

For Immediate Release

April 23, 2008

**Dr. Tom Malone to Address FWBBC Commencement**

NASHVILLE, TN—Dr. C. Thomas Malone, former president and chancellor at Free Will Baptist Bible College, will address the 2008 graduating class at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 9, according to President Matt Pinson. Malone was asked to challenge the graduating class after scheduled speaker Dr. Milton Worthington had heart bypass surgery on April 21.

Dr. Pinson said, “We are grateful to Dr. Malone for his willingness to step in and assume this important responsibility during commencement week. He’s an excellent speaker and has a long history of service and support for the college. He will connect with our graduates as well as the guests, faculty and staff. While we were looking forward to Dr. Worthington being with us, we understand that his surgery simply will not permit him to speak as planned.”

Tom Malone is a 1963 FWBBC graduate who served 16 years on the Board of Trustees (1974-1990), 10 years as chair. He pastored 35 years in three states (Illinois, Missouri, Alabama) and founded Florence Christian Academy (AL). Named president of FWBBC in 1990, he led the college 12 years (1990-2002), and served three years as chancellor (2002-2005). He remains on-call to represent the college in a part-time capacity as occasions arise. Tom and Verna Malone have five daughters, all of whom graduated from FWBBC.

Dr. Malone will join Nashville pastor Mike Gladson on the program during commencement week. Pastor Gladson (Cofer's Chapel FWB Church) will bring the baccalaureate message at 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening, May 8.