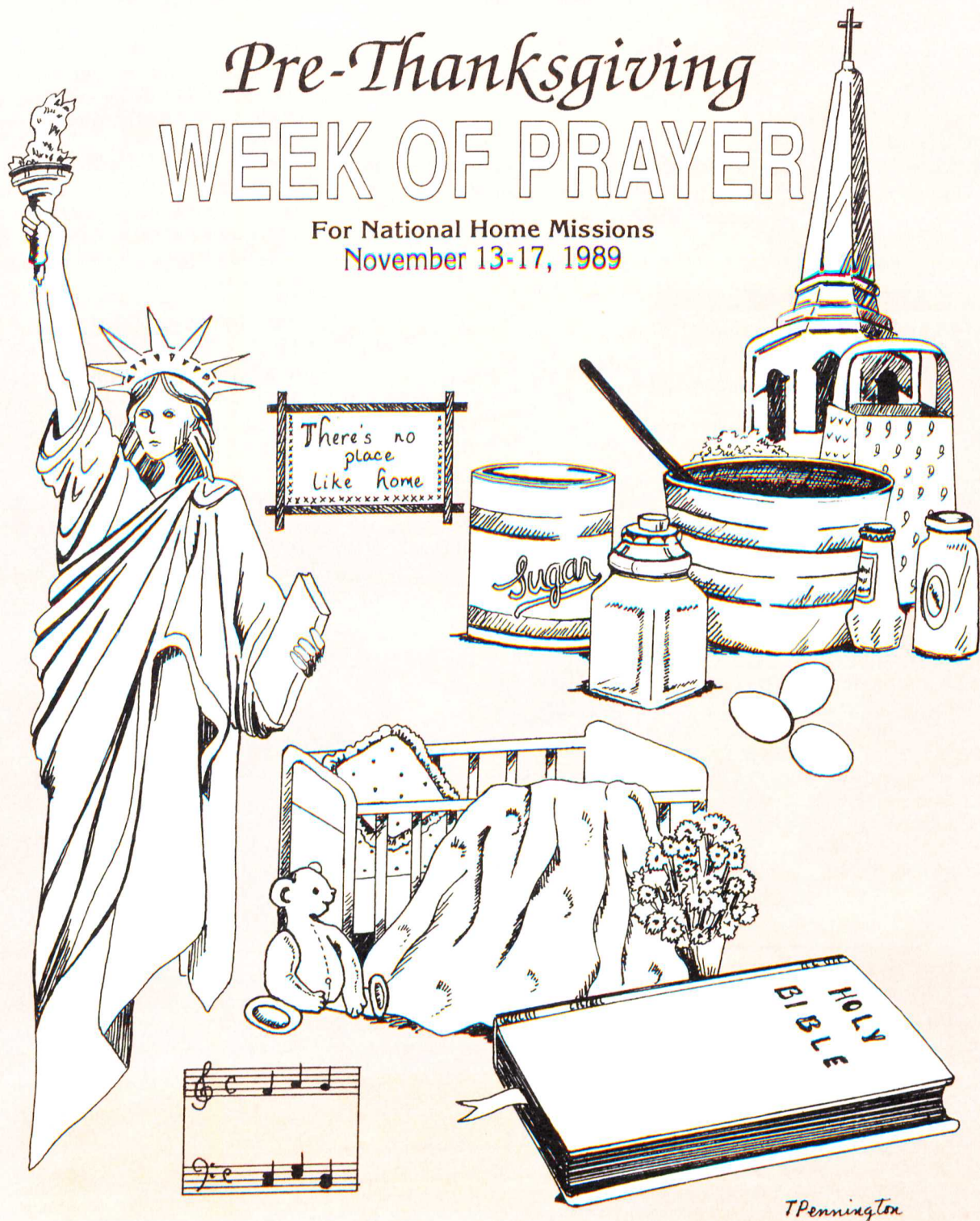


Co Laborer

November/December, 1989

Pre-Thanksgiving WEEK OF PRAYER

For National Home Missions
November 13-17, 1989



T Pennington

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Theme for 1989: Arise and Build
(Neh. 2:20)
Hymn: "We'll Work 'til Jesus Comes"



In This Issue

The Home Missions overview should help you plan your Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer program. Use the prayer booklets and give your sacrificial offering in honor of Lizzie McAdams, home missions pioneer.

We're excited about the Wonderland theme for your December meeting. Let us know how yours turned out. Can you send pictures?

Relive some exciting moments of the Tampa convention. Then plan to attend the one next year in Phoenix.

We're not publishing an index of the 1989 CO-LABORERS, but one is available free upon request. If you store back issues in a notebook, an index is invaluable to help you find specific materials.



The WNAC staff pose in the Auxiliary booth in Tampa: Sue Hayes, bookkeeper, Lorene Miley, editor, Mary Ruth Wisheart, executive secretary-treasurer, and Yvonne Wolfenbarger, executive assistant.

The booth features the word "Come" in many different languages. The invitation was printed on scrolls which displayed that country's flag.

I Corinthians 13

A Paraphrase in Keeping with Christmas

THOUGH I make all the earthly preparations for celebrating Christmas in my home and leave out worshipping Christ, I bear no witness of His love in my life.

AND THOUGH I have money to buy all sorts of gifts for others, even denying myself a new garment so that I may buy an extra gift for a friend, and have nothing to give to Christ, I have failed Him.

AND THOUGH I bake cookies to give to the children's home and give my time to wrap packages for the Christmas bureau, and have no time to worship Christ, it profiteth me nothing.

LETTING my light shine for Him is a lifelong privilege; it is a joy; it is love expressed. Light-bearing is not a burden, but an opportunity.

LETTING my light shine for Him does not cause me to boast of my goodness and feel superior to others. It causes me to strive that Christ will be honored and glorified so that I will recognize opportunities to share His light with those in darkness.

HIS LIGHT will never grow dim. Sometimes I may fail to bear His light, sometimes I may be too busy to take notice of those in need of His light or I may be too engrossed in selfish pleasure to take heed of His light, but His light will continue to shine.

SOMETIMES I bear His light dimly. But I shall strive to let His light shine clearly and brightly in and through my life. I realize I have at times hid His light under a bushel and have not always kept His light glowing, but I shall strive more intently to be more radiant.

NOW at times His light may flicker and my wick will need to be trimmed. But if I faithfully bear His light, He will be glorified.

— Mrs. Ben (Letha) Keckler

CHALLENGES OF HOME MISSIONS

A Home Missions Overview



by Pat Thomas

CHALLENGE ONE

Missions - Home and Foreign

What is "home missions?" What is the difference between "home" and "foreign" missions? Why do Free Will Baptists have both a home and foreign missions department? Where are the home missions fields and who are the missionaries? What can I do to assist and support the work of home missions? These are points that will be covered in this Pre-Thanksgiving week of prayer program.

The difference in "home missions" and "foreign missions" is basically the territories and fields where the work of evangelism and church planting is done. "Home missions" is the sending of missionaries to win people to Christ and establish Free Will Baptist churches on the North American continent and the islands owned by the United States of America. "Foreign missions" send mission-

aries to the other continents of the world.

The Free Will Baptist denomination has both a home and foreign missions department in order to get the gospel to lost people, not only in this country, but around the world. While the work of both departments is very similar, some legal and technical aspects are different. The denomination has found it necessary to organize its missions work into two departments in order that the work can be done in the most efficient, economical, and knowledgeable way.

Missionaries from both departments confront diverse ethnic races of people, foreign languages, and social barriers, but home missionaries can dispense with visas and passports. While foreign missionaries have some concerns with city building codes, often they are minor compared to the stringent and inflexible requirements of huge metropolitan areas of the United States. However, missionaries from both departments face

satan's strongholds as they bring the light of the gospel to a world lost in sin. Missionaries from both departments need your prayers and financial support.

CHALLENGE TWO

Geographic Locations of Home Missions

Who are Free Will Baptist home missionaries and where are they located? This is best reviewed by dividing the United States into the following geographic sections: New England, the Bible Belt, Midwest, Mountain States, and the West Coast. The home mission fields of Canada, Mexico, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico will also be covered.

New England and the eastern seaboard was once a stronghold for Free Will Baptist churches, but most of these were lost in the 1910 merger with the Northern Baptist movement. Only a handful of Free Will Baptist churches re-

main in this section of the country which is noted for its liberal churches.

Jim and Pat Nason are home missionaries to the "mother church" of our denomination. Established by Benjamin Randall in 1780 and located in New Durham, New Hampshire, this church was brought back into the Free Will Baptist denomination in 1984.

Pete and Katy Minor are our only home missionaries to Rhode Island. They need your prayers as they lead their church in Providence through a building program and to self-supporting status.

Vergel and Alyne Maness, veteran missionaries to the Eastern seaboard, work in Vineland, New Jersey. *Richard and Sandra Atwood* are starting a new church in the Dover, Delaware area.

The "Bible Belt" states make up the next section, and are primarily located in the deep South—east of the Mississippi River and south of the Mason-Dixon Line. Not only do these states have a greater percentage of Bible preaching churches than any section of this nation, they also contain 90% of all Free Will Baptist churches in the world.

However, not all couples working in the southern states are in typical "Bible Belt" areas. Two such couples are *Bill and Willa Johnson* in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and *Steve and Judy Trail*, Pineville, Louisiana. The Trails serve in a strongly Roman Catholic state which is perhaps the most unevangelized in this region. They specifically are national home missionaries, rather than joint project workers, since this state has few Free Will Baptist churches and no state or district mission boards. Louisiana needs help from stronger Free Will Baptist states in order to establish Free Will Baptist churches in its cities.

CHALLENGE THREE

The Bible Belt

Since the "Bible Belt" states form a stronghold for Free Will

Baptists, several "joint project workers" serve in this region. These couples are supported "jointly" by the National Home Missions Board and the state and district mission boards:

Richard and Carolyn Hendrix,
Huntsville, AL

Ralph and Delores Hester, Gulfport, MS

Luther and Delores Burns, Atlanta, GA

Larry and Brenda Williams, Martinez, GA

Bobby and Gloria Clyatt, Gainesville, FL

Elmer and Gladys Turnbough,

St. Petersburg, FL

Odis and Mary Nell Whitehead,

Jacksonville, FL

Glenn and Sara Poston, Memphis, TN

Gwyn and Rebecca Pugh, Millington, TN

Bob and Deanna White, Paducah, KY

James and Janice Sasser, Waldorf, MD

Earl and Bernice Hanna, Orangeburg, SC

Billy and Pat Vanderford, Gaffney, SC

Dennis and Carolyn Keen, Charleston, SC

The Midwest, the "breadbasket of the nation", is a strong Catholic and Lutheran section.

Two couples in the Midwest, *Jerry and Wanda McClary*, Omaha, NB, and *Tim and Kathy Coats*, Rapid City, SD, are probably the most isolated of all Free Will Baptist missionaries. They need your prayers as they serve in these isolated outposts.

CHALLENGE FOUR

Mountain States

The Mountain States boasts one of the most beautiful and rugged sections of the country, but also contain the strongest Mormon population in America. Free Will Baptist churches are few and far between. Many more workers are needed to take the gospel to the huge cities of the intermountain states on both sides of the great Rocky Mountains. Missionaries serving in these areas are:

Bob and Brenda Lewis,

Colorado Springs, CO

Bob and Rosa Lee Thomas, Ft. Collins, CO

Mark and Donna Thomas, Greeley, CO

Russell and Vonda Johnson,

Cheyenne, WY

Paul and Marilyn Thompson, Gilbert, AZ

Howard and Patsy Gwartney, Mesa, AZ

Alvis and June Paul, Glendale, AZ

Larry and Sherry Reynolds, Chandler, AZ

Mark and Louise Vandivort, Flagstaff, AZ

The West Coast region includes the states of California, Oregon,

and Washington. There is a desperate need to plant gospel preaching churches in these states which make up the most "non-religious" section of the country. Many claim no religious affiliation whatsoever. Missionaries in these states are:

Sam and Bobbie Hensley, Fairfield, CA

John and Melba Hibbard, Pioneer, CA

Millard and Margie Sasser, Fresno, CA

Mike and Gail Criswell, Eugene, OR

John and Karla Turner, Portland, OR

Tom and Lynda Hunt, Tri-Cities, WA

The countries of Canada and Mexico, Roman Catholic strongholds, are also considered "home missions" because they are located on the North American continent. Canada sends out more Catholic priests than any nation in the world, while Mexico is 98% Roman Catholic. *Bill and Lois Reagan*, Windsor, are our only missionaries in Canada.

James and Mitzi Munsey serve as coordinators for Mexico and *Fred and Barbara Jones* direct the Bible Institute in Altamira. In addition to these two American couples, the National Home Missions Board employs 15 national pastors and workers. Another 15 self-supporting churches provide for their own pastors.

Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are owned by the United States, and therefore are considered "home missions." Native Puerto Ricans, *Miguel and Adelaida Vera*, are establishing a church in San Juan while *Grady and Judy Runyon* maintain a growing church and Christian school on the island of St. Croix in the Virgin Islands.

Free Will Baptists also have seven chaplains serving in the armed forces: *James Bishop*, *Bill Conlon*, *Robert Cooper*, *Larry Langford*, *Gerald Mangham*, *Kerry Steedley*, and *Tim Sturgill*.

CHALLENGE FIVE

What Can I Do?

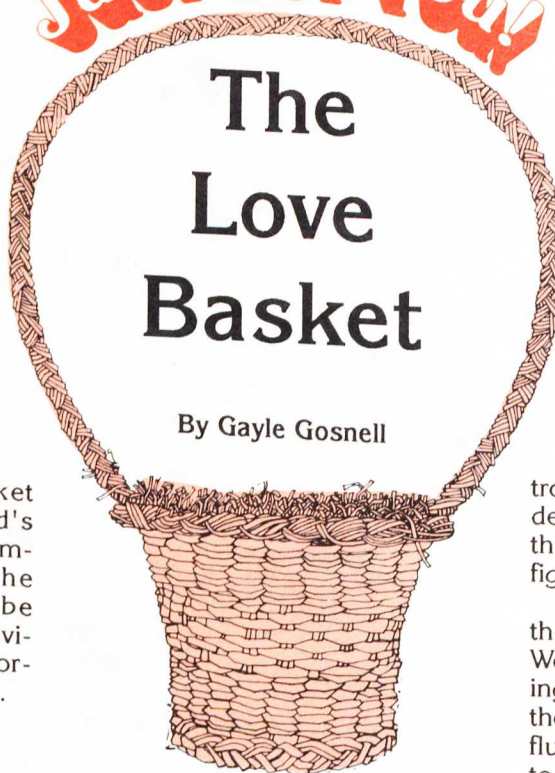
You may ask, "What can I do to assist in this important work of home missions?"

(continued on page 14)

Just For You!

The Love Basket

By Gayle Gosnell



Introduction

Each item in this love basket represents a promise of God's blessing in our lives. As we examine each one and look at the verses attached, we will be amazed at God's abundant provision for our needs, comfort, forgiveness, healing and protection.

HUNGER (candy bar)

Psalm 34:10

Russian peasant farmers often tell the story of a commissar who inquired about a farmer's potato crop.

"Oh, it was wonderful," replied the farmer. "The plants were so tall they reached up to the very foot of God."

The commissar scowled, "But, comrade, this is a communist state and we are atheists. You must never forget that there is no God."

"That's what I mean, sir. No God—no potatoes."

God is the source of all things. Without His provision our crops would not grow. We would have no food for daily sustenance. Let's thank Him for our daily bread.

HOME (key chain with house key) Proverbs 3:33

Describe your dream home. Does it have three bedrooms with baths, full basement, plenty of closets and storage space, central air and fully carpeted?

These features, good as they

Aim: To remind us of God's love and watchcare over us.

Scripture: Psalm 121

Hymn: "No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus"

may be, are not sufficient. Some of the most miserable people you'll find anywhere live in homes like those and even better. The ideal home is one that has the most desired feature of all—a spiritual atmosphere reflecting the presence of Christ. Love for our Lord and family can turn even a simple one-room house into an ideal home.

Let's thank Him for our Christian homes.

COMFORT (packet of tissues)

Job. 11:16

Christians often become discouraged and despondent when

troubles enter their lives. Clouds of despair hang over their heads and they nurse their troubles instead of fighting the despondency.

The help of Christian friends and the comforting promises of God's Word are two of the many blessings God has given us. Think of all those who have exerted a good influence upon your life. Take time to thank them. This is a good way to count your blessings and defeat despair.

Thank God for our Bible and Christian friends.

FORGIVENESS

(big eraser) Eph. 4:32

Once Pat and Tammy were great friends. But a trivial argument caused a rift in the friendship and in recent years they have not spoken at all.

Now Pat is dying and wants to make things right with Tammy. She is fearful of facing eternity with bad feelings between them.

When Tammy comes, she reaches out for her hand and begs her forgiveness. "Of course, I forgive you," Tammy replies. "Will you forgive me?"

Everything seemed fine. However, just as Tammy turned to leave, Pat shouted, "But remember, if I get better, this doesn't count!"

This clearly pictures how we sometimes treat each other. Our forgiveness is superficial. We like to bury the hatchet, but leave the

handle sticking out in case we need to pick it up again.

The nature of true forgiveness is to forgive and forget. Let's thank Him for forgiveness.

BINDING OUR WOUNDS

(band-aid) Psalm 147:3

How often little children run to their mothers with a scratch, cut, or other wound for her to kiss and make better. The warm hug, strong arms, and love healed like magic.

God's love is like that. He will bind our wounds, dry our tears, and comfort us with His warmth, strength and love.

Let's thank Him for His "first aid."

TREASURES

(a quarter) Phil. 4:19

Few people amass great wealth here on earth. However many are consumed with how to get it, how to keep what they get, and what to do with it before they die.

God promises abundant treasures in heaven to all who meet the conditions. It is impossible to be robbed of them by anyone except yourself. Earth's riches are limited; heaven's valuables are beyond estimation.

Let's thank Him for our heavenly treasures.

Conclusion

As we have examined each item in our basket, perhaps you have thought of others that should have been included. Perhaps a pen (Rev. 21:22). Or a comb (Matt. 10:30,31). Or a toy sheep (John 10:11).

The list could be endless. For an extra activity this month, make up a love basket with the attached verses. Take it to a shut-in or a hospital patient. The ordinary trinkets will brighten her day. Browsing through the Bible to find what each item represents will refresh her as she is reminded of how much God cares for her—and how much you do, too. ♦

Over My Coffee Cup



By Eunice Edwards

Our kitchen worktable is covered with a plastic cover which has an intricate pattern of wild roses on a background of white. As I admired the handwork of an unknown designer, I was suddenly conscious of our missionaries.

I was conscious, too, of many blessings that I had been taking for granted. I looked at the breakfast table before me. There was good creamery butter, homogenized milk, and white bread—the kind that toasts evenly. And not one bit of fear that these products are not wholesome, clean, and up to the standard of the United States government.

I glanced at the floor. It is covered with inlaid linoleum and although a bit worn in spots, still responds very well to a little soap and "Johnson's Glo-Coat." I wonder if they even sell floor wax in India. And if they do, do you suppose the missionaries could get it?

As my son came back from the corner market, he brought back a pound of fresh grapes. Do you suppose our missionaries could afford a pound of grapes if they found them?

I went to the sink and by simply turning a faucet I had all the hot water I needed. Few missionaries can turn a tap and have safe drinking water—to say nothing of hot running water.

The family laundry was finished in nothing flat this morning. And no self-respecting housewife would think of using any kind of powder but those "kind to the hands and guaranteed to get the clothes whiter than white." How did my missionary do her laundry?

My family had hamburgers, cokes and ice cream from the freezer for lunch. Fixed in a jiffy

and with so little effort. Good, too! I suddenly had a mental picture of two furloughing missionaries each eating six hamburgers at the Dairy Queen and saying, "This is the best thing I've tasted in five years."

Our radio station just gave the correct time. Then the announcer said, "Stay tuned for today's devotional by the Rev. So-and-So from the First Free Will Baptist Church." The minister brought an excellent thought that gave me new courage and a determination to serve my Lord better. Immediately I thought of our missionaries on the "front lines" and wondered if they have radios. And if they do, do they have Christian stations to bring them some of these good things?

The Christian fellowship of my neighbor as she came to call was another blessing I listed today. We talked of the goodness of the Lord and His many rich blessings. What do our missionaries do for fellowship and recreation?

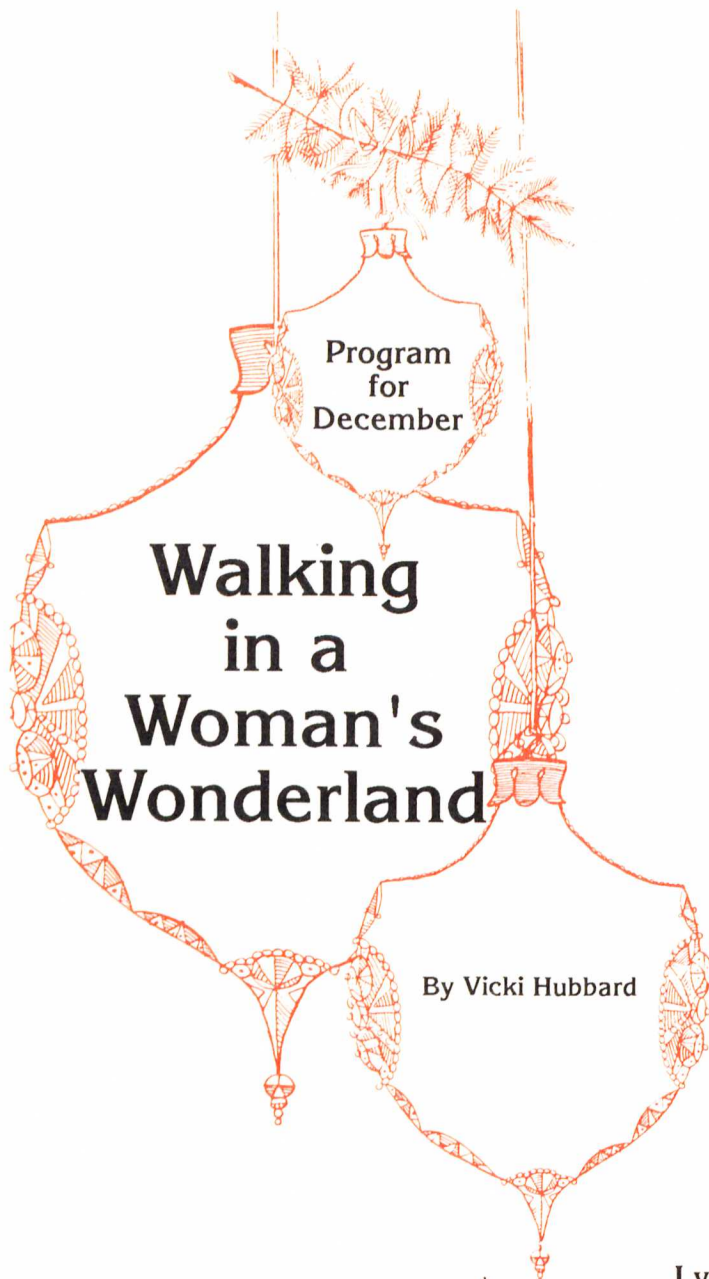
Somehow my heart has been strangely humbled as I've thought of these and other blessings that I fear I've been taking for granted. How about you?

Something else stayed in my mind this day, too. The missionaries have some things that I don't have—freedom from programs. They can carry out their work without too much attention to whether "Sister Jones" will like the prelude or the postlude or the message, or something else.

They have a receptive audience for their message. Their hearers are not so sophisticated that the simple gospel message has lost its appeal. The people love the Word of God and respect the bearer of it enough to listen attentively for hours.

Then, I thought of some things that the missionary and I have in common: the certain knowledge that God directed each of us to our particular field of service; in obeying God's command there is life and a blessed abundance of the good things; and, finally, eternal life with Him awaits the faithful servant.

—Taken from *THE BIBLE AND THE MIXING BOWL*



Program
for
December

Walking in a Woman's Wonderland

By Vicki Hubbard

Aim: To show that God chooses women from all walks of life.

Scripture: Proverbs 31:10-31

Hymn: "All for Jesus"

Introduction

Our society downplays the role of women. We are made to feel inferior for being "the weaker sex." God proclaimed that "we are fearfully and wonderfully made," and that includes women. We have many opportunities and choices. Let's look at a few women in God's Word who chose different walks of life, yet who all chose to let God use them as He would.

Lydia

A Successful Business Woman
(Acts 16:11-15,40)

Lydia was a successful business woman who sold purple cloth. Purple cloth was not just the color purple as we know it, but a fine grade of fabric used by royalty. No doubt, Lydia sold fabric to be used in making clothes for kings and queens.

Even though Lydia had an important career, she made time for worshipping on the sabbath. One day several ladies gathered beside the river to hear Paul, a guest speaker. We are not sure what he told the ladies; perhaps he shared the story of his dramatic conversion. He do know it was enough to

open Lydia's heart. Acts tells us that she and her household were baptized that day.

Lydia invited Paul and his followers to her house for fellowship. Later she again entertained Paul and Silas following their release from prison (v. 40).

Lydia had "arrived" as far as the world was concerned, but she still made time for a prayer meeting that changed her life. No matter how successful we become in the eyes of the world, we still need God. If you are a woman in today's business world, be a Lydia and make room for God.

Rahab

A Woman with a Past
(Joshua 2:1-21)

Walking in a Woman's Wonderland

*Sung to the tune of
"Walking in a Winter Wonderland"*

LYDIA: Oh, it's great, to be in business
Making money is terrific!
A beautiful sight I'm happy tonight
Working in a woman's wonderland.

CHORUS: God has told us He can use a woman
If we only let Him have His way.
We'll say, "Are we perfect?"
He'll say, "No, ma'am,
But trust me with your life—I have a plan."
Ladies, call upon the Father,
He will help you when you're bothered,
To face unafraid, the plans He has made
To use us in His Woman's Wonderland.

RAHAB: I'm ashamed, of what I have been
Working hard to overcome sin,
I harbored some spies and to my surprise
God used me in His Woman's Wonderland.

SHUNAMITE: I was used, in such a small way
God mul-tiplied what a great day!
I provided a room God gave me a son
And placed me in His Woman's Wonderland.

ANNA: Growing old but God's a-blessin'
Witness, fasting, intercession,
I'm trying my best God's doing the rest
While walking in a Woman's Wonderland.

HANNAH: Always crying, never happy
All I wanted was a baby
God heard my plea, I'm happy to be
Walking in His Woman's Wonderland.

The Bible calls Rahab a harlot. Wouldn't that be a terrible way to be remembered?

Even though Rahab had a past, God used her to accomplish His plan. She risked her own safety and the safety of her household by harboring two spies. She had heard how Jehovah God had dried up the Red Sea for His children to pass over, and how He had utterly destroyed Sihon and Og. Rahab acknowledged the God of the spies as "God in heaven above and in earth beneath" (v. 11).

The spies made a pact with Rahab. Her family would escape the city's destruction because of her kindness to them. The great faith chapter, Hebrews 11, describes Rahab as a woman who "perished not" because of her faith.

Ladies, regardless of your background or how wicked your past, God can still use you in His service.

The Shunamite Woman

A Gracious Hostess
(2 Kings 4:8-37)

The Shunamite woman is described as being great (v. 8). A thoughtful hostess, she and her husband prepared a room for the prophet Elisha when he came to Shunem. She went out of her way to provide a home for God's man. Because of her kindness to His prophet, God gave her a son.

Years later when that promised son became critically ill, the Shunamite woman did not panic. She saddled her ass and rode straight to the village of Elisha.

When he saw her coming, he sent a servant to meet her. "Is it well?" the servant asked. Though her son was at the point of death, she answered, "It is well." She knew the man of God would help her son—which he did.

Being hostess to a prophet may have seemed trivial, but it wasn't so in God's sight. Do you view your job as trivial? Remember—little is much if God is in it.

Anna

A Senior Saint
(Luke 2:36-38)

Anna was a widow in her 80's who was known for her fasting and prayers. For years she anticipated the birth of the promised Messiah and prepared for His coming. But now the years were slipping away.

Anna was there that day in the temple when Mary and Joseph brought the Christ child for presentation. She recognized Him as the Promised One and "spoke of Him to all that looked for redemption." She had seen Him for herself and witnessed to all that He would redeem the world from sin.

Never think that just because you are older God is through with you. Be an Anna. Be a witness and a woman of prayer.

Hannah

A Godly Mother
(1 Samuel 1)

Hannah was a godly woman who loved God and her husband. Though happily married to Elkanah, a loving and considerate man, she grieved many hours because she was barren. He could give no amount of comfort to ease her aching heart. She longed for a son!

One day while praying near the temple, Eli, the priest, told her that God had heard her prayer and was

going to grant her petition. And it came to pass. She conceived and gave birth to a man child whom she called Samuel.

Hannah never regarded Samuel as *her* child; he belonged to God. And when she had weaned him, she brought him to the priest and left him in God's House to be used in service there. She dedicated her only son and gave him back to God, and in return, God blessed her with five other children, both sons and daughters.

We want to have children and we want them to be Christians, but too often we fail to dedicate them to the God who gave them. Give your children back to God; it's the only way to keep them.

Conclusion

No matter what our role in life, God can still use women. Whether you are a mother, business woman, hostess, senior citizen, or whatever, God has yet another role for you—being a godly woman. "Favor is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised" (Proverbs 31:30).

Thank God for making you a woman and then be all you can be for His glory. ♦

Philadelphia's Winter Wonderland

When women from the Philadelphia Auxiliary, Mt. Clemens, MI, entered their fellowship hall for their Christmas dinner, they were greeted with a blaze of white.

White cloths covered the tables set with white dishes and glassware around which sat women wearing white dresses and sipping white punch. Small aluminum trees were decorated with white lights and doves. White crocheted, starched snowflakes were suspended from the ceiling and white poinsettias decorated the tables. These plants were later presented to the widowed members of the Auxiliary.

A meal of turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, white corn, cottage cheese, cauliflower

and dip, and several pasta dishes was followed by a dessert buffet including coconut cake and white chocolate mousse.

An aluminum tree was decorated with white cone-shaped ornaments made from paper lace doilies and tied to the tree with silver ribbons. Each ornament held a missionary prayer card and two chocolate kisses wrapped in foil. Underneath the tree were lace-covered baby food jars which had served as banks to collect money for the more than \$400 missions offering which was offered to missionary Patty McCullough, France, guest speaker.

Patty says, "I want to commend this Woman's Auxiliary. Not only did those ladies plan a banquet worthy of being copied, but they gave a gift that will continue to live as the gospel is shared in France."

Why Can't I Have Green Beans?

by Cathy Guffey

Thanksgiving is coming and that means our annual church dinner on Wednesday night before Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Gwen, our pastors's wife, begins making food assignments of slaw, rolls, tea, green beans, etc. Some of us cringe in our seats because we *know* she is about to call on us for something we're "famous" for.

"Patti, make enough deviled eggs for the whole church. Juanita, you bring your chocolate cake. Cathy and Sue, you bring chicken and dumplings. Kathy Barnette, bring that delicious dessert you always make...."

Kathy interrupts, "Why can't I have green beans?" So much simpler to just open a can.

Everyone laughs, because, of course, it's a joke. Or is it? I start

to wonder. How many times have I been asked to do something special, and even though I do it well and enjoy doing it, I find myself a bit annoyed. Is it because I want to take the easy way out? Am I so different from my fellow Auxiliary members? Do they do all the special things they do because they want to, or do they feel goaded into it and "put upon" for being asked?

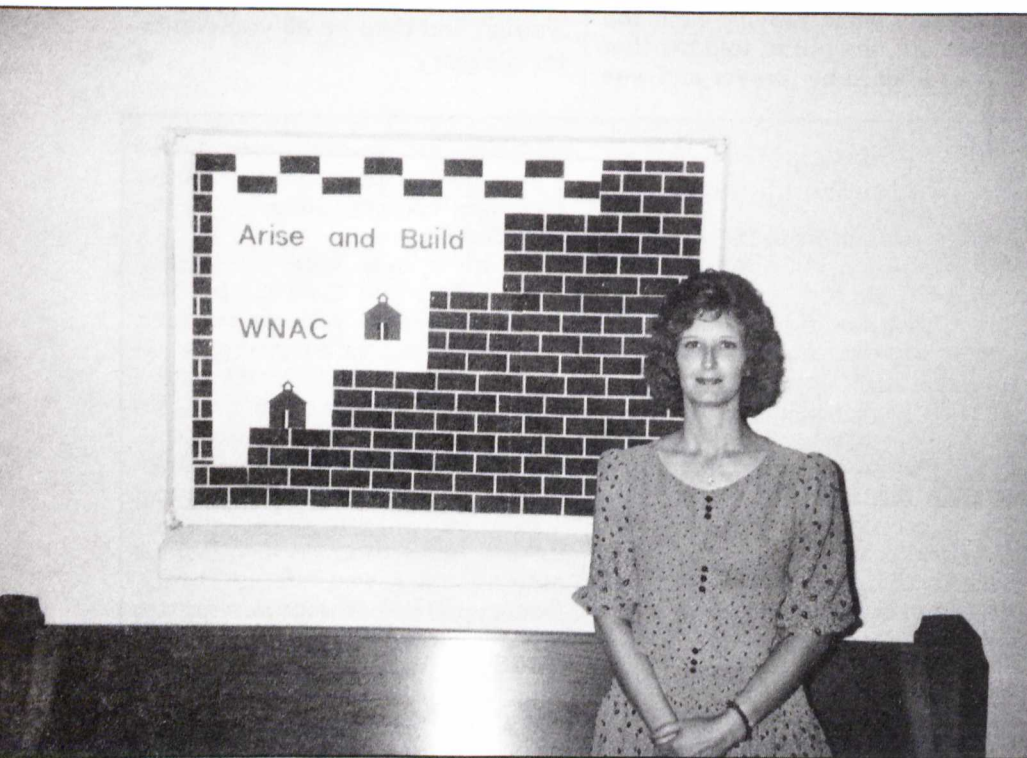
Little things like "Why can't I have green beans?" have helped me to **ARISE AND BUILD** my spiritual house. Being a wife, mother and working woman in the business world doesn't leave an enormous amount of time for spiritual matters. It's easy to confuse priorities. Isn't it amazing how God knows just when to hand us another building block and give us a boost to help us rearrange misplaced priorities?

The devil needs little encouragement to set fire to our spiritual house. When we only do enough to get by, or do nothing at all, he adds more fuel to a smoldering flame.

Have you heard—or said it yourself— "Why do I have to do everything around here? Can't someone else do something?" How dangerous! To arise and build takes determination and perseverance. Once you fall into the "I'm-tired-get-someone else" attitude, you have lost ground in your fight to finish your spiritual house.

As equally important as dropping blocks from your house is the fact that, more than likely, you are hindering another in his building. Those we love, work with, and worship with are constantly watching our endeavors as we arise and build. They may be weaker than we. If it's easy for us to slip, think how this must weaken their faith.

Though everyone sometimes needs to "bring green beans", be on guard. One day, all this "arising and building" will result in, not a spiritual house, but a glorious mansion. Can't you hear our Lord say, "Thank you for bringing green beans. Now I'm going to see that you have steak!" ♦



Brenda Wills, Auxiliary president, promotes Emphasis '89 at the Trinity Temple FWB Church, Tulsa, OK.

Background

WRITER: The Apostle John

DATE: AD 90-95

KEY VERSE: I John 5:13

THEME: Fellowship

KEY WORDS: Know (39 times in various forms)
Love (45 times in various forms)

PURPOSE: 1. That your joy may be full (1:4)

2. That you sin not (2:1)

3. That you may know that you have
eternal life (5:13)CONTENT: It is an intimate family letter from the
Father to His little children.

INTRODUCTION (1:1,2)

1:1 — "That which was from the _____, which we have _____, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have _____ of the Word of life ..." Being an intimate friend, disciple and eyewitness of the 3-year ministry of Jesus, John is well qualified to speak from personal knowledge of the Living Word. (*Compare his testimony in John 1:1,14*),

1:2 — "For the life was _____ (visibly appeared) and we have seen it, and bear _____, and show you that _____ life, which was with the _____ and was manifested unto us"—Having witnessed so many miracles, the transformation, the cruel death and even seeing and hearing Jesus after His resurrection, seemingly John can't wait to "show" us what he has learned.

FELLOWSHIP WITH THE FATHER (1:3-7)

1:3 — "That which we have _____ and heard declare we unto you ..." Why is John so eager to share what he has personally seen and heard? "... That ye also may have _____ with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ." Through John's testimony and the confirmation of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:16), we learn that God desires that we, with the early disciples and true believers of all ages, be firmly united in fellowship (or family-ship) with God the Father and God the Son.

1:4 — "And these things _____ we unto you, that your joy may be _____." This is one of John's three main purposes in writing this epistle. A fullness of joy, even in the midst of adversity, is possible when the Father's instructions are followed. Faith becomes firm and unwavering, when the image of the Father is allowed to shine in the life of His children.

1:5,6 — "This then is the _____ which we have heard of Him, and _____ unto you, that GOD IS LIGHT and in Him is no _____ at all. If we _____ that we have _____ with Him and walk in _____, we lie, and do not the _____." John forcefully states that God is Light and draws a sharp line between the "sayers and doers" among professed Christians. Light dispels darkness, it never cohabits the same area. Christianity is more than a doctrine; it is a living relationship with a Holy God.

1:7 — "But, if we walk in the _____ as He is the light, we have _____ one with another and blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, _____ (keeps on cleansing) us from all sin." Our lives should be reflectors of the Light of the World. Staying clear of the darkness of sin and the questionable gray areas of compromise will assure us of an unbroken "family relationship" with the Father and with fellow believers, transcending all human ties.

WHAT TO DO WITH SINS (1:8-10)

1:8 — "If we say that we have no _____, we _____ ourselves by denying, excusing or trying to justify sin rather than calling it what it is and dealing with it quickly and honestly. Satan often discourages new believers, causing them to doubt their salvation when they sin after being born again. What is a person to do?

1:9 — "If we _____ our _____, He is faithful and _____ to forgive us our _____, and to cleanse us from all _____." The promise is to those who own up to and confess their sins, not to those who deny, excuse or try to justify their wrongdoing. Sins are dual natured—omission and commission. But, if confessed, God will forgive and cleanse from unrighteous thought, habits, bad attitudes as well as actions. The Christian life is a growth process (2 Pet. 3:18).

1:10 — "If we say that we have not _____, we make Him a liar and His _____ is not in us." John has used the phrase "if we say" three times in the last few verses. Writing to believers who still walk in a sinful world—wrapped in sin-prone flesh—John wants us to honestly face the fact of sin. As hard as we try, we all fall short. However, learning to call sin by its true name rather than excusing it as human weakness or blaming it on others (the devil *didn't* make you do it) leads to confession and the promised forgiveness of a faithful Father. Guard your joy and fellowship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit by quickly confessing sin.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read 1 John in one sitting, underlining the word "fellowship" and the phrase "little children." How many did you find?
2. John's first reason for writing is found in 1:4. In chapters 2 and 5, locate the 2nd and 3rd reasons for writing.
3. Compare human family relationships with Christian family relationships. How do they differ?
4. How can we "walk in the light as He is in the light?"
5. Why do many new believers and those who remain spiritual infants struggle with the question of sin and assurance of salvation? (See 1 Cor. 3:1-3; Heb. 5:12-14)

Woman's National Auxiliary Convention

July 17, 18, 1989



Creative Arts Winners:
 Anne Worthington, TN
 Pat Franks, Brazil
 June McVay, TN
 Wanda Powell, TN
 Vicki Hubbard, AR
 Lois Janes, AR
 Margaret Ashcraft, KY
 Dorothy Hamilton, IL



Peggy Hutto, Florida's state president, welcomes the convention.



Mary Ruth Wisehart (pictured with Nora McCarty and Kay Hampton) addresses the President and Vice-President's seminar which, this year for the first time, included district presidents.



Tom McCullough, missionary to France, delivers the 11 a.m. missionary challenge.



"Mom" Willey speaks at the WNAC Fellowship Dinner

Tampa Florida

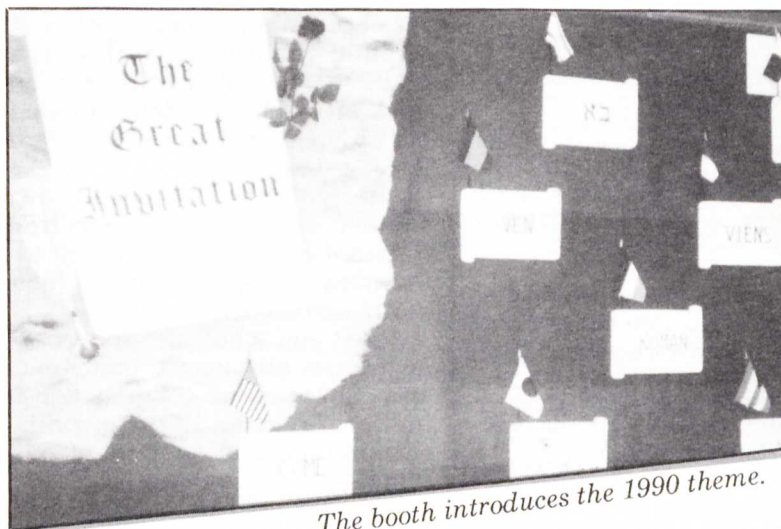
Curtis Hixson Convention Center



Patty McCullough, missionary to France, brings the morning devotional.



Mary Neal, IN, president, with her new executive committee: Mary Ruth Wisehart, executive secretary-treasurer; Peggy Outland, IL, secretary; Members at Large: Delois Loveless, OH, Marian Reece, MD, and Kay Hampton, TN; June Rolen, CA vice president.



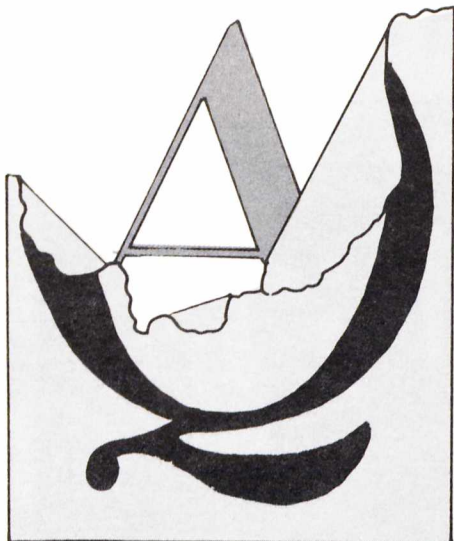
The booth introduces the 1990 theme.



Friendly conversation at the Fellowship Dinner.



Shirley Combs, Brazil, points out her field at the afternoon missions emphasis directed by Kay Hampton.



Brush Up On Home Missions

by Joan Gardner

I. Put a ☺ by each state that has a Free Will Baptist church or mission. Put a ☹ by each state where we have no work.

- _____ Florida
- _____ Georgia
- _____ New Mexico
- _____ Oregon
- _____ New York
- _____ South Carolina
- _____ Louisiana
- _____ Mississippi
- _____ Arizona
- _____ California
- _____ West Virginia
- _____ Oklahoma
- _____ North Dakota
- _____ Vermont
- _____ Utah
- _____ Tennessee

II. Match these home missionaries with their locations.

Reagan	Mexico
Hester	Arizona
Gwartney	Louisiana
Johnson	Colorado
Pugh	Canada
Vera	Virgin Islands
Munsey	Puerto Rico
Runyon	Kentucky
Trail	Tennessee
Thomas	Mississippi

III. Do you know?

- Who was Home Mission's first general director?
- Circle the date when the National Home Missions Board was organized.
a. 1955 b. 1935 c. 1970 d. 1938
- How many states have no Free Will Baptist work?
- Who is the current director of Home Missions?
- What is a joint project?
- Which Home Missions work sponsors a large Christian school?
- Which Home Mission field has an institute for training national workers? Who directs the institute?
- Give three reasons for our support of Home Missions. ♦

(See answers on page 29)

Do you have a question about Auxiliary work? Send it to President Mary Neal, 138 North 24th Street, New Castle, IN 47362.

Challenges of Missions . . .

(Continued from page 5)

First, get acquainted with home missionaries and their needs so you can more intelligently pray for them.

Post missions maps and prayer cards on bulletin boards throughout your church and Sunday School rooms.

Encourage your family and/or Sunday School classes to fill "quarter folders" with coins and designate these to the home missionaries of your choice. Make faith promise commitments of financial support to both individual missionary accounts and the General Fund of the National Home Missions Department. (The General Fund undergirds the entire program of the National Home Missions Department, and therefore needs regular monthly support.)

Keep a napkin holder on your kitchen table filled with prayer cards so you can pray for missionaries at mealtime. Make missionary prayer a vital part of your family altar time.

After you have obtained a missionary directory and map from National Home Missions, write to the missionaries, especially those in isolated areas.

Assist your church in sponsoring an annual missionary conference and challenge the congregation to make prayer and faith promise commitments in support of missions.

You also can be a home missionary yourself as you become involved in the soul winning and visitation outreach of your own local church. Ask your pastor for names and addresses of unchurched people. Order "Romans Road" gospel tracts from the National Home Missions Department for your use in soul winning. Have at least one lost person you are actively trying to win to Christ.

Pray for National Home Missions staff and office personnel, board members, chaplains, and missionaries as they labor to fulfill the Department's motto of "Missionaries In Every State For Churches In Every City." ♦

REUNION FOR RETREATERS

Make plans now to attend WNAC's tenth year anniversary of national retreats
September 20-22, 1990
Ridgecrest, North Carolina

Helps for Leaders

Ideas to Stimulate Your Imagination

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

November

Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer for National Home Missions. Treat your missionary family to a Thanksgiving dinner—letting them do the shopping. Decide on a menu and label an envelope with each item on the menu. Now estimate the cost of each item and place it in the envelope. Send all the envelopes to your missionary.

Thirty years ago one Auxiliary did this for a missionary family and the wife still remembers it with a glow of nostalgia.

Invitations: Reduce the soup pot and ladle on page 19 and use as invitations. Give one to each woman in your church the Sunday before your meeting.

Need something to spice up your November meeting? Try this!

THINK'n THANK

Purpose: To create an attitude of thankfulness by thinking about people who have touched our lives.

Plans:

1. Promote this meeting by handing out personal invitations to all of the women of the church. These can be made from colored construction paper in the shape of a pumpkin. Include the date, location, time, and ask them to bring



nonperishable food items for Thanksgiving baskets.

2. Decorate with pumpkins.
3. Compile a list of persons who minister faithfully to the congregation with little recognition, such as the custodian, pianist, organist, nursery attendant, children's church leader, etc. Plan a special feature to recognize their faithfulness and dedication. *Think and thank!*

4. The special feature may include a brief history of the individual's ministry and service; special chairs decorated for the guests of honor; flowers; gifts; thank you's given by people who have been blessed by their ministry, such as a young person who was attended

by the nursery attendant when she was a baby, or a young person who was taught Scriptures and songs by the children's church leader, etc.

5. Check with the pastor for his advice on who should receive the Thanksgiving baskets. Consider shut-ins, needy families, college students living off campus, etc. If possible, add meat and fresh fruit and vegetables to the baskets just before delivering them.

6. Appoint a committee to make up and deliver the baskets. The committee would also receive and store food items brought to the meeting.

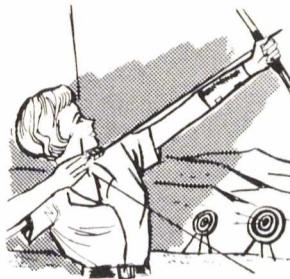
7. Plan to serve pumpkin pie for refreshments.

—Woman's Touch

December

Some Auxiliaries observe a pre-Christmas week of prayer for state home missions. Most Auxiliaries, however, choose a less-busy week for this observance. If your state

AIM FOR THE TARGET



The National Home Missions Board is sponsoring a special project to assist its Target City missionaries with funds to purchase land in the very costly area of Phoenix, Arizona. It has set a goal of \$100,000 to be raised by the time the National Association meets in Phoenix in 1990.

Gifts will be presented during this convention at a giant rally. You may want to designate your Pre-Thanksgiving funds to this project.

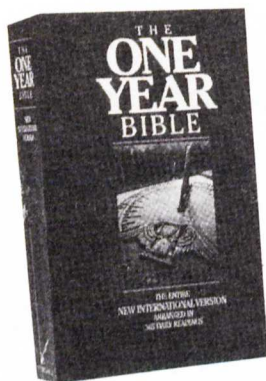
has a home missions project, this would be a good time to do something special for the mission or the pastor's family.

You could invite them as your guests, shower them with gifts, pound them with groceries, or attend their services as a group and present a generous love offering.

Program Suggestions

- Use one speaker and one soloist. Following each part, the soloist sings the appropriate verse and everyone joins in on the chorus.
- Present the program as monologues. Place five chairs on stage. Women are backstage, or in another room. At the appropriate times, the women enter, give their parts and are seated. After the final monologue, the characters stand and follow the first one out. They could exit down a center aisle or through the audience.

Characters dress in traditional Biblical attire of robes and sandals.



MISSION STUDY CHAIRMAN

Who has time to read in December? you ask. It is a good time to suggest good books for your women to give as gifts. Several interesting ones are suggested on pages 26 and 27.

Get plans underway for reading the Bible through next year. Distribute guides in December so your women will be ready.

Both Tyndale and Thomas Nelson publish One-Year Bibles in various translations. This method is a refreshing alternative to following a chronological reading. Each day lists an Old Testament passage, New Testament passage, a Psalm and some Proverbs.

MISSION PRAYER CHAIRMAN

Prayer Reminders

November

Plan to use the home missions prayer booklet on the accompanying page.

Place missionary requests or/and prayer cards in a love basket and arrange on a table beside the door. Ask the women to take one as they leave.

December

Use white crocheted tree decorations with a picture of a missionary attached to the center. Or do as the Philadelphia Auxiliary did (see page 9)—make cone shaped ornaments with a prayer card inside.

Or make paper snowflakes from folded white or silver paper. Cut in various shapes and sizes and glue a missionary picture in the center. Prayer cards are available free upon request from the Foreign Missions Board, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.



Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer for National Home Missions

PLAN! Plan early. Order materials. Contact the Home Missions department to schedule missionary speakers. Publicize the dates and activities of the Pre-Thanksgiving week of prayer on your church calendar so you can involve the entire church in the observance.

PROMOTE! Order prayer booklets (see sample on page 17). Other free materials are: maps, prayer cards, directories, bulletin inserts, study courses, and quarter folders. Order from: National Home Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

PRAY AND GIVE! Set a goal for your special offering. Designate it for the General Fund, a specific missionary, or AIM FOR THE TARGET project. Send offerings through the WNAC channels and designate for Home Missions. ♦

Prayer Booklet
Thanksgiving Week of Prayer
November 13-17, 1989

(cut on solid lines and staple to make prayer booklet)



Monday

- CANADA — Pray for Bill and Lois Reagan, our only missionaries in this Catholic land.
- MEXICO — Pray for James and Mitzi Munsey, missions coordinator.
Pray for Fred and Barbara Jones, director of the Mexican Bible Institute.
- CHAPLAINS — Pray for the 7 Free Will Baptist chaplains serving in the Armed Forces.

Tuesday

- NEW ENGLAND — Pray for Jim and Pat Nason in Durham, New Hampshire.
Pray for Pete and Katy Minor, Rhode Island.
Pray for Vergel and Alyne Maness, New Jersey, and Richard and Sandra Atwood, Dover, Delaware.
- LOUISIANA — Pray for Steve and Judy Trail, Pineville.

Wednesday

- JOINT PROJECT WORKERS — Pray for the 14 couples as they plant new churches in "Bible Belt" states.
- MIDWEST — Pray for Jerry and Wanda McClary in Omaha.
Pray for Tim and Kathy Coats in the isolated area of Rapid City, South Dakota.

Thursday

- MOUNTAIN STATES — Pray for those serving in Colorado, Wyoming and Arizona: the Bob Lewis, Bob Thomas, Mark Thomas, Russell Johnson, Howard Gwartney, Paul Thompson, Alvis Paul, Larry Reynolds and Mark Vandivort families.
- WEST COAST — Pray for the Hensleys, Hibbards, Sassers, Criswells, Turners and Hunts serving in California, Oregon and Washington

Friday

- STAFF — Pray for Roy Thomas and Trymon Messer as they travel extensively for Home Missions.
- BOARD — Pray for the 9 members of the Home Missions Board

These prayer booklets are available in quantities upon request. Other free materials to help you sponsor an effective Week of Prayer are missionary maps, prayer cards, directories, bulletin inserts, study courses and quarter folders. Order from National Home Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

MISSION ACTION CHAIRMAN

Christmas Shopping Spree

If you have a mission action group in a retirement or nursing home, a children's or detention home, halfway house, or home for unwed mothers, you may want to provide a Christmas shopping center for them. Here's how it works.

Auxiliary women provide different gifts from which the residents may choose for themselves or as gifts for others. Depending on the facility, the gifts could include gowns, pajamas, toilet articles (in plastic bottles), socks, hose, combs, brushes, games, stuffed animals, craft articles, flower arrangements, boxed goodies, books, stationery and pens, etc.

At the beginning of the spree, each resident receives three tickets—her "money"—which may be exchanged for the gifts she wishes to purchase. Place the tickets in an envelope and write the resident's name on each. The "money" could be of a different color and the gifts separated into three sections according to value. For example, a red ticket could buy a gown, a green one, a box of cookies and a white one, a comb.

Here's help in getting started:

- Contact the director of the facility to see if such a service would be appreciated.
- Select a date early in December, perhaps the first or second Saturday.
- Enlist help from your women to—
 - ✓ arrange for gift contributions and refreshments
 - ✓ prepare tickets, place in envelopes and label
 - ✓ man the gift selection tables
 - ✓ cart gifts to rooms of those unable to come to your center
 - ✓ operate a gift-wrapping service after the spree. What about your Actionette Auxiliary?
 - ✓ prepare and serve refreshments



First Auxiliary president, Teresa Bradley, Mountain Grove, MO, displayed a large Christmas wreath in the church vestibule the first week in December. Many small red stockings hung on the wreath. Each church family was to take a stocking and fill it with his Christmas missionary offering. Filled stockings were returned and placed in the basket.

The project netted \$554.83.

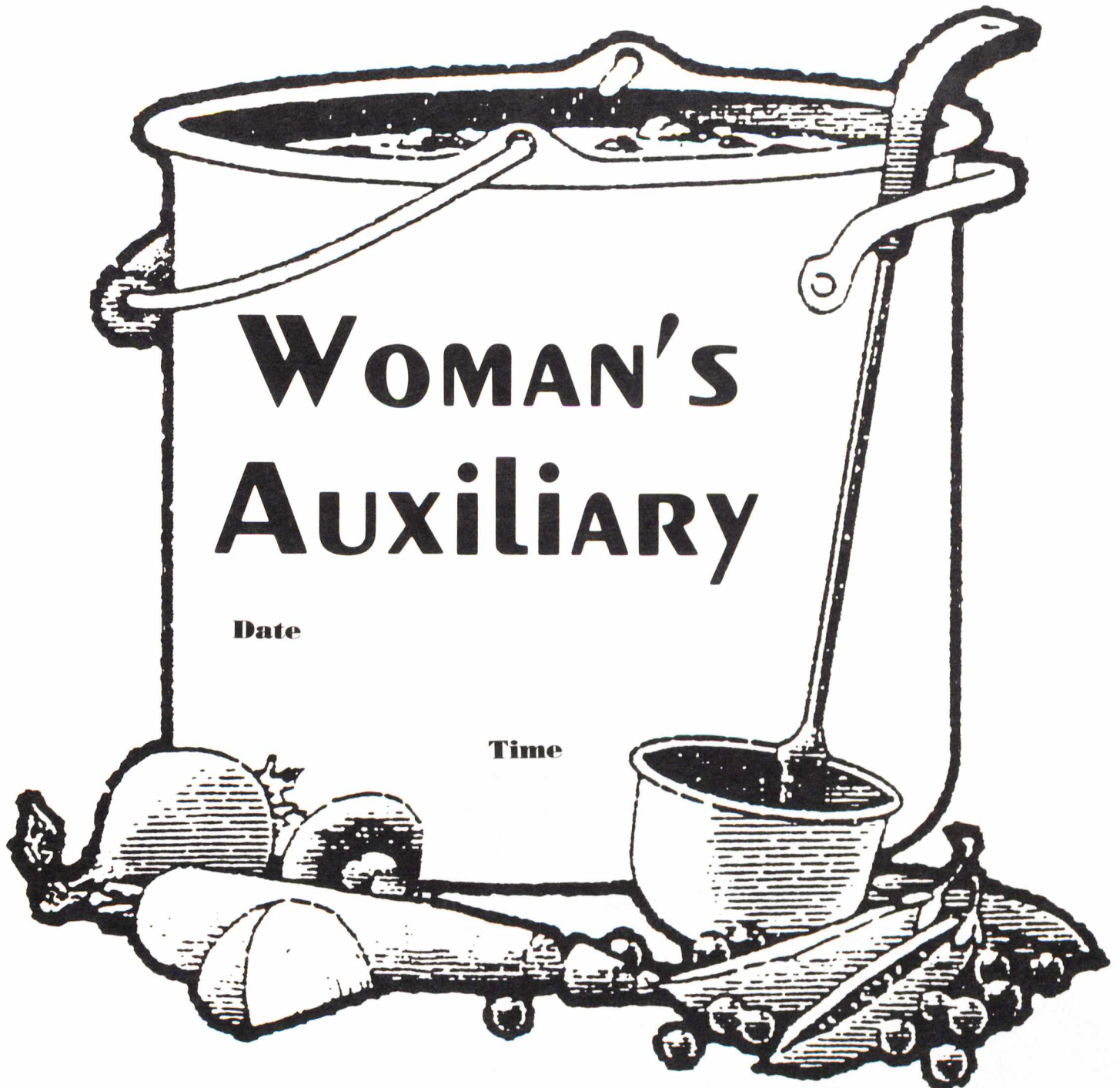
"Mail Box for Missions" is an annual project of the Fellowship FWB Auxiliary, Flat River, MO. A man in the church followed plans from the post office and made a regulation size mail box with a cubicle for each member.

Holiday cards are delivered among the church family with a suggested fee of 10 cents per

card. They stress, however, that all will be delivered, whether or not the fee is paid. Some pay more. Volunteers sort the cards and place them in the alphabetized cubicles.

Fellowship Auxiliary usually handles between three and four thousand cards with over \$400 received for their missions fund.

We're cooking up
something great in



WOMAN'S Auxiliary

Date

Time

AUXILIARY SPECIALS

DATE

TIME



The Minister's Wife

Compiled By Cleo Pursell

So you are a preacher's wife! For some, a dream come true; for others, a nightmare come to life. Many feel victimized by circumstances and are overcome with doubts, fears and all kinds of anxieties.

You assumed the role of pastor's wife with a long list of expectations. How are things going? Are you meeting both your expectations and those of your congregation? Do you live your fish-bowl life with joy?

What about responsibilities? Are you keeping up with all your teaching responsibilities, church dinners, bridal and baby showers, nursery, bulletin boards and cleaning? Do you lend a listening ear to woes of the troubled, weak, depressed and sick? Is your taxi service readily available?

Are you the perfect wife, mother, housekeeper, seamstress and cook? Are you on top spiritually, spending time daily in God's Word and conversing with Him often? Are you the perfect example of love, joy, peace, patience, self-control, kindness, gentleness, meekness, and faith?

Of course, you are! No doubt you are fulfilling all these expectations—and more!

Hey, wait! Who are you kidding? Let's be realistic! Surely you are just as human as I. At times I struggle with several, if not all, of these expectations. Is it any wonder that we preachers' wives feel so inadequate, hopeless, and stressed out at times?

As I have observed others, and experienced it myself, the root of much of the struggle lies in the area of spiritual needs. More than anything else, the Lord desires you to enjoy a rich and vibrant relationship with Him. In order to evaluate your personal relationship with Christ, ask yourself these questions:

Am I putting first things first?
In the midst of all my church ac-

7 Steps to Successful Christian Living

By Everyl Getz

tivity and responsibility, do I give my husband and children the right priority?

Do I attend church with the right motive?

Do I serve from a heart of thankfulness, praise and worship?

Am I genuinely concerned with the needs of others?

Let's look at God's seven-step plan given to us through the pen of Peter in 2 Peter 1:1-7. It guarantees a successful Christian life to those who follow it.

1 Diligent Faith (2 Peter 1:5)

Several translations of Scripture translate *virtue* as goodness, or moral excellence. However, in this passage, the word virtue seems to take the form of good intentions. True faith will result in a desire to do God's will and to please Him.

How about you? Are you pursuing virtue with a passion and striving for good intentions with all diligence? Do you sincerely desire to do what is right? To please God? To be led by the Spirit? To spend more time in Bible study and prayer? To overcome habitual sins?

Good intentions such as these are vital to Christian growth.

2 Knowledge

Add to your virtue (good intentions) knowledge. Once you desire to do the right thing, you must know what the right thing is. Do you really want to do what is right? How much time do you spend in the Scriptures? Watching TV? On the phone? How much time do you spend meditating on the things of God?

Focus your attention on the knowledge of the essentials from Scripture. Learn to know God, what He loves and what He hates. Learn to know Christ, who He is and what He has done for us. What does the Bible say about the church and witnessing?

3 Self-Control

Right on the heels of knowledge, Peter exhorts us to add self-control. Knowledge is incomplete without practice, or following through on what we know.

Our problem is not knowing what to do, but rather in doing it.

More than anything else, the Lord desires you to enjoy a rich and vibrant relationship with Him.

We relate to Paul's words, "What I want to do, I don't do; and what I don't want to do, that's what I end up doing."

How then can we set our spiritual life in order? Here's help in getting started:

Pray for a hunger for the Word. Schedule a specific time and place to meet God each day. Meditate on and memorize Scripture. Be disciplined in regular Bible study.

Talk to God in prayer. Share your feelings, needs, thanksgivings, praise and worship. Pray Scripture back to Him and sing to Him. Intercede for others, for family, church, nation, missionaries. He's your best Friend; talk to Him as such.

Set aside a time for personal reflection on your calling and priorities. Check your priorities according to Scripture. First, are you meeting your husband's needs? You are his best friend. Be a good listener. Be supportive of his ministry. Teamwork is not only rewarding, it can be downright enjoyable.

Children follow next in your line of priorities. God gave them to you to teach and raise. Don't get so busy with affairs of the church that you neglect your responsibility toward them. Don't be afraid to say no. Train others to do some of the jobs you are doing. If they can do the job, let them! Don't feel you have to do it all. People need to feel needed and service of any kind is vital. I thank the Lord for our women who have relieved me of so many jobs, and they do them well.

4 Endurance

The next step on the ladder of faith is to add endurance to self-control. Why endurance? Endurance helps you to finish what you have started (Phil. 3:13,14); to follow Christ (Heb. 12:2); to

love (1 Cor. 13:7); it develops character (Rom. 5:4); and results in God's promise (Heb. 10:36); in happiness (James 5:11); and in God's approval (2 Tim. 4:7,8). One who walks with God should be willing to endure.

5 Godliness

The Christian is by definition one who is called to a relationship with God. As He walks and talks with God He is being conformed to His character.

Train yourself to develop the stamina necessary to become godly (1 Tim. 4:7). This involves developing godly characteristics, as mercy, love, kindness, holiness, goodness, patience and self control.

6 Brotherly Kindness



Everyl Getz, McAllen, TX, is the wife of Pastor Raymond Getz and only daughter of Everett and Ava Hellard. This mother of 5 is president of the Texas State Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

Just as none of the other steps in God's seven-step plan can stand alone, neither can godly living. It is not an end in itself ... "add to your godliness brotherly kindness."

The truly godly are those who care for their brothers and sisters in Christ. They are willing to endure less than ideal relationships and circumstances in order to walk with God. Let's be women of self-control, knowledgeable in the Word of God, and desire to do what is right in order to demonstrate our faith in God.

7 Love

The last strategic step is love. Not just any kind of love, but a love that depends on the six steps that precede it. Christ raised this standard of love. We must love those around us with the love He demonstrated.

First Corinthians 13 tells us that no matter how many good qualities we possess, if we do not have love the total is zero. Noble Christian deeds have value only as they are accompanied by love.

When Christ is first in your life, you are following His plan. When you believe He can make it work (faith) and you are diligently putting each step into practice (effort), you will experience victory in your Christian life. Your life will line up with God and you will receive His peace and contentment. You will desire that others see Jesus in you, regardless of your position or title. You will see more clearly what a privilege you have in serving Christ as a preacher's wife. Expectations seem almost insignificant, pressures lessen and life with Christ becomes a joy and a pleasure.

So you are a preacher's wife! What an opportunity! Enjoy it to its fullest! ♦

Women in Action



Pioneer Auxiliary, Ash Flat, AR, enjoy their Hawaiian Luau.



Brenda Boyd presents a gift to Verna Clark, oldest mother, at the Mother-Daughter banquet sponsored by the Five Points Auxiliary, Washington, NC.



Nell Grisson, AL, presents a love-offering filled cap to home missionaries Larry and Sherry Reynolds, AZ.



Tippett's Chapel, Knightdale, NC, sponsors a Missionary Provision Closet shower.



Trena Owens, center, poses with the Indiana state officers: Sue Jackson, Loretta Trogon, Imogene Patterson, Ann Murphy, Betty Walden, Helen Phipps, Marla Jo Ritchie, and Mary Neal, president. Trena, missionary to Spain, spoke at this annual retreat.

Glennville (GA) Auxiliary members with items collected for the Savannah Ronald McDonald House. This facility accommodates parents of hospitalized children. Pictured are: Doris Knight, Leeressa Kicklighter, Shelby Rockmore, Julia Thomas and daughter, Katie, Annie Bruner, and Deanna Thompson.



These active women also made lap quilts for the Sutton House, a pre-nursing home for the elderly.

Program participants: Karen Martin, Eraca Jones, Billie Reed, Theresa Pfeffer and Donna Williford, pastor's wife.



Sutton Auxiliary, Pocahontas, AR, sponsored a Hawaiian Luau on a Sunday evening and invited the church family. Teenage girls draped everyone with leis as they arrived. A full course meal of ham, rice dishes, fruit dishes, pineapple cake, banana pudding and Hawaiian bread was served. Ann Sutton made the palm tree decoration.



Carolyn Hendrix, Alabama State retreat co-ordinator, with Paulette Scott, state president, and Genny Waddell, guest speaker.



Women from the Madison Auxiliary made baskets filled with goodies and gave to each one attending Alabama's state retreat.



Progressive district is recognized for outstanding missions giving. Etta Jane White, president, receives a certificate from Alice Hood.



Twin Cities Association, Columbus, GA, sponsors a Missionary Provision Closet shower.

Book Highlights

TURKEYS AND EAGLES

by Peter Lord, Christian Book Publishing House, 104pp, \$10.95 hardback.

Reviewed by Marilyn Pritchard.

"We are all in danger of falling into the same trap that Adam and Eve fell into. They were tempted to become something they already were." With that statement in the preface, the author launches into a parable of turkeys and eagles.

Hagen and Selin, two eaglets, abandoned by their parents, were adopted by a flock of turkeys. Their parents had never told them



they were eagles, so when the turkeys told them they were dirty ol' buzzards, that's what they believed. But, they were told, if they tried really hard, they could become good turkeys.

The turkeys taught the eaglets all the things good turkeys should know: strutting, pecking, scratching, gobbling—and to be afraid. But Hagen struggled with his temptation to soar, to eat something besides dry acorns (things good turkeys do not do); and he found it almost impossible to strut, scratch and do all the things good turkeys do. Hagen even tried another group of turkeys—berry eaters, but that did not solve his problem. In fact, it only generated more distress for him.

A wise old owl eventually helped Hagen. He told him, "You do not know what to do because you do not know who you are." When

Hagen was ready, the owl told him the truth that set him free.

As children of God, we do not have to "work" at being righteous as the turkeys taught Hagen and Selin. We have His righteousness because He lives in us.

Part II of the book addresses a set of questions given at the front of the book and their answers. And the teachings of turkeyology are exposed. A bit of eternal security doctrine creeps in, but if the reader is aware of that, she can filter through it and gain some powerful insight to some of her thought patterns.

Oh, by the way, do you know who you are—or have you been turkey-ized?

This book may be ordered from the publisher, P.O. Box 3691, Auburn, ME 04210.

CO-LABORER asked Geraldine Waid, GA, "Do you give books as Christmas gifts? If so, what are some good possibilities? For whom? Why?" Here is her reply:

FOREVER AND EVER

By Eleanor Grindstaff,

Randall House Publications

to my Secret Prayer Partner

to my daughter, Penny

Why? Because the book is interesting and tells a little about our Free Will Baptist history in fiction form.

EVIDENCE NOT SEEN

By Darlene D. Rose, Harper & Row

to Sandra Bishop

to Debbie Griffin

The book is an account of a missionary held captive in a Japanese prison camp. I think they both will relate well to the story since they are missionaries in Japan.

SIX HOURS ONE FRIDAY

By Max Lucado, Multnomah Press

to my daughter, Darlene

maybe to a friend

Lucado is one of our favorite authors. Darlene was blessed by his

A Woman God Has Used

"Miss Mary Jane" Mayo, charter member and pillar of the Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Indianapolis, IN, is a woman God is using.

An avid Auxiliary worker, Mary Jane served as the first president of the Indiana district which preceded the state convention. She has held every office in the local Auxiliary and taught Sunday school through the years.

Her love for Auxiliary naturally ignited a love for missionaries. She opens her home to them and, until recently, contributed monthly to five missionary accounts. Now her major thrust is in prayer. Indeed when she prays, you feel you've been ushered right into the presence of God.

Mary Jane and husband George were natives of Illinois, but a job transfer moved them to neighboring Indiana. After 52 years of marriage, she was left widowed in 1985. She has 3 married children, 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Mary Jane's favorite Bible passage is I Corinthians 13 and her life clearly reflects its application.

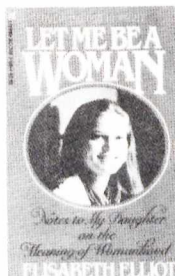
—Mamie Cloer



other books—GOD CAME NEAR and NO WONDER THEY CALL HIM SAVIOR.

The same question—"What books do you give?"—was asked of Joyce Little, pastor's wife from Russellville, Arkansas. Here is her reply:

I do love to give books to family and special friends on many occasions—birthdays, anniversaries, and especially Christmas.



Recently I had the privilege of hearing Elisabeth Elliott. She autographed some of her books for me and I plan to give them as gifts this Christmas. Particular favorites are:

A SLOW AND CERTAIN LIGHT (Abingdon)

DISCIPLINE: THE GLAD SURRENDER (Revell)

LET ME BE A WOMAN (Tyndale)

Ed. note: Elisabeth Elliott is interviewed regularly on a series of subjects, as Being a Woman, Loneliness, and From Boston to Belgium, her life story. These radio programs, "Gateway to Joy" are sponsored by the Back to the Bible broadcast. For information on these tape series, write them at P.O. Box 82808, Lincoln, NB 68501.

FIRST WE HAVE COFFEE by Margaret Jensen (Here's Life Publishers) is a favorite. Mrs. Jensen is an uplifting and encouraging writer who grew up in a Norwegian preacher's home. She also wrote VIOLETS FOR MR. B, a thought-provoking devotional book.

THE SEASONS OF FRIENDSHIP by Ruth Senter is one I choose to give to special friends whom I call "heart friends." THE TOTALED WOMAN by Karen Wise is especially enjoyable and humorous.

WNAC does not stock these books. Please order them from your state bookstore, or from Randall Book Store, 319C Harding Place, Nashville, TN 37211.

The POET'S CORNER



May Each of Us Remember

May each of us remember
Amid all our Christmas fun,
Yes, may each of us remember
The birth of God's dear Son.

May each of us remember
As we sing our festive songs
A babe in a lowly manger
And why He came along.

May each of us remember that
The greatest gift known to man
Is not found under the Christmas tree;
It is salvation's plan.

May each of us remember
As we eat and drink our fill
Of the love that sent the Savior
To die on Calvary's hill.

May each of us remember
Though man did sin and fall,
When Christ shed His blood on Calvary,
God was reaching out to all.

And may each of us remember,
Yes, each mortal now on earth
T'was only by God's love and grace
That there was a Savior's birth.
— Liz Stember

The Christmas I Once Knew

Christmas at our house was so much fun,
With Mom and Dad and us little ones;
There was love and joy beyond compare,
This was something we all could share.

We all would arise on Christmas morn
To remember the day when Jesus was born.

Mom would cook the family meal,
The love in her heart we all could feel.
We sat at the table loaded with food,
Enjoying the blessings that were so good.

Dad would say grace over our family meal.

Then Mom would take our plates to fill;

We all would eat to our heart's content,

Just thanking God for what He had sent.
After the meal we all gathered around
To enjoy the gifts that earlier we'd found.

Mother would smile in her own little way
And thank the Lord for our wonderful day.

We would be carried to bed that night
Where Mom and Dad would hold us tight;
We all would say our bedtime prayers
And thank the Lord for His loving care.

My Mom and Dad are in heaven today,
Listening to Jesus tell it His way;
I know one day we will all gather, too
And talk about the Christmas I once knew.

Now I'm a mother with a son of my own,
Good friends, a good church, and a happy home,
A husband who loves us in every way—
Thank You, God, for this wonderful day.

— Ellie M. Bedford

Christmas Love

Another Christmas comes our way,
Another year gone by;
Have I wasted time again?
I have to think and sigh.

Peace and good will they say
To all men on earth;
Now at this time of year we see
The miracle, Christ's birth.

I've heard the story many times
Of all they say He's done;
How He died on Calvary
Of death, He's overcome.

What have I done for Him this year?
Not much, I'm sad to say;
I fail so many times, dear Lord,
Forgive me now, I pray.

Now Lord, at Christmas time this year
One thing I ask of Thee—
Fill me with the love of Christ
So Christ they'll see through me.

— Addie M. Rynes

Appointed to Pray

The Americano's Two Friends

By Shirley Combs
Missionary to Brazil

Let me introduce you to two of my Brazilian friends.

One is Alice (Ah-LEE-see). A widow in her early 30's, she has already borne eight children. A few months ago half of her shed burned, so one wall is held together by scraps of boards, paper and plastic. She has neither electricity or running water.

Alice keeps her family together by taking in laundry. She carries piles of clothing to a water pipe sticking up about two feet out of the ground. Here she squats to wash the clothes and rinse them in a metal wash basin. She dries the clothes on the barbed-wire fence around her shed. The children de-

liver the clean laundry to the customers.

Recently my friend was hospitalized so unable to earn her few "cruzados." Her children were left with hardly any food. They burned dried cow chips to keep away the mosquitoes.

When she came home from the hospital, Jim and I visited her and her family. Only a weak flame in the darkness directed us to the tiny dark room. We visited with her, prayed for her, and left her an Agape Food Basket from our little congregation.

My other friend is Isabel (Ee-zah-be-oo). In stark contrast, Isabel is a lawyer in her early 50's with an office in the city. She is

married to a judge who drives a late-model car.

Isabel's home boasts lovely wood floors, a few area carpets and original oil paintings hang on her walls.

Jim and I also visit in her home. The last time was to Isabel's birthday party, complete with hired servants, crystal, silver and gourmet food. Her guest list of friends and relatives included doctors, businessmen, lawyers and world-travelers.

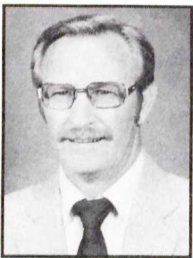
Alice and Isabel, my friends. They have never met. They live on opposite sides of the city in two different worlds. Yet out of 500,000 people, Jesus Christ has brought them into my life for a specific reason.

Alice is my friend because she needs me. I help supply some of her basic needs, as food, medical help, transportation, counsel, and someone to talk to. In our Bible studies, I remind her that God is there and loves her more than I do.

Isabel first invited us to a "churrasco" (Brazilian Bar-B-Q) for her grandson's birthday. Their position in society and among friends is important and the novelty of having Americanos among their guests adds to their prestige. Isabel needs me to add variety to her guest list.

Alice and Isabel, my two friends. They may never meet in this city, yet they could become sisters in Christ. They both accept me because I meet a need in their lives. Isn't that what love is—meeting the needs of others? May Jesus Christ love them both through me.

Personality Profile



Jim and Shirley
Combs

Brazil

Jim and Shirley Combs are in their first furlough after their second hitch in Brazil. They teach at the Jaboticabal Bible Institute where Jim serves as director.

Favorite foods: Jim chooses seafood (any kind) and

Shirley likes vegetables and salads. They collect ships now. Their stamp and coin collections were destroyed by a flood.

All three Combs children are musicians: Kemper, 23, lay preacher and organist; Cindy, 21,

flutist, college student and teacher; and Tania, 18, a Hillsdale student, plays the guitar. The two older children live in Brazil.

Jim hails from West Virginia and Shirley (Roberts) from Oklahoma.



Missionary Prayer Calendar

Missionaries supported by both Foreign and Home Missions departments are listed by their birthdates. Brighten their day with your prayers and cards.

November

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 — Laura McFall (Brazil) | 9 — Debbie Griffin (Japan) |
| 14 — Marcia Ellison (Uruguay) | *10 — Katy Minor (RI) |
| **16 — Delores Hester (MS) | *11 — Fred Jones (Mexico) |
| **20 — Gwyn Pugh (TN) | 14 — Lonnie Sparks (Spain) |
| **21 — John Hibbard (CA) | *14 — Rosa Lee Thomas (CO) |
| *22 — Jim Nason (NH) | 18 — Tom Hughes (Brazil) |
| 27 — <u>Bessie Richards</u> (C'I) | 19 — Molly Barker (Uruguay) |
| 28 — Bobby Poole (Brazil) | **20 — Rebecca Pugh (TN) |
| 28 — Mark Daniel (C'I) | 22 — <u>Tom McCullough</u> (France) |
| 30 — Dwain Crosby (Spain) | *22 — Pete Minor (RI) |

December

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 — Evelyn Teague (C'I) | *26 — Brenda Williams (GA) |
| **1 — Rose Mertz (MO) | *27 — Patsy Gwartney (AZ) |
| 3 — Pansy Murray (France) | **29 — Elmer Turnbough (FL) |
| *6 — Vergel Maness (NJ) | 30 — <u>Arilla Wode</u> (C'I) |
| | **31 — Carol Keen (SC) |

Names underlined indicate they are on furlough.

Please send mail to: P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202

*Home missionary or church extension pioneer.

Brush Up On Home Missions

How well did you do with the quiz on page 14? Check your answers against these provided by Mrs. Gardner.

I. Florida, Georgia, New Mexico, Oregon, South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arizona, California, West Virginia, Oklahoma and Tennessee all have Free Will Baptist churches. New York, North Dakota, Vermont and Utah have none.

II. Reagan—Canada; Hester—Mississippi; Gwartney—Arizona; Johnson—Kentucky; Pugh—Tennessee; Vera—Puerto Rico; Munsey—Mexico; Runyon—Virgin Islands; Trail—Louisiana; Thomas—Colorado.

III. 1. Harry Staires 2. 1938 3. 8 4. Roy Thomas 5. An agreement by a state with the National Home Mission Board to support a mission in that state. 6. Virgin Islands 7. Mexico/Fred Jones 8. Without Home Missions our work will fail, America is slowly becoming our greatest mission field, and God commanded that we be witnesses, beginning at home (Acts 1:8).



PRAYER REQUESTS



•Use the Home Missions prayer booklet on page 17.

•Pray for both Mission Boards as they meet in annual conference, December 4-6. Pray for clear divine wisdom.

•Sherwood Lee and board member, Norwood Gibson, return from India the first part of November. Pray they can offer encouragement to the Hannas and the national church.

•Sherwood Lee leaves the last of November to temporarily replace Dr. Eagleton at the Doropo Medical Center, Cote d'Ivoire. Pray for good health, adjustment, and divine leadership.

•Muslim proselytizers, as well as cults, wield a strong force in the United States. Pray that Christians will stand firm for their faith.

•Pray for the Riggs, Crowsons and Charolette Tallent in their new outreach endeavor in a suburb of Nantes, France.

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Letters

From the Home Front

Thank you so much for the opportunity to go through the Provision Closet. It was so nice to replenish our dwindling supply of towels, sheets and Tupperware. We appreciate all the ladies that make this possible.

*Brenda Williams
Martinez, GA*

Thank the Lord for talented and dedicated ladies who prepare the good spiritual food to feed our souls in the CO-LABORER. May the Lord continue to bless and supply all your needs.

*Marion Swanner
Pinetown, NC*

The officers of our State Convention have introduced us to the new way of reporting our monthly offerings. I think this is a good plan and will help us send our money on a regular plan rather than holding that money the missionary may be needing...I enjoy the new CO-LABORER. As soon as I get it I have to sit down and read the whole book.

*Ann Jones
Midland City, AL*

I received the brick banks. They are great! I gave them out to our Auxiliary members. Several women who are not members showed an interest in taking part and filling a bank.

*Brenda Wills
Tulsa, OK*

I enjoy your magazine. Thanks for your efforts.

*Mary McMaster
Atkins, AR*

Would you please send us 50 brick banks to be used in our Auxiliary? I thought the Emphasis Program this year is very good.

*Betty Blaylock
Holdenville, OK*

From Abroad

On July 1, I will relocate to the northern suburbs of Nantes to begin a new ministry. Let me com-

pare Nantes with Nashville, TN. Both cities are approximately the same size. Nashville, though, has more than 500 evangelical churches. Nantes can only boast of 4.

Charolette Tallent, France

Three weeks ago Ken spent many hours putting tracts in the mailboxes of homes and apartment buildings in our area. The past two Sundays a young man has been in services because he said he found the tract "interesting." Please pray.

Ken and Judy Bailey, Japan

Once upon a time members of my church's Woman's Auxiliary were my Sunday school, League, and YPA Leaders. Then I grew up and they prayed and sent me to FWBBC. They supplied and still supply my needs through encouragement, loans, provision closet, praying, giving to the ministry in which I serve, and love me enough to send the very best, the CO-LABORER, which I so much appreciate. I've just finished reading the one which came today.

After reading it I wanted to see all of you and thank you for being who and what you are, for not just saying words, but for showing you care.

Now I have something to give you—the news that at our very first and second women's meetings from the church in downtown Montevideo, we had 17 and 13 who attended, respectively...We are praying God will continue to bless our women with courage and perseverance so others may hear the Truth as well.

Marcia Ellison, Uruguay

As we come into contact with many missionaries from other missions, we realize how fortunate we are. Few missionaries have access to something as wonderful as the provision closet. And as we share how much of our support comes from our Auxiliaries, they are amazed. God bless you for thinking of us.

*Glennnda Leatherbury and
Jalayn Martens
Cote d'Ivoire*

Words for Women

Mary R. Wischart



*I*t's almost the end. But endings almost always signal beginnings.

That's right, the end of 1989 is approaching. But 1990 will soon begin.

We end several things on December 31, 1989. The theme "Arise and Build" is laid aside. Our chance to increase the Eunice Edwards Loan Fund to \$30,000 in the first three years is ended. Not another chance to keep those good resolutions we made for 1989. We conclude three years of the new look CO-LABORER. We're closing our books on 1989.

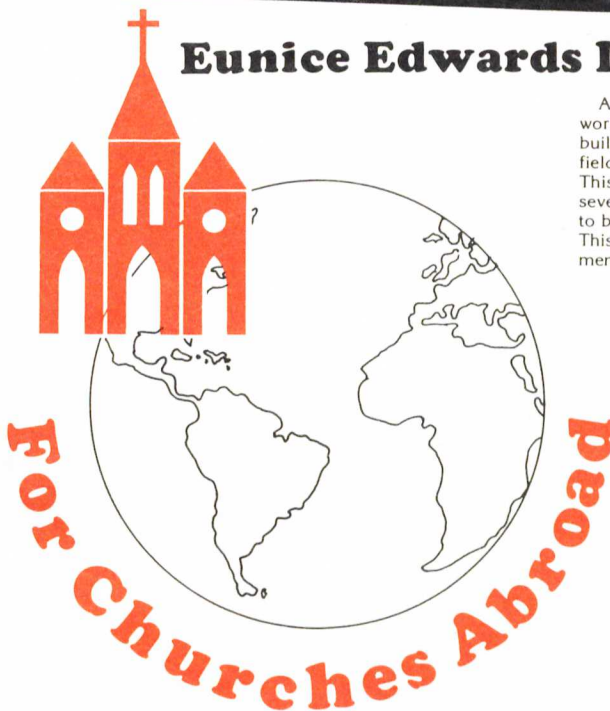
We lay aside "Arise and Build" to take up the theme "The Great Invitation." We begin with renewed effort to meet our goal for the Eunice Edwards Fund—\$50,000 by 1991. We begin 1990 with new resolutions and new determinations.

So it was that the coming of Christ signaled the end and the beginning. It was the ending of the period of the law. It was the beginning of the age of grace. It was the fulfillment of long awaited hope. It was the beginning of rejoicing because a Savior has come.

So it is with our new birth in Christ. We end the old life with its worldly grubbing and begin an adventure in living. It's the end of many things, but the beginning of the adventure that stretches into tomorrow and eternity.

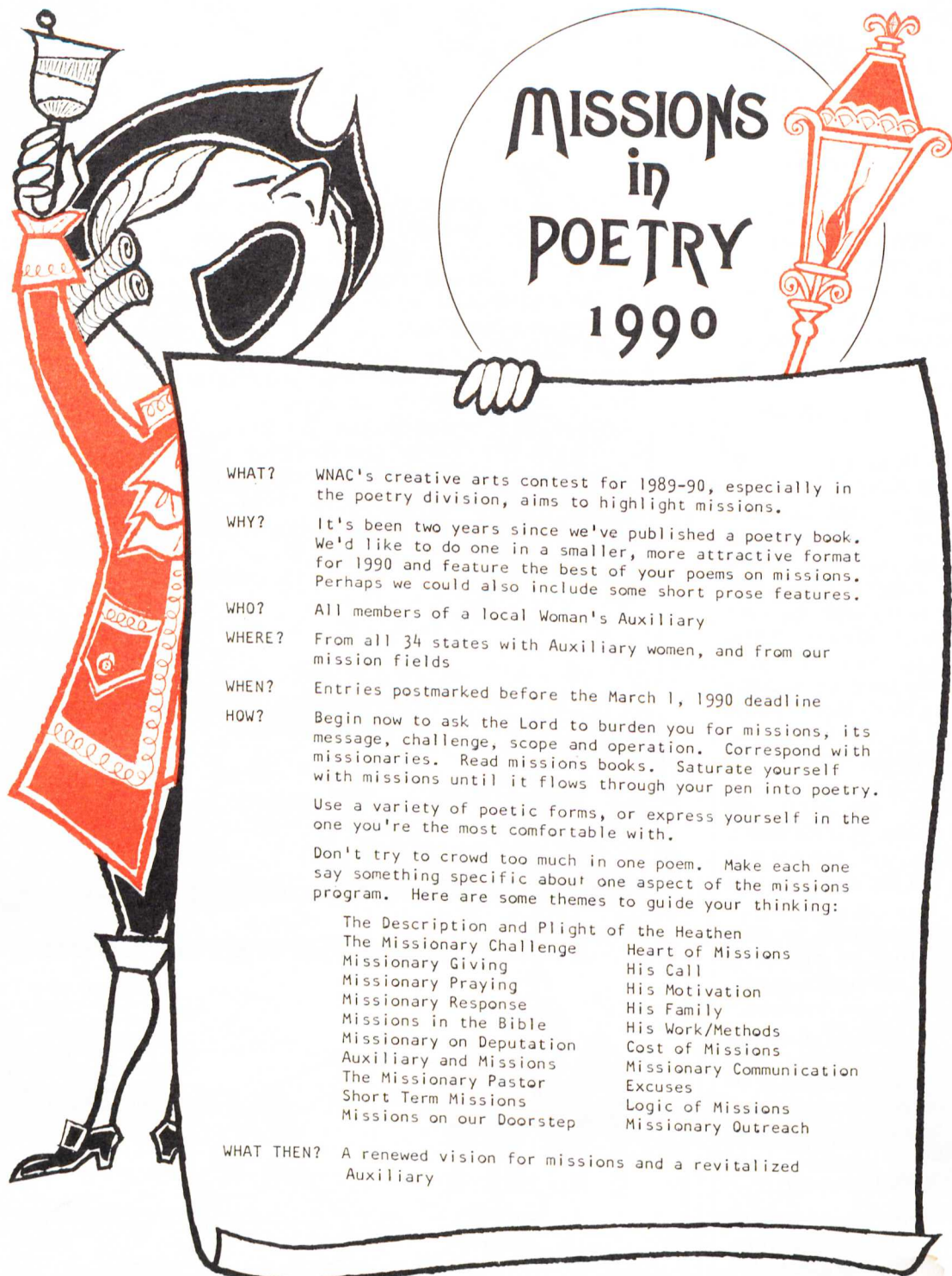
Endings and beginnings—a special time to thank and praise God. Beginnings and endings—time to praise God for all the happy endings and beginnings He has given us through His Son, the baby born so long ago.

Eunice Edwards Loan Fund



Auxiliary women are hard at work in creating a loan fund for building churches on our mission fields outside the United States. This first national project in several years stipulates \$50,000 to be raised over a 5 year period. This averages only \$1 per member per year.

**Amount Received
\$22,307.38**



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