

Enjoy these pictures from the Reunion!



Home HAPPENINGS

"Investing *today* in the heart of *tomorrow*."

A Ministry of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home



May / June 2011

Homecoming Review

Reunion

"Thank you for making us feel so welcome. We really enjoyed the day." These were the words of a former resident at the conclusion of our second annual Homecoming held on the FWBCH campus on April 9th. Nearly one hundred people including former residents and their families, former staff, and present residents and staff gathered for a time of reminiscing



and fellowship. The attendees participated in telling stories, viewing photos, renewing friendships, sharing up-dates, and taking pictures. Prior to enjoying a delicious lunch, the residents, past and present, posed for a group picture in front of the original stone building. It was a wonderful sight, seeing people of various ages, all who have been helped by this ministry, walking the grounds on that day. Next year's reunion will be held in June and will include activities and a cookout.



Benefit Concert

The Homecoming event continued with a benefit gospel singing in the Faith Activity Center. Our featured artist was song writer and comedian, Aaron Wilburn. Wilburn, a feature on the Gaither Homecoming tour and videos, used his humor to bring laughter and his songs to warm the hearts of those in attendance. Also, performing was the Capstone Quartet from Tuscaloosa, AL. Their singing of traditional southern gospel music was Christ exalting. One attendee commented, "The



afternoon was a real blessing and encouragement." To date the benefit has raised over

\$3,000.00. Others have indicated they are sending a gift. If you or your church would like to give towards the benefit, please send your contribution to FWBCH and earmark it "Benefit."



Plan ahead for a lasting legacy – call 205.924.9751 for a FREE will guide.

Email: admin@fwbhome.org

Facebook: [Eldridge Children's Home](https://www.facebook.com/EldridgeChildrensHome)

Website: www.fwbhome.org

Please Visit Us:

Free Will Baptist Children's Home
P.O. Box 8
Eldridge, AL 35554
Return Service Requested



Purpose

Free Will Baptist Children's Home is a ministry of the Alabama State Association of FWB's. As a non-profit organization, FWBCH provides a loving, home-like, Christian atmosphere for children struggling with life's challenges and turbulent domestic situations. Our task is to help children hurt by life to find faith in God and enter adulthood as responsible Christian men and women with a purpose in life.

The FWB Children's Home Newsletter is published six times per year to keep friends informed of current activities, programs, and service. If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments, please contact us:



Free Will Baptist Children's Home
P. O. Box 8 Eldridge, AL 35554
Mike Corley, Executive Director
Linda Berry, Child Services
Danny Williams, Communication
Phone: 205-924-9751
Fax: 205-924-9574
Website: www.fwbhome.org

FWBCH does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin.

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From the Director's Desk

Mike Corley



Safety is a pretty big deal around the Children's Home. Not only are we mandated by state rules and regulations to keep the home safe, we want to keep it safe for the kid's and staff's sake. Too often when our kids come to us they have emotional hurts anyway, so they don't need any unnecessary physical hurts to go along with them.

We have livestock to teach the kids responsibility, so we teach the kids how to handle themselves around the horses and cows. Spring is here and it brings tornadoes and thunder storms, so we have periodic fire and tornado drills. Kids like to play, so when they ride their bikes and skate on their skate boards and play other sports, we require them to wear the appropriate safety equipment. There are many tasks involved in keeping a family of (now) 30 kids and staff, living in four cottages on 10 acres of land, so when they do chores like mowing and weed eating (older kids) or hoeing and working in the garden (all the kids) we teach them to be safe. Don't get me wrong, we're just like any other family and accidents do happen. We have our share of cuts and bruises (no broken bones in quite a while, though), but we do emphasize safety.

The most important safety factor we try to teach them, though, is the fact that there is One who cares about them more than anyone else in the world. We try to help them realize that there is safety in His arms. It is only through a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ that any of us are truly safe. No matter the cuts and bruises, scrapes and broken bones, Jesus will always be there to see us through. We feel that if we can teach them that, then we have accomplished our goal.

Thanks for helping us keep them safe. You do that by being faithful with your prayers and your support, whether that is funds, time or goods. We couldn't do it without you.

Bro. Mike

E-Team Panama

Dustin Latham, one of our teens, will be part of E-Team Panama this summer. This is a three week missions program for high school students sponsored by FWB International Missions. He is scheduled to depart for Nashville on June 9th. If you would like to help him with the expenses of his trip, you may send a donation to FWBCH, earmarked "Summer Missions." Please be in prayer for Dustin and the other teens who will be participating in this ministry.



Below are memorial contributions from March - April 2011. We thank all those who honor their loved ones in this special way.

Memorial Gifts

IN MEMORY
Wink Harris
Stan Ryan Malone
Caleb Deavours
Billie R. Cobb

Lucien Boyer
Alice Overton

DONOR
Jennifer Estes
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Malone
Betty Gladney
Farmstead Baptist Adult Men's Class
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Atkins
Cheryl Webb, Class of 1984
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Smith

IN HONOR
James & Ann Davis

DONOR
Zion United
Methodist Church

You may pay tribute to your loved one with a donation in their honor. Please include with your gift the information needed to notify the family. Recognition will also appear in the upcoming newsletter.

Richardson Cottage



Construction is currently taking place on the Richardson Cottage. The 16 x 32, two-bedroom and bathroom addition will make the cottage handi-cap accessible. When finished we will have one boys' cottage

and one girls' cottage that can serve handicapped children. As part of the process a committee from DHR and the Civil Rights office was on campus to examine our facilities. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of May.



Birthdays

Best wishes to the following:

Justin	5-1-00
Bubba	5-31-02
Danny (staff)	6-1
Erika	6-30-01

Honor Roll

Justin	Nick
Matthew	Linsey
Morgan	Josh
James	Zack

Great job, kids!
We're proud
of you!



We recently upgraded our website. We encourage you to visit www.fwbhome.org to learn more about our ministry and read of recent news regarding the Home.

NEEDS List

vinegar
styrofoam plates
lemonade mix
Kool-aid
Crystal light
Splenda
brown rice
wheat noodles
sugar free pudding cups
Slim Jims
protein bars
pork rinds
Gatorade
healthy snacks
razors
body wash
hay-square bales
sweet feed for animals
riding mower
ping pong table
measuring cups/spoons
dish cloths
paper towels
Air Wick/Glade plug-ins



On March 22nd, the Alabama Department of Human Resources performed our bi-annual evaluation and inspection. We were later informed that our license has been renewed and that our capacity has been increased from 38 to 40. The state license is confirmation of our desire to do things with excellence and provide a quality program for the children to whom we minister.