



The Oaks Retreat Center is a wonderful way to sow seeds of fun, fellowship and faith in young people, families and church groups. The Oaks is a great place to enjoy yourself, and the various church youth camps bring young people face-to-face with the reality of the need for a personal relationship with Christ, all the while surrounded by the beauty of His creation.



LET THE OAKS HOST YOUR NEXT RETREAT!

Call Shari Oster at 423-470-2226 to learn all the fun things available at The Oaks.

The Heart Stone Farm program, our therapeutic horse program, is back in the saddle again after a long, hard winter. March blessed us with some rain showers for our nicely seeded and fertilized fields. We were able to get out and groom the horses and practice leading and tying with a new group of horses and residents.



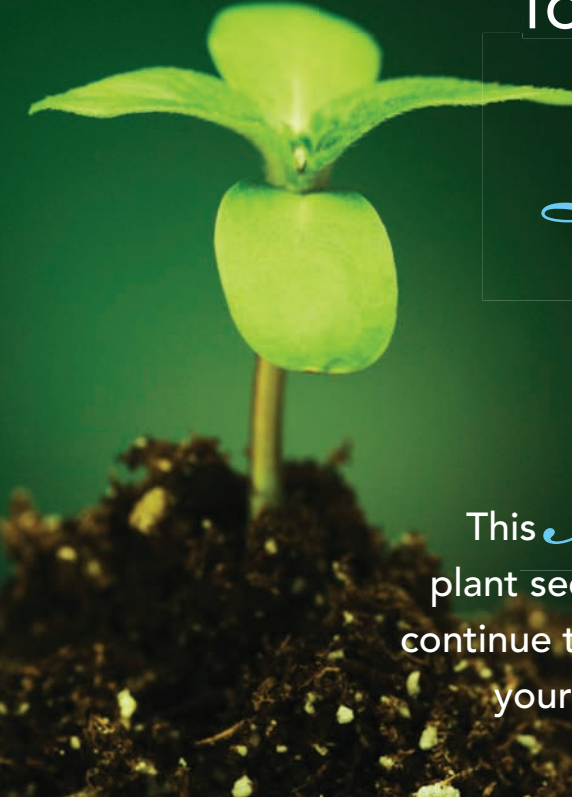
For more information or to schedule a visit and tour of our farm, contact Beth Detroyer at 423-639-6199.

90 Stanley Lane
 Greenville, TN 37743



Spring 2009

70 Years in Ministry



Sow
 for a Lifetime,
Reap
 for Eternity

This *Mother's Day*, plant seeds of giving that will continue to bring forth fruit for your lifetime and beyond.

For seven decades, churches and individuals have been investing in FWB Family Ministries, enabling us to plant the seeds of unconditional love, forgiveness, understanding, caring and family into the lives of young people now and for years to come.

This **Mother's Day, May 10, 2009**, will you help us grow a garden of love with a special offering by participating in our annual Mother's Day Appeal? "...He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.....for God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9: 6, 7

Sow

Please be generous with your Mother's Day gifts.
 Mail tax deductible donations to:
Free Will Baptist Family Ministries

90 Stanley Lane, Greenville, TN 37743

For more information, call 423-278-1564 or e-mail at: info@fwbfm.com

Reap

Seeds may also be planted for eternity through estate giving, endowments and other gifts throughout the year.



From the Desk of Dr. James Kilgore

Spring has finally come to east Tennessee. The smell of freshly-turned earth signals the planting of vegetable gardens and flower beds. Seeds are sown with the hope of a successful harvest. Soon, the plants will produce, and flowers will dot the countryside with their beauty. The hard work of those that planted will be enjoyed by many.



We celebrate "Foster Parents Month" each May. We are so proud of the work our foster parents do and are very thankful for all those who have opened their hearts and homes to our young people. As we pay tribute to our foster families—especially our mothers—we invite you to help us honor them at our **Annual Benefit Concert, GOT LOVE?** on May 28, 2009, at the Annie Hogan Byrd Auditorium, in Greeneville, TN. We are privileged to have Gold City, Southern Gospel Quartet, and Aaron Wilburn, Christian comedian/songwriter for this year's event. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, \$10 for groups of 10 or more and children 12 and under are free. Seating is limited, so call today at 423-278-1562 or 423-278-1564 to reserve your tickets.

Our residential homes in Tennessee and Bristol Boys' Home in Virginia continue to provide unconditional love and support for young people who need that love and genuine caring in their lives. Our A&D program continues to thrive, and Bristol Boys' Home recently expanded its scope of available services. The seeds planted in the hearts and lives of these young people include daily devotions, worship services and a staff that models Christian love each and every day.



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Many facets of Family Ministries have been blessed by tremendous gifts and donations. Your gifts to this ministry enable us to provide our young people with the necessities of life and also allow us to continue to minister to them through loving house parents, teachers at P.A.T.H. Academy, counselors, family specialists and our great staff.

The harvest from the seeds you plant through your gifts may not be seen until eternity. What better way to "lay your treasure up in heaven" than investing in the lives of young people who may never hear the Gospel message anywhere else.

Mail your tax-deductible gifts to Family Ministries or go on-line at www.fwbfm.com to make your VISA/MasterCard/Visa credit card donations.

What will your harvest be for the Lord? Do you work hard, hoping for results? Do you strive to reap bountifully for His Kingdom?

Family Ministries affords you many different ways to "sow for a lifetime and reap for eternity." We thank you for allowing us to serve children and youth for 70 years; will you join with us in planting seeds of love and hope in the lives of hurting young people and families to ensure our ministry can continue on for 70 more years and beyond?

We look forward to talking with many of you at the National Convention in July. Please stop by our booth to say hello.



In 2008, Family Ministries served 1050 children and families through our various ministries. 184 young people accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior, 33 rededicated their lives and 14 followed Him in Christian baptism. 96 babies were born to moms benefiting from The Hope Center.

We introduced a new Level II Enhanced Drug & Alcohol Treatment program in Tennessee and Virginia; 70 young men successfully graduated from this program last year, and a number have already achieved this goal in 2009.

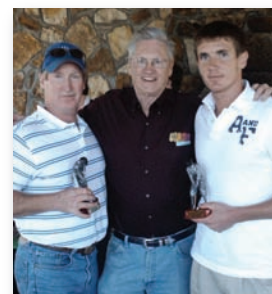
A message from one of our house parents. *"I have the pleasure of working in Carolina Cottage and have watched Jack (resident) step up and actually keep the other boys in line. We were about to eat dinner and Jack wouldn't allow the other boys to sit until we prayed and I sat down. Jack isn't afraid to stand up and proclaim his salvation. He will be the first to tell you that God is who changed him and made him the person he is. It's very rewarding to know that at the end of the day we can look back and see progress with these young people. It's truly a blessing to know that through our faith and love for God that He gives us the wisdom to help turn a young man's life around."* — Jessie Morgan



Recently, Florence Crittenton Home in Arkansas was able to make a huge difference in the life of a family. Three siblings who came into state care were going to be separated. Debbie Stripling, Operations Manager, petitioned for all three to come to Florence Crittenton and stay together as a family, which they did.

As we lean on our brothers and sisters in Christ, these children needed each other to get through this difficult time. What a joy for us to be able keep these youngsters together.

In April, The Florence Crittenton Home hosted their annual golf tourney. Pictured are the "Crittenton Classic" 1st Place Championship Winners with tournament director Wendell Leckbee.



The Hope Center continues to care for young mothers and their children, as well as young women who come to us in crisis. This ministry operates solely on donations; we receive no state funded assistance for the services we offer. Through providing basic needs of diapers, wipes, clothing, etc., for their children, pregnancy and parenting classes and a loving environment, these young ladies know they can find unconditional love and support through trying times. We had 96 babies born to Hope Center clients in 2008. That's a lot of diapers and wipes!



For more information, contact us at:

Free Will Baptist Family Ministries
90 Stanley Lane • Greeneville, TN 37743

Website: www.fwbfm.com
Email: info@fwbfm.com

The "Family News" is published bi-monthly. Free Will Baptist Family Ministries, Inc., does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality or ethnic origin in admission policies or any other policy.



The Laurels Retirement & Assisted Living has been a busy place this winter and spring. Christian bluegrass, gospel, Christmas carols and "old-time fiddling" have rung through the halls and lifted the spirits of everyone there. Residents enjoyed participating in the Christmas parade,

drinking hot chocolate in front of the fire, planting flowers and building a loving community through church services, celebrating special occasions, group activities and fellowship with each other. It is truly a wonderful place to plant seeds of past memories and to grow wonderful new ones.



Below are memorial contributions received from February 2009 – March 2009. We thank all those who honor their loved ones in such a special way.

In Memory

Arnold Syck
Barbara Jean Boyette

Buckie Baumgardner
Doris Jane Parr

Darvis Kilgore
Geneva Green
Georgian Needham, Nellie Voss
Janet Ruth Gober, Vergie Benson
John Thomas Peek
Pat Popplewell
Rev. Bob Shockey

Teresa Syck
Willard Guy Wilson

Donor

Diane Hunter, Michael & Linda Gladson, Ronnie & Teresa Syck
Beatrice Underwood,
Michael & Gayle Williard,
Mr. & Mrs. Jurrel Stapleton,
Robert & Mary Hunt, Travis Meats, Inc.
Henry & Edith Baumgardner
Alberta Loyd & daughter Sue,
Good Neighbor Foundation, Inc.,
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Ray
Donna Kilgore, Brenda H. Bolling
Unity FWB Church
Calvin & Peggy Needham
Ruthie Gober
Victory FWB Church
Vernon & Linda Luttrell
Betty Shockey Family,
Frank & Shirley Woods,
Gary & Ruthe Short, Wanda Sadler
Woodhaven WAC
Elizabeth A. Frixen

In May, we celebrate Mother's Day. Then in June, we honor our Fathers. In July, we commemorate Independence Day. Pay tribute to your Mom and Dad, or to all the servicemen who protect our freedom, with a special gift in their honor or memory in acknowledgment to what they have meant in your life. Recognitions will appear in upcoming newsletter.

Donor: _____

In Memory / Honor Of (Circle One): _____

Acknowledgement Sent To: _____