

For Immediate Release

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### **North Carolina Teens Work at FWBBC**

NASHVILLE, TN—Ten North Carolina teens and two sponsors spent four muggy June days with temperatures in the mid-90s working on the Free Will Baptist Bible College campus, according to Ernie Thompson, cleaning operations supervisor. The group traveled 650 miles from Washington, NC (First Free Will Baptist Church), to Middle Tennessee on Monday, June 14, and worked all week before returning home Saturday.

“I was impressed with them,” Mr. Thompson said. “We don’t often get a group this large that can stay and work four days on campus. They were ready to do whatever had to be done—from cleaning to painting to hauling away debris to trimming shrubbery. The team was well supervised and motivated. You could tell that they understood why they were here.”

Darren Walker, team leader and associate youth and children’s pastor, said the seven girls and three boys, ranging from 13 to 17 years old, organized community projects to help raise funds and underwrite expenses for the Tennessee trip.

“This was the first time for six of our teens to visit Nashville,” said Walker, a 1993 FWBBC graduate in his third year at the church. “We had two goals in mind with this outreach. First, we wanted to teach the teens about hands-on ministry and Christian service. Second, we wanted to acquaint them with FWBBC. It’s working.”

Housed in FWBBC resident halls, the youth group took their noon meals in Cumberland Cafeteria. They went off campus to area restaurants for evening meals, with several night activities planned by sponsors.

Each summer the North Carolina youth group plans a missions trip. Previous excursions include working with a Home Missions church in Pennsylvania, visiting the Free Will Baptist Children’s Home

(Greeneville, TN), an international trip to France, and more. Reverend Kevin Woolard pastors First Free Will Baptist Church.