

JAMES F. WERTZ ORATORICAL CONTEST

Division I - Preparatory

Grades 6th, 7th, 8th as of July 1, 2018

Time - 3 - 4 Minutes

How God's Power Unfolds in My Life

The Benefits of Living God's Way

We Shall Overcome - Just Be Strong

Registration Forms Must be Received on or before

April, 27, 2018

Division II - Junior Division

Grades 9th, 10th, 11th as of July 1, 2018

Time: 4 - 5 Minutes

How the Glory of God Shines Through Me

The Challenges and Benefits of Living God's Way

Registration Forms Must be Received on or before

April 27, 2018

Division III - Senior Division

Grade: 12th

Time: 5 - 6 Minutes

How the Power, the Mercy, and the Glory of

God Helps in My Daily Walk with Him"

Registration Forms Must be Received on or before

April 27, 2018

C. E. McNeill Intermediate Division

Grades: 4th, & 5th as of July 1, 2018

Time - 3 - 4 Minutes

I Am A Witness for Jesus

Walking in Faith

Count Your Blessings

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Registration Forms Must Be Received on or before

April 27, 2018

JAMES F. WERTZ ORATORICAL CONTEST GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

RULES & PROCEDURES

The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest is divided into several phases. The contest will begin at your local church and proceed to the District Level (Association) and end with a contest at the State level. The winner from the Senior Division ultimately goes to the National level.

ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING IN THE LOCAL CHURCH AS WELL AS THE ASSOCIATION. THIS MEANS

QUALIFICATION FOR CONTESTANTS

1. The James F. Wertz Oratorical contest is open to all young people grades 6th to 12th in the year that the contest is being held. Example: a contestant must be entering the 6th grade as of July 1, 2018. **Seniors who are graduating from High School as of July 1, 2018 are not eligible.**
2. Each contestant must present one typewritten (computer written) copy of his/her speech to the Director no later than the date specified on or before April 27, 2018,
3. **Students entering the contest who have been called into Ministry may participate with the understanding that their speeches must be an oration, not a sermon or sermonette.**
4. **The C. E. McNeill Oratorical Contest is open to young people, Grades 4th and 5th.**
5. Other qualifications are governed by your local district.

CONTEST RULES

1. All contestants must speak on the official topics presented for their category, Not speaking on an official topic will result in a penalty. **The penalty is disqualification.**
2. Each contestant shall prepare his or her own speech. However, the contestant may receive advice in the preparation of the speech.
3. All contestants must state the official topic of their speeches first.

4. The use of props, special costumes or clothing or the use of prompters will not be permitted. Bibles, notes, papers or anything that can be construed as a prop will not be taken to the podium by the contestant.
5. No reference may be made that might identify the contestant, his or her family or the specific geographical or political area from which he/she originates.
6. The time allowed will not be over or under the specified length for each category. Should the time be over or under the length, a **penalty of 5 points** will be assessed.

<u>CATEGORY/DIVISION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
C. E. McNeill	3-4 Minutes
Preparatory	3-4 minutes
Junior	4-5 minutes
Senior	5-6 minutes

7. Appropriate Dress is a must. Remember that you are being judged on your appearance as well as your overall presentation. ***Make a good first impression!***
8. The Judges have the final decision over your presentation. (Not your coach, parents or your friends).
9. We try at all times to get three judges, however in the event one of the judges fails to show, we will continue the contest with the remaining judges. ***Our plans are to have three judges and one back-up.***

District Congress of Christian Education
to the
Union Missionary Baptist Association

March 19, 2018,

TO: Pastors
Sunday School Superintendents
Church Training Union Directors
Church Oratorical Contest Directors
Group Leaders

FROM: Dr. Valjeaner Ford, Director,
District Oratorical Contest
Mrs. Viola Edwards, President,
District Congress of Christian Education

SUBJECT: 2018 District Oratorical Contest

This is to inform all churches of the Union Missionary Baptist Association that the District Oratorical Contest will be held on Saturday, **May 5 2018** at Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 5422 Raeford Rd. Fayetteville, NC 28304 beginning at 9:00 a.m. All contestants are asked to be present by 8:30 a.m.

All participants must register for the District Contest on or before April 27, 2018. It is important that you adhere to the deadlines in order that we have the necessary materials in order.

Please remember that only one participant per church in the Senior, Junior and Preparatory Divisions. The Intermediate Division has no limit for the number of contestants.

Thank you for all that you are going to do to make this occasion a successful one. We look forward to a record number of participants. If there are questions, please feel free to contact me at **valjeaner.ford@uncp.edu** or at **(910) 868-7698**.