

2023 Convention Report

Raleigh, NC

July 3, 2023

#1 WNAC Logo

It is an honor to present this, my first report as the Director of FWB Women's Ministries. My husband Donnie and I completed 38 years with IM in Japan and returned to the States last October. 11 days later, I began my new role on November 1st. It has been a season of learning from and listening to our amazing and faithful women around the country. Throughout my entire life and ministry, I have been the recipient of many wonderful blessings from our FWB women. I consider it a privilege to now have the opportunity to give back a bit by serving in this position.

#2 Mission statement

"WNAC exists to help FWB women find and fulfill their role in the Great Commission, both at home and abroad." I hope you will see throughout this report that we are serious about making everything we do align with this mission statement.

Since becoming a department, we have been transitioning from a member-only, dues paying, card-carrying organization to an inclusive one with no dues or membership required. Whether a member of a traditionally organized WNAC chapter or not – and most of our women across the denomination are not – if you are a woman and a FWB, you are part of FWB Women's Ministries.

#3 The Giving Tree

In 2022, FWB women gave **\$433,125.11** to missions and ministry causes.

Through **The Giving Tree** campaign of 2022, WNAC raised **\$45,560**. Many thanks to the individuals, churches, and groups who pledged to give monthly to support Women's Ministries. While we are thankful that this campaign helped us to make up for the income we have traditionally received through annual dues, we are still in need of additional support. Trusting God for our needs, we have set a goal of **\$50,000** for 2023.

#4 Better Together

We are also grateful that, in the spirit of "Better Together" we have received generous help from other FWB departments. These include a \$50,000 grant from FWB Foundation in 2022, a monthly pledge of \$1,000 per month from NAM, and the willingness of IM, Inc. to supply our new director's health insurance.

Please visit our booth or contact us to inquire about other opportunities to give to WNAC including the Marjorie Workman Endowment and gift annuities.

At this time, I'd like to welcome our auditor Terry Hill to the podium to present his findings.

#5 Mission Statement

As the Women's Ministry Department of the denomination, let me repeat that we are here to help FWB women fulfill the Great Commission. In addition to their historically faithful and sacrificial giving to those who go, we want to emphasize what we see as the very heart of the Great Commission. We who stay also need to grow as followers of Jesus and as disciple makers. Our desire is to help all of our women – ages 12 to 112 – to grow deeper as true disciples and as disciplers.

We are working hard to build a database of contact information for FWB women across the country. This is the best way we can stay connected as a cohesive group as we transition from our traditional structure to something new and more inclusive. Please visit our website to sign up for all of the practical resources WNAC has to offer. Our goal is to have current contact information for at least one woman of influence from EVERY FWB church. (add QR code/website)

#6 Shine!

We are excited about the branch of our ministry that focuses on discipling young girls ages 12-18. In this ever more alarming and deceptive culture, it is vital that we intentionally disciple our youngest ladies. With the theme of "Realizing Your Worth," the Shine! program offers one-day events, online blogs, Bible studies, and support groups. We are thrilled to now be partnering with D6 and Vertical3 and praying for exponential growth in this ministry.

During 2023, we sponsored 2 successful one-day Shine events in AL and in KS. I consider them "successful" both in attendance and in the moving of the Holy Spirit in young girls' hearts. Our next Shine events will take place in Spring of 2024 at Randall University and in Michigan. If your church would like to host an event or you have young girls who could benefit from our resources, please stop by our exhibit or visit the website: shinefwb.com

#7 Flourish

Flourish one-day ladies' retreats have resumed with great enthusiasm. Please be in prayer for our upcoming Flourish retreat in Ozark, MO on October 14th on the theme: "When Life Doesn't Make Sense" and stay tuned for future dates and locations.

#8 The Steward Provision Closet

Since 1962, FWB ladies have lovingly supported our missionaries in a practical way through the Steward Provision Closet. It is a tangible and practical way in which we love on our missionaries.

We have just produced a new video available to be downloaded for individual and group use across the denomination. You can access that video on our website: wnac.org. One great new feature is our "Wish Lists" on Amazon and Walmart which can be accessed in the same way as any wedding or gift registry. Just find the item or gift card you'd like to purchase, click, and checkout. It will be delivered right to the Closet.

#9 Scholarships

Each year, WNAC is pleased to provide scholarships through the generous donations of our women.

- 1) The **Mary Ruth Wisehart Scholarship** is awarded each year to one young woman enrolled in each of our 3 FWB Bible colleges. This year's recipients are:

#10 Randall University – Bailey AnnMarie Guzman

Bailey is from OK and is a sophomore at Randall studying Ministry and Business. Newly married, she and her husband are ministering at Edmond First FWB Church. She is an excellent student and is grateful to WNAC for the scholarship which she said, "came at just the right time."

#11 Southeastern FWB College – Hannah Boyd

Hannah is from Wayne, MI and attends Community FWB Church. She graduated in May with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a proficiency in Math. She has accepted a position at Inter-City Baptist School in Allen Park, MI and will be teaching 2nd grade. She is very excited for the opportunity to influence young minds for Christ.

#12 Welch College – Sarah Lovett

Sarah is from Madison, AL and will be a senior this fall and is majoring in Theology. She is a member of the Rejoice! Ministry Team at Welch College and is very active on campus and in her local church in various roles. While at college, Sarah attends Immanuel Church in Gallatin, TN.

- 2) **#13 The Miley Scholarship** is awarded each year to a deserving international student enrolled at Welch College. This year's recipient is Kory Escola.

Kory will be a freshman at Welch College this fall. She comes to the US from the ministry of Jungle Kids for Christ in Misahualli, Ecuador, a partner organization of IM, Inc. Kory was the valedictorian of her graduating class at the Antioch Christian Academy there. She and her family have ministered to the indigenous community there since she was 6 years old. In Kory's words: "I have seen what the American Christian Missionary culture and passion can do for the lives of others. This experience has motivated me to seek ways so that I too can share the gospel in

different ways. I am hoping to go to a college in the U.S. so that I can become a professional and be part of God's kingdom work. My prayer is to become a professional and with my skills bring help to others."

- 3) The **Cleo Purcell Scholarship** was created to help international students training for leadership in their own countries.

#14 - *In 2022, this scholarship was given to the Word of Life Bible Institute in Bangladesh.*

#15 - *We are pleased to award our 2023 scholarship to the 12 young men preparing for pastoral ministries at the Bible Institute in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.*

#16 Online Resources

This year we have added a part-time employee, Adra Chandler, to coordinate our social media and online resources. These include:

Treasure Magazine, our online magazine, includes monthly Bible studies suitable for individual or group use, articles, and news from across the nation. It is also formatted for free downloading and distribution to as many women as desire to read it in printed form.

The 2024 theme for Treasure is "Reflection" and our theme verse will be 2 Corinthians 3:18 -- "But we all, with unveiled faces, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

We regularly publish news about events and resources on **Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and our WNAC app**. We also send out short inspirational and instructional video "ebcasts" twice a month via email with a link to **YouTube**.

#17 As You Go Podcast – video

And now for our latest exciting news! Here in Raleigh at this convention, we are launching our new Podcast "As You Go" as a production of FWB Women's Ministries. Please visit our exhibit to find out how you can follow this new resource. Those who follow or subscribe during the convention will receive a gift with our new logo, so stop by soon. Or you may use this QR code to check us out.

#18 WNAC logo

We believe the best is yet to come for FWB Women's Ministries. Please join us in prayer as we seek to resource, equip, and encourage women of all ages to be all that God designed them to be – growing as disciples and disciple makers, and fulfilling their role in the Great Commission.