

For Immediate Release

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Matt Pinson Speaks at Beeson Divinity School

NASHVILLE, TN—Dr. Matt Pinson, president of Free Will Baptist Bible College, delivered a presentation titled “How to Be Confessional, Baptist, and Arminian: The General-Free Will Baptist Tradition and the Nicene Faith” during Beeson Divinity School’s “Need for Creed” conference September 28-30. He spoke Wednesday morning of the three-day conference.

Dr. Pinson said, “I was delighted to be part of this important academic gathering at Beeson and have opportunity to present the Arminian and Free Will Baptist perspective to the faculty, students, and guests. The staff welcomed my participation and extended every courtesy to me and the FWBBC contingency that traveled from Nashville to attend the conference. Several FWBBC graduates are or have been enrolled in graduate programs at the Divinity School.”

The program on confessional and unifying purposes of the faith of the early church, and its relevance for today’s church, was designed for theologians, pastors, and all Christians concerned with how to present faith in an age of increasing syncretism and radical pluralism. The conference focused on a variety of topics including the significance of the Nicene faith for pastoral work, evangelical worship, biblical exegesis, and vital expressions of orthodox Christian faith around the globe.

President Pinson was joined on the program by theologian Tom Oden, professor of theology and ethics at Drew University and director of the center for Early African Christianity; Beeson Divinity Dean Timothy George, author and specialist in church history and doctrine; and seven other speakers.

The conference theme, “The Will to Believe and the Need for Creed: Evangelicals and the Nicene Faith,” was selected from Jaroslav Pelikan’s essay by that name, in which Pelikan stressed both the confessional and unifying purposes of the creeds as an expression of Christian belief and identity. The conference began Monday, September 28 at 1:00 p.m. and ended Wednesday, September 30 at noon.

The papers of the conference will be printed in a forthcoming book by the same title, to be published by Baker Academic.