

JANUARY, 1977

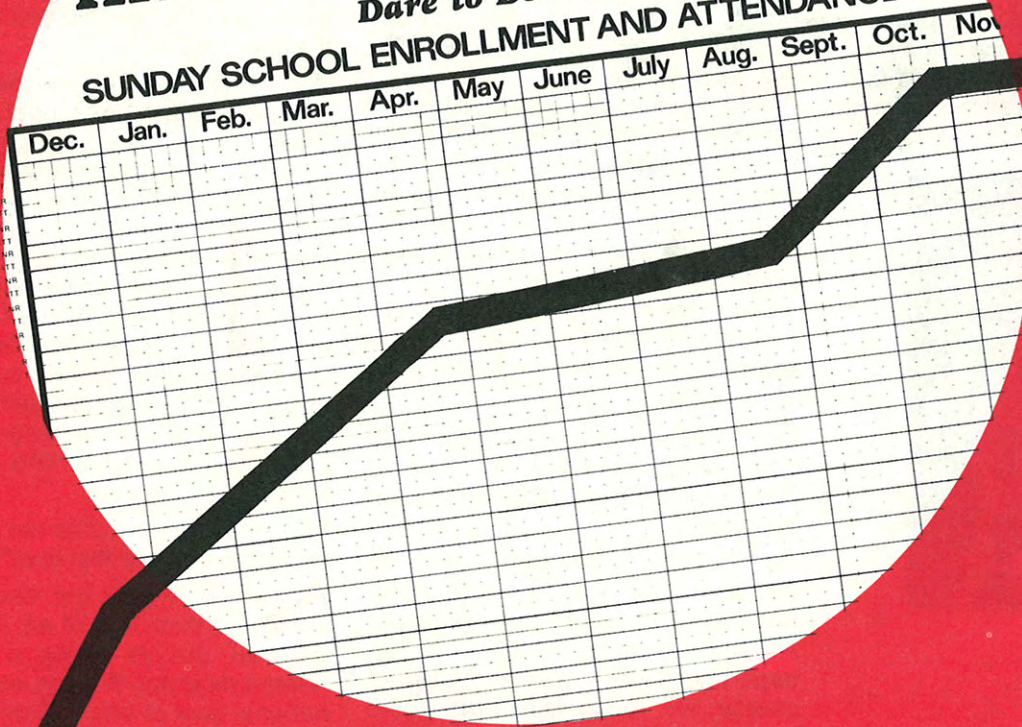
# contact

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## HIGHER GOALS—2 TO 1 BY 2

Dare to Double

### SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE



**1 IN A MILLION**

See page 2.

# The 25 Year Challenge: “From 2 To 1 By 2”

One of the biggest challenges presented to Free Will Baptists in the 42-year history of the denomination was introduced with the slogan, “From 2 to 1 by 2,” at the national



*“If you set an unrealistic goal and then fail to achieve it . . . , you have defeated yourself in your purpose as well as psychologically.”*

meeting this past July. Dr. Roger Reeds, director of the Sunday School Department, issued the challenge.

The challenge deals with increasing the enrollment in Free Will Baptist Sunday schools from the current 200,000 to one million by the year 2000 A.D.: hence, the motto, “From 2 (200,000) to 1 (one million) by 2 (2000 A.D.).”

In a recent interview with Dr. Reeds, *CONTACT* staffers posed some questions relating to this new growth effort.

**Q.** How did you determine that Free Will Baptist Sunday schools have a present enrollment of 200,000?

**A.** I really think that figure of 200,000 is a very low estimate. Actually, in calculation we sell about 385,000 pieces of literature in our department each quarter. Now of course, we recognize there would be some duplication of sales of the teacher's quarterly versus the pupil's quarterly. We also recognize that there are some sales outside our denomination, but then we also recognize that we don't have all of the sales within our denomination. So consequently, the 200,000 is a very low estimate. But it is also a very safe estimate. However, I think, being a low estimate, this should make our task of reaching one million a little bit easier.

**Q.** Why did you choose one million as a goal, and how did you arrive at the date 2000?

**A.** I chose one million because I believe it is a realistic goal. I highly favor our establishing goals and striving to reach those goals. However, the goal must always be realistic. If you set an unrealistic goal and then fail to achieve it or reach it, you have defeated yourself in your purpose as well as psychologically. So I believe the one million is a safe goal. Of course, we arrived at the year 2000 with the simple idea that it is a 25-year challenge, and 25 years would carry us into the year 2000.

**Q.** How do you propose that the churches achieve this goal?

**A.** The only way the church can achieve, I think first of all, is to realize that this is really a church-related program. We can establish a national goal of one million or more in Sunday school by the year 2000, but this national goal can only be achieved as it is achieved locally. Consequently, I would like to challenge every local church to first set a realistic goal of what they can reach by the year 2000.

Then church leaders need to involve everyone. In order to get this program on its way, we are going to have to enlist everybody to help us. This is going to have to be a program of unity. I am sincere when I say that all of our colleges, all of our state promotional men, our pas-

tors, lay leaders, everyone who possibly can needs to get behind this program and help us achieve our goal. It is going to involve everybody working together—the big churches helping the small—the whole package. Everybody is going to have to be involved in it.

**Q.** Do you purpose a percentage of increase for each year?

**A.** We have not worked out a percentage for each year. However, we have suggested that we roll up our sleeves and go to work, trying to double our enrollment from 200,000 to 400,000 by the year 1980. If I am correct on the fact that 200,000 is a very low estimate, it is not nearly as difficult as it may sound. Then every decade thereafter we are suggesting that enrollment double. The emphasis will be on doubling every 10 years. If we double, we will by far surpass our goal of one million. Doubling will bring us up to better than 1,500,000 enrollment in our Sunday schools by the year 2000.

**Q.** The emphasis seems to be on enrollment and not attendance. Is that intentional?

**A.** The emphasis is on enrollment. Quite frankly, we are borrowing from our friends over in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Department. They emphasized enrollment for a number of years and then for some years slackened in this emphasis. Now they have returned to it because they have discovered that a high percentage of those enrolled do actively attend Sunday school. And enrollment is a gateway of getting new people into your Sunday school and of reaching them with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus.

**Q.** Does the percentage of enrollment correlate with actual attendance?

**A.** Yes, it is a common denominator that when your enrollment is up, your attendance will be up. I am sorry I cannot give you the exact figures, but it does work on a percentile basis. The more people we have enrolled, the more we are going to have in attendance.

(Please turn to page 4)

## Contents

**JANUARY, 1977**

- 2 THE 25-YEAR CHALLENGE: "From 2 TO 1 BY 2"**  
Staff Interview
- 6 MOTIVATION: A KEY TO A GREAT SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
Don Pegram
- 9 TEEN WITH A GOAL!**  
Ed Walton
- 11 ASTROLOGY: HOCUS-POCUS OR HONEST POSSIBILITY?**  
Dan Parker
- 14 FREE WILL BAPTIST NEWSFRONT**
- 18 CURRENTLY . . .**  
Eugene Workman
- 20 MINISTERING TO THE JOLLY 60'S**  
Frank Davenport
- 22 DESIRE BECOMES REALITY**  
Ken Riggs
- 24 ARE YOU AWARE OF YOUR PASTOR'S FINANCIAL NEEDS?**  
James A. Pittman
- 25 PANGS OF A SMALL-CHURCH PASTOR**  
John E. Woodland
- 26 THE LOCAL CHURCH ON REVIEW—Part IV**  
Leroy Forlines
- 27 WATCH YOUR WAIT!**  
June Critcher
- 28 NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY**
- 30 SUBSCRIPTION CLUBS ESTABLISHED**
- 30 BIGGER AND BETTER**  
Rufus Coffey
- 31 PRAY FOR OUR PRESIDENT**  
Rufus Coffey

**Editor-in-Chief:** Rufus Coffey

**Administrative Editor:** Eugene Workman

**Editorial Assistant:** Susan Burgess

**Circulation:** Geneva Trotter

---

**CONTACT**

**VOL. XXIV, No. 1**

Published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Post Office Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to this address. Subscription rates: 1 year, \$5.00; church family plan, \$4.20 per year; church bundle plan, 38 cents per copy. Individual copies 50 cents each. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Copyright privileges reserved. © 1977 Member of the Evangelical Press Association.

**THE 25 YEAR CHALLENGE:  
"FROM 2 TO 1 BY 2"**  
(Cont. from page 3)

**Q.** What qualifications do you stress for enrollment?

**A.** The qualification for enrollment in Sunday school is simply to attend. Persons should be enrolled on their first Sunday present. They do not have to be born again to enroll in the Sunday school. Just on the basis of attendance they can be enrolled in Sunday school.

**Q.** Do you think some of our people will take this challenge as an overemphasis on numbers?

**A.** It is highly possible that some people will take the challenge as an overemphasis on numbers. I speak to this particular point on the filmstrip about the 25-year challenge, which is now available from our department. We have to be concerned about numbers. Numbers represent souls. I think we can have a wrong perspective of numbers. If we are striving to reach numbers just for numbers sake, this is a wrong attitude. But if we will recognize that those numbers represent souls and we want to reach the numbers in order to reach souls, then I think we have the proper perspective.

**ABOUT THE COVER**

This month's cover shows some of the materials available for use in promoting the 25-Year Challenge campaign. These and other helps, including buttons, bumper stickers and posters, are available from the Sunday School Department, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, Tennessee 37217.



*"I would never advocate the idea that we have door-to-door enrollment although I do favor door-to-door visitation."*

**Q.** I understand some of our churches have advocated the practice of enrolling people on visitation or wherever, even if they have never visited the church.

**A.** I would never advocate the idea that we have door-to-door enrollment although I do favor door-to-door visitation. I think no one should be enrolled in Sunday school unless they attend. I think attendance should be a criterion for anyone being enrolled in the Sunday school.

**Q.** Do you feel that names of absentees should be left on the rolls even though they no longer attend?

**A.** No, I have never agreed with the policy of the Southern Baptists that you keep them on the rolls until they "die to get off." I believe that if after visitation and sincere efforts to get them back in church they do not come, their names should be dropped.

**Q.** Then the key is in visitation?

**A.** Yes, the big key is visitation.

**Q.** What period of time do you feel is advisable to allow absentees to stay on the rolls?

**A.** There is no set period of time. If after repeated contacts and visitation there seems to be no way that these people will come back to Sunday school, their names should be dropped. The time period would depend upon the circumstances in the local church.

**Q.** What you are trying to do is promote church growth. Do you anticipate developing a portion of your department for nothing but promoting church growth?

**A.** I have proposed to the Sunday School Board that a full-time director be hired to promote the 25-Year Plan and to promote church and Sunday school growth.

**Q.** From the plans you share concerning the hiring of a director to emphasize church growth, it would almost seem as if you were establishing an office of Sunday school growth. Is that correct?

**A.** It would be a division of the Sunday School Department.

**Q.** Would it be a good idea to revamp the organizational structure at the national level and institute an office of church growth?

**A.** Yes, I would agree that somewhere down the line we ought to do some kind of research and study on possible reorganization. I think our denomination would benefit greatly from this. Funds now used in overlapping services would be eliminated, and those who labor with the National Offices would be able to better do the job.

**Q.** What publicity resources are you planning in addition to the 25-Year Challenge filmstrip?

**A.** We already have materials that are available on an order blank that we call the 25-Year Challenge order blank. There are some posters, buttons and other helps. These will change from time to time. Also, in the future we are going to tie our enlargement campaigns in with the 25-Year Challenge. We are working on a new filmstrip about goal setting, too.

**Q.** In the November, 1976, issue of *CONTACT* Magazine, Joe Ange noted in his article, "Symptoms of Stifled Evangelism," that each Free Will Baptist church in a period of a

year averaged a gain of only 2 1/3 members. Does this indicate our people are not concerned about growth?

**A.** I appreciated what Brother Ange had to say. I think the more we can call this declining emphasis on evangelism to the attention of our people, the more we can get them to focus on the job they are doing now and discover the lack of growth locally. Then we can begin to do more. It is our hope that with this emphasis we are going to have, our people will be helped to see where they are, where they need to be going, and then, of course, how we can help them to bridge that gap.

**Q.** Do you agree with Mr. Ange that the Sunday school is one of the better evangelistic tools for church growth?

**A.** The Sunday school ministry since its conception and its coming to America has been, I believe, the best soul-winning agency of the church. History over these past 200 years will prove that it has been used time and time again to win



*"The Sunday school . . . can be the best and foremost auxiliary of the church to win the lost to Jesus Christ."*

souls. Those churches that are growing today are growing through the Sunday school ministry. This has been the history of the Sunday school over the years. Those churches that will grow in the future will grow through the Sunday school ministry. The Sunday school should be a catalyst to win souls. We must keep in mind that it is always an auxiliary of the church. It should always be subsidiary to the church, but it can be the best and foremost auxiliary of the church to win the lost to Jesus Christ.

**Q.** Is there any connection between Sunday school attendance and CTS attendance?

**A.** The ratio seems to be somewhere between 1/4 and 1/3. You will have about 1/4 to 1/3 in CTS attendance that you will have in Sunday school attendance. I personally think we need to go to work on this. This percentage ought to be increased. It ought to be at least 1/2 and even more. This can come about through a stronger Sunday night emphasis. I think it was a sad day when the Sunday night CTS emphasis was replaced by the Wednesday night emphasis. I would like to see the CTS program restored to the Sunday night position in conjunction with the Sunday evening service. We must have a strong training flavor in our churches to prepare our people to better serve the Lord in Sunday school roles.

**Q.** If our Sunday schools begin to grow, this will necessitate more teachers. What do you suggest that a church do now to prepare more teachers?

**A.** I am glad you asked that question because the starting point towards growth is the enlisting and training of more teachers. We do not go after the pupils first and then get the teachers and train them; but we first of all get the teachers and train them and then go after the pupils. So the starting point is with an enlistment and training program. This training program can be either the E.T.T.A. program or our own Sunday school workers' training course, but it is a program that can be carried on in every local church. Every local church ought to have

some kind of a continuous program going on to train its teachers to better teach those pupils they are going after to win for Christ.

**Q.** February is Teacher Training Month for Free Will Baptists. The Sunday School Department has in the past had a good training emphasis through teach-and-train seminars held each year. Do you anticipate increasing the number of seminars with the increased emphasis on enrollment?

**A.** We are always happy to increase our emphasis on training. We will continue what we have been doing and do our best to accelerate to do even more.

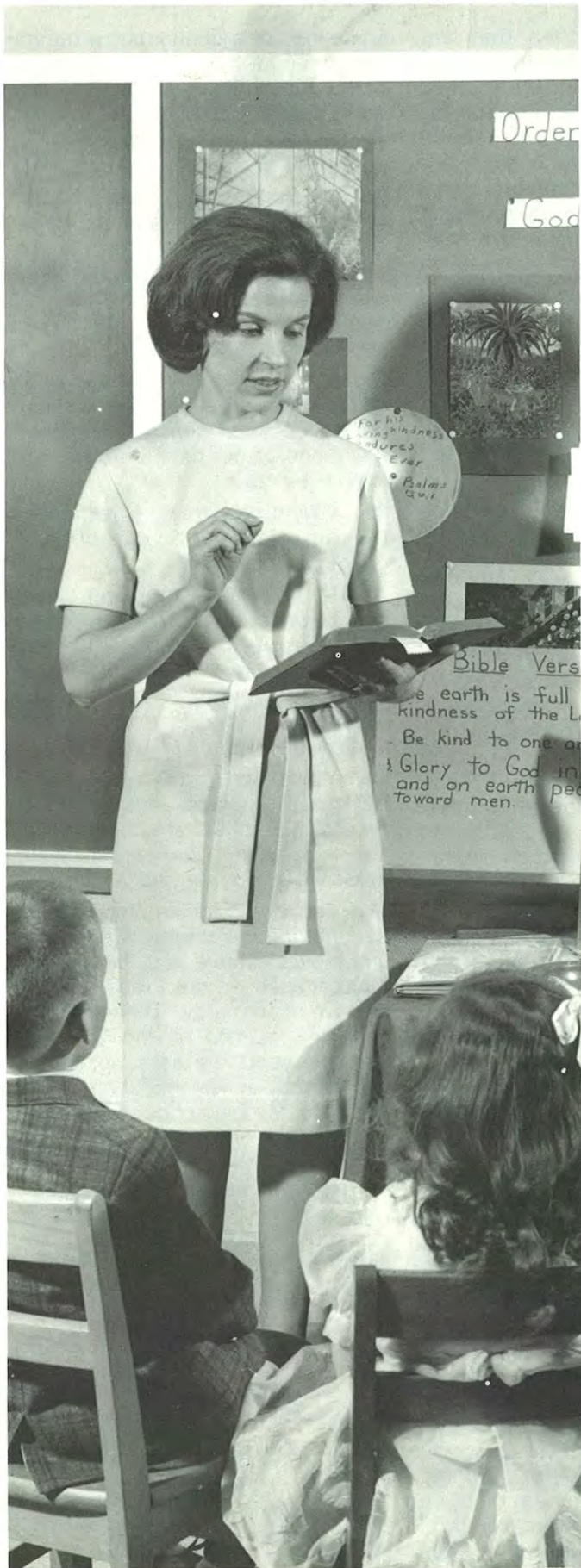
**Q.** Would this training fall under the jurisdiction of your church-growth specialist?

**A.** No, I think the training would still fall under the training emphasis that we have presently. Of course, that is under the leadership of Harrold Harrison. I personally believe he is the best in the field, and he will continue in this area.

**Q.** You stated in your report at the National Association this year that Free Will Baptists must overcome our inferiority complex. To what areas were you referring?

**A.** Yes, I made a statement about our inferiority complex. I feel that many people have had the attitude that because we are Free Will Baptists we cannot grow. They probably base this opinion on the fact that over the years we have not grown consistently as we should have. But this is not the fault of our being Free Will Baptists: The fault is our just not doing what we should do.

I think we need to get over that type of complex and realize that we can grow. Others have grown. We can grow, and we will grow. ▲



# A Key To

By Don R. Pegram

One of the healthiest signs on the horizon for Free Will Baptists is an increased interest in recent years in building larger Sunday schools. Free Will Baptists traditionally have been a rural and small-church-oriented denomination over the years and until recently were almost bypassed by history. Now Sunday schools of 300, 500, etc. are becoming more and more common. Many of our pastors and lay leaders have enlarged their vision and have exceeded the 1,000 and 2,000 attendance marks.

One qualification should be noted regarding the designation "healthy sign." It is healthy if everything is kept in proper perspective. The Sunday school is *not* the church. The church *maintains* a Sunday school. Therefore, it is a defeated purpose when children are bused or brought to Sunday school and not taught the importance of the preaching service.

## MOTIVATION NOT UNHOLY

With this qualification in mind, we will consider the subject of motivation. Motivation is not a curse word, and neither is it unholy. People do nothing they are not motivated to do. This is true in every aspect of living. But somehow when motivation is taken into the realm of the spiritual, many tend to dismiss it as shallow or unworthy of consideration. However, the opposite is true. It is unworthy and shallow *not* to motivate in the spiritual realm.

Someone has said, "A rut is a grave with both ends knocked out." This accounts basically for the deadness and apathy of so many churches. One can almost tell what will happen on any given Sunday without even going to church.

# MOTIVATION!

# A Great Sunday School

"Brethren, these things ought not so to be." The primary responsibility in regard to apathy must be laid at the feet of the pastor, who is the "overseer, director, superintendent and shepherd" of the flock over which the Holy Spirit has placed him.

Pastors are responsible to move their people to greater heights of service and dedication. Pastors are the leaders, and it is not proper for them to wait on deacons, superintendents, etc. before they move. Ghandi once said, "There go my people. I must go catch them, for I am their leader." What a tragedy for a church when the pastor fails to exercise personal leadership.

## INCENTIVE OR REWARD MOTIVATION

There are 3 types of motivation associated with the spiritual realm. Each has merits and drawbacks.

Incentive or reward motivation is the most common in Sunday school use, but strangely enough, it is the least effective and the most temporary of the 3 types. Examples of this are the perfect attendance pins, giveaways, and in the more recent years all sorts of gimmickry. This motivation technique is popular for several reasons. It brings faster results than any other kind in areas where it has not been tried. Growth is immediate in most instances among children and among some adults. Another reason for its widespread use is that it requires less leadership ability, planning and dedication than any other form of motivation.

While moderate use of reward motivation is both proper and useful,

it has serious drawbacks. First, *its appeal is temporary*. Strangely enough, the size of the gift is not the deciding factor, for all of the giveaways wear thin after awhile. Because children have so much nowadays, it is more and more difficult to excite them with gifts. The constant struggle to find something different gets old, and then the same apathy sets in again.

*The promotion of reward motivation may be degrading*. To advertise by radio or newspaper a free water pistol, kite or even a bicycle for attendance cheapens the image of the church in the opinion of many, this writer included. To preach a sermon on judgment or the cross the same week the pastor advertises a free ice cream cone to everyone who comes to church is incongruous. Adults are not impressed by these "come-ons." Therefore, incentive motivation for the most part must be limited to children and in the long run will weaken the strength of the church.

*The use of reward motivation may become excessive*. This is one of the greatest dangers of incentive motivation. After sometime one really has to reach out for something different. This has led to many embarrassing incidents and spiritually repulsive circumstances. Examples of such promotions are plenteous and well-known.

For long-range effectiveness, reward motivation must be used sparingly.

*ABOUT THE Writer: Mr. Pegram has served with the congregation of First Free Will Baptist Church, Newport News, Virginia, since 1971. The Free Will Baptist Bible College alumnus is a member of the National Home Missions Board.*

## COERCIVE OR PRESSURE MOTIVATION

Coercive motivation requires a strong and dominant leader who has the ability to awe and push people beyond themselves. This is the motivator whose work is dependent on his ability to drive with his own personality. Many people respond positively to this type of individual because they live in a day of weak leadership. There is a dearth of strong men; consequently, when a hard-driving, forceful man appears on the scene, he usually has little difficulty in gathering about him a group of loyal and dedicated workers.

*One of the problems with this type of motivation is the lack of spiritual joy*. People can be driven so far that they work in a mechanical fashion that is destitute of joy or spiritual satisfaction.

*A more serious problem arises when the dominant leader changes pastorates*. Unless a "greater than Moses" appears on the scene, the work usually goes down seriously. The weaker pastor may be hurt or depressed to the point of leaving the ministry altogether.

## ACHIEVEMENT OR GOAL-ORIENTED MOTIVATION

Achievement motivation is the most permanent of the 3 types. It is taken for granted that the motivator has his motives right in all 3 instances and is interested in building spiritual character and a work that will honor God.

Most motivation experts, even in the secular world, recognize that reward, salary, etc. is not the most important thing to a person. A sense

(Please turn to page 8)

**MOTIVATION: A KEY TO  
A GREAT SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
(Cont. from page 7)

of personal satisfaction is more important. The feeling of well-being, of success, of achieving, these things are more important to a person unless he is devoid of character. Most people want to be accepted and recognized for their contributions. If a preacher will keep this in mind, his job will be far easier.

**FOR LASTING RESULTS**

In motivating a Sunday school, 4 things are essential for permanent results that will stand long after the contests and giveaways are forgotten.

*Weekly teachers' meetings are essential.* While some churches have this meeting on Wednesday night, here at the First Church of Newport News, Virginia, it has been most effective to schedule a teachers' meeting on Sunday night during the CTS hour. The best time to handle a problem is the day it occurs. The teachers' meeting can be divided into 3 parts: review, promotion and teaching.

First, the record for that Sunday should be reviewed. Praise God for the classes and teachers that are up in attendance. Weep with and encourage those that are down. It is better to do this on Sunday than have the teachers go on discouraged until Wednesday night.

There should be a brief time given

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The Sunday school of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Newport News, Virginia, has seen consistent growth under the leadership of Mr. Pegram. When he assumed the pastorate in 1971, the Sunday school was averaging 110 in attendance. During these past 5 years a peak attendance of 1,682 was reached. The average for August, 1976, was 877. The church's physical plant has been enlarged to accommodate these increased numbers.*

*The Reverend Edd Green is presently assisting Pastor Pegram in the outreach ministry of the First Church of Newport News.*

---

**“Too long Free Will Baptists have been content to believe that because we are Free Will Baptists, we have to have the smallest, poorest planned and least organized churches.”**

---

to motivating and informing teachers of the promotions ahead.

The pastor should prepare and teach the adult lesson for the coming week to every teacher during these weekly meetings. He is responsible for the doctrine that is taught throughout the church. The most common objection to this is the time involved. It is for this very reason that lazy men should not be in the ministry. In my opinion, not only should the pastor teach teachers, he should teach an adult class also. A pastor will not motivate teachers if he disappears into his study during the Sunday school hour.

After the lesson is taught, the teachers may be divided into their respective departments where the superintendents should break the lesson down to the appropriate level. Teachers must be prepared in order to feel motivated.

*The second principle of achievement motivation is planning.* The leader must determine where he wants to go. If he has 100 in Sunday school attendance, he must plan for 200. They will not come automatically. He must prepare the department and class breakdown, the staff size, etc. necessary to reach and teach 200. Unless the people can see it, they cannot work for it. Growth is going to be limited to the leader's vision.

*Promotion is the third principle of achievement motivation.* Promotion means keeping the goal in front of the working staff. Realistic short-term goals on the way to the long-term goal is a most effective method of promoting and maintaining interest.

*Training is a most neglected and difficult aspect of achievement motivation.* However, it is one of the

most essential. In the First Church, Newport News, an E.T.T.A. course is held on Monday nights for 9 months of the year. Some of the participants never teach, but some of the most effective and mature workers have been in the training program for about 2 years now.

A second method of training is to start prospective teachers as assistants to effective and successful teachers. The assistants are not appointed just to fill in for the teachers on designated Sundays. They are there for training through observation and participation. As openings occur in the Sunday school staff, the positions are filled with trained workers.

**SCALE NEW HEIGHTS**

Whatever type of motivation best fits the personality of the pastor and the church should be used; but for the sake of our churches, leaders must move our people to some new heights. Too long Free Will Baptists have been content to believe that because we are Free Will Baptists, we have to have the smallest, poorest planned and least organized churches. Some have even gone so far as to remove "Free Will" from their signs as though that were the reason for their limited growth.

There may be communities in which Free Will Baptist churches are not looked upon with favor. Perhaps it is because of the limited outreach the church has had in the past. The answer for pastors and members of these churches is to determine now to take the essential steps toward building the largest Sunday schools in these communities. It will positively change the personality of each church and the image of Free Will Baptists in the area. ▲



CHECKING HER RUNNING TIME, Kathy stops at the official's table. Around her neck is the cross which she wears at all times to remind her of her commitment to honor God in all that she does.



# TEEN WITH A GOAL!

By Ed Walton

"Hi!" greets the smiling redhead as people open their doors to her knock. "The Free Will Baptist Church is having vacation Bible

school next week. We would like to have the bus stop for your children. OK?"

"Mom! I made the Honor Roll again," shouts the excited teenager as she enters the house and heads for the refrigerator.

At the sound of the gunshot, reflexes conditioned by hours of train-

(Please turn to page 10)

## TEEN WITH A GOAL

(Cont. from page 9)

ing and determination propel the lithe 14-year-old from the starting mark and around the oval track at the 1976 National Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Junior Olympics in Memphis, Tennessee.

The same busy young person is the subject of the above vignettes. She is Kathy Vetter — teen with a goal.

What is the goal? Actually it is two-fold: first, to glorify God and secondly, to do it by competing in and winning the 1980 Olympics in Moscow, Russia.

Kathy is a runner. In the 1976 Junior Olympics last August 21, 22, she was judged third in the nation in the 800 meter (half mile) competition with a time of 2 minutes, 11.8 seconds and fourth in the 2,400 meter (mile and a half) race. The Junior Olympic competition is limited to young people who are 14 to 18 years old.

What makes Kathy run? She contributes her abilities and competitive spirit to God. A Christian since 1973

---

**“Whether she runs in Moscow or not, she will still be known in Garland as the ‘World’s Fastest Free Will Baptist.’ ”**

---

she states, “Being a Christian is the most important thing in my life. My favorite Scripture is the parable of the talents, where the talents represent gifts from God. I feel my running ability and the success I have had in school are gifts from God. [She is an “A” student.] I do the best I can in everything.”

Kathy started running track in the sixth grade. In the summer of 1974 she joined the Metroplex Striders, a Dallas area track club, which trains and sponsors runners in meets scheduled by the AAU. She represented the Striders in the national competition in Memphis.

When asked about the relationship between God and running, she replied, “Running is a solo sport unless God is with you. In training I run

between 50 and 60 miles a week. I spend a lot of time talking to God. Without Him I could not do it. I pray before every race — not to win, but for safety for the runners and that I might do my best. I might not be the only Christian in the race, and to pray to win would not be right. I also ask for help if I should lose.”

“As a Christian I know people are watching me. I have to be prepared to set a good example in losing as well as winning. People pay attention to winners and what they say. By winning I feel my testimony will have more influence on people. Ultimately God will be glorified.”

Keenly competitive, Kathy was a member of the Tic-Tac-Toe team from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Garland, Texas, which finished second in state CTS competition in 1974. Her parents Ralph and Leigh Vetter and brothers Richard and Jeff are also members of the Garland church pastored by David Archer.

Aside from running she aspires to be a journalist, primarily an author of Christian stories for children. Concerning writing she states, “My pet peeve is evolution as presented in school. If I were not a Christian, I would really be confused. I want to write stories to show the truth so kids will understand. I am also interested in being a sportswriter.”

A member of the Senior Sunday school class, Kathy is well liked by her peers, and she has their support as she trains for the 1980 Olympics. Whether she runs in Moscow or not, she will still be known in Garland as the “World’s Fastest Free Will Baptist.”

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Mr. Walton is a deacon in the First Free Will Baptist Church, Garland, Texas. ▲



*WINNING AWARDS FOR HER RUNNING ABILITY is nothing new to Kathy. She is shown here with awards from regional and district competitions and the ultimate Junior Olympic National Championship award which she garnered last August in Memphis, Tennessee.*



## ASTROLOGY: HOCUS-POCUS OR HONEST POSSIBILITY?

By Dan Parker

Millions of Americans hurriedly thumb through their daily newspapers searching for the pages where the horoscopes are printed. They identify their signs of the zodiac, which are determined according to one's birth date, and proceed to "swallow" without reservation the courses of action prescribed for them.

*Decisions come easily. You must determine whether things are headed in the right direction, and whether you can go along with current tides.*

*Insist on what you're sure of, but tactfully! Reduce outdated clutter. Begin purely personal projects; steer clear of anything group-oriented.*

A cursory glance at these horoscope listings might give the impression they contain good advice. However, a more careful reading will indicate that a great amount of

effort will have to be put forth to actually carry out the recommendations.

The past decade has witnessed a revival of interest in the occult, and millions of people have become fascinated by the unknown, the strange, the bizarre.

Jeane Dixon, a leading astrologer and psychic, has made some remarkable predictions. She, also, has made several glaring blunders in her attempts to foretell the future. She accurately predicted the assassination of President John Kennedy, but 1958 did not see the start of World War III as she had forecast. What is a Christian to think about such phenomenal predictions and such astonishing mistakes?

(Please turn to page 12)

40 million who follow portions of the horoscope. These columns predicting one's future and behavior can be found in more than 1,000 newspapers. Interest in this area of pseudoscience can be found among people from all walks of life. Followers of astrology include businessmen, movie actors and actresses, members of state governments, senators, and even presidents of nations.

Astrologers make the claim that at the moment of birth a person is affected by the constellation (zodiac sign) in which the sun appears and also by the one rising at that time on the eastern horizon at the place of birth. They also say that the position of the planets with relation to the stars and to one another at certain times can affect the individual favorably or unfavorably. Supposedly, radiations from these heavenly bodies strike the newborn infant's cells, causing changes that determine what type of person he will be.

In Assyrian times from about 800 B.C. to 600 B.C., astrology was the main interest of the stargazers. During this early time the earth was thought to be the center of the universe. Because the earth makes one full rotation on its axis every 24 hours, it appears to an individual standing on the earth that the sun, moon and stars revolve around the earth.

The ancient astrologers, asserting that these heavenly movements had some special significance for man, noted 12 particular star groups. To these constellations they gave names of persons or animals. The circular path through which these stars and planets seem to travel came to be called the zodiac, meaning "circle of animals or living creatures." The movement of the earth around the sun makes it appear that the sun progresses from one constellation to the next each month, making a complete circuit in 12 months.

Although the roots of astrology go back to early Babylon and Assyria, the Greeks took the zodiac and developed the first known horoscopes. From Greece the hoary superstition spread throughout the Mediterranean world and the rest of Europe.

The medieval church rejected astrological beliefs in theory, but astrology remained a popular superstition among common people. Even some religious leaders believed in the influence of the stars. Peasants sowed grain and princes went to war — if the stars were right. Almanacs showed the position of the planets and predicted their effect on mankind. People trembled before the power of the heavenly bodies, convinced that the lives of men and

## ASTROLOGY: HOCUS-POCUS OR HONEST POSSIBILITY?

(Cont. from page 11)

### ASTROLOGICAL ASSERTIONS

Is there some valid basis to astrology? *The Century Dictionary and Cyclopedia* defines astrology as a study that "assumes that the heavenly bodies (sun, moon, stars and planets) exert, according to their relative positions at certain times, a direct influence upon human life and destiny."

In the United States alone there are some 10 million individuals who zealously adhere to the writings of modern-day soothsayers and over

### CONFUSING CIRCUMSTANCES

The history of astrology can be traced back to ancient Babylonia. Ur, the city of Abram, was the center of moonworship. Great observatories called "ziggurats" were built for the study of the stars. Some scholars believe the "Tower of Babel" (Genesis 11) was such an observatory. It was the largest planned to that day. The pride of the people in attempting to reach heaven with their tower was related to purpose as well as to height: to "reach unto heaven" and chart the stars. So important was astrology in the land of its origin that the term "Chaldean" became synonymous with "astrologer."



destinies of nations were swayed by the stars.

The modern mind that dismisses astrology as senseless or ridiculous may not realize that astrology is actually an ancient pagan religion. In Babylonia and Assyria it took the place of an official cult, where the priests could ascertain the will and intentions of the gods by observing the movement of the heavenly bodies. It was, and is, a form of divination by means of omens.

Some 20th century soothsayers say that the material, visible planets are not the "real" bodies. They also have an "ethric" body, which is invisible, or which might be described as "spiritual." It is this ethric or invisible body of the planets that influences the daily lives and activities of human beings.

One astrologer admits that astrology is interrelated with the occult—palmistry, tarot cards, mediums, numerology, and the use of charms and magic. Another astrologer openly claims to be a witch, while yet another declares that he is a clairvoyant and has extrasensory perception (ESP).

## BIBLICAL BELIEFS

A lack of gratitude to God and the desire to "do your own thing" is shown in Romans 1. Those who refused—and still refuse—to glorify Him as God became vain (idolatrous in reasoning and practice) and their understanding was without discernment (verse 21). A natural result is to worship the created object rather than the object of creation (verse 25).

God has set the heavenly bodies in their places for signs and for days, seasons and years (Genesis 1:14). Only on very special occasions, which He alone directs, are these celestial bodies to be observed for signs: e.g. II Kings 20:8ff; Isaiah 7:11; Matthew 2:2ff. But these are *astronomical* signs rather than *astrological* "humbug."

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Parker is Dean of Student Affairs at California Christian College, Fresno. The former pastor earned his doctorate from the University of Idaho.*

---

**"Those held in the grasp of astrology do not realize that the end result is separation from God. . . . Followers of God are not . . . to read their fate and future in the stars."**

---

When Israel was being prepared to inhabit the promised land, the people were exhorted to be careful about lifting up their eyes to the heavens and letting the "host of heaven" become their object of worship (Deuteronomy 4:15, 19). Dreamers or sign-givers within their own ranks who sought to lead them from the true God were not to be tolerated (Deuteronomy 13:1-3). Inhabitants of Palestine were detestable to Jehovah because they used divinations, observed times (stargazing), called on evil spirits for aid, practiced witchcraft and black magic, and were mediums who called spirits from the dead. The people of God were to refrain from association and participation in these evil practices (Deuteronomy 18:9-14).

In the days of King Hoshea, the kingdom of Israel (10 Northern tribes) began to bow down and "worship all the hosts of heaven." God was very angry and allowed the Assyrian armies to take them into captivity (II Kings 17:16-18). Manasseh of Judah worshiped and served the heavenly bodies and habitually followed other occult practices (II Kings 21). Josiah removed the astrologers as part of his reforms (II Kings 23:5). He was blessed for his efforts.

False worship and idolatrous customs have a way of gripping victims in deadly tentacles while devouring the creature. Those held in the grasp of astrology do not realize that the end result is separation from God. When Jehovah's cup of wrath is full, a multitude of astrologers, stargazers and monthly prognosticators cannot save an individual even when called upon to do so (Isaiah 47:11-14).

Followers of God are not to act like those who make horoscopes and try to read their fate and future

in the stars. We are not to be frightened by such predictions, for they are lies (Jeremiah 10:1,2).

New Testament believers are reminded about historical figures and the drastic results of worshiping heavenly bodies (Acts 7:42,43; Amos 5:25,26). Principalities, powers, rulers of darkness and spiritual wickedness are to be resisted and overcome by the power of the Lord by those who possess and use the full armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18).

People who read and believe horoscopes will often begin to pattern their life-styles to fit into the prediction. However, no effort will be made toward a life-style that honors God and benefits the individual spiritually.

Hypocrites—religious play actors who express false hope and expound counterfeit faith—may possess the ability to read some omens from the sky but cannot read the obvious "signs of the times" (Matthew 16:3). They are left without hope and will be without excuse when standing before God in judgment (Ephesians 2:12).

## KNOW YOUR A - B - C's

As elementary school children are encouraged to learn the ABC's in order to function adequately in life, Christians should know the rudiments of astrology: A - astrology, B - Bible, and C - conflicts between the two. We need to combat this heresy that is deluding millions, even many who have contact with our churches.

Dr. O. Quentin Hyder, a Christian psychiatrist, has made the following observation: "God's plan of creation concerning man is that we be ignorant of the future. If we knew the future, we'd be paralyzed with fear. Ignorance of the future is a gift from God." ▲

## OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION APPROVES NEW HOUSING FOR HILLSDALE COLLEGE

MUSKOGEE, OKLA.— Additional dormitory housing for some 48 students as recommended by the Board of Trustees of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Moore, Oklahoma, was approved by the Oklahoma State Association, October 18-20. The annual meeting was held in Muskogee's Civic Center.

According to Bill Jones, Hillsdale's president, current plans call for 2 buildings that will house 6 to 8 apartment-type units and will initially house single men and women. Following the completion of a proposed large dormitory, the apartments will house married students. Money for the project will be raised through special gifts. Approximately \$120,000 is needed before construction can begin. College officials project the new buildings will be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1977.

In other action delegates to the state association approved the resolution concerning the ordination of ministers and deacons with 2 living wives which was adopted by the National Association last July. Newly elected moderator James Murray will preside over the 1977 session, which will be held at Ardmore Civic Center, Ardmore, October 17-20.

---

## WINFIELD PASTOR OCCUPIES NEW PARSONAGE

WINFIELD, ALA.— Pastor and Mrs. A. J. Looper occupied the recently completed parsonage of the Winfield Free Will Baptist Church, Winfield, in September. The new home is located on a 2-acre plot of ground adjacent to the church plant. The parsonage property is a part of the 17 acres owned by the church.

According to Pastor Looper, the home has 3,052 square feet of living space on one floor with a full basement. The cost of the new structure, including drapes, carpets and landscaping, was approximately \$64,000.

Pastor Looper, who began his ministry with the church in December, 1975, shared that giving to outside causes totaled \$4,861 for the first 11 months of 1976. During October the average Sunday school attendance reached 210 with a 92 average for Church Training Service. The church is presently operating 2 buses in its outreach in this northwest Alabama community.

Open house at the new parsonage was held in November for the congregation and friends of the Winfield Church.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

**newsfront**

## TENNESSEE STATE ASSOCIATION ELIMINATES "TRADE" OF MONEY IN CO-OP REALIGNMENT

CLARKSVILLE, TENN.— Delegates to the 1976 Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists voted to reapportion the percentage of distribution of Cooperative funds within the state during the annual session, November 15-17, at the Pardue Memorial Church.

At the recommendation of the General Board, the body voted to relieve the Tennessee Home Missions Board and the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Greenville of their responsibilities to financially underwrite a portion of the budget of the state Executive Office. Two years ago when Promotional Director John Gibbs was elected to this newly established office and the state association adopted the Cooperative Plan of Giving, these 2 agencies agreed to support the state Executive Office with a portion of the funds they received. In return each of the 3 agencies were to receive 20 percent of Tennessee's Cooperative Funds. The remaining 40 percent was designated to the National Cooperative Plan of Giving.

Under this original plan of distribution, the Home Missions Board and the Children's Home received from the Cooperative Fund in 1976 almost as much as they contributed to underwrite the Executive Office. Although this arrangement was thought to be necessary when initiated in 1974, this trading of funds has now been eliminated with the newly adopted percentages of distribution. The 60 percent of funds being received through Tennessee's Cooperative Plan of Giving for use within the state will now be distributed as follows: 40 percent to the Executive Office, 10 percent to the state Home Missions Board, and 10 percent to the Children's Home. The National Cooperative Plan will continue to receive 40 percent.

Mr. Gibbs states this is a fair reapportionment since the Children's Home and the Home Missions Board will now keep all the funds they receive from other Tennessee sources, but each will continue to get 10 percent of all Co-op funds which come through the state treasurer. He further noted that the percentage needed to operate the state Executive Office will drop as more churches join the Co-op family.

In other associational action 8 pastors were recognized for having more than 25 baptisms during 1976. Receiving certificates were David Hicks, First Church, Dickson (72); Clarence Phillips, First Church, Johnson City (61); J. D. Norris, Goodsprings Church, Pleas-

ant View (38); William Johnson, First Church, Erwin (37); Glenn Poston, Pardue Memorial Church; Clarksville (31); Vernon Barker, New Hope Church, Joelton (28); Raymond Riggs, Cookeville Church, Cookeville (27); and Willard McCarroll, Mt. Zion Church, Joelton (25).

November with the Eastside Church, Elizabethton. Moderator Clarence Phillips was reelected to preside over the 1977 session. The 1977 CTS Rally will be hosted by the Cookeville Church, Cookeville, June 10-11.

---

## ALABAMA CHURCH DEDICATES NEW EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

VERNON, ALA.— Educational space for the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church, located near Vernon, was almost doubled with the completion of the new fellowship-educational building. The 30' x 64' structure was dedicated Sunday, November 7, 1976. The building lies parallel to the church and is connected by an enclosed hallway.

The new addition, which has a full basement, was constructed on a cost-plus basis with the contract going to one of the church members, Mr. Raeford Perkins. The church also completely remodeled the educational rooms in the present church basement, providing ample educational space for the church's present program.

The Rev. Billy Buchanan is pastor.

---

## ARKANSAS MISSION ORGANIZES, PURCHASES LAND

QUITMAN, ARK.— On September 26 the Free Will Baptist Mission in Quitman became the Cedar Heights Free Will Baptist Church. There was an attendance of 71 for this service, which was conducted by the Rev. David Joslin, Arkansas' promotional director, and the Rev. Royce Lee Ward, who is serving with the new church.

Since the first services were held September 5, the mission church has purchased a 5-acre tract of land where the congregation plans to build its first church unit as soon as possible, followed by a day-care center and a nursing home in the near future.

At the present time the church is meeting in the Community Center in Quitman.

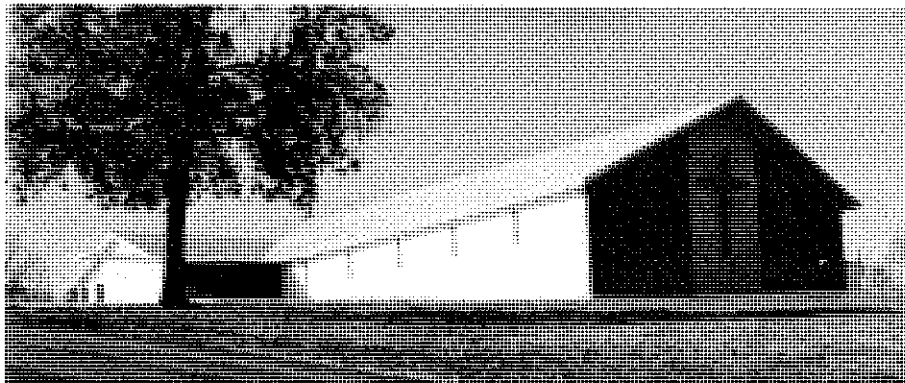


## MISSOURI CHURCH DEDICATES NEW AUDITORIUM

SPRINGFIELD, MO.— The congregation of King's Way Free Will Baptist Church, Springfield, dedicated their new 400-seat auditorium in special services in early October, 1976. However, the first services in the auditorium were actually held in February, 1976, according to Pastor Gene Terry.

King's Way Church is located on a 5-acre tract at 2615 North Park in the northwest corner of this growing city. The group began as a mission in August, 1972, in a rented cafe building. The present property was purchased in December of that year, and the first unit of the church plant was constructed in the following months.

Continual growth necessitated that the new auditorium be built. It has been newly furnished with padded pews, carpet and



drapes. The predominate color throughout is red. The building is centrally heated and cooled and has a completely new sound system. The first auditorium has been

converted into educational space and a fellowship hall.

King's Way Sunday school attendance for a recent quarter averaged 102.

## GRADUATE STUDY COMMITTEE CONVENES

NASHVILLE, TENN.— The Graduate Study Committee appointed by the National Association last July met in Nashville December 1,2 to begin studying the feasibility of developing a program of advanced studies beyond the college level.

The need for a seminary was discounted as the committee decided to explore the possibility and need for a tailor-made divinity school, which would provide a broad program of advanced leadership training for Christian workers.

In order to ascertain the degree of interest and type of program needed, the committee is preparing a questionnaire which will be sent to laymen, pastors and students in February. Persons receiving the questionnaire are asked to fill it out and return it promptly. The committee will meet again to evaluate the results.

## PASTORS AND WORKERS CONFERENCE TO BE HOSTED ON HILLSDALE CAMPUS

MOORE, OKLA.— A 3-day Pastors and Workers Conference has been scheduled for January 10-12, 1977, on the Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College campus near Moore, according to Jack Richey, director of Christian education.

Jointly sponsored by all Oklahoma Free Will Baptist boards, the Conference's featured speaker will be Dr. Robert Picirilli, registrar of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee. Other program participants include Leon Gilbreth, evangelist and Sunday school consultant from Greenville, North Carolina; Frank Wiley, pastor of the Sunny Lane Free Will Baptist Church, Del City; and Connie Cariker, pastor of the West Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church, Tulsa.

Sessions will be opened at no charge to all interested pastors and workers. The beginning session is 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 10, with the concluding service set for 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 12.

## SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION CHANGES DATE OF ANNUAL MEETING

JOHNSONVILLE, S.C.— The South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists will now become the first state association to meet each calendar year. After meeting for 34 years in November, the state association voted at their 1976 meeting, November 11,12, to convene on Thursday and Friday before the third Saturday in February of 1977 and each year thereafter.

The change enables the association to secure statistical information before the

National Association meets in July instead of following the national convention each year. The former meeting days made the data one year old by the time it reached the national meeting.

Officers elected at the November association were Earl Hendrix, moderator; Joe Wallace, clerk; Robert Rose, promotional secretary. The Little Bethel Church hosted this year's session.

## "VOTE CTS" CAMPAIGN DRAWS 47 ENTRIES

NASHVILLE, TENN.— "Vote CTS," the annual fall campaign sponsored by the National Church Training Service Department in an effort to increase attendance, included entries from 47 Free Will Baptist churches in 14 states, according to Malcom Fry, director.

The winners in each of the 4 divisions were determined by comparing the campaign average against the average attendance in CTS for March, April and May, 1976. The winning churches were appropriately rewarded.

Also, recognized were the top 2 churches

from 2 of the 4 divisions who had the highest per capita contributions to the National CTS ministry. The churches honored in Division C were Valley Forge Church, Elizabethton, Tennessee, with a per capita contribution of 82¢, and Fellowship Church, Nashville, Tennessee, with a per capita contribution of 47¢. In Division D the First Church, Newport, Tennessee, was first with a per capita contribution of 53¢, and the Marvin Chapel Church, Marianna, Florida, was second with a per capita contribution of 51¢.

### TOP ATTENDANCE GAINERS

#### DIVISION A (150 and up) — NO ENTRIES

#### DIVISION B (100-149):

1. Woodbine Church, Nashville, TN  
Elro Driggers, Pastor;  
Walter Sloan, Jr., Director

	SPRING AVG.	SEPT. AVG.	PERCENT. OF INCRS.
--	----------------	---------------	-----------------------

	134	144	7%
--	-----	-----	----

#### DIVISION C (50-99):

1. Valley Forge Church, Elizabethton, TN  
John Vance, Pastor; Carl Roberson, Director
2. First Church, Darlington, SC  
Robert L. Edwards, Pastor; H. D. Byrd, Director

	59	85	44%
--	----	----	-----

	61	87	43%
--	----	----	-----

#### DIVISION D (49 and below):

1. Marvin Chapel Church, Marianna, FL  
Buford Pierce, Pastor; Tremain Loving, Director
2. First Church, Garland, TX  
David W. Archer, Pastor; Ed Walton, Director

	28	60	114%
--	----	----	------

	49	70	43%
--	----	----	-----

# newsfront

(continued)

## VIRGINIA CHURCH RAISES \$100,000 FOR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PAYMENT

NORFOLK, VA.— A 6-months campaign to raise \$100,000 from and by the congregation of the Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist Church as a partial down payment on the Gateway Christian School property was successfully culminated October 17, according to Pastor Dale Burden. This is the second \$100,000 the congregation has raised to apply toward the purchase of the 11.8 acre school site. The church will now begin regular installment payments for the next 8 years on the \$246,000 balance.

Pastor Burden said he knew of no other Free Will Baptist church which had raised this kind of finances in this period of time. "We had to do it, and by God's grace the need was met."

The school facilities house both the Gateway Christian School and Norfolk Bible College, a 2-year Christian institution which the church began 2 years ago. There are 45 students enrolled for the classes, which are presently held in the evening.

According to Pastor Burden, who serves as president of the college, plans are now being drawn for constructing facilities to house the college. Projected completion date for these facilities is fall, 1977. This is a part of a major expansion program which also includes providing dormitories for the men and women, an academic building, paving and additional site work, and the purchase of 14 additional acres which are now under option to bring the campus of Gateway Christian School and Norfolk Bible College to a total of 26 acres.

In addition to the physical improvements, Norfolk Bible College is scheduled to offer day classes in the fall of 1977 and continue with some evening classes. At least one other professor is expected to join Reverend Frank Sells as a full-time faculty member.

Assisting President Burden and Dean A. B. Brown in charting the future of the school is an advisory board composed of pastors from the following states: Tennessee—Rev. Richard Adams; North Carolina—Rev. James Denton and Rev. Gordon Sebastian; Virginia—Rev. Lester Horton and Rev. Don Pegram; South Carolina—Rev. Willie Justice; and Ohio—Rev. Paul Thompson.

The Rev. Ronald Creech, promotional director of the North Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists, was the speaker for the recent dedication services of the Gateway School.

## IOWA CHURCH RECORDS GREATEST PERCENTAGE OF ATTENDANCE INCREASE IN FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

NASHVILLE, TENN.— The Riverview Free Will Baptist Church, Bettendorf, Iowa, recorded the largest percentage of gain in average attendance for the Fall Sunday School Enlargement Campaign, according to Harrold Harrison, who directs the Promotional Division of the Sunday School Department. The Iowa church, which fell in Division G, recorded 102.86 percentage of gain in attendance above their average for March through May. Owen Ganey pastors this church.

The second largest percentage of gain

also came in Division G. The impressive increase of 96.09 percent was recorded by the Fairview No. 1 Free Will Baptist Church, Leeds, Alabama. Donnie Hussey is pastor of this church.

Sunday schools in 22 different states participated in the fall campaign, which was entitled "Freedom in Truth." An overall net increase of 39.45 percent was recorded over the spring quarter average attendance. Appropriate awards were given for the first and second place winners in each division.

Division		Mar-May Avg.	Camp. Avg.	Increase
A	1st	545	620	13.76%
	2nd	827	852	3.02%
B	NO INCREASE REPORTED			
C	1st	316	428	35.44%
	2nd	392	530	35.20%
D	1st	283	342	20.85%
	2nd	242	291	20.25%
E	1st	188	272	44.68%
	2nd	179	237	32.40%
F	1st	109	172	57.80%
	2nd	122	192	57.38%
G	1st	84	170.40	102.86%
	2nd	73.23	143.6	96.09%
H	1st	17	32	88.24%
	1st	34	64	88.24%
	2nd	28	47	67.86%



## RUSSELLVILLE CHURCH DEDICATES NEW BUILDING

RUSSELLVILLE, ARK.— Pastor Fred Warner and the congregation of the First Free Will Baptist Church were joined by the Rev. W. S. Isbell, founding pastor, and the Rev. Bill Jones, president of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Moore, Oklahoma, in special dedication services Sunday, October 24, 1976. Dedication of the new facilities culminated a move from their location on North Arkansas Street, where the church was founded in September, 1949, to a 7-acre tract at 1103 East L Street.

Ground breaking was observed May 9, and the congregation held the first services in the new facility September 19. For 4 weeks prior to that first service in the new location, the congregation met in the National Guard Armory since they had given

possession of their former church building to the new owners, who have established a day-care center.

The new church facilities, which have 12,500 square feet of floor space, consists of a sanctuary which seats 600, an educational building with 16 classrooms, pastor's study, fellowship hall and rest-room facilities. It was built at an approximate cost of \$260,000, including the acquisition of the land, the building and its furnishings.

Pastor Warner, who assumed leadership of the congregation 3 years ago, stated the average Sunday school attendance for October was 286. The church operates 5 buses, has a radio ministry and maintains an active visitation ministry.



## VIRGINIA CHURCH PURCHASES 25 ACRE SITE FOR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

NEWPORT NEWS, VA.— The First Free Will Baptist Church of Newport News has purchased a 25-acre site to house Peninsula Christian School. The site contained 2 partially completed buildings that were renovated and completed prior to the opening of school. The site is 12 miles from the church in nearby Smithfield, Virginia.

Pastor Don Pegram stated the church began Peninsula Christian School 4 years ago and has a current enrollment of 180 in grades kindergarten through the sophomore level. The staff includes 11 faculty members. Mr. Pegram is serving as chief administrator for this school year.

The First Church is presently averaging 877 in Sunday school attendance. The July through September average was 787. During that time the church received 25 new members and recorded 42 salvation decisions. The church maintains a fleet of 12 buses in its weekly outreach ministry.



*Thank You for  
Your Gifts to the . . .*

### COOPERATIVE PLAN OF SUPPORT

November, 1976

#### RECEIPTS:

State	Nov. '76		Nov. '75	Year to Date
	Co-op	Design.		
Alabama	\$ 28.00	\$ . . .	\$ 25.50	\$ 1,834.29
Arizona	. . .	. . .	. . .	849.90
Arkansas	3,232.10	. . .	2,547.31	22,750.75
California	738.14	. . .	713.83	8,433.89
Florida	2,259.55	. . .	815.26	12,730.91
Georgia	227.42	. . .	230.60	3,006.89
Idaho	104.76	. . .	93.40	337.03
Illinois	851.43	. . .	489.82	12,859.71
Indiana	. . .	. . .	104.00	238.60
Iowa	526.75	. . .	162.63	2,314.86
Kansas	89.78	. . .	374.90	2,381.36
Maryland	85.00	. . .	271.00	1,074.58
Michigan	. . .	. . .	55.79	95.40
Mississippi	78.15	. . .	45.40	591.82
Missouri	4,348.47	(4,348.47)	3,801.51	41,746.73
New Mexico	. . .	. . .	. . .	131.66
North Carolina	175.00	(100.00)	125.00	1,591.81
N.E. Assoc.	. . .	. . .	. . .	193.90
N.W. Assoc.	57.16	. . .	81.17	763.19
Ohio	4,374.01	. . .	369.56	14,331.84
Oklahoma	5,044.91	(4,485.00)	3,595.53	57,381.57
Tennessee	932.45	. . .	1,840.73	10,329.56
Texas	292.01	. . .	25.00	2,794.66
Virginia	78.48	. . .	24.42	485.73
Virgin Islands	128.00	. . .	. . .	844.00
West Virginia	39.95	(39.95)	. . .	111.22
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$23,691.52</b>		<b>\$15,792.36</b>	<b>\$200,205.86</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 2,933.98	\$(1,210.42)	\$ 4,955.51	\$ 65,393.11
Foreign Missions	6,185.26	(2,858.79)	3,470.17	43,832.24
Bible College	4,927.09	(1,627.55)	2,495.44	29,789.07
Home Missions	3,836.57	(1,496.39)	2,038.16	25,351.04
Church Training Ser.	2,689.98	(740.80)	1,158.69	15,419.81
Retirement and Ins.	2,203.50	(644.15)	1,088.88	12,808.28
Layman's Board	732.00	(277.17)	360.58	4,800.08
Comission on Theo- logical Liberalism	163.16	(98.17)	89.93	1,167.84
Miscellaneous	19.98	(19.98)	135.00	1,644.39
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$23,691.52</b>		<b>\$15,792.36</b>	<b>\$200,205.86</b>

## ALABAMA STATE ASSOCIATION TO SPONSOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GUIN, ALA.— As a result of the interest shown at the 1976 Alabama State Association hosted by the Guin Free Will Baptist Church November 11-13, a Ministers and Christian Workers Conference has been scheduled for February, 1977, and each February thereafter. The first conference will be at the Guin Church. In 1978 it will be in the Dothan area; the next year, the Birmingham area; and the following year, the Decatur area.

The business item which received the most attention was a resolution concerning standards for young people participating in the State Youth Conference and ultimately the National Youth Conference. The adopted resolution is to be recommended to the National Association.

The 1977 state meeting will be at the Sardis Free Will Baptist Church, Eufaula, Alabama, November 10-12.

Moderator Jack Rollins was reelected to that post.

### ATTENTION PASTORS!

Did your church gain at least 12 new members during 1976?

If so, we want to list the name of the church, the number of new members and your name in *CONTACT* Magazine.

The challenge to increase church membership rolls by 12 was given by Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey in a letter to all pastors last January. At that time he stated that the names of the churches which made the increase of 12 or more members would be publicized.

Please share this information with us by January 20.



## Currently . . .

By  
**EUGENE WORKMAN**  
Administrative Editor

Visitation plays an important part in the outreach of **Capitol Hill FWB Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**. During a recent week in November, there were 568 contacts recorded. Since the average Sunday school attendance is hovering near the 250 mark, each person present apparently made at least 2 contacts. That is a good start to doubling the attendance. **Homer Young** pastors.

A spokesman for the **Arkansas State Sunday School Board** reports that the recent Sunday school revival and workshop conducted at **Sutton FWB Church, Pochahontas**, attracted a high attendance of 338 for a single service with over 22 churches represented. There were public decisions made each night during the week-long meeting. The meeting was conducted by **Keith Kenemer, director of Sunday School Revivals, Dalton, Georgia**. Mr. Kenemer reported that this was the greatest revival-workshop he has conducted during his 5 years in this ministry.

Although **Guin FWB Church, Guin, Alabama**, did not break their attendance record of 522 set last March, October did prove a record month for the church in that 16 people were baptized and 19 joined the church. **Richard Cordell** pastors.

**West Tulsa FWB Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma**, **Connie Cariker** pastor, averaged 535 in Sunday school during the October campaign with a high attendance of 888. The previous high average of 465 was set last March. This is the largest Free Will Baptist church in Oklahoma. The congregation also set another precedent in the state during a recent Sunday evening service when they raised over \$5,200 for **Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Moore**.

**The First FWB Church, Salina, Kansas**, had 857 in Sunday school attendance October 31. Pastor **Trymon Messer** reports this is an attendance record for the congregation.

The **Rev. and Mrs. Curtis Alligood** and family are the first parsonage family to occupy the parsonage of the **Bay FWB Church, Hartsfield, Georgia**. The home was purchased and completely remodeled to meet the needs of a parsonage. Dedication services were held August 29, 1976.

A fund drive in **Georgia's Martin Association** to benefit the **Free Will Baptist mission, Dublin**, recently culminated with a total offering of \$1,200.80. The drive was spearheaded by the **Rev. Damon C. Dodd**, a member of the State Mission Board. The Dublin congregation is now worshipping in its new building.

**New Hope FWB Mission, Americus, Georgia**, has reached the point that it can financially stand without the assistance of the **Chattahoochee Association**, which has aided it greatly during this past year, according to **Gerald Brown**, pastor. The pastor reports a building fund has been started. The church treasury now has about \$1,000. Worship service attendance reached a high of 57, and the church is seeing steady growth in all services.

The **Rev. Gary Tune** has moved to **San Angelo, Texas**, to begin a new Free Will Baptist church. There is no Free Will Baptist witness in that large city. The church will not be sponsored by a mission board.

The month of December is probably one of the busiest times for most church families. Usually a few put together the Christmas activities for the enjoyment of the church as a whole. But at the **Grace FWB Church, Rocky Mount, North Carolina**, **Pastor Robert Durham** and his staff scheduled a full slate of involvement for the Christmas season. There was a cantata put on by the joint choirs, a 4-act Christmas play, a shorter play for the junior church, a teen banquet, an adult banquet and parties for the smaller kids. It certainly sounds as if the entire church family was busy.

**Pastor Waldo Young, Spencer Road FWB Church, Spencer, Oklahoma**, has designated January and February as Bible Study Months. The studies are being conducted in the homes of 3 members on week nights. Aiding the pastor in teaching are **Gene Godby** and **Don Jacobs**. Pastor Young is urging his people to invite their neighbors to these sessions. This would be a good way to make some inroads in your neighborhood for the Lord and your local church.

The annual 5-day missionary conference at **Cofer's Chapel FWB Church, Nashville, Tennessee**, netted a total of \$2,266.48 in cash plus numerous pledges. The goal was \$2,323. Of this money \$2,000 will go to help Allan and LaRue Crowson, members of Cofer's Chapel and missionary appointees, get to their mission station in Africa.

The **Free Will Baptist Church, Ponca City, Oklahoma**, set a new Sunday school record of 34 on November 5. Missionary pastor **David Bigger** was thrilled since this was only 6 shy of the goal of 40 set for Sunday school attendance in November. This work was begun in September, 1976. At the Oklahoma state meeting the delegates voted to give the Ponca City mission \$1,900 that was raised in excess of the state's obligation of expenses for the National Association held this past July in Tulsa. The land fund has now reached \$2,550. The group is currently meeting in the high school Fine Arts Building in Ponca City.

The **Woman's Auxiliary** of the **First FWB Church, Kirksville, Missouri**, is probably one among many auxiliaries who are now collecting Post Cereal box tops, which may be used to buy playground equipment. The auxiliary is planning to send the box tops to the **Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Greeneville, Tennessee**, for obtaining additional playground equipment.

**Enid FWB Church, Enid, Oklahoma**, is a new mission work which is beginning to set attendance records. Recently 62 were present for Sunday school and 83 attended the morning worship. On the church's organizational Sunday, 31 became charter members. Dedication of their new facilities was also held that day. Missionary pastor **Buddy Drake** also reports 4 salvation decisions and 7 rededications during the fall revival.

Many church bulletins mention from time to time those of the congregations who are serving in the Armed Forces. Sometimes it is to encourage church friends to write or send a "Care" package to the service personnel. This sounds like an excellent way to remind those in the service of Uncle Sam that the home church is still standing behind them with their thoughts, prayers and Christian support.

**Pastor Dennis Wiggs, First FWB Church, Beaufort, North Carolina**, sets the pace for his people in the matter of reading. Each month he reads several books and makes recommendations to his people. During a recent month he read 6 different books on 5 different subjects. This sounds like a good way to increase the patronage of the church library.

An interesting climax to the recent "Vote CTS" campaign observed in October at the **First FWB Church, Ardmore, Oklahoma**, found the men on the losing team baking cakes. Each one brought his cake to the church where the cake-baking abilities were judged by the teens of the church and then consumed by all present for the fellowship time. I am wondering if every man baked his own cake. Ask **Pastor Milburn Wilson**.

**Pastor Bob Thornburgh, Santa Paula FWB Church, Santa Paula, California**, is extending the outreach of the church through a weekly newsletter. The first edition appeared in November.

Promotion is good for a church says **Pastor James O'Dell, Bear Point FWB Church, Sesser, Illinois**. Although the attendance goals were not reached, there were some definite statistical increases during October as compared with the previous month: Sunday school, 18% increase; bus riders, 12% increase; morning worship, 44% increase; offerings, 11% increase; absenteeism, 15% decrease.

In lieu of the usual book given to those bringing the most visitors during a Sunday school campaign, **Pastor Lewis Perry** and those who serve with him at the **Victory FWB Church, East Wenatchee, Washington**, opted for a free trip for 2 to see the Seattle Sonics play the Golden State Warriors Friday, December 10, plus a free dinner atop the Space Needle. As much as I love books, this sounds like a reward worth working for.

After increasing the average Sunday school attendance by 15 percent during October, **Pastor Billy Bevan** believes the **Tupelo FWB Church, Tupelo, Mississippi**, can maintain an average of over 200 in Sunday school this church year. The October average was 239.



## CHURCH PERSONNEL CHANGES

These changes in Free Will Baptist pastoral and other church personnel are provided by CONTACT Magazine as a service to its readers. No person will be listed as having left a place of service until he is called officially to serve with another congregation.

### PASTORATES

#### ALABAMA

Bobby Duncan to Bethlehem Church, Brilliant from Splunge Church, Greenwood Springs, Mississippi

Richard Hendrix to Hackleburg Church, Hackleburg

Doug Carr to Spring Hill Church, Gordon from Torah Church, Crestview, Florida

Walter Jagers to Belk Church, Belk from Cordova Church, Cordova

George Stiitt to St. James Church, Phenix City

W. O. Miller to Barnsville Church, Hamilton from Huffman Church, Birmingham

Buddy Henry to Cordova Church, Cordova from Trinity Church, Erwin, Tennessee

#### ARIZONA

Nathan Ruble to Northside Church, Phoenix from Fordland Church, Fordland, Missouri

#### ARKANSAS

Anthony Lane to Clifty Chapel Church, Huntsville

#### CALIFORNIA

Gary Johnson to Hawaiian Gardens Church, Hawaiian Gardens

Merle Guess to Arvin Church, Arvin  
Clark Castile to Anderson Church, Anderson from Lincoln Church, Lincoln

Jim Mosley to Porterville Church, Porterville from Lompoc Church, Lompoc

Tom Hunt to Mt. View Church, Mt. View from Eastside Church, Houston  
Sam Hensley to Shafter Church, Shafter

Milburn Wilson to Sherwood Forest Church, El Sobrante from First Church, Ardmore, Oklahoma

Rex Shipman to Newark Church, Newark from Mt. View Church, Mt View

Fred Humphrey to Elmwood Church, Stockton from College City Church, College City

Chester Burgess to College City Church, College City

Ron Stoneburner to Huntington Park Church, Huntington Park

#### FLORIDA

Norlin Jones to Free Will Baptist mission, Daytona Beach from First Church, Jackson, Tennessee

#### GEORGIA

S. E. Newberry to New Home No. 2 Church, Climax from Union Springs Church, Pansey, Alabama

#### MISSOURI

Don Davis to Carterville Church, Carterville from First Church, Blackwell, Oklahoma

Bill Van Winkle to Berkely Church, Berkely from First Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

#### NORTH CAROLINA

Joe Dan Underwood to Kendale Acres Church, Sanford

Jakie Creech to Prospect Church, Dunn from First Church, Jessup, Georgia

Thomas Polen to Living Waters Church, Beth from Maple Avenue Church, Kannapolis

#### OKLAHOMA

Joe Grizzle to First Church, Norman from Sherwood Forest Church, El Sobrante

Jim Puckett to Southern Oaks Church, Oklahoma City from Bellview Church, Colquitt, Georgia

Roger Harwell to First Church, Haskell from Berkely Church, Berkely, Missouri

Dennis Mashburn to Liberty Church, Broken Arrow from Sand Springs Church, Sand Springs

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

Wayne Smith to Jefferson Road Church, Sumter from Mt. Elon Church, Pamplico

Fred Kirby to Free Will Baptist Mission, Camden from Jefferson Road Church, Sumter

Julius Vauss to Forest Pines Church, Cheraw from Eastside Church, Florence

Robert T. Rose to First Church, Spartanburg from Bay Branch Church, Timmonsville

#### TENNESSEE

Ronald Parker to Heads Church, Cedar Hill from Daisy Church, Daisy, Arkansas

Pat Burttram to Community Church, Hillsboro

#### TEXAS

Dannie Johnson to First Church, Vernon

#### WEST VIRGINIA

Michael Kidd to Thomas Memorial Church, Huntington from Pine Creek Church, Wheelersburg, Ohio

### OTHER PERSONNEL

#### INDIANA

Richard Atwood to First Church, Chesterfield as assistant pastor and youth director

#### NORTH CAROLINA

Donnie Miles to First Church, Beaufort as associate pastor

#### OKLAHOMA

Darrel Nichols to Lawnwood Church, Tulsa as youth director

## CURRENTLY... (Cont.)

**Pastor David Archer** carefully counted noses on the fifth Sunday of October and tallied an attendance of 204 in Sunday school at the **First FWB Church, Garland, Texas**. This was an attendance record for the church. The monthly average for the October campaign was 173, a significant increase from July when the average was 82. This pastor and his people are to be commended for their outreach efforts.

The annual Sunday school campaign sponsored by **Oklahoma's First Mission Association** each October in conjunction with the national campaign was won by the

**Noble FWB Church, Noble, Oklahoma**, by averaging 172 against 109 base attendance. This was 57.8 percent increase. **Dan Harper** pastors.

The **First FWB Church, Roanoke, Virginia**, began as a mission several years ago, and much of its accomplishments thus far have been by faith. **Pastor Jim Cox** states the church recently stepped out on faith again in purchasing an organ. Because they were not able to pay for it out of their regular budget, the congregation committed to pay the \$2,600 debt in 2 years; but already \$1,500 has been pledged or given toward the organ. That commitment should be paid before the 2 years elapse.

Perfect Sunday school attendance for 4 weeks in a row is quite an accomplishment for a class of 3-year-old children. But that is the record for **Jeri Camplain's** class of preschoolers at the **First FWB Church, Ardmore, Oklahoma**. **Milburn Wilson** pastors.

November 21 marked the fourth anniversary of the **Capitol FWB Church, Sacramento, California**. **Pastor Larry Condit** reports that in the past year the church has witnessed 302 decisions for Christ and 169 baptisms and received 92 new members.

(Please turn to page 21)



# Ministering To The Jolly 60's

By Frank Davenport

I listened as several of the older people in the Faith Free Will Baptist Church talked about certain meetings for senior citizens they had attended in some county churches near Goldsboro, North Carolina, that did not lift up the Lord Jesus Christ. Some mentioned other secular


meetings of the aged, and I realized these souls were hungering for fellowship and for someone to minister to them. After realizing this need, I began to investigate the programs for older people in many fundamental churches throughout the country. The more I learned, the more thrilled I became with the prospect of a ministry in this needy area.

Brother Rashie Kennedy serves Faith Church as pastoral assistant, giving special attention to visitation and leading our Bible Institute work. I approached Brother Kennedy about the need of a special ministry to persons over 55 years of age. I asked him to gather as many names and addresses as he could of people above 55. In just a few days he had accumulated about 100. We had our prospects! After prayer and discussion we decided to call our group "Jolly 60's" and to meet on Friday at 10:30 a.m. twice each month. These meetings would be for inspiration and preaching, followed by lunch at noon.

The church secretaries typed 3 cards for each prospect, including the name, address and telephone number. Then 11 ladies in our church who did not work on public jobs were called together to assist in this new ministry. We selected one as transportation secretary and gave her a complete set of cards. Then we divided the other cards, 10 to each of the other 10 ladies. Now each of the 10 ladies visits and calls her list prior to each meeting and brings as many as she can to the meeting. Some of the Jolly 60's have cars and drive to the meetings. For all those who do not have a way, the "10 captain" calls Faith's bus minister, who plans routes and gets volunteer drivers to pick up Jolly 60's in church vans.

Realizing the need for physical nourishment, we selected another lady to serve as food chairman. She directs our ladies in preparing a meal each meeting.

With this organization intact, our volunteer staff was ready to begin. After careful planning and with an air of great expectancy, the time ar-



rived for the first meeting. The cars and vans came loaded with Jolly 60's. (Since that day we have felt that the name was very appropriate.) The music was good; the preaching was good; and the meal was good. When all the Jolly 60's were gone, we rejoiced because we knew that our church was performing a ministry pleasing to our Lord.

More than a year has passed since that first Jolly 60's meeting. It has been a year of rewarding experiences. The meetings started with about 60 in attendance and have now reached over 80. Several Jolly 60's have been saved, and many rededicated their lives to the Lord. One who was saved and baptized has already been promoted to glory. Two of the Jolly 60's have gotten married.

And then came the trips. Somebody mentioned a trip to Williamsburg, Virginia. I thought there would be about 25 or so that would want to go. Was I surprised when we had to charter a 56-passenger bus and take my car along with a load. When we went to the Tryon Palace, the first capital of North Carolina in New Bern, we used 2 vans in addition to the chartered bus. A trip is being planned soon to Boone, North Carolina, to see the mountains. We will spend a night in a motel on this trip.

"Doesn't this cost a lot of money?" someone asks. I always answer, "Yes, but it's worth it." We put an offering plate on a back pew for those who want to give at the regular meetings. The cost of the trips is divided among those going. Many of the Jolly 60's have given gifts to our building fund; some have been sizable. It costs, but it pays in blessings and in cash.

I recommend that church leaders consider starting a Jolly 60's program in their local churches.

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Mr. Davenport pastors Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina. He is also president of Faith Christian Academy.* ▲

## CURRENTLY . . .

(Cont. from page 19)

The present Sunday school attendance average is 131, but it has reached as high as 155. Preliminary plans are now being drawn for future church growth and expansion of facilities as finances permit.

About 50 members of the **First FWB Church, DeSoto, Missouri**, along with their pastor **Charles Miller** joined Halloweeners in knocking on doors in the community Saturday night, October 30. However, instead of "tricking or treating" they were going door to door treating folks to a Gospel tract depicting God's plan of salvation. A time of fellowship and refreshment was enjoyed by the group upon their return to the church. That seems like a good way to observe that yearly event.

The 25th anniversary revival for the **First FWB Church, Wichita Falls, Texas**, was climaxed on Sunday, November 14, with homecoming services. Speaker for this anniversary Sunday was **Rev. Bob DuVall, Atkins, Arkansas**, who also served as evangelist for the revival. **Pastor Earl Scroggins** and his members were aiming for an attendance goal of 250, 10 for each of the 25 years the church has been in existence.

Prior to the national elections in November, the midweek newsletter of the **First FWB Church, Moore, Oklahoma**, and the **Spencer Road FWB Church, Spencer, Oklahoma**, carried exhortations to help defeat Question 515 on the ballot in that state which would have put the stamp of approval on liquor by the drink. The vote of the churches of Oklahoma was apparently felt in the outcome, for the question was defeated. Praise the Lord for churches that will take a stand on matters contrary to Bible teachings.

With an average Sunday school attendance of 252 for the month of October, **East 38th Street FWB Church, Anderson, Indiana**, and **Pastor P. A. Dixon** were victors in an attendance campaign with the **First Bible FWB Church, New Castle, Indiana**, where **Dan O'Donnell** is pastor. The New Castle congregation averaged 246 for the month, which was a 14 percent increase over their spring average. The East 38th Street Church had a 27 percent increase. November 7 was "Pay-off" Sunday at which time the New Castle church hosted the Anderson church for a dinner. The afternoon was highlighted by a special combined worship service.

Last July at the national meeting, Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey urged

associational moderators to plan special "God and Country" rallies during the week of November 21-27 in commemoration of the Bicentennial and Thanksgiving. Many church papers noted this challenge was accepted with observances throughout the month, many of them being held during associations' regular meeting times. Some who held "God and Country" rallies include West Fork District Association of Texas; First FWB Church, Vero Beach, Florida; New Hope District Association of Arkansas; Greater Tulsa Association of Oklahoma; Southern Quarterly Meeting of Tennessee's Cumberland Association; Northeast Mississippi Association; and First FWB Church, Garland, Texas.

Members of the **Woodland Heights FWB Church, Martinsville, Virginia**, are seeking to assist their pastor, the **Rev. Ralph L. Weaver**, in a monetary way as a result of his open-heart surgery November 8. Officials of the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where the surgery was performed, estimate expenses will exceed \$10,000. Brother Weaver's medical benefits do not cover this amount. Therefore, the church has established a fund in a nearby bank where contributions may be made to help defray medical expenses. Persons desiring to assist this pastor may address their contributions to the Woodland Heights FWB Church, Attention: Ralph Weaver Account, Roundhill Drive at Chatham Road, Martinsville, Virginia 24112. Brother Weaver has served the Woodland Heights congregation since 1948. The church is a member of the **New River Quarterly Conference of the Maryland State Association of Free Will Baptists**.

**Pastor Bobby Glenn Smith Sr., College Lakes FWB Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina**, believes in the truth of the adage, "What a difference a year makes." On November 2, 1975, approximately 3 months after he assumed the pastorship, a Businessmen's Day promotion drew an attendance of 175. One year after on October 10, 276 were in attendance for Businessmen's Day. Using the yellow pages of the telephone directory, Pastor Smith assigned the ladies of the church to invite the businessmen in each category listed, such as automobile dealers, florists, photographers, etc. North Carolina Promotional Director Ronald Creech was special speaker for the day.

**Pastor Owen Ganey, Riverview FWB Church, Bettendorf, Iowa**, reports that the church broke the old Sunday school attendance record of 159 in the month of October 3 times. The new record now stands at 341 with the October average being 170.4. Not only was attendance a highlight in October, but on Sunday, October 24, the church staged a bond-burning service. Since Mr. Ganey assumed the pastorship in July, he reports that several improvements have been made in the church property and parsonage as well.

Most of the information for this column is gleaned from church bulletins, newsletters and other published sources. Put me on your mailing list. ▲

*"I remember the empty feeling in the pit of my stomach as I stepped into my classroom . . . . That morning as I faced my first class, I realized how inadequate and unprepared I was."*

# DESIRE BECOMES REALITY

By Ken Riggs

It was September, 1966. The opening day of school in what is probably the first Christian day school among Free Will Baptists had arrived. The scene was Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia. Thirty-six students enrolled for that opening year in a 5-year-old kindergarten and grades 1-3. I remember the empty feeling in the pit of my stomach as I stepped into my classroom of combined second and third graders. There were 13 pairs of eyes staring at me.

During my high school years I had considered a teaching career, but it seemed that possibility had eluded me following my graduation from Free Will Baptist Bible College in

1964. At that time the Bible College did not have a program of education for people who wanted to prepare to teach. I had taken courses such as Christian Education of Children and Youth and Principles of Teaching. But these were courses primarily designed to assist workers in areas of the church, such as Sunday school, CTS and vacation Bible school. That morning as I faced my first class, I realized how inadequate and unprepared I was.

It is true that I could have chosen another college to attend. But I was a Free Will Baptist, and I wanted to prepare for service to the Lord in my denomination's college. I do not regret my education in the Bible College. Those years did help me prepare for the spiritual ministry that the Christian school affords. My feelings of inadequacies were in the areas of math, spelling, language, reading, science and physical education.

During the next 3 years I began to learn how to handle some of the details, problems and joys of an elementary classroom. I took graduate work to prepare myself to be a better teacher. Yet, there was still a yearning to help those who like myself desired a good teacher preparation program in a Christian atmosphere.

Now 10 years after that first classroom appearance, I find myself

fulfilling the desire to help others get a Bible-based teacher's education as supervisor of Teacher Education at Free Will Baptist Bible College. As of August, 1976, FWBBC is now able to offer a teacher preparation program with full certification by the state of Tennessee.

At present the Teacher Education program involves only the elementary level. The program is divided into 3 different courses of study: (1) a full major in elementary education, (2) a minor in elementary education, and (3) a minor in foundations of education.

## THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION MAJOR

This program aims to prepare the student to teach competently in an elementary school. The program has been designed to meet every requirement of the Tennessee State Department of Education for professional certification of teachers for grades 1-9. Students who take this program will also be required to major in Bible. It is the conviction of the college in general and the Teacher Education Department in particular that the double major is necessary. Though Free Will Baptist Bible College has been approved as a teacher-training institution, it remains first and foremost a Bible college.

The major program involves requirements in 3 areas—Bible courses, education courses and general courses required for the B.S. degree.

Thirty hours of Bible courses are required to complete the Bible major. Such courses as Bible Survey,

Biblical Evangelism and Bible Doctrines, as well as various electives, constitute the Bible studies.

Forty-seven hours of education courses are required for the elementary education major. Content courses, such as Psychology of Education, History and Philosophy of Education, as well as a variety of methods courses, such as the Teaching of Reading, the Teaching of Math, etc., constitute this major.

A full program of student teaching is also included. Arrangements have been made with private and public schools in Nashville where students will do their practice teaching. Every student who majors in elementary education and plans to be certified must do practice teaching. This is part of the student's final semester in his senior year.

The general courses, such as English, Speech, social studies, health, humanities, math and science, constitute 54 hours of study.

Let me emphasize 2 aspects of this major program. First, throughout the program the student is gaining experience in elementary education. By arrangement with Nashville schools, our students will participate in a tutoring program to help children with learning problems. We will also provide opportunities for classroom observations and field experiences before any student has to do his practice teaching. Secondly, every student is personally guided through his chosen program. We give every student a checklist, showing every course he needs for his degree. This is done during the student's freshman year. Then and for each year of his program, a member of the teacher education faculty will approve his course schedule when the student registers.

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Mr. Riggs is supervisor of Teacher Education at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee. He has been a member of the faculty since 1971. Mr. Riggs, who is completing requirements for a doctorate from Peabody College, Nashville, is also currently serving as interim pastor of East Nashville Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville.*

### THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION MINOR

This program provides an opportunity for any degree candidate to broaden his understanding of education in general and of elementary education in particular. The student who chooses this program must also complete a Bible major and meet general course requirements for his degree.

This minor program consists of 18 hours in elementary education and would be of great help to a pastor who must administer a Christian day school. The student will study in such areas as Introduction to Education, Elementary Materials and Methods, Human Growth and Development, and History and Philosophy of Education. No certification is issued for this program.

### THE FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION MINOR

This program gives the student an opportunity to broaden his understanding of the historical, sociological, psychological, and philosophical aspects of education. The Bible major and general degree requirements must be completed also.

This program, like the elementary education minor, will benefit anyone who establishes a Christian day school. The 18-hour education minor includes courses like Techniques of Counseling, School and

Society, and History and Philosophy of Education.

No professional certification is issued for this program.

Perhaps a word of caution should also be included. A young person may have a desire to teach and may even want to attend the denominational college. Both desires are certainly honorable. But a prospective student of FWBCC should also want to do more than become a certified teacher "in case something else doesn't open up." The Teacher Education Program is not intended to prepare halfhearted Christians who are merely looking for a job.

Free Will Baptist Bible College is offering this Teacher Education Program as a ministry to the denomination. It is sound in both academic and Christian content. The availability of this program now makes it possible for the young person who wants to obtain teacher certification to do so as a part of a Bible-based education.

Teaching is a ministry. But teaching as a ministry requires a commitment that goes beyond academics and certification. It is the hope of the Teacher Education faculty that the program will not only train the head but will prepare the heart as well. ▲

## MOVING TO A NEW ADDRESS??



We are STUCK with a 25c charge from the post office should you change your mailing address and fail to let us know. Help us keep our quarters for pressing production needs by notifying us at least 4 weeks in advance if you are going to move. Please furnish your old and new addresses. Also, if your magazine is wrongly addressed in any way, let us hear from you and not the post office.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR \_\_\_\_\_

(name of subscriber)

**Old Address:** Please attach label from latest issue you have received. It is helpful to have label as computer file information is included.

New address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip this form and mail to CONTACT Magazine, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

# Are You Aware of Your Pastor's Financial Needs?

By James A. Pittman

What is the number one reason pastors leave the ministry? According to recent surveys, the reason is an economic one. Basically, Free Will Baptists are generous, unselfish people. Yet many of our pastors are frustrated and discouraged because their people do not understand the financial needs of Christian workers.

How can the church be sure the pastor is treated fairly in this respect? Although often ignored by churches, an elementary principle of Christian relationships is proper dealing with the pastor in the matter of finances. The principle of the church's responsibility to the pastor is established in I Timothy 5:17,18: "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, the labourer is worthy of his reward." I Corinthians 9:1-11 also gives instruction we need to heed. In these and other passages it is clear that churches have an obligation to pastors and others who minister the Word to see that they are cared for financially.

Perhaps conscientious pastors will "suffer all things" and even go lacking before they will "hinder the gospel of Christ" (I Corinthians

9:12) by presenting the image of preachers as hirelings and mercenaries. Why should a pastor have to ask for a raise? Are not the men who serve as deacons, trustees and finance committeemen practical men? Is it fair and Christian for men with incomes of \$12,000 and \$20,000 per year to expect their pastor to live on less? How sad that men of God often suffer in silence until economic circumstances force them to leave a church! Churches are often shocked out of their indifference while searching for a pastor when they learn to their dismay that their former pastors were grossly underpaid.

How can the church determine what is fair compensation for their pastor? Here are some considerations.

**INFLATION** — If your pastor has not received a salary or cost of living increase in recent months, he is making considerably less than he was a year ago. Industry recognizes this. Does your church?

**FRINGE BENEFITS** — Hospitalization and life insurance, social security, retirement plans, vacation pay and other benefits are part of the economic scene today. Industry and labor recognize "nonincome benefits." Does your church?

**PASTORAL EXPENSES** — An automobile, telephone, pastoral

counseling supplies, books and other essential materials should be considered by the church. He also needs times of "refueling" at seminars, conferences and workshops. Your pastor has expenses you may have never considered. For example, a well-dressed pastor has a considerable financial outlay for clothing and cleaning.

**PASTORAL HOUSING** — Many churches consider the parsonage as part of the pastor's income. Yet the parsonage belongs to the church. Actually, the pastor buys a house for the church. How many hard working men would work for Ford Motor Company or General Electric, let the company furnish housing as part of their salaries, then leave the houses as company property? When a pastor retires, will he have a house that belongs to him? Does your church consider this?

**SALARY** — Actual salary should take into consideration all the above-mentioned factors. Usually a wise finance committee will consider tax advantages. Why should a man who is a professional, who has spent at least 4 years in training and who could enjoy a very comfortable income in the labor market have to live on an income that is substandard and often grossly inadequate? Does your doctor or lawyer live on a substandard income?

How a church cares for its pastor tells much about the church. A church that permits the pastor to live in substandard housing and forces him to subsist on an inadequate income is hurting its testimony in the community. We believe it is a sin for pastors to be careless about paying their bills. Yet, often churches are careless about providing an adequate income. If a pastor should ever be default in meeting his financial obligations, it should never be because the church was default in its responsibility to God's man. If it costs a pastor more to live in 1976 than the church paid him, then the church has wronged the pastor. A conscientious, conservative pastor recently indicated that it cost him more than \$1,000 per year to pastor one of our "more progressive" Free



Will Baptist churches. Much more is said in God's Word about caring for God's men than is said about building programs and many other pet projects often emphasized.

Does your church adequately care for evangelists and others who minister to your congregation? Those who minister to us should be properly compensated. God will not bless a selfish, stingy pastor nor a church that does not properly care for God's servants. Several months ago a pastor had to ask a church board to give part of the pastor's salary to a visiting evangelist because that particular board included men who were not sympathetic toward the evangelist's needs.

Why is this a problem in many churches? The number one reason could be reluctance on the part of the pastor to inform his people lest he be accused of being mercenary. Consequently, people falsely assume the church has shouldered its responsibility. Sometimes church boards are dominated by men who are somewhat careless and thoughtless in this matter. Unfortunately, on occasion churches use economic pressures to "squeeze out" an unpopular pastor, even though this is wrong.

What is the solution to the problem? The church could instruct the finance committee or church board to prayerfully consider the pastor's salary and make recommendations periodically. Perhaps a special committee could meet with the pastor each year and frankly discuss needs and consider suggestions the pastor might make. This committee could then make recommendations to the church.

More churches are waking up to the fact that if they get and keep good pastors, they must properly compensate them. It is right to do so! "The labourer is worthy of his reward," 1 Timothy 5:18. God will bless the church that has the kind of love and appreciation for God's man that prompts careful consideration of his financial needs.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mr. Pittman pastors Grifton Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, North Carolina. He is an alumnus of Free Will Baptist College, Nashville, Tennessee. ▲

By John E. Woodland

# Pangs of a Small-Church Pastor

*O God, I've had enough!  
I've served this little church in vain  
And given it my very best.  
For years I've borne the stress and strain  
With meager pay and little rest.  
And now, O God, this road so rough  
Is not for me; I've had enough.*

*O God, I'm so alone!  
So few there are to lift the load  
And bear the burden of the work.  
I travel down this lonely road  
Performing chores that others shirk.  
And now, O God, my heart is prone  
To murmur as I walk alone.*

*O God, this place is hard!  
My sinking spirit wants to quit;  
And I am disinclined to pray.  
My feeble faith would fade a bit  
As former members move away.  
O God, I fain would disregard  
A call to serve a place so hard.*

*O God, I do without!  
This little church cannot afford  
To pay a man a living wage.  
They tell me just to trust the Lord  
Like heroes of another age.  
And trust I will, yet still I doubt  
If I can always do without.*

*O God, it isn't fair!  
The men with whom I went to school  
Are doctors, lawyers, engineers.  
To them it seems I've played the fool  
And wasted many precious years.  
And now, O God, I even share  
These dismal thoughts; it isn't fair.*

*O God, I often weep!  
My children live in hand-me-downs;  
They bear the marks of being poor,  
While ministers in bigger towns  
Have everything they need and more.  
I hate my lot of looking cheap!  
O God, forgive me as I weep.*

*O God, my soul is dark!  
No longer can I rise and go  
At any time of day or night  
To hear a tale of want and woe  
And shed abroad the Gospel light.  
O God, I fear I miss the mark  
While walking through this valley dark.*

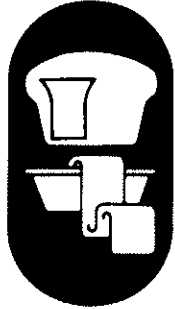
*O God, my heart is faint!  
My sermons chide the church in vain;  
My intercession seems to fail.  
I quietly endure the pain  
While harder heads and hearts prevail.  
O God, revive this pining saint,  
So weak and weary, poor and faint.*

*But Lord, I love this church!  
These people rough and countrified  
Still have so very much to learn.  
These souls for whom my Saviour died  
Are still a part of His concern;  
And dare I leave them in the lurch—  
This struggling segment of His church.*

*O God, I'll Carry on.  
I'll serve this place so hard to reach  
And give as much as I can give,  
For some will come to hear me preach  
And some will yet believe and live.  
Oh, God of Heaven, send the dawn  
And help this pastor carry on!*

Reprinted by permission from Evangelical Beacon.





## CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

# The Local Church on Review

### PART IV

By Leroy Forlines

In the previous article I discussed the words that are used in the New Testament to refer to the person we speak of as the pastor of the church. These terms are "elder," "bishop" and "pastor." Reference to the pastor as an elder gives dignity to the office. This tells us that the pastor should conduct himself with dignity and that he should be highly respected by the congregation. It does not tell us anything about the function of the pastor other than he is in a leadership role.

The terms "bishop" and "pastor" are instructive concerning the role of the pastor. The word "pastor" comes from the Greek word for shepherd. When Paul chose this metaphor in Ephesians 4:11, he intended to tell us that the work of a pastor parallels that of a shepherd. References to feeding the sheep (John 21:16; Acts 20:28; and I Peter 5:2) are also helpful. The word that is translated "feed" has a broader meaning than feed. It means to tend the flock. This means to take care of the total needs of the flock. The use of the word "shepherd" to refer to the pastor and the use of the expression "tend the flock" to describe his

work are very helpful in deciding the attitude of the pastor toward the members of the church and his responsibilities to the members.

In tending the flock the pastor is to have a shepherd's heart toward the members of his congregation. He is to be deeply concerned for their needs. He is to meet those needs. He is to feed, comfort and encourage the members of his church.

The word that is translated "bishop" means overseer. The nature of this overseeing is clearly explained in the New Testament. The word that describes the work of the bishop or overseer is translated "oversight" in I Peter 5:2. In I Peter 5:2 "feed (or tend) the flock" is the same as taking oversight. In Acts 20:28 feeding (or tending) is associated with overseeing. It is clear from these references that the overseeing of the bishop is the same as the tending of the flock by the shepherd (or pastor). Thus, we see that the only 2 descriptive names used in the New Testament to refer to the office of pastor refer to the pastor as one who cares deeply for the needs of his congregation. This concern is to be turned into action to care for the needs of the congregation.

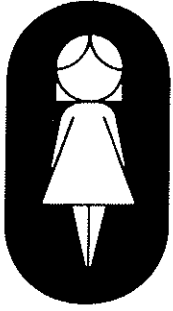
The words "pastor" (shepherd)

and "bishop" (overseer) while referring to the pastor as the chief leader in the church also determine the basic nature of that leadership. It is not an authoritarian, dictatorial type leadership.

A study of the Greek word translated "rule" in Romans 12:8, "over" in I Thessalonians 5:12 and "rule" in I Timothy 3:4, 5, 12; and 5:17 bears out the same idea concerning the pastor's authority with regard to the congregation. These words in the Greek refer to a caring type of leadership. In no case are words used in the New Testament that carry the idea of a pastor as one whose word is law or one who has authority over the members like a general does over soldiers.<sup>1</sup> He leads, not orders.

The leadership of the pastor is one that moves forward on the basis of cultivating and earning the respect of the people. The pastor who has done so deserves the respect of the people. This approach is in keeping with the New Testament concept of the pastor and with the fact that the authority of the church rests with the congregation. The pastor and/or the board can be delegated with authority to handle specific situations, but the authority of the church cannot be given to the pastor and/or the board and be true to the New Testament and the tradition of Baptist churches. The congregation cannot rightfully abdicate its authority, neither can the pastor and/or board rightfully usurp this authority. The pastor and the board should be respected when they conduct themselves well in their leadership roles, but the authority of the church must rest with the congregation.

Authoritarianism may appear for a while to be more effective, but in such a case the fruit of the church reflects the pastor not the health of the congregation. Authoritarianism may appear safer, but if the safety and health of a church depends too much on the authority of the pastor, it is questionable how safe and healthy the church really is under some circumstances. A healthy church has strength within itself that is not totally dependent upon the pastor. ▲



## OUR WOMEN SPEAK

# Watch Your Wait!

By June Critcher

How do you spend the 30 or 40 minutes in the doctor's waiting room? Or the 30 minutes under the hair dryer? Or the 10-minute-waits for your children at school functions, music lessons, scouting activities, etc? For an interesting experiment, count the number of waiting minutes you spend each week.

One of the best ways to gather up fragments of time is by reading. Many women complain that they are too busy with diapers, dishes and housework to read. So the busy woman should assimilate bite-size books for mental and spiritual nourishment.

Women who practice the art of reading find greater self-fulfillment. They achieve a better sense of balance in various areas of life.

Christian women who read discover that the world is a fascinating place. The one who reads becomes a more interesting person through intellectual growth, which leads to self-confidence and self-respect. Reading helps one to make distinctions in new areas of development and become sensitive to them.

Reading Christian literature can give you new release and freedom, confidence and power in your witness. Getting a proper perspective on God's role and your role in evangelism can also have a dramatic impact on you.

God's Word is always at the apex of the reading list. Other materials that aid one's understanding of the Word should also occupy a spot of top priority on any reading list.

Many Christian bookstores have racks well-stocked with small booklets — about 5" x 3½" — just the ideal size for your purse or car's glove compartment. Why not make a note to visit your local bookstore this week and purchase a booklet for each purse and 2 or 3 for the glove compartment? Then when you find yourself waiting 10 or 15 minutes, reach for a booklet. Feed your soul while you stretch your mind. By reading during waiting minutes, you'll be amazed at the amount of reading you can do in just one month.

How you spend your waiting moments tells much about your basic

affections. Do you sit idle, letting your mind wander aimlessly? Or are you bored while waiting for someone?

Reading is a matter of earnest commitment. After evaluating your commitment to what is really important in your life, determine to put good Christian reading at the top of your priority list this year.

Make your waiting moments count for God. Honor Him as you read Christian booklets.

The following are good starters:

Moody Press

*How to Live Without Worry* by J. Allen Blair (20¢)

*How to Grow in the Christian Life* by B. Charles Hostetter (75¢)

Back to the Bible Broadcast

*Victory over Circumstances* by Ruth Paxson (25¢)

*Anxiety, Fear and Depression* by Robert S. Peterson (25¢)

NavPress

*The Godly Woman* by Leila Sparks (35¢)

*Changing Your Thought Patterns* by George Sanchez (35¢)

Inter Varsity Press

*My Heart—Christ's Home* by Robert Boyd Munger (25¢)

*How to Succeed in the Christian Life* by E.J.H. Nash (25¢)

Christian Literature Crusade

*The Normal Christian Life* by Watchman Nee (15¢)

*Challenge: Victorious Living Made Simple* by Roy Hession (10¢)

Campus Crusade for Christ

*Being a Woman of God* (for single women) by Stan and Ginger Gabriel

*How to Experience God's Love and Forgiveness* by Bill Bright (35¢). ▲

### SAVED?

What is it all about? What does it mean when a person says, "I've been saved"? Does it sound like some kind of super-religious talk? The Bible uses the word very often. If you don't know what it means to be saved, fill out the coupon below and send it in. We'll be happy to explain it to you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

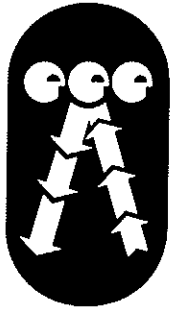
Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

CONTACT Magazine  
P. O. Box 1088  
Nashville, Tenn. 37202

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Critcher is a writer for the *High Teen Student* Sunday school quarterly. Her husband Harold pastors Horton Heights Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.



## NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

### COLSON'S 'BORN AGAIN' DOMINATES 'ETERNITY' BOOK POLL

PHILADELPHIA (EP)— Charles W. Colson, author of *Born Again* (Chosen Books) which relates his experiences as Special Counsel to President Nixon and his conversion and jail experiences, took top place in *Eternity* Magazine's 18th annual book poll.

The book drew 79 votes from more than 100 Christian leaders as "the most significant book for thinking Christians" published in 1976. Chosen Books is a division of Revell.

In second place was Senator Mark O. Hatfield's book, *Between a Rock and a Hard Place* (Word), which scored 51 votes. The book comments on the struggles a Christian in politics faces today.

*Christianity Today* editor Harold Lindsell's book, *The Battle for The Bible* (Zondervan) placed third, followed by *Angels* (Doubleday) by Billy Graham and *The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology Vol. I* (Zondervan), a massive theological resource book edited by Colin Brown.

"The main criterion for selection," said Editor Bill Petersen, "is not what is necessarily the best book or the most popular book of the year, but what is judged by our reviewers and writers as the most significant book for evangelicals in 1976. The best sellers are not always the books of unusual merit. Our survey helps to point out some books alert Christians ought to grapple with."

"Publisher of the Year" for 1976 is Zondervan with 5 books on the "top 25" list, edging out Eerdmans—the dominant publisher of the last 5 years—with 4 books in *Eternity's* top spot.

### 'JESUS CHRIST IS MY REBIRTH' ELDRIDGE CLEAVER TELLS DRIVE-IN CHURCH

GARDEN GROVE, Calif. (EP)— Thousands of Christians rejoiced as former Black Panther Eldridge Cleaver told the Garden Grove Community Church, "Jesus Christ is my rebirth. . . there isn't anyone I've met since (my conversion) that I don't love. There are no more enemies. I consider all of you my brothers and sisters."

Cleaver, facing 3 counts each of attempted murder and assaulting police, recounted his mystical experiences in France during his exile. He said the years became an eternity as his flight took him to Cuba, Algeria, Communist Europe, North Korea, China and North Vietnam.

"It was like a dream to me," he said, "seeing and being with people who had fought for their own revolution. But after a while I began to realize that man cannot live by bread alone. The people were not happy."

"These countries are just as rotten, and sometimes even more so, than their former ruling classes. I began to see that Communism is not the answer."

Invited to the church by Pastor Robert H. Schuller, Cleaver gave evidence before his former enemies that he had rejected his 1968 oath in San Francisco that he would "bring an evil, arrogant, crazy American system crashing down."

He faces an Oakland jury Jan. 24 when his trial opens for shooting it out with Oakland police April 6, 1968.

### 59% OF NEW YORKERS BACK 'RIGHT TO DIE' STATEMENTS

NEW YORK (EP)— Fifty-nine percent of New York area residents responding to a survey have expressed support for laws which allow persons over 18 to sign "right-to-die" documents.

Opposed to such laws were 28 percent of respondents, with 13 percent saying they "don't know." The telephone sampling of 400 persons in the Metropolitan area was conducted by the Daily News Opinion Poll, Oct. 11-13.

The poll was taken shortly after Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr. signed the nation's first "right-to-die" law which allows any terminally ill adult to order the removal of life-sustaining equipment by signing a document called a "living will" in the presence of 2 witnesses.

### NONSECTARIAN, NONPROFIT HOSPITALS ORDERED TO PERMIT ABORTIONS

TRENTON (EP)— The New Jersey Supreme Court has ruled that nonsectarian, nonprofit hospitals may not refuse to allow abortions in their facilities on moral grounds.

"Moral concepts cannot be the basis of nonsectarian, nonprofit hospital's regulations where that hospital is holding out the use of its facilities to the general public," Associate Justice Sidney M. Schreiber wrote in the court's 6-to-1 decision.

The court rules that the state's so-called "conscience law" was not applicable in this case. The law provides that doctors, nurses and other medical personnel may refuse to perform abortions or sterilizations on religious grounds. Religious-affiliated hospitals may refuse to allow abortions in their facilities.

Involved in the South Jersey suit were 3 hospitals—the Bridgeton Hospital Association in Bridgeton, the Newcomb Hospital in Vineland, and the Salem County Memorial Hospital in Salem.

### 'DO-IT-YOURSELF' ABORTIONS PREDICTED SOON IN ENGLAND

OXFORD, ENG. (EP)— Do-it-yourself abortions at home are now possible as the result of an invention of a "gel preparation" which is expected to be made available to British women within a year or so.

The gel has been created at the John Radcliffe Hospital here which is at present the only hospital in Britain using the new method.

"It makes safe home abortion as easy as squeezing a tube of toothpaste," one observer noted.

Trials are still being carried out at the hospital under strict medical supervision, but the inventor of the gel, Mostyn Embrey, says there is no reason why tubes of the preparation should not be issued to women by family planning clinics within a year or more.

### NUMBER OF ABORTIONS IN CAPITAL EXCEEDED LIVE BIRTHS IN 1975

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)— The number of legal abortions performed on women in Washington, D.C. last year exceeded the number of resident births for the first time in history, according to new government statistics.

Figures compiled by the District of Columbia Department of Human Resources shows that 9,819 abortions were performed last year on resident women compared with 9,746 resident births.

The report indicated that about 85 percent of the abortions were paid for by the government. Some 7,400 were paid for by Medicaid and about 1,080 were performed free at D.C. General, the city's free hospital.

Washington, D.C. is the first major U.S. city where abortions performed on resident women have exceeded the number of births, according to officials of Planned Parenthood and federal officials who compile abortion statistics.

### CAPITAL'S ILLEGITIMACY RATE REACHES A RECORD 51.1%

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)— A new report by the Washington, D.C. department of human resources shows that more than half—51.1 percent—of the babies born to residents last year were illegitimate.

Officials of the National Center for Health Statistics said that Washington, D.C. is the first city in which the out-of-wedlock births have exceeded 50 percent of all births. Nationwide, about 13 percent of babies are born to unmarried mothers.

In Washington, D.C. in 1975, married women gave birth to 4,758 babies compared with 4,988 babies born to unmarried women.

Some 57 percent of all children born to blacks in Washington, D.C. were out-of-wedlock; unmarried white women gave birth to 12.9 percent of all babies born to whites.

Officials said the higher percentage of blacks in Washington's population (75 percent) accounts for the high proportion of out-of-wedlock births in the nation's capital.

## TRIALS OF THE DIVORCED CLERGYMAN DETAILED IN A MINNEAPOLIS SURVEY

MINNEAPOLIS (EP)— In many denominations, the stakes are high for the divorcing clergyman, the Minneapolis *Tribune* discovered in a survey.

He may lose his job, his profession, his home, his financial security and his self-esteem when he or his spouse decides to end their marriage, the newspaper found.

"It may be a fear of losing so much that keeps the divorce rate among clergymen low compared with the rest of the population," said the *Tribune* article, written by Lori Sturdevant.

"Most estimates place the national divorce rate for ministers at less than 5 percent.

"But more and more ministers are willing to take the risk divorce poses, several major Protestant denominations reported recently. Though divorce is still rare among ministers, church officials point out, it was unheard of 10 years ago. For them, even a handful of divorces per year represents a significant increase and a growing problem.

## CENSUS BUREAU NOTES DIVORCE INCREASE AMONG COUPLES WHO BREAK UP IN THEIR 20'S

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)— Divorce among Americans now in their late twenties is 3 to 4 times more frequent than it was among Americans of similar age 45 years ago, a Bureau of the U.S. Census report indicates.

The bureau also reports that the divorce rate has more than doubled in this country during the last 12 years, from 2.3 per 1,000 population in 1963, to 4.8 in 1975.

## WOMEN'S SUBMISSIVENESS TO HUSBANDS CALLED CONTRARY TO THE 'DIVINE PLAN'

CINCINNATI (EP)— The "Total Woman" philosophy that wives should be submissive to their husbands is contrary to the "divine plan," according to an article published in *St. Anthony Messenger* magazine.

Women have historically tended to be subservient to men, but this is due to a corruption of the equality between the sexes which originally existed and which God intended, said Karen Katafiasz, a former assistant editor of the *Messenger*, published here by the Franciscan Friars.

She said supporters of the "Total Woman" view are accepting the inequality as a sign of femininity, instead of "struggling out of the corrupted state of inequality" as they should.

Mrs. Katafiasz concluded that "equality is the best policy." She said "a loving partnership in which both wife and husband give their fullest (not a neat 50 percent split) is more the spirit of service to which all Christians are called than is a wife serving her husband dinner dressed seductively in *Saran Wrap* (as the book *Total Woman* suggests!)." ▲

## RELIGIOUS BROADCASTERS HAIL COVERAGE UNDER COPYRIGHT LAW

MORRISTOWN, N.J. (EP)— The National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) have hailed a special provision for religious broadcasters contained in the newly-approved national copyright which President Ford has signed and which will become law Jan. 1, 1978.

John H. Midlen, Sr., counsel for the NRB, said the enactment of Section 112 (c)—which exempts nonprofit religious programmers from paying mechanical reproduction fees for use of copyrighted music on tapes or discs—"constitutes a great victory for the NRB and religious program producers."

According to Ben Armstrong, NRB executive secretary, the association initiated the section and supported it in hearings before the House and Senate. The NRB is an association of 700 member organizations which produce and broadcast more than 70 percent of the nation's religious radio and TV programs.

He said the section benefits creators of religious music as well as program producers, noting that "on-air performance greatly enhances consumer sales of records, cassettes, sheet music. . . . Christian artists particularly need the kind of widespread exposure they receive on religious programs. Under the new law, as before, copyright holders will continue to receive performance fees from stations."

## 1.8 MILLION CHILDREN (7 TO 13) UNATTENDED AFTER SCHOOL HOURS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)— An estimated 1,800,000 U.S. children, aged 7 through 13, are unattended—by parents, relatives or agencies—from the moment they leave school until a parent returns from work, the U.S. Census Bureau reports.

It noted that 8 million children lack parental care during daytime hours. Some 2.1 million are cared for in the home of a relative; 1.8 million—the 7-13 group—are unattended, and the remainder have some care through other arrangements.

Day-care centers are used less than any other type of arrangement, the bureau said, with some 326,000 receiving such aid.

The bureau's study said that 80 percent of the 41 million children aged 3 to 13 in the U.S. are "usually" cared for by one of the parents when the children are not in school.

## THURSDAY IS 'SABBATH' FOR ATHEISTS

AUSTIN, Tex. (EP)— Madalyn Murray O'Hair, self-styled "Madonna Madalyn" of the American Atheist Church, has announced that Thursday is to be the sabbath day of American atheists.

Ms. O'Hair declared that atheists should demand of their employers that work schedules be arranged so they can celebrate the sabbath on Thursdays. ▲

## JUDGE RULES TV 'FAMILY HOUR' UNCONSTITUTIONAL

LOS ANGELES (EP)— The television industry's "family hour" policy adopted 21 months ago to lessen sex and violence in early evening programming violates the First Amendment guaranteeing free speech, a Los Angeles federal judge has ruled.

U.S. Dist. Judge Warren J. Ferguson held that the policy was illegally adopted after unprecedented pressure from Federal Communications Commission Chairman Richard Wiley.

The judge's 223-page decision made it clear, however, that television stations are free to continue or discontinue the policy, providing that programming decisions are made "independent of concern for government reaction."

Various guilds within television's creative community had brought suit on grounds that their First Amendment rights, as well as those of the viewing public, were violated by the more restrictive programming in the early evening hours.

## MILLION 'TEEN RUNAWAYS' A YEAR MERELY 'TIP OF THE ICEBERG'

NEW YORK (EP)— Teenagers who contemplate running away from home in an attempt to solve their problems or seek thrills are encouraged to seek local counseling or call "national hotlines" designed to help them.

"Running away today is not like what it was for Huckleberry Finn," states an article in the current issue of *Junior Scholastic*, a news magazine for junior high students published here.

"Huck had an exciting time, floating down the Mississippi on a raft. Runaways today, for the most part, are alone in a strange place. They are not criminals, but they do need help."

The article said 1 million young people a year are reported as runaways — but this figure is a "tip of the iceberg" because many cases are not reported. Studies show that teenagers run away because of tragedy in their lives, trouble at school, conflicts with parents, or simply to seek thrills.

## DECLINE IN COLLEGE ENROLLMENT FORESEEN, FIRST LOSS IN 17 YEARS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)— A survey of 688 "representative" colleges and universities around the country shows enrollment may have declined about 1 percent this fall, but private (primarily church-related) schools reported a 7 percent increase. Theological schools were up 4.7 percent.

The survey was completed by Garland G. Parker of the University of Cincinnati, who described his findings "a surprise and a shock," adding that if the decline prevails through the final compilation of data, it would mark the first loss in the 17 years he has conducted the survey. ▲

# Subscription Clubs Established

Three subscription clubs are being established for those who are willing to promote the denominational magazine through a subscription campaign in their churches or local associations. Those who secure 25 new subscriptions at \$5.00 each will become members of the Quarter Club; those who enroll 50 new subscribers will be named to the Golden Club; and those who place 100 new subscriptions will become members of the elite Century Club.

Also, for each 25 subscriptions a person secures, he will receive a free one-year subscription. Thus a person could extend his own or an-

other's subscription for as many as 4 or 5 years while still assisting in the placement of the denominational publication. In addition, the names of those earning membership in one or more of these clubs will be published in each monthly issue through April.

At the end of the 3 months, the number of new subscribers should serve as an adequate gauge for measuring approval of the enlarged magazine format.

Full subscription information and helps will be sent to each individual who checks the appropriate space on the coupon below.

FROM THE BRIDGE



# BIGGER AND BETTER

By Rufus Coffey  
Executive Secretary

How do you like the enlarged size of this issue of *CONTACT*? Surely, you will agree that it provides more for your money. But our real intent is to provide you with more than that which can be measured by monetary value.

For some time we have considered alternate ideas of how to improve our denominational magazine and give it a broader appeal. The concept is to have excellent contents as well as a magazine appealing in appearance because of its graphic arts. Also, it is our desire to include more news and a wider scope of denominational activities.

In short, we want to offer our subscribers a good magazine with worthwhile reading materials yet within an acceptable price range.

One of the specific goals of the magazine is to provide spiritual inspiration in order that readers may grow in the likeness of Christ and serve Him more effectively. Another goal is to keep our people fully informed concerning the events, people, activities, accom-

## Contact Magazine "Bigger and Better" Evaluation Form

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, the new size of *CONTACT* does meet my reading needs better.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I feel the former 20-page format for *CONTACT* was adequate.

1. I would like to see these subjects covered in future issues of the magazine:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I feel there is a need for regular coverage of the following: new books \_\_\_\_\_  
new records \_\_\_\_\_ teacher aids \_\_\_\_\_ pastoral aids \_\_\_\_\_ Christian educa-  
tion materials \_\_\_\_\_ news of the religious world \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

3. I am willing to assist *CONTACT* in the promotion of the denominational magazine.  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, will you do one of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Enroll 25 new subscribers \_\_\_\_\_ Enroll 100 new subscribers

\_\_\_\_\_ Enroll 50 new subscribers \_\_\_\_\_ Enroll \_\_\_\_\_ new subscribers  
(Subscription Rate — \$5.00 per year)

4. \_\_\_\_\_ I would like full subscription information and helps.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to have information about the Church Family Plan, which offers a discount rate when all active members are enrolled.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Return to *CONTACT* Magazine  
P.O. Box 1088 / Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

plishments and progress of our denomination as a whole.

The magazine aims to impart spiritual truths related to our basic Free Will Baptist doctrine. It will thus become a rich heritage of literature, which will reflect the particular customs, traditions, beliefs and practices of our people at this given period of history. Divergent viewpoints will be presented as long as they are not in violation of our faith and practices.

The editors or readers may not always agree with the ideas expressed. However, if the opinions are representative of some sizable segment of our fellowship, they will be presented.

The magazine strives to interpret contemporary issues of society which have basic moral implications in order to help readers evaluate controversial issues in light of the Scriptures. In view of the many controversial issues today, Christians need new insights in order to make sound judgments concerning the proper Christian attitude or conviction.

Above all the magazine strives to stimulate the readers' thinking by presenting articles in a positive and objective manner. Hopefully, the readers will think objectively upon the great doctrines, issues and problems even when there are differences of opinion. Thus, the magazine seeks to unify our people by developing a broader understanding of those areas where disagreement exists.

Many interesting articles are planned for the coming months. For example, an in-depth analysis of the Unification Church, which is headed by Sun Myung Moon, is forthcoming. Practical articles will deal with such things as church music, discipline in the home and daily Christian living.

We want to get the reaction of our readers to this enlarged issue of *CONTACT*. One of the best ways we can determine approval is to find how many are willing to help us promote a subscription campaign in their churches and local associations. Three subscription clubs are being established for those who will become involved in this effort. This plan is explained on

page 30.

Please take time to complete and return the questionnaire on the opposite page. Our prayer is that the magazine will be a blessing to our people. Unless our people are aware of the magazine and what it offers, the publication cannot be a blessing to them. Your willingness to assist us in getting the magazine into the hands of those who are not

current subscribers will be greatly appreciated.

This year promises to afford a great opportunity for you to receive a better magazine, designed to enrich your reading habits. Share the magazine with others. Get your church to subscribe if it is not already on the Church Family Plan. And, oh yes, don't forget to renew your own subscription!

## PRAY FOR OUR PRESIDENT

The election of Jimmy Carter as our 39th president has elevated a somewhat obscure man to the highest office of our land and to world prominence. The new president-elect needs the prayers of God's people as he assumes an overwhelming burden of responsibility.

This rather plain American from Plains, Georgia, has captured world attention during this transitional period between political administrations. A great deal of speculation has been offered as to what kind of President Mr. Carter will be. I am not a political analyst; so it would be foolish to further speculate. However, without the blessings of God very little lasting good can be accomplished. This is why we ought to pray for the president.

We all know that the incoming president is faced with enormous problems. In addition to international problems, Mr. Carter is faced with our own domestic complications of inflation, taxes, unemployment, welfare abuse, an unsettled economy and the list goes on and on *ad infinitum!* This is why we must earnestly pray that our newly elected president will have wisdom and insight to discern what is best from a human point of view for our country. We need to pray that God will give him courage and strength of character to do what is morally right in the decisions he faces.

Our number one problem in America transcends the temporal circumstances. We face a spiritual and moral decadence, which lies at the root of our national ills, such as corporate corruption, crime syndicates,

sexual deviations, fiscal irresponsibility, etc. The President is not an evangelist, but he is our leader. His life-style can set a high moral tone that can help restore the ideals and values upon which this nation was built.

Although there have been reasons to be disappointed in Mr. Carter's profession of faith, we must pray that God will strengthen his faith and deepen his dedication so that his life-style will back up his testimony of being born again.

Because of our American individualism and philosophical differences, all will not agree with Mr. Carter's decision or leadership; yet he is our duly elected president. He is a very shrewd and capable man, who possesses great vision and talents. He deserves our respect and earnest prayers that God will guide him during a very trying period in our nation's history.

In the final analysis, our ultimate trust is not in the president but in the God of the president. "The King's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water; he turneth it whithersoever he will," Proverbs 21:1.

Therefore, let us heed the admonition of the Apostle Paul found in I Timothy 2:1-3:

*I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour."*

**CONTACT**

**P. O. Box 1088**

**Nashville, Tennessee 37202**

Second-class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee

**Make**  
^

# **TEACHER DEVELOPMENT**

## **Your Business**

*February is National Teacher Training Month*

**For—**

Teacher's Guides  
Texts  
Free loan Filmstrips

**Help—**

Instructors  
Other helps

**Write—**

**or—**

Teacher Training  
Free Will Baptist Sunday School  
Department  
114 Bush Road-P. O. Box 17306  
Nashville, Tn. 37217

**Call—**

615-361-1221