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saving convicting



79th National Association of Free Will Baptists
Grand Rapids, Michigan | July 19-22, 2015



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

National Association of Free Will Baptists | Grand Rapids, Michigan | July 19-22, 2015

Saturday, July 18

Registration Open
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm
DeVos Place, Grand Gallery

Sunday, July 19

Registration (Open Daily)
8:00 am – 7:00 pm
DeVos Place, Grand Gallery

Sunday School*
10:00 am – 10:45 am
DeVos Place, Hall BC

Morning Worship*
11:00 am – 12:00 Noon
DeVos Place, Hall BC

Evening Worship*
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
DeVos Place, Hall BC

Monday, July 20

General Board Meeting
8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Amway Grand
Ambassador Ballroom

Reach That Guy Service Projects
8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Various Locations

NYC Competitive Activities
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
DeVos Place, Various Locations

Convention Seminars
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
DeVos Place, Various Locations

Theological Integrity Seminar
2:00 pm
Amway Grand
Ambassador Ballroom

Exhibit Hall Open
3:00 pm – 10:00 pm
DeVos Place, Hall A

ENGAGE Children's Ministry Panel
4:00 pm
DeVos Place, River Overlook E

North American Ministries
Appreciation Dinner
5:15 pm – 6:30 pm
Amway Grand

Evening Worship
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
DeVos Place, Hall BC

WNAC Laughter & Latté
(Ticketed Event)
8:30 pm
Amway Grand
Pantlind Ballroom

National Youth Evangelistic Team
(Y.E.T.) Program
9:00 pm
DeVos Place, Performance Hall

Tuesday, July 21

NYC Competitive Activities
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
DeVos Place, Various Locations

Convention Seminars
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
DeVos Place, Various Locations

WNAC Celebration Service
10:00 am
Amway Grand
Ambassador Ballroom

Preaching Conference
10:00 am – 11:30 am
DeVos Place, Performance Hall

Exhibit Hall Open
10:00 am – 10:00 pm
DeVos Place, Hall A

Convention Business Session
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
DeVos Place, Hall BC

ENGAGE Student Ministry Panel
4:00 pm
DeVos Place, River Overlook C

Evening Worship
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
DeVos Place, Hall BC

The Skit Guys (Ticketed Event)
9:00 pm
DeVos Place, Performance Hall

Wednesday, July 22

NYC Competition Finals
8:00 am – 11:00 am
DeVos Place, Ballroom A

Convention Business Session
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
DeVos Place, Hall BC

GPS Experience
9:00 am – 11:30 am
DeVos Place, Ballroom C

Exhibit Hall Open
10:00 am – 9:30 pm
DeVos Place, Hall A

Welch College Alumni
and Friends Luncheon
12:00 noon – 1:15 pm
Amway Grand
Pantlind Ballroom

Evening Worship
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
DeVos Place, Hall BC

NYC Awards Ceremony
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm
DeVos Place, Hall BC

*Teen services will be held in the
DeVos Place, Performance Hall.

The National Association of Free Will Baptists will visit Grand Rapids, Michigan, “River City,” for the first time when it meets July 19-22, for the 79th annual session. Convention Manager Ryan Lewis expects nearly 5,000 delegates and visitors to converge on DeVos Place (convention center) at the heart of the city.

Grand Rapids promises to be a comfortable meeting location, with convenient hotels (Amway Grand Plaza, JW Marriott, and Courtyard by Marriott Downtown) connected by an enclosed skywalk. Many shops and restaurants are centrally located, with great family-friendly attractions within a walk or short drive. Visit www.experiencegr.com for more city information.

Speakers Paul Harrison (TN), Gary Fry (TN), Rick Locklear (MI), Frank Woods (TN), Steve Lytle (Panama), and Tom McCullough (MI) will address the theme, *The Word of God*, while Brian Williams (NY) and Danny Baer (NC) will headline the annual Tuesday preaching conference.

The FWB Media Commission will stream convention services on www.nafwb.org, according to Media Commission Chairman Travis Penn, making it possible for Free Will Baptists across the world to join

the meeting remotely.

In convention business, Moderator Tim York will guide delegates through the election of new and returning board members, general officers, and commission appointees. Delegates are expected to approve denominational budgets of nearly \$25 million. In addition, all national agencies and commissions will submit annual reports.

National Youth Conference

The 48th annual National Youth Conference, which meets simultaneously, expects more than 3,500 registrants. This year’s program includes national competitive finals in Bible and fine arts, a wide range of seminars and workshops, and services designed especially for youth. Speakers Corey Minter (TN), Charles Jackson (OK), Joe Wilson (MI), and Mark Mittelburg (CO) will address the NYC theme *#Truth* based on John 8:32. Tommy Woodard and Eddie James, the comedy duo better known as The Skit Guys, will bring side-splitting comedy to the conference on Tuesday night. (Be sure to pre-register to take advantage of \$10 tickets.) Learn more about NYC on page 54.

Throughout the week, students and sponsors will take part in *Reach That Guy* projects, serving Grand Rapids through kindness. On the final evening of the conference, students will join adults for a combined worship service. Get more information at www.fwbny.com or www.verticalthree.com.

Delayed Impact

Since 2005, the one-day evangelistic campaign referred to as Impact has partnered with local Free Will Baptist churches to provide outreach and service



Paul Harrison (TN)
Sunday School



Gary Fry (TN)
Sunday Morning



Rick Locklear (MI)
Sunday Evening



Frank Woods (TN)
Monday Evening



Steve Lytle (Panama)
Tuesday Evening



Tom McCullough (MI)
Wednesday Evening



Brian Williams (NY)
Preaching Conference



Danny Baer (NC)
Preaching Conference

Convention Speakers


opportunities to convention attendees. However, Grand Rapids has no local Free Will Baptist churches, creating serious logistical challenges.

After searching unsuccessfully for project alternatives and partners, Impact Coordinator Ken Akers, along with convention officials, made the decision to cancel Impact for 2015. Attendees are encouraged to make plans to serve local Free Will Baptist churches during Impact Kansas City in 2016.

WNAC Events

Although Women Nationally Active for Christ will no longer host an independent convention after becoming a department of the National Association in 2014, the organization will sponsor several events. See page 48 for more information.

Convention Musicians Needed




The 2015 Mass Choir and Orchestra, sponsored by the Music Commission, needs vocalists and instrumentalists (age 15 and above, with at least third-year skill level) to participate in the convention music program. The ensemble will accompany congregational and choir selections during each service. If you would like to be involved or have questions, contact the commission: music@nafwb.org or visit [facebook.com/fwbmusiccommission](https://www.facebook.com/fwbmusiccommission). 

Five great attractions to visit...

- #5** Ride the **Swan Boats** at John Ball Zoo, located two miles west of downtown just off the I-96 expressway.
- #4** Take a selfie at **La Grande Vitesse**. The large sculpture by Alexander Calder is located across from Devos Place.
- #3** Make the half-hour drive to beautiful **Lake Michigan**. Condé Nast *Traveler* recently listed the shoreline among the 25 best in the world.
- #2** Be swarmed by butterflies at **Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park**, among the top 100 most-visited art museums worldwide, featuring more than 200 sculptures.
- #1** Visit **Gerald R. Ford Museum** to learn more about the 38th President (and Grand Rapids native). Return to the 1970s through interactive displays, holograms, and a peek into the Oval Office.

GRAND RAPIDS MICHIGAN



-  A. Amway Grand Hotel
- B. JW Marriott Grand Rapids
- C. Courtyard by Marriott
- D. DeVos Place (Convention Center)
- E. Performance Hall
- F. Gerald Ford Museum
-  G. Ah-Nab-Awen Park
- H. Calder Plaza
- I. Rosa Parks Circle
- J. Fish Ladder Park
- K. Sixth Street Bridge Park
-  Skywalk



Rooms are still available at convention hotels!
 Visit www.nafwb.org to book yours today!