to open back up.
- The Board voted to terminate the mission work in Morgantown due to not being able to find another missionary to take on the work of planting a church there. The Treasurer will begin the process of contacting donors to the work and asking them about their portion of the remaining funds to see if they want it back or if they want the Mission Board to use it for other mission work.
- The Board met with Brother Josue Rivera seeking updates regarding the Hispanic Mission Work in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. After much prayer and consideration, the Board voted to cease any future support for the Hispanic Mission Work in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

### **Ongoing mission works:**

#### **Bulgaria Missionaries**

Special donation of \$15,000 to the building of the first Free Will Baptist Church in the country of Bulgaria. This is a current, active project that is taking place.

#### **WV Hispanic Work**

The Board voted to cease any future support for the Hispanic Mission Work in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

#### **Morgantown Work**

The Board voted to terminate the mission work in Morgantown. The Treasurer will begin the process of contacting donors to the work and asking them about their portion of the remaining funds to see if they want it back or if they want the Mission Board to use it for other Mission work.





# MISSION BOARD

of the

## West Virginia State Association Of Free Will Baptist

### Financial Report January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

**BEGINNING BALANCE** (*of all monies*) January 1, 2024 ----- \$120,223.11

#### **INCOME -- General Fund:**

Co-Op (W.V. State Association) -----	\$1,891.69
Mission Offering at the W.V. State Association -----	\$729.00
Bank Interest -----	\$181.03
Designated Giving -----	\$155,296.82
Bank Adjustment -----	\$0.00

#### **INCOME -- Mission Reserve Fund:**

Interest - Free Will Baptist Foundation -----	\$3,577.95
Deposit - Transfer form General Fund -----	\$25,000.00

**TOTAL INCOME** ----- \$186,676.49

#### **EXPENSES:**

**Free Will Baptist International Missions** ----- \$73,938.84

Global Evangelism Fund -----	\$414.44
Jonathan Postlewaite -----	\$33,121.81
Tim Awtrey -----	\$26,571.55
Trif Trifonov -----	\$1,300.00
Brenton Driscoll -----	\$11,756.04
Others (34 other Missionaries) -----	\$775.00

*NOTE: Designated Giving ----- \$ 46,915.05*

*March For Missions ----- \$ 26,140.93*

*Mission Board Giving - 10% Co-Op --- \$ 882.86*

**Free Will Baptist Home Missions** ----- \$25,045.06

Josie Rivera -----	\$20,388.99
Jason Weaver -----	\$1,072.00
Jim Martin -----	\$133.00
Danny Elliott -----	\$2,791.99
Brandon Smith -----	\$300.00
Benjamin Randall Offering -----	\$50.00
Canada Ministries -----	\$77.27
Mexico Ministries -----	\$77.27
Puerto Rico Ministries -----	\$77.27
Virgin Island Ministries -----	\$77.27

*NOTE: Designated Giving ----- \$ 16,150.91*

*March For Missions ----- \$ 8,366.19*

*Mission Board Giving - 10% Co-Op -- \$ 527.96*

**MISSION BOARD**  
*of the*  
**West Virginia State Association**  
*of Free Will Baptist*

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**Financial Report**  
**January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024**

*(Expenses Continued....)*

<b>Bank Adjustment -----</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Office Supplies -----</b>	<b>\$118.13</b>
<b>Postage -----</b>	<b>\$338.78</b>
<b>Mission Board Giving -----</b>	<b>\$6,300.00</b>
Welch College <i>\$1,000.00</i> <i>(Mission Scholarship -- Karah Johnson)</i>	
Welch College <i>\$1,000.00</i> <i>(Mission Scholarship -- Brianna Rivera)</i>	
Jonathan Postlewaite <i>(Christmas Gift) \$200.00</i>	
Tim Awtrey <i>(Christmas Gift) \$200.00</i>	
Brenton Driscoll <i>(Christmas Gift) \$200.00</i>	
Josue Rivera <i>(Christmas Gift) \$200.00</i>	
Randy Dingess <i>(Mission Trip to Japan) \$3,500.00</i>	
<b>Treasurer's Honorarium -----</b>	<b>\$4,800.00</b>
<b>Miscellaneous -----</b>	<b>\$265.42</b>
<b>Mis-Directed Funds -----</b>	<b>\$43,276.24</b>
<i>(Children's Homes ----- \$1,403.24</i>	
<i>(2026 National Convention ----- \$233.00</i>	
<i>(Hurricane &amp; Flood Relief ----- \$41,640.00</i>	
<b>Reimbursed Expenses -----</b>	<b>\$1,364.84</b>
<b>Transfed Funds To FWB FOUNDATION -----</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>
 <b>TOTAL EXPENSES -----</b>	 <b>\$180,447.31</b>
<hr/>	
<b>BALANCE December 31, 2024 -----</b>	<b>\$126,452.29</b>
<hr/>	

**MISSION BOARD**  
*of the*  
**West Virginia State Association**  
**of Free Will Baptist**

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**FUND BALANCES as of December 31, 2024 ----- \$126,452.29**

<b>General Fund -----</b>	<b>\$93,504.37</b>
<b>Direct Deposit Holding Fund ----</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Hurricane &amp; Flood Relief -----</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>March For Missions Fund -----</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Mis-Directed Funds -----</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Mission Contingent Fund -----</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>Mission Scholarship Fund -----</b>	<b>\$6,802.65</b>
<b>State Home Missions Fund -----</b>	<b>\$24,145.27</b>

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**NOTE:**

***We Would Like To Thank Every Church And Individual Who Gave  
To The 2024 March For Missions Drive.***

***Giving Was Down A Little This Year . . . .***

***But, PRAISE GOD -- For The \$42,715.63***

***I Would Also Like To Thank All Those That Gave To The To  
The Hurricane & Flood Relief Fund.***

***PRAISE GOD -- For The \$ 41,640.00 in 2024***

***With What Came In During January 2025***

***The Total Given Was \$ 46,640.00***

**MISSION BOARD of the  
WEST VIRGINIA STATE ASSOCIATION**

**STATISTICS - TOP 5 CHURCHES FROM EACH DIVISION  
MARCH FOR MISSIONS GIVING -- 2025**

<u>Church Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Evergreen Hills Free Will Baptist Church</b>	<b>0-50</b>	<b>\$5,620.50</b>
Bethal Free Will Baptist Church	0-50	\$4,252.76
Rockhouse F.W.B. Church	0-50	\$3,835.00
Maple Lane F.W.B. Church	0-50	\$3,041.00
Crown Hill Free Will Baptist Church	0-50	\$1,820.00
<b>Faith Free Will Baptist Church (Br. Conf.)</b>	<b>50-100</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>Heritage Free Will Baptist Church</b>	<b>50-100</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
Sophia Free Will Baptist Church	50-100	\$1,500.00
Victory Free Will Baptist Church	50-100	\$1,500.00
Hope Free Will Baptist Church	50-100	\$1,000.00
<b>Central Free Will Baptist Church</b>	<b>100+</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Parsley Bottom F.W.B. Church</b>	<b>100+</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
No. 20 Whitman Community Church	100+	\$347.15
	100+	

**37 Churches**

17 - \$ 1000.00 or more  
5 - \$ 2000.00 or more  
1 - \$ 5000.00 or more

**2 Conferences gave additional offering**

**2 Individuals gave**

**TOP 5 (in each division) -- TOTAL GIVEN 2024 ----- \$28,916.41**

**TOTAL MARCH FOR MISSIONS GIVING 2024 ----- \$46,968.80**





## Promotional Director of the W.V. State Association of Free Will Baptists

**Rickie Holstein**  
P.O. Box 4624  
Charleston, W.V. 25364

Office (304) 595-2555  
Home (304) 595-4246  
Mobile (304) 419-3772  
rickieholstein@yahoo.com

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### ANNUAL PROMOTIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT June 7, 2025

#### THANKS:

**I want to thank each of you** for your continued confidence in me and allowing me to serve you as your State Promotional Director. **It is truly a great privilege, and honor for me, to be able to serve West Virginia Free Will Baptists.**

#### BLESSINGS:

**As I have traveled across our state**, I have been well received everywhere I have gone. I have witnessed some great services and great fellowship. As well as visiting as many Conferences as I can, I have also made it a point to get out and visit as many churches as I can. This also proved to be a great blessing. I have visited 34 different churches, not counting the 25 conferences I have attended.

**During the past year, the Lord has continued to open opportunities for me . . .**

\*\*\***1<sup>st</sup> To work with churches looking for a pastor.** This is becoming more of a problem year after year, because most of our Pastors are elderly, and we do not have enough young and middle-aged men answering the call to preach the gospel.

\*\*\***2<sup>nd</sup> To work with a church that had closed its doors and has now re-opened.** The Mission Board and I are currently working with them to get it back to being a viable and stable church once again.

\*\*\***3<sup>rd</sup> To teach Church Health to churches wanting to grow and see souls saved.** I had the privilege to work with two churches this past year. I am hoping that other churches will allow me to come and share Church Health with them. If your church is struggling, please call me. I believe the lessons will be most helpful to your congregation and help them to grow stronger in the LORD.

\*\*\*These things have been challenging and time consuming for me – however, the blessing I received by assisting them, is far more precious to me. **Please pray with me for all our struggling churches.**

**I have also been working with** Rev. Tim York (Moderator of the Nations Association of Free Will Baptist) and Ben Crabtree (Promotional Director of Ohio). Brother York works closely with the Big Sandy Bible Institute and Brother Crabtree works closely with the Ohio Bible Institute. I have been working closely with them to make their classes and lessons available to Free Will Baptist in West Virginia. **They have graciously agreed to help us.**

\*\*\*The Big Sandy Bible Institute has been offering classes this past year and will continue them this fall.

\*\*\*The Ohio Bible Institute will be releasing classes this fall.

## ANTICIPATION:

**\*\*\*I am optimistic as I look forward. I believe God is working. I believe God is still opening opportunities for us to serve Him. I pray our people will be receptive and open to the moving of God, upon their hearts and mind.**

**\*\*\*I am looking forward to seeing what God has in store our churches, our people, and our state association this upcoming year.**

**\*\*\*I am also, looking forward to, the Free Will Baptist National Convention which will meet in Kansas City, Missouri on July 20-23; WAC Annual Fall Retreat on September 5-6, at Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church; Master's Men Retreat on September 12-13 (location to be announced), and the first every Free Will Baptist Youth Night at the Brotherhood Conference Center on September 26.**

## REQUESTS:

**I am asking you to pray for me -- join with me -- work alongside of me -- help in our efforts to better equip our people to serve the Lord and see souls saved. I believe there is still much work to do. **Will you help me? I would very much appreciate your assistance.****

**I would love to come to your Church:** I can just visit -- I can preach -- I can teach -- or I can speak about what is going on in the State and National Associations. I also have several Power Point Presentation that I could do, which I believe would be helpful to your congregation.

**If there is anything I can do to help or assist you . . . any questions I can answer for you . . . any programs, lessons, classes, power point presentation, teaching, preaching . . . I would be pleased to help you and your congregation. Please call me at 304-595-4246 or email me at [rickieholdtein@yahoo.com](mailto:rickieholdtein@yahoo.com)**

**Below is a brief summary of our work since the last State Association meeting, June 9-10-2024:**

**I have traveled about 14,168.4 miles (an average of 283.4 miles p/w) and spent about 1403.22 hours (an average of 28.06 hours p/w) since our last State Association Meeting.**

- Attended 25 Conferences (*Christian Fellowship, Beckley, Gutan Valley, Kanawha, Elk River, Wayne County, Brotherhood, Calvary, Freedom, Liberty, Unity, Kanawha, Huff Creek #1, (SEE Note Below – Cancelled Conferences) Kanawha, Huff Creek #1, Brotherhood, Calvary, Greenbrier / Micholas, Upper Ohio Valley, Guyan Valley, Logan, Tug River, Mingo, Kanawha*)

**>>Note: Planned to attend 8 other conference -- All were cancelled due to snow or flooding . . . (Mingo #1, Brotherhood, Unity, Upper Ohio Valley, Wyoming County, Beckley, Wayne County, Freedom)**

- Attended 34 Churches (*Ward Road, Grace, Dry Branch, Chesapeake, Chesapeake, Grace, Dry Branch, Garrison Av., Nile Chaple, Park Circle, Grace, Loudendale, Dry Branch, Grace, Ward Road, Trinity, Kanawha, Huff Creek #1, Grace, Southridge, Park Circle, Trinity, Grace, Dry Branch, Grace, Dry Branch, Grace, Chesapeake, Kanawha, Huff Creek #1, Dry Branch, Dry Branch, Grace, Grace, Brotherhood, Calvary, Trinity, Grace, McCorkle, Oakvale, Winifrede, Lilly of the Valley, Chesapeake, Ward Road, Dry Branch, Grace, Dry Branch*)

- Attended West Virginia State Association June 7-8, 2024

- Attended Ohio State Association June 20-22, 2024
- Attended Free Will Baptist National Convention in Tampa, FL. July 19-25, 2024
- Attended Free Will Baptist Leadership Conference, Nashville, Ten. Dec. 8-11, 1024
- Attended Randal House Training, Nashville, Tennessee Dec. 9, 2024
- Attended State Leaders meeting with Dr. Eddie Mody, Nashville, Ten. Dec. 9, 2024
- Attended Upper Ohio Valley Conference March For Mission revival March 12, 2025
- Attended 2 Executive Board Meeting
- Attended 5 Executive Committee Meeting
- Attended 6 Mission Board Meetings
- Attended 3 Christian Education Board Meetings
- Attended 2 Master's Men Meeting
- Attended the Bible, Music, and Arts Festival -- Central FWB Church
- Met with the Kanawha Conference By-Law Committee – as an advisor
- Sent out “*Fall Harvest Time*” letters to our churches to raise money for the 2026 National Convention, which will be hosted by west Virginia
- Met G.W. Mounts and James Mounts – wanting to re-open the Lilly of the Valley Free Will Baptist church
- Met with Missionary Tim & Lydia Awtrey for Supper while they were in W.V.
- Visited Southeastern Free Will Baptist Bible College - talked to students
- Taught 9 Church Health Sessions (*Lessons on how to make your church a health church*)
- Zoom Meeting with Tim York and W.V. State Leaders about Big Sandy Bible Institute
- Zoom meeting with Dr. Eddie Moody -- Mat Pinson (Welch College) and other State Promotional Directors -
- Zoom meeting with Dr. Eddie Moody -- Jeff Jones and Ken Cash (Southeastern FWB Bible College) and other State Promotional Directors –
- Zoom meeting with Dr. Eddied Moody, Rayne Lewis, Isiah Hatfield -- concerning 2026 WVB National Convention
- Attended the funerals and/or wake of Rev. Jimmy Darrel Newsome, Betty Dyer (*mother of Rev. Thomas Dyer*), Rev. Ray Williamson, Rev. Luther Dingess, Cathy Whitt (*long time Clerk Beckley Conf.*), Irvin Scarberry (*Brotherhood Conf.*), Rev. Dainel Legg
- Made 73 CallMultiplier calls
- Published 2 issue of The Messenger
- Published 8 issues of WVFWB Newsletter
- Talked to numerous State leaders and National leaders (*over 395 calls*)

Thank You for Your Time,  
 Rev. Rickie Holstein, State Promotional Director



Audit Committee Report  
To  
The West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist

It has been voted to have the financial books of the State Association of FWB reviewed by an outside reviewer every five years. This is the year. Please see what Bailey Tax & Bookkeeping, LLC reported. The report is on a separate page.

To the best of our ability the Audit Committee found the financial records to be in PROPER ORDER. We looked at the records of the West Virginia State Association of the FWB, the West Virginia FWB Mission Board, the West Virginia FWB Christian Education Board, and the West Virginia FWB WAC. The information provided covered the fiscal year starting on January 1, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2024. The committee met on March 15, 2025, at Grace FWB Church.

Computer printouts, invoices, cancelled checks, check stubs, balance sheets, receipts, and bank statements were examined carefully. In all four sets of books, we found the check book and the bank statement to reconcile (balance much like an individual's check book). We made sure the invoices and receipts matched the checks and the computer printouts.

A 1099 Form was issued for anyone who was paid \$600 or more, whereas the Promotional Director is issued a W-2 Form. We would remind all people who want to be reimbursed to fill out the reimbursement form (creating their own form with the needed information is alright). The receipts are to be turned in with the reimbursement forms. The treasurers are doing a great job asking for them and the people are doing a great job turning them in.

Bro. Curtis Hall treasurer for the West Virginia State Association of the FWB, Rev. Rickie Holstein treasurer for the West Virginia FWB Mission Board, Dr. Cheryl Jeffers treasurer for the West Virginia FWB Christian Education Board, and Sister Linda Hutchison treasurer for the West Virginia FWB WAC put in many hours of hard work. Our thanks go out to the treasurers for doing so many hours of work for our benefit.

I would like to say a very great big thank you to the committee for working with me on the date we met. Our thanks also go out to the Grace FWB Church and it's Pastor for allowing us to meet at the church. The Audit Committee would like to thank each and every one of you for the privilege of serving you.

May God bless our Association  
Rev. Alva "Bud" Casto  
Rev. Mark Price  
Rev. Shane Bryant  
Rev. Kenneth Samms  
Rev. Jonny Slazo

Bo Bailey

Bailey Tax & Bookkeeping, LLC

5 Joseph Square, Summersville, WV 26651

304-873-9889

[bobailey@baileytaxwv.com](mailto:bobailey@baileytaxwv.com)


To Whom It May Concern:

I have reviewed the recordkeeping & reconciliation process of the Mission Board, Christian Education Board, WV Women Active for Christ, and the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist. I have found that the check recording process and the process reconciliation of checks/deposits with the bank account are very thorough. I was able to match every check to a payment slip/receipt and tie those directly to the bank account. These processes were similar among all 4 sets of books, and I found all 4 to be thorough in their recordings.

I don't have many recommendations on improvements to your processes; however, one thing I would recommend is to consider moving to a digital/computer recordkeeping system. This can be done in Microsoft Excel or via programs like QuickBooks. This is not a requirement, but rather a recommendation of something that could be done to improve the safety of records. Other than that simple recommendation, everything appears to be in good order.

Should you have any questions on my findings or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me using the information above.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Bo Bailey', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Bo Bailey



**HISTORICAL COMMITTEE**  
of the  
West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist



May 31, 2025

# HELP!

The Historical Committee of the West Virginia State Association of Free Will Baptist [is still seeking information about Free Will Baptist Churches in our State.](#) **We still lack information on many of our churches. Please help us gather the much-needed information - before it is forever lost.**

At the present time, The Committee has received information from 131 churches: **97 churches histories; 6 partial church histories; 28 pictures of other churches visited; and 6 conferences** across our state.

If you, or someone in your church, has information about your church's history, please get that information and send it to me (*Rickie Holstein, P.O. Box 4624, Charleston, W.V. 25364*), email it to me at [rickieholstein@live.com](mailto:rickieholstein@live.com), or call me at 304-595-4246.

>>If your church has not given us your church history -- Pastors, please ask your church clerk to try and put together your church history and send it to me.

>>Pastor if you do not know whether your church has sent me your church history – Please give me a call and I will check our records.

>>My hope is to have as much W.V. F.W.B. history as possible, available to not only the people of our state, but others who may be interested in learning of our rich heritage.

**Would you please help us, by gathering this much needed information?**

**Thank You.**

Rickie Holstein  
P.O. Box 4624  
Charleston, W.V. 25364  
304-595-4246

Kenneth Samms  
96 Sawmill Road  
Scott Depot, W.V. 25560  
304-755-5595

Alva "Bud" Casto  
1012 Orndorff Road  
Nettie, W.V. 26681  
304-846-6888

***Ps 119:111 "Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart."***





June, 2025

We are so thrilled to be reporting that God is moving among the women in West Virginia. The last couple of years, we have had new groups join us and there are new women joining in and taking their place in the Lord's work. Praise the Lord! I'd like to share with you a little of what the Lord has done in the last year.

Our **2024 Fall Retreat was held on Sept. 6-7, 2024 at the Bethel FWB Church, MacArthur, WV.** Our theme was "Stand Strong!" and that theme was developed by Sis. Linda Grimes. Sis. Linda spoke with power and did a great job despite her physical weakness. (Continue to pray for her as she is taking chemotherapy again.) We had small groups where we prayed together, we had special music from the Christy Tolliver and the Cornerstone Praise Band. God moved; women were at the altar! We received a missions offering of \$5,000+ to buy MP3 players for the Simmons's, missionaries to the Samburu in Kenya.

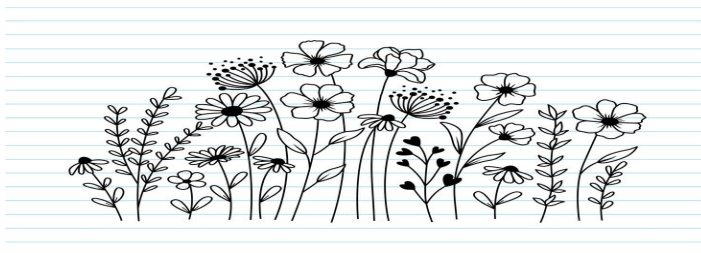
**Our May Convention was held on May 17, 2025 at the Park Circle FWB Church, Kenova, WV.** Our theme was "My Hiding Place" taken from Psalms 32:7 "Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance." Sis Kathy Skaggs was our special speaker and she shared how the Lord was her hiding place during and since the loss of her husband. Our mission project for the day was to receive an offering for the Ebenezer Outreach Center in Huntington. Our offering for Ebenezer was \$1,040!

During our business session, we found that we had 12 Women's Ministries report with 86 members reporting that day. We have two groups that are reporting late with another approximately another 20 members! This is so encouraging! We voted to have the 2026 May Convention at Bethel FWB Church on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The project for that meeting will be to bring items for the Hospice House of Southern WV in Beckley. The 2026 Fall Retreat will be held at the Central FWB Church in Huntington, WV on September 11-12, 2026. We will be receiving an offering at the retreat for the Duncans who minister in Quito, Ecuador at the meeting. We also dealt with issue of money collected for the 2026 Fund.

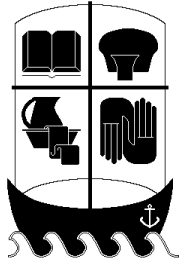
**Fall Retreat – September, 2024 – Cornerstone FWB, Crab Orchard, WV.** The theme will be "The Goodness of God." Sis. Ginger Duncan has agreed to speak at this meeting. She has spoken for us before and it'll be a blessing to hear her again. There will be workshops on Encouragement by Sis. Valyn Robertson and End Times by Sis. Alice Smith. There will be special music and of course there'll be a skit on Saturday by the comedy act of Janie Mabry and Loraine Tolliver! Plan now to attend.

Encourage the ladies at your church to come to retreat this year. If you are a FWB woman, you are a part of the Women's Ministry! Hope to see you soon!

Jody Sullivan – President, WV WAC/Women's Ministry







# WV Free Will Baptist CE Board

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5/31/2025

John Gorrell, Chairman  
94 Sawmill Road  
Scott Depot WV

## Christian Education Report

1. CE Board has met 4 times since our last meeting.
2. Bible Music and Arts Festival was held April 5, 2025, at the Harmony FWB Church, Pastor Mike Dillon.
  - a. There were 127 total, in attendance
  - b. Two Youth choirs and a drama team came to the BMA Festival, as exhibition, to showcase their talent, and generate interest in BMA Festival.
3. We were able to record and share the event on line.
4. CE Board has scheduled the inaugural WV FWB Youth Night for September 26, 2025 at the Brotherhood Quarterly Conference Center in Salt Rock, WV from 5-8:00 pm.
5. The 2026 Bible Music and Arts Festival will be held Saturday April 18 2026 and location is TBD at this time.



**WV Association of FWB  
Christian Education Board  
Rev. John Gorrell, Chair**

Treasurer's Report  
February 18, 2025 – May 28, 2025

Date	Totals
Beginning Balance February 22, 2025	\$9,980.73
Total Deposits (Checks from Coop and BMA)	\$1,567.58
Total Debits (BMA and Stipends)	\$3,212.40
Ending Balance May 28, 2025	\$8,335.91
Free Will Baptist Foundation Balance	\$5,982.97

February 22, 2025 – May 28, 2025			
Date	Description	Debit	Credit
5/22/2025	Check# 5269 Vertical Three Conf. BMA 8 entries sent to National CTS Conf	\$280.00	
5/9/2025	April Coop CK# 2757		\$70.13
5/9/2025	Deposit: BMA Checks Holley \$35. CK#4173 Laurel FWB \$245. CK#2105 Guyan \$110. CK#1227 Big Elk \$300. CK#1120 McCorkle \$140. CK#3515 Harmony 175. CK#7351		\$1,005.00
4/19/25	CK# 5322 Freda Maynard (Harmony FWB) BMA Food	\$257.96	
4/11/2025	CK#5325 Cheryl Jeffers Stipend for CEB Secretary/Treasurer	\$500.00	
4/08/2025	CK#5324 Amy Smith BMA Coordinator	\$250.00	
4/8/2025	CK#5321 Rocky Top Pizza BMA Food	\$441.20	
4/7/2025	Credit Card Contempo Trophy & Awards BMA Festival	\$372.36	
4/4/2025	Deposit CK\$125.94 CK#2744 Feb Coop CK\$303.43 March Coop CK#2750		\$429.37
3/26/2025	CK#5361 Cheryl Jeffers Reimbursed Video Recording Equipment for BMA	\$1,110.88	
2/18/2025	Deposit		\$63.08

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cheryl Jeffers, Ed.D. CEB Secretary/Treasurer



# Publication Board

Of the West Virginia State Association  
of Free will Baptist



May 31, 2025

Since the last Executive Board meeting (*February 22, 2025*), The Publication Board has put out one issue of the Messenger (*May 9, 2025*) and Four issues of WVFWB Newsletter (*April 18, 2025, April 20, 2025, April 21, 2025, and May 11, 2025*).

The Publication Board has not met in person since our last Executive Board Meeting. As I have mentioned before, there is still some question, among members of the Publication Board, if there is still a need for the Board. If you will remember, it was brought up at the 2019 State Association Meeting to do a digital format and do away with the Publication Board. It was approved to go with the digital format, but not to do away with the Publication Board. Furthermore, it was approved that the State Promotional Director would have the responsibility for publishing The Messenger.

**I want to apologize for not getting out all the issues of The Messenger, as I should have. I have failed in that duty, and I am asking the forgiveness of the Executive Board and The Publish Board.**

Sister Diana Gorrell has been working with me, as she now is over the WVFWB Facebook page. She posts anything the Publication Board puts out on Facebook. Be looking for them on [www.facebook.com/wvfwbmessenger](http://www.facebook.com/wvfwbmessenger).

Brother Thomas Hoffmaster, our State Web Master, also puts all issues of The Messenger, and WVFWB Newsletter on the State Web Page. You can access them by going to [www.WVFWB.org](http://www.WVFWB.org) on you browser.

If you are not currently receiving the digital WVFWB Newsletter and digital issues of The Messenger, please call me at 304-595-4246, or 304-595-2555, or email me at [rickieholstein@yahoo.com](mailto:rickieholstein@yahoo.com).

Rickie Holstein,  
Publication Board Chairman

Rev. Wayne Peters (304-222-1500); Rev. Rodney Scott (304-486-5668);  
Bro. Jim Hutchinson (304-638-5373); Sister Dianna Gorrell (304-759-2184)  
Bro. Irvin Scarberry (304-544-4288); Rev. Rickie Holstein (304-595-4246)



## **General Board Member Report**

### **National Association of Free Will Baptist July 2024**

July 21-24, 2024, saw more than 4,000 Free Will Baptists gathered in the beautiful city of Tampa, Florida for the 88<sup>th</sup> convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. There was plenty of sunshine interrupted by periods of showers, which no one seemed to mind.

The theme of the convention was “Doers of the Word”. Several speakers spoke on the topic during the course of the convention. The speakers were great; the music was wonderful. Kevin Justice and the music team put together a program of music that included a variety of musicians and great talent. Ebenezer Free Will Baptist Hispanic Church of Miami thrilled us with their rendition of “It’s Still the Cross”.

Other highlights include a Sunday afternoon service of washing of the saints’ feet. On Sunday evening, we observed The Lord’s Supper.

On Monday morning, The General Board met for several hours to preview and discuss the reports from each of the national departments. A fuller presentation of the reports was given during the business sessions of the convention. Moderator Tim York led the general board meeting while Executive Director, Eddie Moody, pointed out several challenges facing FWBs in the coming days.

North American Ministries reported 52 families overseeing 88 church plants, including 34 English and 54 Spanish speaking churches in 23 states, 16 active military chaplains, 2 U.S. territories, Canada and Mexico working with North American Ministries.

A highlight of the convention was the International Missions report given by Director Clint Morgan. He states that IM is serving 54,737 people in 155 ministry centers, resulting in 6,319 conversions in 2023. And what a wonderful sight, seeing the missionary families who were present, march across the stage in our Wednesday night service.

Other reports also encouraged our hearts. Thank God for Free Will Baptists. Personally, I spent a lot of time in the exhibit area. I always enjoy visiting the 70 or 80 booths of the different exhibits.

Our next National Association of Free Will Baptists will meet July 20-23, 2025, in Kansas City, Missouri.

Y’all come!!!

Dr. James H Cox, Jr.

WV General Board Member