

For Immediate Release

July 5, 2011

FWBBC Missions Professor Ministers in Cuba

NASHVILLE, TN—Reverend Ron Callaway, Missions program coordinator at Free Will Baptist Bible College, traveled to Pinar del Rio, Cuba, in late May-early June to participate in a two-week teaching experience at el Seminario Bautista Libre “Los Cedros del Libano.” He was accompanied by Dr. Eddie Moody, pastor of Tippett’s Chapel Free Will Baptist Church (Clayton, NC) who also chairs the Department of Counselor Education at North Carolina Central University, and by Sean Warren, a 1996 FWBBC graduate and now director of International Missions for the Association of General Baptists.

Reverend Callaway said, “Dr. Moody taught a course to campus students, extension students, and a few pastors on preparing the local congregation to give emotional first aid for those hurting in church. The course featured informational aspects, biblical support and examples, and practical exercises involving all participants.”

Both Mr. Warren and Dr. Moody conducted in-depth interviews the first week with pastors and seminary faculty concerning various aspects of ministry in Cuba, and spoke in churches and to the student body. Dr. Moody visited a Cuban university to converse with the psychology faculty about teaching aspects and philosophical approaches to counseling currently used in the island nation.

Ministry responsibilities required that Warren and Moody return stateside after one week. Reverend Callaway remained in Cuba and taught a brief course on Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. “As the Free Will Baptist Convention of Cuba spreads into other provinces,” Callaway said, “cultural barriers are encountered by the young graduates. The course was designed to help them move beyond differences in idioms, practices, manners, and worldviews in order to better understand and reach the lost in areas far from their home provinces.”

Callaway continued his research on mentoring extension students. He also participated in discussions concerning current needs at the Los Cedros. Mr. Callaway tries to make annual mission trips to Cuba for teaching and fellowship. A year ago he led a team of four FWBCC students on a 10-day mission outreach to work in youth camps. The former missionary to Spain and Panama has been a member of the FWBCC faculty since 2003.