

“Revival is going to go on. People are still coming in from all over the world, and it would be wrong of us to sever that,” the magazine quoted the church’s pastor, the Rev. John Kilpatrick, as saying. Kilpatrick also dispelled rumors that there had arisen a division between Hill and other revival leaders. Dr. Michael Brown, who is regarded as the revival’s theologian, in addition to staff pastors and guest speakers, will continue to lead the revival services.

“The time has come for the Hill family to relocate their ministry,” Hill told *Charisma* magazine. “Pensacola is a difficult place to fly into, and sometimes I am away from my family for a whole day because it is impossible to get home to Pensacola,” Hill said. Initial plans will possibly move the evangelist and his ministry to the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Hill’s departure is just one of the many changes the revival has experienced recently. As the numbers attending the meetings began to diminish, the leadership sought to take the revival on the road with its “Awake America” crusades. (See *The Quarterly Journal*, “The Wandering River of Brownsville,” Vol. 19, No. 2.) These traveling crusade meetings, which started in 1997 and were held in 12 major cities in the U.S., are currently being replaced by citywide prayer crusades led by Kilpatrick and scheduled for only six U.S. cities this year.

Music minister Lindell Cooley also appears to want to curtail his involvement with the revival — at least its road-show version. “I decided to no longer be a part of ‘Awake America’ because when I looked at all the time I would have been traveling, I just became overwhelmed,” Cooley told *Charisma*. “I am going to travel very little next year so I can spend a lot of time with the Lord and write music. Being a part of the prayer crusades with pastor Kilpatrick requires a lot less travel than Awake America,” Cooley added.

The magazine report tried to discount declining attendance at the Pensacola meetings by saying the revival “continues to draw hundreds of first-time visitors from around the world each week, although weeknight attendance has been down slightly during the slower winter season.” The magazine also said that the revival meetings have “won 147,000 souls” to the Lord during the five-year effort. PFO has disputed this claim and proved it to be an exaggeration.

—MKG

WAY PRESIDENT RESIGNS

L. Craig Martindale has resigned as president of The Way International according to WayDale, a web site that looks “into the behind the scenes activities of The Way International and its Board of Trustees.” The Internet document said, “News announced in a meeting of the elite Way Corps on 04/25/00 is that Craig Martindale, president of TWI has resigned from the board of trustees.”

The article further revealed that “vice president Rosalie Rivenbark will become TWI’s new president. John Reynolds will continue as secretary treasurer and Harve Platig will take on the vice president position.”

Martindale was installed as the second president of the controversial sect in 1982, three years before the death of its founder and first president, Victor Paul Wierwille. Under Martindale’s tenure, ex-members and critics contended that he led the group into becoming an even more authoritarian and spiritually abusive sect than his predecessor.

The WayDale material also said “It is believed that Martindale will continue to live in his exclusive log cabin at TWI HQ and continue to have all the resources (office facilities, servants, finances, etc.) of TWI available to him.”

—MKG

TBN REGAINS MIAMI STATION

An April 1999 ruling by the Federal Communications Commission denying the Trinity Broadcasting Network has been overturned by a federal court. A decision by the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for District of Columbia Circuit will allow TBN to regain the license to operate its Miami television.

In 1995, the FCC refused to renew TBN’s license for the Florida station, stating “that TBN attempted to circumvent federal limits on TV station ownership by creating a sham minority-controlled company to hold the license.” According to an *Orange County Register* report, the FCC contended that “Phil Aguilar, then pastor of Set Free Christian Fellowship in Anaheim was a mere figurehead serving TBN on the NMTV [National Minority Television] board.”

On May 5, a three-judge panel ruled that “Although we defer to the Commission’s interpretation of its regulation as requiring actual minority control, we find that neither the regulation nor the Commission’s related statements gave fair notice of that requirement. We therefore vacate the Commission’s denial of appellants’ license renewal application.” The court also admonished the FCC, saying it was stricter in its judgments of TBN than with other licensees.

TBN founder and president Paul Crouch said in a statement: “For nearly a decade this proceeding has hung like a dark cloud over Trinity, and I thank the Lord that this ordeal has ended with this exoneration. At no time did Trinity or NMTV ever attempt to violate the Commission’s rules, and it’s good to have the court confirm that.” Crouch also is a director of NMTV.

—MKG