

# Contact

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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JANUARY 1960





More and more of our Free Will Baptist Churches are realizing the importance of a consistent, weekly visitation program. Without exception, when the program was properly launched and maintained, the local church experienced tremendous dividends. There is simply no substitute for "going." In this article, we have asked three of our pastors who have maintained a visitation program in their church to share with us that other pastors might profit from their experience. It is hoped, that as a result of this article, other pastors will begin a visitation program in their church.

Our contributors for this article are as follows: **Rev. Ronald Creech**, who pastors the Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina. His church has a total membership of 828 and is located in a city of 89,000 population. Our second contributor is **Rev. Joe Haas**, who pastors the Hyde Park Free Will Baptist Church in Norfolk, Virginia. His church has a membership of 176 and is located in an area of 337,282 population. And our final contributor is **Rev. L. A. Yandell**, who pastors the Central Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. His church has a membership of 292 and is located in an area of 250,000 population.

**1. What night do you feel is best for a visitation program and why?**

**(Creech)** Thursday. It is nearer Sunday. You can offer to go by for the folk if they have no transportation. That near Sunday they are not as likely to forget. It keeps your people conscious that we are not going to worry about the failures of last Sunday as much as try to have a grand attendance this Sunday.

**(Haas)** Thursday! I think Thursday is best for several reasons. first, it is close enough to Sunday for the people to remember that they promised to attend church on Sunday. Second, you can announce it in prayer meeting on Wednesday night and get commitments from the people to attend. Third, we find more people at home on Thursday evening.

**(Yandell)** Thursday. This night is far enough along in the week that people know what they are planning for the week end, and can give a commitment to attend Sunday school. Yet, this night is early enough that there is yet time for the pastor to minister if the visitor discovers sickness or other problems that the pastor can help with. In our particular location this is a good night because the city stores are closed, and there are no school activities. I also find this is a good night for church members to work.

**2. What has been your experience of day-time visitation?**

**(Creech)** None in an organized sense. I do most of my per-

sonal visitation in the day-time. I think day-time, however, is good where shift-work is keeping some away during night visitation. I plan to start some day-time visitation as soon as possible.

**(Haas)** We have a day-time visitation for the ladies on Tuesday mornings and it has worked real good. The ladies meet for prayer and then go out on visitation. God has blessed this day-time program.

**(Yandell)** This was not a great success with us. However, day-time visitation can be of great value to the church, but we had trouble in securing workers for day-time visitation.

**3. How do you enlist your workers for the visitation program?**

**(Creech)** By public announcements, personally asking folk, telephone, etc. Takes hard pushing all the time.

**(Haas)** By appeals from the pulpit during the announcements; mention visitation as many times as wise in my sermons. We urge all of our Sunday School teachers and officers to attend visitation, and I personally urge people to attend.

**(Yandell)** Twice a year we have a special day when we emphasize the need of workers in our visitation program. On

# VISITATION IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

these days we tell of our need in the nursery, kitchen, and Visitors to do church visitation. All of the above is a part of our Weekly Visitation Program.

**4. What training, if any, do you require of those who would visit?**

**(Creech)** Don't require any. We try to give helpful suggestions all the time. Always give some suggestions for two or three minutes on the actual visitation night before we go out. I brought a message on soul-winning on a Wednesday night in Prayer Meeting in an attempt to get more out.

**(Haas)** We do not require any training, however, we urge all of those that would visit to come to a soul-winning class that is taught once each quarter.

**(Yandell)** We recommend that our workers attend at least one study course each year on visitation. Then we have a few nights during the year in our weekly teachers and officers' meeting, which we use to give visitation instructions. I also use a few minutes on Thursday night before visitors leave on assignments to give instructions.

**5. Do you feel that a nursery is essential? If so, who staffs the nursery?**

**(Creech)** a. Yes, definitely. We had 27 in the nursery a week or so ago. Reflect for a minute to realize how many moms and pops that represents.



b. Volunteers. However, we most usually have one of our faithful women who is in the nursery on Sunday also there on Thursday night. (This was not asked for but here goes: We divide the children. The older ones are taken into a room apart from the smaller ones and are taught. They use flannelgraph, stories, etc.)

(Haas) No! But, it would probably be helpful.

(Yandell) Yes, definitely. A nursery is essential, and as indicated above we use volunteer workers in this department—workers who have given themselves to this work in a special service held in the sanctuary. Let me add here, I also feel that arrangements should be made to care for all of the children from birth through thirteen years of age. We have a G.T.A. program on this night, and also a worker who cares for the other children by giving them a scripture lesson and handwork. (Similar to Daily Vacation Bible School work). This not only provides proper training for the children, but it is a step in developing them to be visitors when they are young men and women. This will permit parents to visit which otherwise would be hindered.

6. **In a first time visit into a home, what do you seek to accomplish?**

(Creech) Make a good impression for Jesus Christ and our church. Most folks think Christians and especially soul winners are quirks. Make the visit brief, invite them to church, etc. What is done and said is largely determined by how the prospect was secured. It may be a sinner someone has asked you to see. Then you go purposely to win the person to Jesus, as was the case last Thursday night with my partner and me. I had never seen them before. He worked with the man each day. We won husband and wife to Christ. If it is a new one moved to the city we do not send just anyone. The first contact is made by the church secretary on a special half day for that purpose or by some other hand-picked person who is neat, kind, has personality plus, etc. They say that the pastor asked them to come by to visit their home. They seek to make a good impression, welcome them to the city, then to our church, take a census (seeking new prospects for our Sunday School), then leave. These names of real prospects are put in proper Sunday School Class age groups as prospects to be called on by that particular class and teacher.

(Haas) We strive to give the people a heartfelt welcome and invitation to come and worship with us. We find out if they are Christians and, if not, we seek to win them to the Lord.

(Yandell) We use this visit to gather information which will reveal the needs of the individual and just to get better acquainted. Information should include names of family, church background, church affiliation, church attendance, if they are Christian or not, recreation interest, ways of earning a living, something about their friends.

7. **What plan do you have for recording visits and follow-up?**

(Creech) A card system on both absentees and prospects. The same basic method is used for both. There are 52 blocks on the card. If there are 52 v's in those blocks, I know at a glance that the person was visited each week for a year. (We use p for phone calls and c for card or letters.)

(Haas) We use a card that has been prepared for the purpose. On the front of the card there is a place for pertinent information about the family or individual to be visited. Also a place for the person who makes the visit to record their name and the date visit was made. On the back of the card there are places provided where the

result of each visit can be recorded. In this way, a brief look at the card will reveal not only the number of visits made, but the progress as well.

(Yandell) Our visitation assignments are made on paper which the visitors return to the church office and this is kept on file. We follow-up in accordance to information received on previous visit. Contact should be repeated until individual needs are met; prospect is reached.

8. **What is your source of supply for contacts?**

(Creech) My personal visiting, Sunday School visitors, church visitors, new movers to the city (60 odd new families moved to Durham in one week just recently), folk calling in to say visit John Doe, etc., solicitation (when you ask folk in a public service to write down names and addresses of folk they would like visited or do not go to Sunday School), to name a few ways.

(Haas) Those that visit our church services. Sunday School is a fertile field for contacts—children with parents that do not attend Church, friends and relatives of our church families. We have taken a census of our community.

(Yandell) Absentees present our first group of contacts to be made. Our department secretary fills out an absentee list for each class each Sunday. Visitors in our Sunday school and Worship Service give us our second group of contacts. Then we have "suggestion forms" which we distribute to our members and in turn they make suggestions as to prospects for our church. We also conduct "get-acquainted surveys" in our community which reveals the same information as a church census.

9. **What is the greatest difficulty you face in your visitation program?**

(Creech) Getting people out. Need more workers. (It hurts when there are twenty absentees and thirty prospects for one class and three or four to do the work.) More car drivers. (Sometimes five or six go in one car.)

(Haas) Getting dedicated workers to go out and win souls for the Lord.

(Yandell) Getting the church to see the need of visitation, and securing additional workers.

10. **What aspect of your visitation program is somewhat unique which you feel would be helpful to other pastors in their program?**

(Creech) I think only two features maybe. One is our card system. It saves so much time and yet is so thorough. We have a white card and a yellow card for every person who is a member of our Sunday School. On Sunday if John Doe is absent the secretary pulls John's yellow card out and hangs it on the Sunday School Board under his Class name. One doesn't spend time copying names and addresses, etc. Then, too, the absentee card is waiting for the teacher as soon as Sunday School is over. She can go by the board and get the names and addresses of all her absentees. If she is on the ball, she can have all the absentees contacted by Thursday night and spend all Thursday night on prospects.

The prospect cards hang on the Sunday School Board ready to go all the time. A duplicate of the prospect card is kept in a permanent prospect file in the office. In case the card is lost we do not lose the prospect. A card system saves worlds of time. Then, too, only two cards have to be filled out for a member each year. If John Doe is promoted during the year, his two cards go with him to the next class and at the end of year they are filed permanently.

Our second feature may or may not be unique. Any of the fellows who pastor in the city could do it. We

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# RELIGION

... BY LARRY WARD

To review the world of religion during the Year of Our Lord 1959 is, in essence, to review the march of events in the world in general; for much of what monopolized the headlines and claimed priority in the minds of men was of direct religious significance.

This was the year of The Great Unmasking. Beneath grinding cameras and television lights, facing not only investigating committees but also the disillusioned eyes of John Q. Public, people whose names had become household words confessed to sports-fixing and quiz show-rigging. The word "payola" with its dubious connotations pushed its way into common usage; the use of "call girls" was described as a generally accepted phase of Big Business public relations; sports idols were revealed to have gangland ties—and front pages rather than church pages for once told the story of moral bankruptcy.

This was the year of the Great Debate. With the presidential tourney still a year away, the question of the propriety (to some the necessity) of religious tests for candidates for high office was already very much in the air.

And this was the year of many other front-page stories with church-page significance. Early spring uprisings in fabled Tibet focused attention on Red brutalities, were climaxed with the flight of the god-king Dalai Lama into India. Chairman Khrushchev visited the U.S., and sky-writers sprawled Christian crosses across the skies which (whatever else might be said about their appropriateness) reminded of the basic difference in the ideologies which met face to face across the conference table. Typhoon Vera slashed across Japan leaving her wake of heartache . . . her sister Sarah pounded Korea to cut new scars in the little land that already bears so many . . . raging floods evicted 5,000,000 from their homes in India . . . multiplied thousands of Formosans dug for bodies in the rubble left by Typhoon Ellen . . . famines, floods, droughts and earthquakes etched their dismal pattern of suffering across the globe—and wherever disaster went, the Church went too with its medicine and its message.

Mr. Ward is Vice President, Informational Services, World Vision, Inc., and also serves as Executive Secretary, Evangelical Press Association.

The UN proclaimed World Refugee Year, to run from mid-'59 until mid-'60, and the Church in its missionary enterprise showed every sign of seizing upon this as both responsibility and opportunity to serve in the Name of Christ.

Conversely, this was also the year of church-page stories with front-page significance. Long-standing Protestant-Catholic differences in the matter of birth control received new attention, reached out into matters of government aid and sparked top-level debate.

The call of Pope John XXIII for "an ecumenical council for the universal church" was discussed and debated and generally defined by Protestants as in actuality the proclamation of a Roman Catholic council on ecumenicity rather than any interfaith venture.

Evangelist Billy Graham suffered a physical slow-down in the early months of 1959, and many concerned Christians learned to rattle off "angio spastic edema of the macula of the left eye" as easily as they would discuss a common cold or headache. But Graham and his team went on to post one of the most significant records in the history of evangelism when in Australia and New Zealand they ministered to an aggregate attendance of 2,309,800 and registered 111,269 "decisions for Christ."

Church leaders, incensed by the tidal flow of obscenity in the mails, used pulpit, press and pressure in vigorous counter-attack, saw governmental leaders take up the fight and press for stronger and more efficient legislation.

The question of racial segregation was far from answered, although tension spots below the Mason-Dixon line in the U. S. A. shared the spotlight with problems related to the *apartheid* policy in South Africa.

Karl Barth touched off a brief-but-heated furore with his "Letter to a Pastor in the German Democratic Republic," interpreted by some as an appeal to Protestants in East Germany to cease from any active resistance to Communist controls.

In Kerala, South India, church groups rose up in protest when their primary and secondary schools were to be put under the direct supervision of their local Communist government, persevered until the national parliament of India stepped in to order

## IN REVIEW, 1959



the dissolution of the Red rule.

In Japan, the Christian minority (less than one-half of one percent) celebrated the centennial of Protestant missions in their land. Numerous observances were held, one of the most colorful and impressive the Osaka Crusade conducted in May by Dr. Bob Pierce at the request of 400 churches in the populous Osaka-Kyoto-Kobe area. Complete with a 75-piece symphony orchestra for musically-literate Osaka, the event attracted over 93,000—and saw an exact total of 7,500 recorded “decisions for Christ.”

In Colombia, conditions for Protestants seemed to worsen, then go suddenly better, next to turn into a sudden emergency opportunity for Christian ministry and evangelism.

On the general religious scene, the calendar was dotted with assemblies and conventions and councils of major significance. Early in the year the Nyborg Assembly in Denmark brought together 80 representatives from 18 countries (on both sides of the Curtain) for a meeting with significance deemed far out of importance to its size. In May, the East Asia Christian Conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, attracted delegates from the “younger churches” of 14 countries. In August the 90-member policy making Central Committee of the World Council of Churches voted to encourage the development of contacts between the Russian Orthodox Church and the World Council, and to call for the discontinuation of nuclear tests, among other important actions. And also in August, 100,000 German Protestants gathered for the 1959 Kirchentag—ninth German Evangelical Church Day (DEKT) Congress in Munich.

Throughout the year, statistics told the story of the importance of religion on the world scene. In the United States, the steadily increasing church membership had pushed its way up to the record high of 109,557,741 (1958 totals), according to the 1960 *Yearbook of American Churches*. Keeping pace was church construction, with totals month after month establishing records. The Roman Catholic church counted constituent noses in a global survey, came up with a world total of 527,643,000 Catholics.

As always, denominational doings made news—big news. American Baptists (historically with their major activity based in the northern part of the United States) eyed the South—ears cocked for the “come over and help us” of ABC members who had migrated there. Meanwhile, Southern Baptists continued their steady missionary advance in the North. Each week’s news was marked, it seemed, with reports of new Lutheran mergers-or-invitations-to-merge. (In India, the million-member Church of South India and the Lutheran Church with its 650,000 constituents were moving closer together short of actual merger.)

Annual convention time (June-July)

found the 807,000-member Evangelical & Reformed Church naming its first woman moderator . . . the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod voted a six-year \$145,000,000 expansion program and authorizing “unity talks” with The American Lutheran Church which will be formed next April . . . the million-member African Methodist Episcopal Church drew up a statement denouncing states rights legislation pending in Congress as a “threat to freedom”—and this is just a sampling of the multiplicity of such actions and resolutions voted by church bodies in a busy and momentous year.

In a key religious event in June, 3,000 members of Christian Churches and Churches of Christ met in Atlanta for the “non-denominational, non-official and non-delegate” North American Christian Convention. With the theme “Christianity Unity: Our Unchanging Plea,” they celebrated the 150th anniversary of “The Declaration and Address” of Thomas Campbell.

The year was, in fact, marked by anniversary celebrations. These ranged from the 20th anniversary of Gospel Recordings, Inc., to the 25th Anniversary registered by the Wycliff Bible Translators, and the 75 year mark reached by the Evangelical Free Church of America to the whole series of observances connected with anniversaries related to John Calvin (such as the 450th anniversary of his birth and the 400th anniversary of the final edition of his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*.)

Thus it went—a big and busy year. To evangelical Christians in particular, 1959

took on special significance as mass evangelism continued at a steady pace. . . Christian colleges and seminaries moved ahead with increased enrollment and large-scale building programs . . . the revitalized Sunday School movement seemed to gain even new impetus, as marked by highly successful, tri-part conventions of the National Sunday School Association . . . and new books such as *Revelation and the Bible* (Baker) by Dr. Carl F. H. Henry and *The Case for Orthodox Theology* by Dr. Edward John Carnell sparked great interest and discussion while other titles such as *Jungle Pilot* (Harper) by Russell T. Hitt carried the impact of evangelical missionary enterprise and sacrifice to wide audiences.

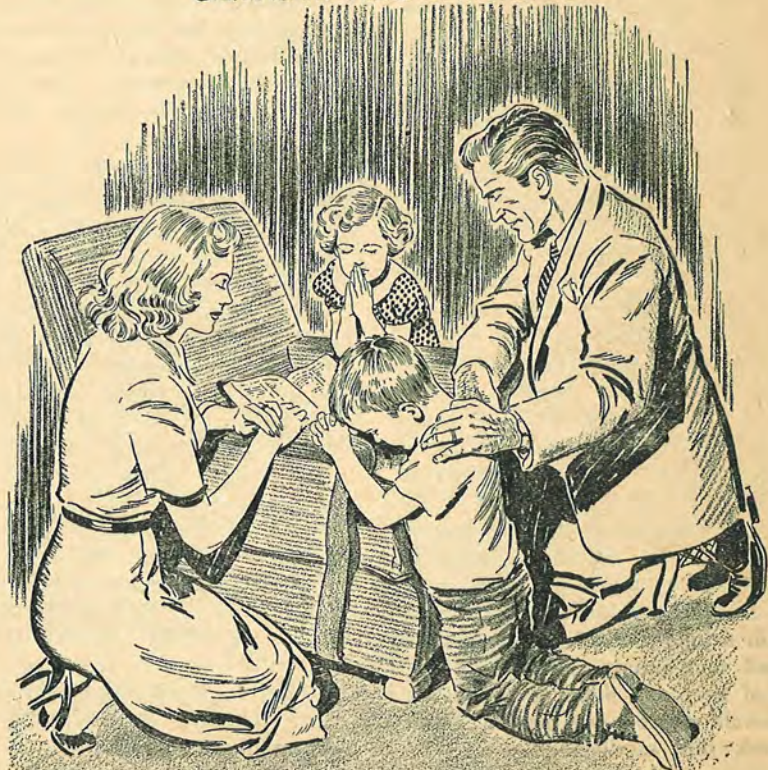
The year left some gaps to be filled in the ranks of evangelical leadership. Death took such colorful and beloved personalities as Dr. T. Leonard Lewis, Gordon College president; the Rev. Gustaf F. Johnson, famed Minneapolis pastor; Dr. Harold Lundquist, Christian radio personality and formerly director of Chicago’s Evangelical Welfare Agency; missionary executive Noel Lyons of the Greater European Mission; George Bolton, New York’s “Bishop of the Bowery”; O. G. Wilson, general secretary of the Wesleyan Methodist Church; and Haldor Lillenas, noted gospel musician—to mention only a representative few.

But it was a good year, 1959.

A year when front-page news had church-page significance.

A year when church-page news had front-page importance.

#### SIGNIFICANT PEACE CONFERENCE



*The Family Altar*



# What's Your Problem?



By LOUIS H. MOULTON

**Q. Now that Christmas has come and gone do we have any Scripture to back up the celebration of Christmas the way we do.**

**A.** None whatsoever. In fact the early church never made reference to the birthday of Christ. The emphasis was always upon His death, burial, resurrection and His second coming. *Science Digest* of January, 1939 on page 96 has this to say about Christmas: "Christmas comes on December 25 because ancient pagans had a midwinter feast to celebrate the beginning of the sun's return northward . . . Christianity, supplanting paganism made the transition easier by setting the date of the midwinter (pagan) feast as the traditional date of Christ's birth." Or let me quote from Compton's Encyclopedia Volume II, page 758: "One of the causes that worked to establish the new festivity (Christmas) on December 25 was the fact that the day was the beginning of the winter solstice Festival of the pagan Gauls, Germans and Britons."

**Q. One of my Catholic friends told me recently that when the Wise Men came to the stable when Jesus was born that it was to do honor to Mary as much as to her Son. Is there any truth in this?**

**A.** None whatsoever. The record in Matthew 2:11 can bear great repetition. "And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary His mother, and fell down, and worshipped HIM." Please take note, they worshipped HIM. They acknowledged His Deity and Lordship. They did not worship His birthday. They did not worship His mother. They did not worship the day, or the manger, or a relic from the stable in Bethlehem. They had come to see Jesus and nothing or no one else. They worshipped HIM.

**Q. During the Christmas season I passed down a street in my city and experienced nausea when I heard the strains of "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" coming from a juke box in a dimly lighted beer hall that simply reeked with the stench of beer and liquor even out on the sidewalk where I was passing. Don't you think this sacrilegious?**

**A.** Indeed I do. The world has no business at all celebrating the birth of HIM whom they do not acknowledge as Lord. Well did David write concerning the Lord Jesus in Psalm 69, "I made sackcloth

also my garment; and I became a proverb to them. They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I was THE SONG OF THE DRUNKARDS." Psalm 69:11, 12.

**Q. What did Jesus mean in Matthew 6:24 when He said, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon"?**

**A.** Mammon here undoubtedly is a picture of the riches of this life. It is possible for the love of money and the desire to get rich to become the prevailing passion of a person's life. It can master us. God is not our Master when the desire for riches is the controlling interest in life. God knows we have material needs and He has promised to supply them. He is our Master and we become His servants when we heed the admonition to "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

**Q. In 1 John 5:16 we read "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it." What is the "Sin unto death"?**

**A.** We cannot say that it is positively any one particular sin. However it is definite, premeditated, continuous refusal to walk in the light and knowledge which God has given us. It may result in physical death or it may mean the laying on the shelf of one who refuses to let go some habit or sin which the Holy Spirit puts his finger on in one's life. The Scripture seems certainly to indicate that this sin results in the visitation by judgment on the physical body. Note 1 Corinthians 11:29, 30.

**Q. Paul in 1 Corinthians 7:14 says, "The unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy." Does this mean my children will be saved since I am saved even though my husband is not?**

**A.** Your children which have reached accountable age will be saved only if they repent and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior. They will not be saved simply because you are saved and this verse does not imply that at all. It does mean that because of one believer in that household that God looks upon it as His household. God put a fence around the house of Job because of Job's integrity. Likewise, the angel of the Lord encampeth around about the household of every true believer. From that standpoint, the unbeliever is sanctified by the one who is a believer. No doubt, many in eternity will be shocked to learn what judgments were spared them because they had a believing companion.

## Cooperative Receipts Total \$3,615.74 for November

Cooperative giving in the month of November was not a record total, but it was steady. It is hoped that more of our churches will choose to give through the Cooperative Plan in 1960 and thereby boost the monthly total. The designated percentages by the National Association to the various departments is as follows: Superannuation 3%, Home Missions 14%, Foreign Missions 28%, Sunday School 5%, League 3%, Executive Department 24%, Bible College 20%, Headquarters' Trustees 3%.

If your church would like to give Cooperatively this year simply have the treasurer of the church send a check for 10% of the total offerings for the month to: National Association of Free Will Baptists, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee. Your check will be dispensed according to the percentages listed above.

### COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

<b>ALABAMA</b>			
Goodwater ch., Slocomb	5.00		
First ch., Dothan	72.64		77.64
<b>ARKANSAS</b>			
State Assn.			702.38
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>			
State Assn.			396.08
<b>GEORGIA</b>			
State Assn.			286.41
<b>ILLINOIS</b>			
Waltonville ch., Mt. Vernon	15.22		
First ch., Johnston City	66.95		
Oak Grove ch., Scheller	10.00		92.17
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>			
Southern Assn.			7.00
<b>MISSOURI</b>			
State Assn.	864.94		
Macedonia ch., Purdy	57.91		922.85
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>			
First ch., Hobbs	66.67		
First Assn.	7.48		
Mission of Grants	27.42		101.57
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>			
Swannanoa ch., Swannanoa			116.13
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>			
State Assn.			473.65
<b>TENNESSEE</b>			
Horton Heights, Nashville	77.54		
Oak Grove ch., Charlotte	16.25		
Wooddale ch., Knoxville	39.80		
Ashland City ch., Ashland City	23.46		157.05
<b>TEXAS</b>			
State Assn.			282.81
			3615.74

### DISBURSEMENTS

Board of Superannuation	108.44	
League Dept.	108.44	
Sunday School Dept.	180.79	
Home Missions	542.38	
Bible College	723.17	
Executive Dept.	867.78	
Foreign Missions	1084.74	3615.74



## Women at Work

**Highland Park, Mich.**—The Naomi Ruth Circle reports they have quilted two quilts for missionaries; gave \$50 for the Mexico Projects; and gave \$19 as a Christmas gift to the children through Children's Agency.

**Colquitt, Georgia**—The twenty-third session of the Georgia State Auxiliary Convention met here in November. Theme for the convention was: "Answering Calvary's Call". The speakers were Rev. and Mrs. Sammy Wilkinson, missionaries to Brazil.

The convention report revealed the women had supported a native worker in India besides having made the following contributions: Foreign missions, \$156.59; National Home missions, \$152.52; State missions, \$99.41; Unified program, \$106.40; Free Will Baptist Bible College, \$97.45; Georgia Educational Loan Fund, \$97.45; Aged ministers, \$44.00; Orphanage, \$287.84; Japan project, \$369.00. The convention decided to send all their self-denial offerings from the pre-Christmas season of prayer to the Atlanta church. Mrs. M. G. Shiver, Elmodel, Georgia was re-elected president.

**Mt. Elon, S. Carolina**—The South Carolina District Workshop convened here November 14th. The theme for the day was "By Following His Steps" and the text was 1 Peter 2:21. Mrs. Rufus Coffey was the messenger and her subject was "Following Jesus in Discipleship". The day was concluded with the skit, "Chocolate Drops" presented by the Auxiliary from First Church, Florence, S. C.

**Oklahoma City, Okla.**—The Capitol Hill Auxiliary enjoyed a most successful week of prayer. They conducted their prayer meetings in the homes of shut-ins. Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie DaVault have begun their pastorate at this church.

**Lake Charles, La.**—The Auxiliary conducted their combined December meeting and Christmas social at the home of the president, Mrs. G. W. McInness with a good attendance present. An exchange of gifts and refreshments followed the program.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—The Horton Heights Auxiliary elected officers at their December meeting. Those elected were: Mrs. Hubert Sloan, president; Mrs. Homer Willis, vice-president; Mrs. Billy Melvin, youth chairman; Mrs. Rolla Smith, study-course chairman; Mrs. A. C. Oakley, benevolence chairman; Mrs. W. M. Ellison, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Keith Johnson, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Eunice Edwards, corresponding secretary.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—In the front of your



# Woman's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Executive Secretary

## Let's Build a House

Four things are to be considered when buying, or building a house. Perhaps you would like to add some other things, but I think these four qualities are of great importance.

First, the house must be attractive. No one, not with any pride at all, wants an unattractive, ugly, unkempt house. Most people want a house they can point to with pride. "That's my house," and have people exclaim in reply, "How lovely!" Yes, the house must be attractive.

Then, the house must be functional. If the house is attractive, yet not functional, it will not satisfy very many people. By functional, I mean it will serve the needs of those who will live there.

It must be usable. A house is not very much of a house that is not usable. For example, I knew a couple who spent approximately fifty-thousand dollars and two years remodeling a house they bought. It is a thing of beauty, with all the modern conveniences to make it highly functional, yet they live in three rooms of it. The rest of the house is unused—just to look at, I suppose.

Yes, the house must be usable. But it must also be an enduring structure. Who would purchase a house that is termite-eaten and ready to fall down?

Jesus gives us His directions for building or buying. He says, "The first thing to be considered is the cost; lest when you have started, you don't have enough money to finish it."

Jesus was speaking of the person who accepts Him as Saviour. He was urging

their complete surrender to Him and His plan for their lives.

If I may, I want to apply these principles to the Christian woman's life and her service to Christ through the Auxiliary.

First, the Christian's life must be attractive. Sinners have all the ugliness and dirtiness they want where they are. I fear that young people especially are frightened away from accepting Christ as Saviour because of so many "long faces" among older Christians. The Christian way is the "Happy Way". "The way of the transgressor is hard." So Christian women, smile once in-awhile and give the youth a helping hand.

Secondly, the Christian life must be functional. Going around smiling isn't enough. There are too many ornaments in our groups as it is. Get busy. Serve your Church through your appointed place in the Auxiliary.

Then, the Christian's life must be usable. By this I mean, serve where you fit best. We have smiling, functional members, but not usable. They get in the way—they don't serve where assigned—just not usable.

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Put all these qualities together—attractiveness, functional, usable, endurance and you have the growing, ideal Christian. This life will stand. It will not only stand, but it will continue to grow until Christ Himself says, "Come up higher."

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ized as soon as improvements on the new property they are renting has been completed. She says, "It will take us about another month to fix up the basement, find seats, a piano, and a few other necessary things. The rent on the house is \$95 a month, plus utilities, which is about \$15 cheaper than our apartment; however we have spent a lot of time and money fixing the house. The reason, of course, for the cheaper rent is because the house is old and needed a lot of work done on it." Notice our new address: Rev. Luther Sanders, P.O. Box 1201, Waipahu, Hawaii.



## Women at Work

**Highland Park, Mich.**—The Naomi Ruth Circle reports they have quilted two quilts for missionaries; gave \$50 for the Mexico Projects; and gave \$19 as a Christmas gift to the children through Children's Agency.

**Colquitt, Georgia**—The twenty-third session of the Georgia State Auxiliary Convention met here in November. Theme for the convention was: "Answering Calvary's Call". The speakers were Rev. and Mrs. Sammy Wilkinson, missionaries to Brazil.

The convention report revealed the women had supported a native worker in India besides having made the following contributions: Foreign missions, \$156.59; National Home missions, \$152.52; State missions, \$99.41; Unified program, \$106.40; Free Will Baptist Bible College, \$97.45; Georgia Educational Loan Fund, \$97.45; Aged ministers, \$44.00; Orphanage, \$287.84; Japan project, \$369.00. The convention decided to send all their self-denial offerings from the pre-Christmas season of prayer to the Atlanta church. Mrs. M. G. Shiver, Elmodel, Georgia was re-elected president.

**Mt. Elon, S. Carolina**—The South Carolina District Workshop convened here November 14th. The theme for the day was "By Following His Steps" and the text was 1 Peter 2:21. Mrs. Rufus Coffey was the messenger and her subject was "Following Jesus in Discipleship". The day was concluded with the skit, "Chocolate Drops" presented by the Auxiliary from First Church, Florence, S. C.

**Oklahoma City, Okla.**—The Capitol Hill Auxiliary enjoyed a most successful week of prayer. They conducted their prayer meetings in the homes of shut-ins. Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie DaVault have begun their pastorate at this church.

**Lake Charles, La.**—The Auxiliary conducted their combined December meeting and Christmas social at the home of the president, Mrs. G. W. McInness with a good attendance present. An exchange of gifts and refreshments followed the program.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—The Horton Heights Auxiliary elected officers at their December meeting. Those elected were: Mrs. Hubert Sloan, president; Mrs. Homer Willis, vice-president; Mrs. Billy Melvin, youth chairman; Mrs. Rolla Smith, study-course chairman; Mrs. A. C. Oakley, benevolence chairman; Mrs. W. M. Ellison, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Keith Johnson, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Eunice Edwards, corresponding secretary.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—In the front of your  
JANUARY, 1960



# Woman's Auxiliary

LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Executive Secretary

## Let's Build a House

Four things are to be considered when buying, or building a house. Perhaps you would like to add some other things, but I think these four qualities are of great importance.

First, the house must be attractive. No one, not with any pride at all, wants an unattractive, ugly, unkempt house. Most people want a house they can point to with pride. "That's my house," and have people exclaim in reply, "How lovely!" Yes, the house must be attractive.

Then, the house must be functional. If the house is attractive, yet not functional, it will not satisfy very many people. By functional, I mean it will serve the needs of those who will live there.

It must be usable. A house is not very much of a house that is not usable. For example, I knew a couple who spent approximately fifty-thousand dollars and two years remodeling a house they bought. It is a thing of beauty, with all the modern conveniences to make it highly functional, yet they live in three rooms of it. The rest of the house is unused—just to look at, I suppose.

Yes, the house must be usable. But it must also be an enduring structure. Who would purchase a house that is termite-eaten and ready to fall down?

Jesus gives us His directions for building or buying. He says, "The first thing to be considered is the cost; lest when you have started, you don't have enough money to finish it."

Jesus was speaking of the person who accepts Him as Saviour. He was urging

their complete surrender to Him and His plan for their lives.

If I may, I want to apply these principles to the Christian woman's life and her service to Christ through the Auxiliary.

First, the Christian's life must be attractive. Sinners have all the ugliness and dirtiness they want where they are. I fear that young people especially are frightened away from accepting Christ as Saviour because of so many "long faces" among older Christians. The Christian way is the "Happy Way". "The way of the transgressor is hard." So Christian women, smile once in-awhile and give the youth a helping hand.

Secondly, the Christian life must be functional. Going around smiling isn't enough. There are too many ornaments in our groups as it is. Get busy. Serve your Church through your appointed place in the Auxiliary.

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## GLANCING AROUND THE STATES



Rev. and Mrs. Henry Melvin stand in the pulpit of the newly remodeled sanctuary of the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church located in Winterville, North Carolina, where Rev. Melvin serves as pastor. The sanctuary is air-conditioned and features indirect lighting. One interesting side-light about the remodeling job was the use of the lumber in the old pews of the church. This lumber was cut from trees which grew on the church lot and is approximately 60 years old. This lumber makes the vertical paneling around the chancel.

### New Appointees

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Palmer are the newest appointees as missionaries to Africa. Brother Palmer will graduate from the Free Will Baptist Bible College this spring while Mrs. Palmer finishes her course as a vocational nurse in June. It will probably be another year before they leave for Africa.

### Endorsement Granted

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Commission on Chaplains of the National Association of Evangelicals recently reported ecclesiastical endorsement of Daniel Rivers of Sims, North Carolina as Chaplain in the United States Army Reserves. Rev. Rivers is presently pastoring in the state of North Carolina and completing his work for the B. D. degree.

### Ground Breaking

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Trinity Free Will Baptist Church recently held a ground breaking service for a new \$78,000 educational building. Bonds have already been sold to finance construction. The new building will have three floors, 27 class rooms, five assembly halls, chapel, kitchen, rest rooms, storage, and offices. Rev. Robert Hill is the pastor.

### Conference Meets

SAFFELL, ARK.—The White River quarterly Conference met with the Mt. Harmony Free Will Baptist Church on November 27-28. The introductory message was brought by Rev. Ray Watkins and other messages were given by H. A. Lewis, Bob King, Clarence Berton, and Hoover Lewis. The next Conference will be with the Allen Chapel Church near Batesville, Arkansas on January 29-30.

### Master's Men Give

PHENIX CITY, ALA.—The Master's Men group of the St. James Free Will Baptist Church sent a gift of money recently to the Home Mission Board. They report a very active group.

### Shutes Is Evangelist

OPELIKA, ALA.—Rev. K. V. Shutes was the evangelist for a recent revival held at the first church here. Rev. C. B. Dowdney is the pastor. There were 4 saved, 2 reclaimed, with 3 additions to the church.

### Budget Adopted

TIFTON, GA.—The Georgia State Association in its recent meeting adopted a unified budget of \$25,000.00. Rev. E. C. Morris,

Promotional Secretary reports a very harmonious session with good attendance throughout the three days of meetings.

### Founder's Day Program

MOUNT OLIVE, N. C.—Sixty persons were honored at the 1959 Founder's Day program of Mount Olive College commemorating the eighth anniversary of the chartering of the college. Certificates of appreciation were presented to those who have contributed one hundred dollars or more to the Free Will Baptist Heritage Foundation, a newly-established endowment fund for Mount Olive College.

Principal speaker was the Rev. J. O. Fort, editor of the *Free Will Baptist Press* Ayden, whose subject was "The Spiritual Heritage of Free Will Baptists." He was introduced by Rev. D. W. Hansley of Kinston.

### League Rally Held

NORFOLK, VA.—The Tidewater League Rally was held at the Hyde Park Free Will Baptist Church on December 4, 1959. There were 233 present for the rally. Part of the program consisted of special music by the Newport News League, a film titled "The Guiding Star," and a playlet titled "The Wandering Boy" given by the Hyde Park League. Officers for the new year will be: Alton Henderson, President; Fred Rivenbark, Vice-President; Bernedine Little, Secretary; and Ed Winnley, Treasurer.

### Revival Sponsored by Master's Men

THOMASTON, GA.—The First Free Will Baptist Church enjoyed a successful revival effort sponsored by the Master's Men group. Rev. K. V. Shutes is the pastor and served as the evangelist.

### Oklahoma State Meets

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.—E. M. Kennedy, State Promotional Secretary, reports a very successful and well-attended Oklahoma State Meeting. There were 1,106 who registered in all three conventions which included the Master's Men, the Auxiliary, and the State Meeting. A budget of \$156,200 was adopted for all purposes. Of this amount a budget of \$34,000 for the Co-operative Program was adopted.

The Sunday School Board was given permission at this session to print any literature that it deemed best. It was also voted in this session that the Home Mission Board of the state be permitted to employ a full-time worker.

### Moderator Elected

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. — Rev. Irvin Hyman has been elected moderator of the Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists. He is the pastor of Unity Free Will Baptist Church. A native of South Carolina,



he received his training at Free Will Baptist Bible College and served in the state of Georgia before moving to Florida.

### Trustees Meet

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The Bible College Board of Trustees met December 8 for its semi-annual meeting. Financial reports were reviewed and plans were discussed for next year.

### Second Semester Begins

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Several additional students are expected to register for the second semester at Free Will Baptist Bible College, according to Dean Charles A. Thigpen. Registration will be held January 27 and classes will begin January 28.

"There is still time for prospective students to send in their applications for the second semester," Mr. Thigpen said. "Courses are so arranged that one may enter the second semester and begin work for any award the College grants," he stated.

Second semester enrollees are expected to bring the total registration for the year over the 200 mark, which will make the second year for the enrollment to reach this number. Last year's record enrollment was 221.

### Death Takes Mothers

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The mothers of two members of the Headquarters staff passed away in the month of December. Mrs. J. M. Thompson of Oklahoma City died of Leukemia, December 1. She was the mother of Mrs. J. T. Hurst, secretary to Billy Melvin. Homer Willis, Home Missions Director, also lost his mother during the month. Mrs. Calla Willis passed away at her home in Vancouver, Washington on December 30. Death was from a heart attack.

### History Made

NASHVILLE, TENN. — The National Home Mission Board, for the first time in its history, has exceeded the annual budget. The budget for 1959 was \$63,720.00. Total receipts for the year were \$64,466.98. This is an increase of \$17,288.52 over the receipts of last year.

## Pastoral Changes

Rev. George A. Rehkop is the new pastor of the Oak Hill Church of Saco, Missouri. He succeeds Rev. Melvin Howell.

Rev. Charles Moyers has moved from Tecumseh, Oklahoma to Weleetka.

Rev. Lonnie DeVault has assumed the pastorate of the Capitol Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He moved from Holdenville, Oklahoma.

Rev. Major Followill has recently moved from Purcell, Oklahoma to Stigler.

# An Opportunity To Share

*Remarks:* Never before in our lives have we seen the hand of the Lord work so wonderfully as we have in the past month. We applied for our visas November 2. One month later, it was here and is now stamped in our pastorate. Normally, one has to wait at least 3 months to buy a Volkswagen. Our waiting period is one month if all goes well. The mountain of the language barrier has been reduced to a steep, but climbable hill. The Lord has met every need and worked out every problem. There is an old adage: "Seeing is believing." For us as Christians, this should be turned around: "Believing is seeing." This is what we have experienced.

*Important Data:* The month of January was so named because it represented a Roman god who looked in both directions—backwards and forwards. As we look these two directions as a new year commences, our hearts cry out for more workers for both France and Africa. We look backward on this field of civilized, but Gospel-hardened people who are looking for peace, but never finding it. We look forward to a people who have not even the Gospel in written form. Our responsibility is to both of these people. What does God want you to do?

*Action:* Paul said, "I press forward." We look forward and realize we can do nothing else. Today is not only an important hour, but it is also a crucial one. If we hesitate the enemy will win the battle. May we together follow the Lord as He leads us ever forward—to victories in language study, in

spreading of the Gospel, and in winning souls to Him!

*Stand:* With us in prayer for the financial needs of the station we will start building as soon as we arrive (Koun), that all might be well as we go into Africa and that the duty will not be too much on our car, that the Lord might continue to grant wisdom in the learning of French and the native language. We praise the Lord for all of you who have prayed and earnestly request that you will continue to do so. We see the results daily. May God bless you one and all as you start a New Year for His Glory.

Yours in Christ to the Lost,

Bill & Joy Jones

(An additional word from Rolla D. Smith, Director of the Foreign Mission Board.) The above letter was sent to the Foreign Missions office to be mailed out to some of the Joneses' special prayer partners. It is so interesting and challenging that I wish to share it with the readers of this paper. *Too, more funds are needed to get the Joneses into Africa.* In addition to the amount currently in their account, around eight hundred dollars is needed for their passage, transportation on vehicle, baggage duty, etc. This is an opportunity for you to share in the ministry of this very wonderful missionary couple. Thanks in advance for whatever you may be able to contribute to this cause. Designate your gifts for Bill and Joy Jones and send it to the Foreign Mission Board, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.



Pictured above is a portion of the congregation that attended the Golden Gate League Rally at Modesto, California on December 12, 1959. There were approximately 250 in attendance at the rally. Rev. Billy A. Melvin, National Executive Secretary, spoke at the eleven o'clock service. Rev. F. A. McCage is pastor of the church.



# The Northwest Story

(Continued from page 3)

In the fall of this same year the church had grown to a membership of 66 with a Sunday School enrollment of 127. Then, on November 29, 1959 the long awaited day arrived—the day when the church building was formally dedicated. The Sunday School on this day had an attendance of 121 and there were approximately 170 present for the morning worship service. Approximately the same number were present in the afternoon when Rev. Billy A. Melvin, National Executive Secretary, brought the dedication sermon. At this point there could be no doubt—Free Will Baptists were in the state of Washington to stay!

The building which has been erected, with the property, is valued at \$40,000. The church, however, has only invested about \$20,000. This does not include labor which was donated except for about \$600 worth. The structure is 74 feet by 30 feet with a full basement. There are seven classrooms, pastor's study, and nursery. The auditorium has a baptistry and will seat about two hundred. It is furnished with white-oak furniture. There is an indebtedness on the building of slightly less than \$8,000 with approximately \$1,500 still due on the furniture. The church is looking forward to the time when a parsonage can be erected for the pastor (land has already been secured) and to the future expansion of the present church facilities as the need arises.

This has been quite an accomplishment for our Home Mission Board through the ministry of Brother Postlewaite as well as the fine Christian people of Wenatchee who sacrificed to make this story possible. But this is just the beginning! The influence of Brother Postlewaite's ministry has not been confined to Wenatchee alone. He has organized a church in Rockport where Rev. Fred Dellinger serves as pastor, assisted a mission in Yakima where Rev. Earnest F. Snowden is serving, as well as making contacts for other Free Will Baptist Churches in Moses Lake, Cashmere, Spokane, Seattle, Tacoma, Vancouver, and Portland, Oregon.

Now that the field has been invaded, what of the future? The answer is in our hand. Certainly the possibilities are unlimited—the desperate need is for laborers. The entire Northwest is an unexplored frontier for Free Will Baptists which can be reached if we act in time. Many of our Free Will Baptist families have moved into the Northwest, especially since 1940, but unless we seize the opportunities which are ours now, they will be lost forever. Under God, our story has had a glorious beginning. The continuance of that story is yet to be written. What will it be? Too little, too late? I trust not! May God help us as Free Will Baptists to meet the Northwest challenge. What will you do?



THE DOORWAY TO HEAVEN—*Inez Kemper Baker. 153 pp. \$2.50.*

Inez Kemper has compiled a book of daily devotions as refreshing as a spring shower. Each page is devoted to a central theme with poetry, prose, Scripture, etc., and some wonderful truths are brought to the reader's attention. Christians will find it very helpful to spiritual vision.—E. Edwards

INTO THE LIGHT OF CHRISTIANITY—*William J. Schnell. Baker Book House. 211 pp. \$2.95.*

This is a companion book to the author's previous book *Thirty Years a Watch Tower Slave*. In that book the author gave a picture of the sad plight in which the Jehovah's Witnesses find themselves. In this new volume, *Into the Light of Christianity*, he pictures his walk into the light of God's Word. Together these books give the reader one of the strongest defenses against the Jehovah's Witnesses as well as one of the most effective means of rescuing them from their delusion.

The book itself is very readable, bringing added light and information on one of the most active cults today. The reader will appreciate the wholesome attitude of the author and his positive approach to the subject. You will both profit and be challenged by the reading of this book. Get a copy and read it!—Billy A. Melvin

TEENS YOU ASKED FOR IT!—*Mel Johnson. Zondervan. 62 pp. \$1.00.*

A straight-from-the-shoulder book about principles of Christian conduct and written in such a straightforward manner as to be acceptable by teenagers, for whom it is written. Mr. Johnson brings his wealth of years and experience of working with young people to these pages and it makes for profitable, good reading.—E. Edwards

SEX AND THE BIBLE—*Jack Wyrzten. Zondervan. 63 pp. Paper 60¢.*

Jack Wyrzten's love for young people shines on every page of *Sex and the Bible*. He presents the hard-hitting facts of the Bible about sex and the judgments young people must face if they flaunt God's immutable laws. The book is replete with Scriptural basis for every statement made—for every challenge set forth. He constantly points to God's provision for love and marriage as the only road to lasting happiness. A book that should be on every pastor's bookshelf.—E. Edwards

THE EFFICIENCY FILING SYSTEM, by L. R. Elliott. Broadman. 67 pp.

Have you ever sought to find some quotation, clipping, or sermon notes without success because you had no workable filing system in which to file your material as it was gathered? If this has been your experience, then you would find this book to be a real help. Any pastor will gather quite a bit of material over a period of time and if he is not careful it will become lost—either permanently or as far as any practical use of that material. The suggestions of this book are simple and practical. The methods employed do not require the services of a full-time secretary or a large output of money. If you are interested in really using the material you gather, look into this book.—Billy A. Melvin

HERE IS THE ANSWER—*Robinson & Winward. Zondervan. 92 pp. Paper \$1.75.*

This book, divided into five parts of four chapters each, deals with questions commonly asked by both saint and sinner. The book contains some of the answers (not exhaustive) to questions that perplex and even sometimes plague the believer. The authors list three purposes for their writing: (1) to help the Christian to a fuller understanding of his faith; (2) to help the Christian present a reasoned statement of what he believes to the non-Christian; (3) to help the unconvinced man to a full assurance of his salvation. I believe the authors' purposes are consummated.—E. Edwards

## Have You Tried This?

(Continued from Page 7)

tor. It may be feasible to change one or two families with another member of the committee occasionally.

In addition to making a friendly call each quarter there will be a specific assignment to accomplish in the visitation. On quarter it might be to seek a promise to establish a family altar. Another quarter a specific assignment might be to have each member fill out an enlistment card, thus indicating the activities in the church in which he desires to serve.

Each committee member is supposed to notify the pastor of any sickness, death, birth, or any condition calling for pastoral attention. They should also report achievements and recognitions earned by young people or adults, changes of address, the names of prospects for the Sunday school, or church, teachers for the Sunday School, and other vital information.

The organization of the Spiritual Guidance Committee will give a continuing Christian witness within the church and the community. It will unite the church in its total program and will give the pastor an immediate answer to the whereabouts of his members.



## Third Honor Roll

### "Every Church Family" Plan

Conway church, Arkansas  
Waltonville church, Illinois  
New Ebenezer church, Cochran, Ga.  
Oskaloosa church, Liberal, Mo.  
Wilson Memorial church, Belleville, Ark.  
Horse Creek church, Kingsport, Tenn.  
Cherry Hill church, Limestone, Tenn.  
Faith Church, Nashville, Tenn.  
Lawndale church, Calif.  
Richland church, Nashville, Tenn.  
Brightlight church, Bryan, Texas  
First church, Concord, Calif.  
Willow Springs church, Mountain Grove, Mo.  
Bonami church, Kirbyville, Texas  
Cairo church, Kirbyville, Texas  
Ashland City, Tenn.  
Port St. Joe, Fla.  
Olivet church, Guthrie, Ky.  
Bonifay, Fla.  
First church, Dallas, Texas  
First church, Wichita, Kansas  
Gartman's View church, Comanche, Texas  
West Wayne church, Wayne, Michigan  
Bethel church, South Roxana, Illinois  
Monroe, Michigan  
Rosedale church, Irwin, Ohio  
First church, Oakland, Calif.  
First church, Artesia, New Mexico  
Cedar Creek church, Hartsville, Ala.  
Newark, Calif.  
Sunnyvale church, Calif.  
Turlock church, Calif.  
First church, Booneville, Miss.

Have you found this issue of *CONTACT* to be helpful to you? If so, then do you not agree that everyone in your church should receive a copy? That is just the reason why we feel that every church should consider the Family Plan. By the use of this simple plan every family will have the paper in their home delivered to their home address. There are some very timely and important articles on the way which I am sure will be of profit to every home.

Pastors, get your church to subscribe to the Family Plan today. You'll be glad you did! Your cooperation and help will soon complete our third Honor Roll for the Church Family Plan.

#### Rules for Honor Roll

1. Send names and addresses (zone numbers, too, please) of all families in the church. You need not send any money.
2. Your list will be checked against our circulation. Refunds on any subscriptions in effect will be credited to the church account.
3. The church treasurer will receive a bill quarterly for 25 cents for each subscription and a form for adding or dropping any names desired.
4. The plan remains in effect until the church requests that it be discontinued.

## CONTACT

### OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE National Association of Free Will Baptists

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Subscriptions through the Family  
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Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Billy A. Melvin, Editor, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee. Member of Evangelical Press Association.

Issued monthly under the direction of the Executive committee of the General Board. Members are Charles A. Thigpen, W. S. Mooneyham, Dean Moore, M. L. Johnson, Wade Jernigan, Willard C. Day, E. B. McDonald.

Vol. 7 January, 1960 No. 3

# personally . . .

## Some Or All?

The National Association of Free Will Baptists has 7 areas through which it seeks to minister. They are as follows: Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Bible College, Executive Department, Sunday School, League, and Superannuation. Each of these has been established by the National Association with the conviction that each had a part to play in the great task of world-wide evangelism. It was felt that in these areas there was not overlapping or competition, but rather a healthy situation where each complemented the other. If this be true, then each area is important and worthy of support.

For a church to neglect certain areas, to give additional support to chosen areas on the basis that they are more important, is to lose sight of the complementary aspect that each has to the whole. Now, we recognize the right of the church to do this, but we do beg a consideration of the worth of each area. We contend that if the National Association believes something to be worthy of existence, we should likewise believe it worthy of support. Do not misunderstand. We do appreciate all the support that has come from our churches to the work of the National Association, but it is apparent that more need to see the complementary aspect—that *each* is *important to the whole*.

To encourage our churches to support *all* phases of the work of the National Association, the Executive Department has prepared an attractive, three color chart for use in the local church. This chart is pictured below and will be mailed free upon request. For our churches who give through the Cooperative Program (sending at least 10% of their monthly offerings), we also have an attractive certificate which goes with the chart which will likewise be mailed free upon request. What will it be in your church this year? Some or all?

## Will God Pass Us By?

Free Will Baptists have long been proud of a conservative theological viewpoint. We can well be justly proud of such a position in a theological world that has gone so far afield from the basic fundamental truths of the Word of God. God help us, if we yield to the pressures of the day. But, there is one thing we need to realize on the threshold of a new year—a mere conservative or fundamentalist position does not mean that God is bound to bless and prosper us. I fear that many have felt in the past that God somehow was "honor-bound" to bless us as a denomination just because we had not experienced in the ranks a strong liberal theological movement.

(Continued on Page 16)

## OUR PART IN A World-Wide Ministry

1960

FOREIGN MISSIONS	HOME MISSIONS	BIBLE COLLEGE	EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT	SUNDAY SCHOOL	LEAGUE	SUPERANNUATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Supplied through the Executive Department, National Association of Free Will Baptists



## Visitation in the Local Church

(Continued from page 5)

## If I Were in the Pew

stopped using church bulletins and the church secretary spends that half day (paid by the church) visiting folk who have moved into the city. That keeps new and fresh prospects before our workers all the time.

(Haas) I believe that soul-winning should be the aim of every visitation program. If our visitation is unique in any way it is that we stress soul-winning more than attending our church.

(Yandell) We have a "visitation dinner" each Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. This is directed by a "kitchen committee" who, like the Nursery workers, have volunteered for this type of work in a special service held in the Sanctuary. As already mentioned, we provide for our children from birth through thirteen years of age.

11. What value do you place upon your visitation program?

(Creech) The same value (except an eternal one) an insurance man places on his calling program. If he has to contact people to sell insurance, we have to contact people to build a Sunday School. We go because of the following verses: Matt. 28: 19, 20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 15:16; Acts 1:8; Then, too, we are not trying to be selfish but we go because it pays off. Notice Acts 2:41, 47; 4:32; 5:14, 42; 6:1, 7.

(Haas) I think that it is one of the most important services or programs of our church. Of all the people joining our church since I have been pastor 85% have been contacted through our visitation program. I would not be without a visitation program.

(Yandell) It is of such value that I would prefer a visitation program, over a Wednesday night prayer meeting, should I be forced to choose. From the visitation program comes the greater part of converts, church members, and church workers.

12. What word of caution would you have for a pastor launching a visitation program in his church?

(Creech) Only 4 words—Going is ordained of God and it cannot fail; just **do not get discouraged**. If more folk go to the quartet singing or ball game or just stay home and look at T.V., that just proves what importance they attach to the crucified, buried, arisen, ascended and coming again Son of God who **commanded** us to "Go." Better not to start, dear pastor, than to start and quit. **Have a regular, weekly visitation program if no one comes but you!** Provide the nursery, too, so there will be no excuse. When they see you are determined, some will come to help you.

(Haas) Have something to offer the people when they come. Have your church in order, Sunday School organized to take care of those that visit with you. Make sure that your people are friendly to the newcomers. A friendly church is a growing church.

(Yandell) Do not begin until you have charted your course, and have compiled a list of prospects. Also until you are willing to work long hard hours on visitation assignments and worker's reports.

Convinced? I'm sure you are! The worth of a working visitation program cannot be over-estimated. It is interesting to note that though there was a measure of difference by the pastors on some minor points, they all agree on one thing—visitation on the part of the church is important! Visitation, of course, is not an easy task. It takes hard work on the part of the pastor and people to put it over, but what are we looking for—an easy way out, or souls for Jesus Christ?

What is the situation in your church? Is attendance down? Has it been weeks since someone accepted Christ as Saviour and united with the church? If this is the situation, it could well be changed by an active visitation program. Why not start a visitation program in your church soon? You'll be glad you did!

There are a great many things which can be done by those in the pew to assist the ministry, and to better the church and her services. Here are a few of them.

If I were in the pew:

I would acquire the habit of getting to church on time, for then I would get the full benefit of the service and would not disturb others by my late arrival.

I would have my regular seat, and see that it is occupied every Sunday.

I would have my entire family with me in the same row.

Upon reaching my seat, I would bow the head in a few words of silent prayer, asking the Lord to prepare my heart for a season of spiritual worship and the acceptance of the truths and instruction presented by His messengers.

I would join the singing in the choir or congregation with my whole soul, not making it a mere word or note service, as it often is.

While public prayer is being offered. I would have a personal silent prayer of my own to offer.

I would greet every stranger and make him feel that I appreciated his coming to worship with us.

I would frequently invite the minister into my home, feeling that his presence would increase the spirituality of my family.

I would not criticize the minister, the sermon, or the church, before my children, or non-church members. I would exercise the greatest charity toward them all.

I would frequently remember the minister with little gifts and tangible assistance, and thus help to share the sacrifices he makes for the church—which means me and my family.

I would occasionally call on the minister in his home.

I would not be slow to praise him for his successes, and encourage him in his efforts. If I had any suggestions for his improvement, I would make them in a tactful, kindly way.

I would actively cooperate with the minister in every church work.

I would attend all council meetings and endeavor to increase the spirituality, peace and prosperity of the church.

—The Free Will Baptist Promoter

## Will God Pass Us By?—Continued

To get to the point—God can save the world without Free Will Baptists, but God wants to use Free Will Baptists. The question is this, "Will He use us?" "To what degree will He use us in this New Year of 1960?" The answer, I believe, is up to us! We must realize now, before it is too late, that a spirit of unity must prevail, that cooperation is essential, and that a holy zeal must possess us, if we are to play a part in the evangelization of the world. If we fail in these areas, God no doubt will pass us by. He will use others, or raise up others, to get the job done.

Awake, therefore, my brother, to the realization that there is no time to waste. We must get at the job or *God will pass us by*. A whole New Year is before us as a denomination. Let's make it the greatest year ever to the glory and honor of our wonderful Lord!

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