



Original Free Will Baptist Christian Education Ministry Annual Report to the 2025 Convention of Original Free Will Baptist

The Director and the Board of the Christian Education Ministry bring greetings to the 2026 Annual Seating of The Convention of Original Free Will Baptist. We want to thank each church, auxiliary, and individual who has contributed to the work of this ministry. We consider each contribution an investment in the enrichment of lives. Our theme for 2026 is “Rooted In Discipleship”. We believe that in order to move our denomination forward and work together as one, we should indeed be Bible based and recognize that God’s Word is clear in its direction that we are called to not only be disciples, but we are called to make disciples. We are first Rooted in Christ and then we are Rooted in Discipleship and the commission that God has given for us to Go, Teach and Make Disciples. We desire your prayers in our endeavors to continuously strive to do better in our calling. We also need your financial assistance to not only expand but to continue the programs we are using to help our churches and individuals to better their calling as Lay people, Bible Study, Youth, and Sunday School Teachers, Leaders, Pastors and even Youth who are attending Summer Camp because of a scholarship that you have helped to provide. Maybe your church is enjoying a free subscription to Right Now Media or someone in your church has been named a Teacher of the Year and benefited from the monetary gift that was given with that award. Hopefully you were able to take advantage of the training that was offered at this year’s LIFE Conference. If not, you missed a great day. All of these things are because you have given to this ministry. We ask that you continue that support and even think about taking a special offering in February or sometime during the year to give above your annual contribution. It will be much appreciated. You may see in our report that we indeed are blessed to have reserves in case the day comes that we are not able to be fully funded by our churches each year, but it is our prayer that we will not have to rely on those reserves any time soon. We know that God will provide. Thank you again for your prayers and support.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER

1. Contributions and/or request for information or materials can be sent to:
OFWB Christian Education Ministry
PO Box 29 St. Mt. Olive, NC 28365
2. Website: www.ofwbchristianeducation.org Email: ofwbchristianeducation@gmail.com
3. **Woman’s Spiritual Life Retreat** at Cragmont will be Jan. 28-31, 2027
4. Annual **LIFE Conference** on March 6, 2027
5. **Camp Scholarship** Applications for 2027 due by Dec. 31, 2026
6. **2025/2026 Disciple Making Layity Award** nominations should be postmarked by July 27, 2026, and received in our office by Aug. 3, 2026
7. **Christian Education Banquet, Aug. 17, 2026** at LaGrange OFWB Church. Disciple Making Award nominees will be recognized, and awards will be given.

Vision Statement: The vision of the Original Free Will Baptist Christian Education Ministry is to maintain its commitment to teaching and learning for everyone while remaining true to the belief that the message of salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

We believe we will maintain this commitment by:

- Promoting the overall improvement of the local Sunday Schools
- Providing a qualified resource person or team to facilitate appropriate learning opportunities for churches
- Promoting and/or developing practical learning opportunities and materials that provide an understanding of the need to balance the study of scripture while building relationships and outreach
- Developing and sponsoring workshops, seminars, and conferences to promote Christian Education
- Praying and searching for strategies to equip people to respond to God's call according to each individual's unique gifts
- Providing resources and seeking ways to equip our churches to make disciples and to reach the lost, and in changing the SS Teacher and Superintendent of the Year Award to the Disciple Making Award, it is our hope that this will encourage better participation by recognizing that disciple makers are those who teach and lead others to a deeper relationship with Christ in order to become disciples themselves not just Sunday School teachers.
- Adhering to the **Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (Of the English General Baptist Heritage)**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY GOALS AND DUTIES

Please be in prayer for the Christian Education Ministry as we strive to accomplish the following goals:

- Make material available through our Resource Library or other outlets such as Right Now Media to which we have access
- Expand the current program of workshops and seminars to offer more centralized training throughout denomination and within each conference
- Aid small churches who are in need by providing, as funds allow, Sunday School Literature for up to two quarters through the "Preparing the Way" program
- Encourage Biblical study with a family focus
- Assist churches in planning and implementing special events such as VBS and teacher/volunteer retreats
- Continue to assist churches in Christian Education through individual program assessments and follow up with the training where it may be needed
- Assist churches in removing barriers and meeting the needs of individuals with disabilities or special needs
- Continue the partnerships with other ministries
- Expand the Camp Scholarship Program as funds are available
- Expand the Woman's Spiritual Life Retreat to nourish the spiritual lives of all women in our denomination
- Offer training and enrichment opportunities for workers to churches who have Day Care Centers
- Offer a Nursery Procedures Manual to all churches, if requested
- Contact each church and or pastor to see if we can assist them in any way with concerns or needs of SS Program

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Convention officially adopt this annual report of the Christian Education Ministry.
2. That the Convention continue to designate February as Christian Education Ministry Month and churches be encouraged to promote Sunday School and to set aside the last Sunday in February as Sunday School Rally Day.

3. That the Convention encourage all churches to support the Christian Education Ministry both prayerfully and financially.
4. That the Convention encourage all churches to assess their Christian Education programs annually and to partner with this ministry and its resources as they seek to make improvements.
5. That all churches consider assistance with Camp Scholarships in support of youth who need financial help.
6. That the Convention encourages smaller churches to work cooperatively and pool resources for programs such as VBS, Sunday School workshops, and youth work.
7. That the Convention encourages each church to participate in training opportunities such as the LIFE Conference and for local churches to seek training opportunities within their churches, not only from this ministry but throughout our denomination.

This report is submitted on behalf of the Original Free Will Baptist Christian Education Ministry

Mrs. Gail Heath, Director/Treasurer

The Reverend Buddy Seay, Chairperson • The Reverend Chris Hall, Asst. Chair •

The Reverend Todd Sutton, Secretary • Mrs. Shriley Forsythe • The Reverend Mike Williams

• Mrs. Kathy Cahoon • The Reverend Audie Tucker • Mrs. Hope Mauney

CEM Financial Report

Income

	2026 Proposed	2025 Actual	2025 Proposed
Church Contributions	53,000.00	48,441.75	53,600.00
Ind. Contributions	3,000.00	2,050.00	3,500.00
LIFE Conference	2,000.00	1,465.00	2,250.00
SEM/Retreats	2,500.00	2,475.00	2,500.00
Unions/Confs. Auxiliaries	3,000.00	3,348.50	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	<u>1,400.00</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
TOTALS	64,900.00	57,790.25	66,850.00

Operating Expenses

	2026 Proposed	2025 Actual	2025 Proposed
Youth Programs	7,000.00	9,235.00	7,000.00
Printing and Postage	600.00	522.32	600.00
Seminars, Conferences, Training, & WSL Retreat	7,500.00	8,931.26	7,500.00
LIFE Conference/D6	6,000.00	6,663.38	7,000.00
Board/Staff Travel/Meals	2,000.00	2,675.81	2,000.00
Administration	30,000.00	29,622.00	30,000.00
*Includes Dir. Salary, Benefits, Travel, FICA, Workman's Comp, Compensated Assistance and Staff Payroll			
Right Now Media	950.00	939.28	950.00
Resource Center	200.00	00	350.00
Office Expense**	7,500.00	7,745.12	8,000.00
Awards Program	2,600.00	1,200.00	3,300.00
Promotional Items	300.00	532.66	300.00
Misc	250.00	146.53	250.00
*Flowers ** Moving Expenses of \$842.53 not included in budget			
Totals	64,900.00	68,213.36	67,250.00

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2025

Beginning Checking Account Balance 01/01/25	74,066.10
Income	<u>57,790.25</u>
SUB TOTAL	131,856.35
Expenditures	<u>-68,213.36</u>
Checking Account Balance 12/31/25	<u>63,642.99</u>
CD on Deposit w/ CFA	<u>18,060.52</u>
TOTAL FINACIAL ASSESTS	81,703.51