

October 31, 2006

## **Campus Relocation Update**

*June 2006*

The FWBBC Board of Trustees reviewed the six-month Campus Relocation Feasibility Study report. After due consideration, the Board directed the college leadership to proceed with campus relocation efforts.

*July 2006*

The case for campus relocation was presented to the General Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists during the national convention in Birmingham, Alabama, and subsequently to convention delegates during the business session. The report was favorably received, with numerous indications of support evidenced during the convention.

*August 2006*

Formal meetings were initiated to develop plans for a Capital Fund Raising Campaign to support campus relocation. Solicitation of gifts for land purchase and construction of the new campus will not begin until after the sale of the current campus has been closed and funds from the sale are in hand.

The campaign will begin with a “quiet phase.” Following the quiet phase, a grassroots campaign will be launched among our churches and people.

### ***Ongoing Relocation Efforts***

#### ***Sale of Current Campus***

A key element in the effort to relocate the college is the sale of the West End Avenue campus in Nashville. This involves a complex transaction that will sell the property to a developer. A portion of the college property will then be turned over to the buyer for his use. The core portion of the campus will continue to be used by the college for approximately 24 months under a lease arrangement with the buyer. During this period, a new campus will be constructed. At the end of the lease period, the college will move to its new campus at a location in the Greater Nashville area.

Negotiations regarding the sales contract and lease agreement are complex. They have been moving forward, but moving slowly. While negotiations have not reached the contract signing stage yet, they are nearing that point. Due to the complexity of the arrangements and the significant amount of money involved, all parties are making sure that every foreseeable issue is carefully addressed before proceeding to contract signing.

The contract will establish all the terms, conditions, and timetable leading to a close of the sale. At this point, we anticipate a close on the West End Avenue campus sometime in May 2007.

### *Search for Property*

An exciting part of the campus relocation process is the search for property. The purchase of new property must be timed with the sale of the West End Avenue campus. We do not want to be in the position of having sold our current campus without securing a site for the new campus. So, we are striving to coordinate the timing on selection of a new campus site with the close of sale of our current campus.

We have considered over 100 possible sites in the Greater Nashville area, established criteria for a site which will meet the needs of a future campus, visited numerous sites, and developed a short list of top prospective sites. With the assistance of our realtor, architect, and engineer, we are getting more detailed, definitive information regarding the sites under consideration.

### *Campus Design / Construction*

We have selected and are working with our design and construction firms. Nine committees (composed of college faculty, staff, and students) have identified space requirements for the new campus. As we finalize our site selection process, we will release our design firm to proceed with schematic designs for the new campus.

We ask for your prayers that God's leadership will be clear as we make plans for this relocation effort which will be the largest such undertaking in the denomination's history.

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This material compiled by Colonel Mark Johnson, FWBBC's Campus Relocation Consultant.