

**MARCH/APRIL  
2023**

A Ministry of the  
Free Will Baptist  
Children's Home



**SUMMER**

**CAMP**

Summer camp  
will be here before  
you know it.

Our supporters  
help make camp  
possible for  
our children by  
donating the  
\$125 to sponsor  
a child for camp.  
It is a wonderful  
way to invest in  
a child's life.

Thanks for helping  
them experience  
a Christian camp.  
If you would like  
to help, make a  
gift and be sure  
to earmark it  
for "camp".



# Home HAPPENINGS

"Providing a *Loving* Home for *Hurting* Children."

## A CALLING TO COUNSEL



RALINDA  
ASPEY

Many years ago, when I was getting ready to go to college, a missionary visiting my church asked me what I wanted to study. When I told him that I planned on studying psychology to become a therapist, this man very seriously told me that the entire field of psychology was man's attempt to supplant God's authority. He told me that I would be better off studying to become a doctor because the only people who could truly help others this side of heaven were doctors, preachers, and police officers. That was my first, but definitely not last, confrontation about reconciling my faith with my work.

It is an unfortunate reality that the history between the Church and mental health has not always been one of collaboration. It cannot be denied that some individuals within the scientific community perceived spirituality and faith as an indication of immaturity. Similarly, some individuals within the Church perceived attendance to mental health as a profession of doubt in the power of God. People from both sides have faced contempt when they have attempted to embrace the other, being perceived to be abandoning either their God or their sensibilities. However, neither of those perceptions are true.

Mental health and psychological research within the last few decades has shown that there are significant impacts of spirituality and faith on a person's mental health. Clinicians of all kinds—therapists, psychiatrists, psychologists—have begun to incorporate spirituality as a dimension of a person's overall wellness rather than looking only at physical, mental, or emotional health. With these changes in the mental health community, changes regarding how mental health is perceived have also come from within the Church.

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An understanding of how mental and emotional health are connected to more than just faith has often resulted in an increase in faith, simply by seeking counseling or psychological treatment. But there is still work to be done.

And this is where therapists, like me, step in. Within the therapeutic relationship, I am able to assist people in exploring how their struggles are truly impacting them, reconciling those effects with their faith, and developing strategies for managing them in their daily life. I cannot provide answers for why struggles happen, but I can help sort through the thoughts and emotions that come from them. I can't make struggles go away, but I can help people figure out how to work through them. I can remind people that things like depression and anxiety are not signs of insufficient faith and that God has provided an answer for those struggles. Because perhaps, like Esther, I have been made for such a time as this.

*(Note: The author of this article, Ralinda Aspey, serves as the counselor at our Home.*

*In addition to her working with our children, she is available to help other children or adults facing challenging life situations. The cost is minimal and based on income. Call the Home at (205) 924-9751 and ask to speak with the counselor.)*



MANDY MITCHELL

*“We can only pray that we have planted a seed of faith that can be watered sometime in the future.”*

## DIRECTOR’S DESK

Probably our biggest prayer request right now is the spiritual lives of our children, especially our teenagers. Most of our children come to us with little to no church background. With our younger children, most of them are excited to be involved in church activities and classes. They are eager to learn more about Jesus, who they have never known should be important to them until now. Our teenagers on the other hand, they are not quite as excitable. They do not have that “child-like” faith and have been more influenced by the world around them that points them away from God, to either worship themselves or TikTok stars.

It is a daunting task we have ahead of us, trying to show and teach God’s love to our residents. Helping them to see how much they need the Lord to help and guide them each day. One of the hardest things we do is to watch our residents go down a path we know leads to their own destruction with the idea of “having fun.” We can only pray that we have planted a seed of faith that can be watered sometime in the future.

We greatly appreciate your prayers for the hearts of our residents and our staff as they minister.



VANESSA	3/09/07
JIMMY	3/24/14
MANDY (STAFF)	4/1
ANGEL	4/29/04

## PURPOSE

Free Will Baptist Children’s Home is a ministry of the Alabama State Association of FWB’s. As a non-profit organization, FWBCH provides a loving, home-like, Christian atmosphere for children struggling with life’s challenges and turbulent domestic situations. Our task is to help children hurt by life to find faith in God and enter adulthood as responsible Christian men and women with a purpose in life.

The FWB Children’s Home Newsletter is published six times per year to keep friends informed of current activities, programs, and service. If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments, please contact us.



Free Will Baptist Children’s Home, P. O. Box 8 Eldridge, AL 35554  
Mandy Mitchell, Executive Director | Ralinda Aspey, Counselor | Danny Williams, Communication  
Phone: 205-924-9751 | Fax: 205-924-9574 | Website: www.fwbhome.org

FWBCH does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rodney Yerby, Chairman  
Shelia Bynum | Donnie Blackmon  
Tim Baumgarten | Danny Williams  
Wayne Parker | Joey Pettis  
Waymon Fields



# Donut Dash

APRIL 15, 2023

Looking for a way to help the children in our care?

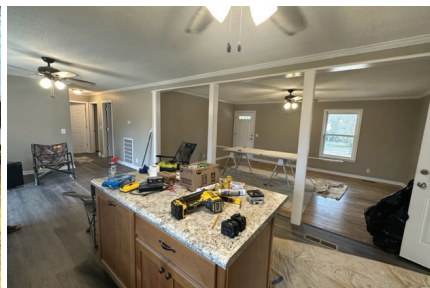
May we suggest an event which will provide publicity and income for the Home while providing exercise and fun. The second annual FWB Children's Home Donut Dash 5K and Fun Run will be held April 15, 2023. It will take place at the Home's campus with registration beginning at 7:00 am. The 5K begins at 8:00 am, followed by the 1-mile Fun Run which starts at 9:00 am. We need participants and sponsors to make this event successful.

People who enjoy running and those who want to enjoy the spring outdoors are encouraged to visit our website ([www.fwbhome.org](http://www.fwbhome.org)) for registration information or you may call (205) 924-9751. Your organization can help by being a sponsor. Sign sponsorship is \$100 and includes the name of the sponsor on a sign along the route and on the website. *We hope you join in the fun.*

## HONOR ROLL

*Good Job! Keep It Up*

BRAIDEN | CAMERON | MAKAYLA | SKYLAR



## CAMPUS UPGRADES

In our effort to be good stewards of the facilities God has entrusted to us, we perform updates and improvements to our campus. Presently, the Cash House is under major renovation. The Crowley House (Bridge program) remodel is finished along with some smaller projects in a couple of the resident houses. Thank you for your giving which makes these improvements possible.



## MEMORIAL GIFTS

*Below are memorial contributions from January/February 2023. We thank all those who honor their loved ones in this special way. We thank all those who honor their loved ones in this special way.*

### IN MEMORY

Carey Pickett  
Doyle Cannon  
Mr. & Mrs. S. Y. Shelton  
Mr. Don Freeman  
Forrest Wagner

Zenus & Tennie Stapp  
Gene & Belva Pennington  
Tommie & Dean Rushing  
Coach Mike Leach

Ross & Sharon Peters  
Randall Mayo  
John Robert &  
Mary Joyce McGee  
James A. "Tuck" Tucker  
Clyde "Sappo" Black

Sandra Black  
Mark "Bubba" Steadman  
Frank Barron  
Rev. Jesse "Jackie" Adcox

Hunter Watson  
Rev. Jesse "Jackie" Adcox  
Nancy & Olan Kuykendall  
Eloise & Nixon Jones  
Raphael Yerby  
Kilby Yerby  
Pete Mitchell  
Mike Earrey  
Jim Smith  
Cindy Odom  
Bryan Doyle  
J.C. Akins, John Crowe,  
Peggy Davidson, Neil Sherer  
Douglas Stripling  
Edna Dixon  
Gail Thorne  
Milton & Robbie Gurganus  
Olan & Nancy Kuykendall

### IN HONOR

Gary Campbell  
Betty Hargrove

### DONOR

Faye Lovelady  
Harold & Freda Wheeler

Elizabeth Greene  
Carthage FWB Church  
and Ladies Auxiliary

Sandra Stapp Williams

Monica Bartlett  
Gayle Mayo & Family

Carroll & Joyce Gibson  
Barry & Sharon Key  
Linda "Missy" Black  
David & Cindy McDonald  
William B. Long

Gregg & Monterie Black  
Bruce Webster

Gregg & Monterie Black  
Union Chapel Baptist Church  
Regina Barron  
Bobby & Rhonda Cowart  
Larry & Chris Colburn  
Lamar & Ashley Adcox

Ronnie & Janice Winters

Linda McCroskey

Regina Rose  
Dorenda Weaver  
Judy Earrey  
Billy & Virginia Grant  
Wellness Advocate  
Randy & Kim Floyd

Jim & Lisa Courington  
Spring Grove FWB Church  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Dubois  
Mark & Dana Gurganus

### DONOR

John & Lisa Crump  
Haskell FWB WAC

*You may pay tribute to your loved one with a donation in their honor. Please include with your gift the information needed to notify the family. Recognition will also appear in the upcoming newsletter.*






P.O. Box 8  
Eldridge, AL 35554

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
WINFIELD, AL  
PERMIT NO. 41

**Return Service Requested**

## PLEASE VISIT US:

-  Please visit us at our website: [www.fwbhome.org](http://www.fwbhome.org)
-  Join us on Facebook: **Alabama FWB Children's Home**
-  E-mail us at: [admin@fwbhome.org](mailto:admin@fwbhome.org)



### FACEBOOK



#### Alabama FWB Children's Home

Follow us on our Facebook page and take note of the **"DONATE"** button. You can give to our ministry this method and we will receive your entire donation – no percentages are deducted!

## Items Needed:

- |                    |                   |                        |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Carrots - can      | Spices            |                        |
| Green Lima Beans   | Sage              |                        |
| Pinto Beans        | White Pepper      |                        |
| Baked Beans        | Onion/Garlic Salt |                        |
| Can Fruits         | Red Pepper Flakes |                        |
| Can Vegetables     | Olives/Pickles    |                        |
| Tuna/Chicken       | Gravy Mixes       |                        |
| Coffee/Tea Bags    | Bread Crumb       | Clorox Clean Up        |
| Salad Dressings    | Cake Frosting     | Fabric Softener/Sheets |
| Mayo               | Cookie Mix        | Windex                 |
| Diced Tomatoes     | Snacks/Chips      | Cleaning Supplies      |
| Tomato Sauce/Rotel | Oatmeal           | Dish Detergent         |
| Manwich Sauce      | Cereal            | Spot Remover           |
| BBQ Sauce          | Crackers          | Furniture Polish       |
| Cheese Sauce       | Sugar             | Toilet Tissue          |
| Chicken/Beef Broth | Brown Sugar       | Paper Towels           |
| Spaghetti Sauce/   | Confection Sugar  | Syro Plates            |
| Noodles            | Pancake Mix       | 16/20oz Styro Cups     |
| Lemonade Mix       | Bisquick          | Light Bulbs            |
| Taco Seasoning     | Cooking Oil/Spray | Mops                   |
| Salsa              | Laundry Detergent | Brooms/Dustpans        |