

For Immediate Release

May 9, 2008

### **FWBBC Graduates 69 in Commencement Exercises**

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College graduated 69 students from 15 states in commencement exercises on campus Friday, May 9, according to President Matt Pinson. Students completed degrees in six programs ranging from two-year associate's degrees to four-year bachelor's degrees. Thirty-eight percent of the class graduated with honors.

Dr. C. Thomas Malone, former FWBBC president and chancellor brought the 19-minute commencement address from Luke 9:57-62, challenging students deny self, say Yes to God, realize the urgency of the task, and keep their eyes on Jesus. Dr. Malone served 12 years as FWBBC president, three years as chancellor, and 16 years on the Board of Trustees, in addition to pastoring 35 years in three states.

Tennessee pastor Mike Gladson, whose daughter Ashley is a student at the college, delivered the baccalaureate message Thursday evening. He focused on the need for Christians to confront and engage the culture where they are. Gladson pastors Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville.

FWBBC stalwarts Ralph and Margaret Hampton were honored with matching plaques during commencement exercises. They are both retiring—Ralph after 50 years at FWBBC (48 years of classroom instruction and a two-year graduate school sabbatical) where he chaired the Biblical and Ministry Studies Department; Margaret after 37 years where she served as library manager.

Old Testament professor Garnett Reid was recognized for 25 years of service.

The college commends to you and to the work of the Lord the members of the 2008 graduating class.

**DEGREES AND STUDENTS START HERE**

