

JUNE, 1977

# contact

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



## TRIUMPHANT IN CHRIST

in personal life  
in family life  
in church life  
in world missions  
in prayer life

41st Annual Convention  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
July 17-21, 1977 Detroit, Michigan





By Genevieve Waddell

I married a widowed pastor with 4 children on my twenty-second birthday. Looking back, I sometimes wonder how my mind, body and spirit ever made the multitude of adjustments necessary for survival. Marriage is difficult under the best of circumstances; orange blossoms and "The Wedding March" do not automatically result in a happy-ever-after ending.

With the added physical and emotional responsibility of the children and because my predecessor had been a godly, multitalented Christian woman, my adjustment to marriage was doubly hard. When you are Number Two (wife), you do try harder.

But God is good. His grace is sufficient.

Early in my marriage I received some advice that charted the course for my marriage. That advice

has been my mainstay, and I am convinced that it is the secret of a *good* marriage in an age when even the so-called Evangelicals consider a marriage to be *good* if the mates do not beat one another, cheat or blow the paychecks. Beyond that, the quality often leaves much to be desired.

Thus, many women watch the soapies or go to work outside the home and discover they don't have to stay tied to an unappreciative, boring husband. Just look at all those swinging singles! They are having FUN!

Bored husbands see those swinging singles at the office, on visitation and down at the plant. Ignoring the predatory look behind the Women's Lib facade, husbands think, "I don't have to put up with this nagging, whining fatso at home. I'm getting out!"

One mother with a marital casualty behind her told me, "Well, there's one good thing about my daughter's marriage. It's not necessarily a

permanent thing, and if it doesn't work out, she can always get a divorce." I can well understand why 3 of her 4 children were themselves divorced before the age of 25. Her thoughts probably summarize the general outlook towards marriage today, even among those of us who outwardly cherish the institution and vow to uphold it.

During times of difficult adjustment in my own marriage, I have treasured the memorable advice given to me by the wife of a Free Will Baptist minister. She has probably forgotten the incident, and I have never told her name to anyone but my husband.

We were sitting on our cots at a wooded youth camp, grateful for a quiet break away from the youngsters. Somehow the conversation centered around the various aspects of marriage. I had been married only a couple of years; so I considered that her 10 years of experience gave her the right to offer me some advice.

I remember that tears filled her eyes as she recalled some of the occasions when God chased the wolf from the door only a step ahead of the collection agency. She had no way of knowing whether or not my marriage had yet experienced any troubled waters, nor did she have the gift of prophecy.

But she said, "There have been times in my marriage when I have not loved my husband as I ought. There have been times when I haven't even *liked* him and times when I've had to pray for God to remove my ugly attitude. But during all of these times, there has been a deep abiding commitment, much like the commitment I made when I was saved. There have been times when I haven't loved the Lord as I should have either, but I have never considered breaking that commitment."

That wasn't the end of the conversation, however, because she ended by saying, "There have been other times when I've loved my husband—as I have loved the Lord—with deep passion and would have walked through fire with him or for him. But mostly, there is that commitment; so I know we are together for all of our lives. And the good far outweighs the bad."

There have been times in my own marriage since then when I have felt drained physically, emotionally, spiritually. But I have been comforted by her words. My husband and I are *committed* to one another for as long as we both shall live.

Most of us live our marriages in very ordinary circumstances with little thought of the havoc that Satan is playing among us. "Little foxes" are scouring the vineyards of our homes. Day by day the strain increases. One day the proverbial straw breaks the camel's back, and there is another feather in Satan's already full cap. One writer put it this way: "All marriages are happy. It's the living together afterwards that causes all the trouble."

Satan knows exactly what hinders or helps a marriage. If we understand some of the hindrances and helps, we can make the daily to-

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## MARRIAGE IS A COMMITMENT

(Cont. from page 3)

getherness a thing of joy rather than a test of endurance.

There are extenuating circumstances. There are times when marriage vows have been perverted to the extent that it is impossible to continue to live with someone. But that, like the deathbed repentance, should be the rare exception, not the general rule.

For most of us, it is the day-to-day grind that gets us down. It is the living together that causes wear and tear on a marriage, not unusual circumstances. It is often that lifelong commitment that makes the difference in whether or not a marriage survives and thrives or dissolves and dies.

I believe that forming close friendships with disillusioned divorced people is detrimental. There has to be an understanding that you can witness to, counsel with and have compassion for people in the throes of a divorce, but your outlook on marriage can be colored by their sour attitude and the bond of sympathy between you.

Lack of appreciation is one of Satan's most useful tools for damaging a marriage. It does not take a lot of effort to show that you do appreciate your mate: a special dinner at home and out occasionally, a genuine compliment, a kiss at the door. "Nobody appreciates me" is a chief complaint in ailing marriages. Someone once said, "Before our marriage, an ocean could not have held his sweet words and deeds. Now, I could not collect a thimbleful if my life depended on it."

Sometimes mates would do well to ask themselves, "How does my husband or wife see me now? Do I still appear well groomed and take care with my appearance the way I did before marriage?" Every person ought to keep themselves looking nice for marriage's sake.

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Waddell is an administrative analyst under Mayor Richard Fulton, Nashville, Tennessee. Her husband Eugene is pastor of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville.*

Children often strain marriages, too. Only in storybooks do babies really strengthen marriage ties if there are problems already present. My son summed that up one day when he remarked that most dating couples sat very close to each other in the car, but most married people did not. "It looks like having children in a car would push the mother and father closer together, but it doesn't," he said. It takes a lot of daily work and scheduling to make time for one another after the children come.

The lack of friendship in a marriage also hinders its enjoyment and causes many divorces among couples who have been married for 20 years or longer. Many couples build their marriages around the children, only to discover after the children are gone that they neither know nor like one another. In past years they would have stayed together anyway. Now divorce is easy. It is socially acceptable and gradually becoming the thing to do, even in religious circles. Cultivate the friendship, as well as love, of your mate.

But God's rules do not change. He doesn't even bend them. In God's wisdom, He knows that breaking the rules of marriage causes scars that are never erased. Divorce might fade into the background, but the scars itch and burn and hurt through the years. The pain exists in the lives of the children as well as the man and woman.

My own attitude towards commitment in marriage makes me want to enhance the quantity and quality of my love. Just thinking about my commitment reminds me of my responsibility to do my part to make my marriage even more beautiful day after day, through the good times and when times aren't so good, through sickness and in health, through plenty and in want, when the church is on the upswing and when both attendance and offerings hit an all-time low.

Commitment breeds security. When that security, based on a commitment of love and trust, is wrapped up with the blessings of the Holy Spirit's continual presence, the daily grind becomes a treasure chest of joy.

Taking away the commitment from marriage leaves insecurity and fear, the kind that casts out perfect love. As my husband often says, the first time a person ever mentions "divorce," pride creeps in. Getting someone to back down once divorce or separation talk begins is like recalling a rifle bullet after discharging the trigger. Your personal commitment to each other and to God is one of the best defenses against Satan's whispered, "Have you thought about parting for awhile just to think things out?"

Today, after almost 14 years of marriage, my commitment has not weakened. The times have not all been good. Some of the memories are painful, but the good has far outweighed the bad, just as my friend said.

As I look around me and see that the chances of even good marriages surviving are getting slimmer every day, I want to strengthen my commitment. The soap operas, "Dear Ann" and "Dear Abby," television, books, social values—many things work to undermine marriage today. A blind person crossing the Los Angeles Freeway has a better chance in rush hour traffic than a wishy-washy marriage.

The compliment I treasure most from my husband has been given to me more than once. Gene has often said, "Sometimes when the going is really rough and when I feel alone, I can look out over the audience or come home to you and I know that even if the whole world forsakes me, you are on my side."

When something funny or sad or rather mundane happens to me, I immediately think, "I can't wait to tell Gene about this." Then I know my commitment is a good one. It is a commitment of love.

So I have renewed my commitment in the light of the world's attitude towards marriage, and I want to encourage others to do the same. If you find it difficult to think in terms of this lifelong commitment, seek professional Christian counseling. It is a sin not to ask for help.

Don't just endure your commitment though. Enjoy it! Look upon your marriage as a gift from God and treasure it. Cultivate it. ▲

# Revitalize Your Witness

By Susan Burgess  
Staff Writer

*Do you blush easily? Are your knees shaky?  
Do your palms perspire? Are your eyes evasive?  
Does your voice squeak and quiver? Do your fists  
absolutely refuse to knock resoundingly on any door?  
Do you feel completely incompetent—when  
you want to witness about Christ's love?*

If you are among the millions of Christians suffering from such embarrassing symptoms, the never-fail cure sells for as little as one copper penny a dose. Yes, this ancient, but long-unused discovery can be yours! It comes in many sizes, designs and price ranges to fit your budget and life-style.

This remarkable remedy will revitalize your puny witness to vigorous spiritual health while it overcomes the stubborn obstacles of shyness, overwrought nerves and a tied tongue. Believe it or not; this slender pamphlet dubbed a "tract" possesses all these marvelous powers.

It was a single tract that led to the salvation of Admiral Gaspard Coligny, the leader of the Reformation in France. The influence of a missions tract resulted in 30 members of the Scudder family becoming missionaries to India. Thomas Paine wrote "Common Sense" and distributed it in tract form. That pamphlet persuaded colonists to renounce King George III and create the independent United States of America over 200 years ago. Thus through the chain reaction of the tract's influence on the reader and the reader's influence on others, the worth and

fruit of one tract is multiplied thousands of times.

## VERSATILE APPLICATIONS

Besides their phenomenal effect, tracts hold numerous other virtues. Tracts can go where many Christians cannot: to prisons, hospitals, nursing homes, offices of congressmen or judges' chambers. Tracts travel with ease across the ocean, across the country or just across town.

Anybody can use tracts. The Christian doesn't have to be a Bible college graduate or have to know the Romans Road plan of salvation in order to effectively witness to the unsaved through a tract. The elderly can mail tracts when they aren't able to leave home; the harried housewife can hand one to a pesky salesman; the rushed businessperson can distribute tracts to customers, acquaintances and fellow commuters; even children can pass them out at school and on the playground.

Another commendable quality of the humble tract is its stick-to-itiveness. Its message clings to the paper, refusing to budge and refusing to argue the point. The printed words are there to be read again and again although a verbal



witness may have faded into the obscure recesses of the mind.

When the tract quotes Scripture, it is guaranteed to produce results. God promises, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11). God's guarantees don't hinge on the fine print but on His faithfulness.

## INDELIBLE IMPRESSIONS

First impressions are extremely important to a tract. Its attractiveness should invite the receiver to read, meditate and preserve the tract for further study. But unfortunately, there are mediocre tracts as well as excellent ones. Therefore, the Christian soul winner should always choose tracts of the highest quality paper, printing and illustrations. The appearance and message of a tract reflect on Christ and the Christian worker.

Of course, the message of the tract must be clear, concise and complete. If the tract is expressly written to present the plan of salvation, it should include verses pertaining to the knowledge of sin, payment of the sin-debt, offer of salvation, necessity of repentance and assurance of forgiveness. Tracts written to perform other functions, such as comfort, encourage-





## REVITALIZE YOUR WITNESS

(Cont. from page 5)

ment, inspiration, etc., should have a definite purpose and reach a positive conclusion.

However, part of the tract's effectiveness depends on the person who distributes it. Always take time to study a tract in order to assess its message for appropriateness. Keep a variety handy. Be sure tracts are clean and unwrinkled. When you offer a tract, also give a smile.

Lastly, all tracts need to bear an address and phone number where further information and counseling can be obtained. Most tracts do include the publisher's address, but it is better to add the address of a local church as well as the pastor's name. Through this advertisement, prospective church attenders can also be reached.

### DISTRIBUTION OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities for tract distribution are infinite. Listed below are 20 ideas. Use your imagination, resources and environment to find other ways.

- Hand "charge-card" tracts to gas station attendants and checkers at cash registers.
- Add an extra "dollar-bill" tract for the teller when you deposit your paycheck. Give one to the attendant at toll booths.
- Leave a "tip" tract and a tip for a

waitress, and don't forget to stick another tract inside the menu for the next diner.

- Leave tracts in public rest rooms. Don't leave so many that they tempt youngsters to toss them in the wastebasket.

- Lay "thank-you" tracts on bedside tables for motel maids.

- Enclose tracts in all your bills paid by mail. Be sure to use different tracts each month.

- Make receiving bills fun. Bookkeepers can enclose tracts with invoices.

- Send tracts chock-full of cheer and comfort to the sick and bereaved, including Christians and fellow church members.

- Order tracts written especially for cult members. Then give the appropriate one to a door-to-door missionary. This gets your views across but eliminates harmful arguments.

- Stand near the entrance of mass events, such as ballgames, rodeos, concerts, etc., and pass out tracts. Never force a tract on anyone, but be willing to talk to those who are interested.

- Organize the church youth group to distribute tracts at a shopping center. But be sure to get the owner's permission first.

- Enclose the true Christmas story in tract form with your seasons greeting cards.

- Don't just stand in line. Give everyone a tract to read while they wait.

- Beautify a beauty salon with tracts. Many patrons read under the hair dryers.

- Liven up those outdated magazines in the doctor's and dentist's offices with enclosed tracts.

- Encourage everyone, old and young, the Christian and skeptic, with "Have a Good Day" tracts, the 4-page news tract with only good news and *the Good News*.

- Say good-bye with a tract when on church visitation.

- Put tracts in customers' sacks if you as salesperson have your boss' permission. Bosses, encourage your Christian employees to do so.

- Bask in the anonymity of witnessing to fellow college students by leaving tracts in dorm rooms.

- Gain new friends for Jesus by sending tracts to names on pen pal

### Tract Publishers

The following is a list of publishers of suitable tracts for practically every occasion.

Randall House Publications, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37202 (Free Will Baptist);

Church Training Service, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 (Free Will Baptist);

Tyndale House Publishers, 336 Gunderson Drive, Wheaton, IL 60187 ("Have a Good Day");

Moody Press, 820 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60610;

Good News Publishers, 9825 W. Roosevelt Rd., Westchester, IL 60153; American Tract Society, Oradell, NJ 07649;

Bible Tracts Inc., Box 508, Waterloo, IA 50704;

Faith Prayer and Tract League, 934 Eleventh St. N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

lists.

- Congratulate winners and encourage losers when you mail tracts to people listed in newspapers as receiving awards or getting traffic tickets.

Never fear that your time and money and the tract's life will be wasted if you first and most importantly saturate the distribution of tracts (whether it be 2 or 2,000) with prayer. Dedicate the tract's potential to God, and allow Him to use it for His purposes. However, the results may never be seen except in heaven.

Like all dedicated witnesses, a tract is willing to give its life if necessary to accomplish God's purpose. At times it has been required.

Once a prisoner in a concentration camp saw a piece of paper sticking out of the door of a coal-burning stove. Curious, he pulled out the smoldering scrap, uncurled the seared edges, read the partial message and became a convert to Christ. No evangelist could reach the innermost caverns of that horrendous prison, but God arranged for a worthless bit of litter to penetrate the bastion and rescue a soul from hell and a spirit from obliteration. That tract did not die in vain.

One tract can grant life to the spiritually dead. A handful can sway the destiny of nations. ▲





SHARING—Martha Muramoto, right, Sapporo, Japan, shares her concern for the spiritual needs of her own people with Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey. Miss Muramoto is a 1977 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville. On the left are Johnny Daw and Virginia Bays.



## Add Freshness to Your Evangelism Emphasis Through A Missions Festival

By Rufus Coffey

**W**hen I attended the missions festival at Horton Heights Church in Nashville, Tennessee, several months ago, I felt the whole atmosphere permeated with missions throughout the day. The planners had created a missions mood that affected every area of the festival. I felt a sense of personal involvement.

Under the direction of Reverend and Mrs. Dan Cronk, former missionaries to India, young people had come to the church on Saturday and changed the entire appearance of the church's classrooms and auditorium. They made every classroom resemble a foreign country with curios, posters prepared by the church's youth and other appropriate displays.

Every person, regardless of age, who arrived in time for Sunday school could choose which country he wanted to hear about that morning. Missionaries and students who had served as short-term missionaries during the summer told what God is doing in each field and what the needs are in that area of God's world. The atmosphere of the rooms and the presentation primed us for a spectacular missions festival. The group leaders portrayed the needs of mission fields in very practical ways, including visual aids. The discussion groups involved every per-

son in the room. Even the leaders' dress, in keeping with the country represented, added a new dimension to the missionary education of Horton Heights worshipers. The class session concluded with a period of prayer for the missionaries.

We left the discussion groups and went into the auditorium. During the first half of the service several lay members of the congregation gave short readings and shared in a variety of ways, all of which added to the missions emphasis of the day. Then Dan and Trula Cronk poured out their hearts to us in love for a world that needs Christ. Dan graphically portrayed several heathen customs, making us keenly aware of the urgent need to get the Gospel out to the ends of the earth. A special missionary offering was received at the close of the message.

The women of the church prepared an international dinner from recipes secured from different missionaries. There was an excellent variety of foods, and even the hard to please found great delight in the wide selection. All through the fellowship hall were requests of "Let's do this every year!"

Youth interested in missions spent the afternoon at the church and in the Cronks' home asking questions and discussing various facets of missions ministries.

We returned to the church that evening to view *Peace Child*, an ex-

ceptional film blending ferocious intertribal warfare, expert cinematography and Christian compassion.

Missions education is not a matter of dramatizing missions, but *emphasizing* missions. I felt as though the educational value at Horton Heights helped the people to gain a better understanding of the culture and spiritual needs of each country. Each speaker emphasized the cultural aspect of his country. This emphasis is tremendously important in missions education. The discussions provoked interchange of ideas and observations and aroused a new personal concern.

Have you wondered how you could get your church out of a missions rut? Has your missionary conference gone stale? Many of our churches need a new, fresh approach to missionary education. Missionary conferences are great. Many churches have this annual emphasis on missions with meaningful results. But often there is a lack of mental, physical and spiritual involvement on the part of the congregation. Perhaps a missions festival is just the answer for you. Involved people are not apt to be indifferent people.

I came away from Horton Heights with a new appreciation for what God is doing around the world. I felt close to the missionaries that day. The festival was sort of a missions air freshener to me.

If your church is afflicted with a paralysis of complacency regarding missions, try a dash of freshness. *Plan a missions festival!* ▲





# Convention time is a'coming!

By Eugene Workman

**M**otor City U.S.A. will welcome Free Will Baptists for the denomination's 41st annual convention July 17-21. Convening in Cobo Hall, the conventioners will have the opportunity to participate in a total of 22 workshops offered on Monday and Tuesday of the convention and to hear the reports of each national ministry in the business sessions on Wednesday and Thursday.

Meeting simultaneously with the National Association are the National Youth Conference and the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention. The youth begin their meeting on Sunday night with the keynote service and conclude Wednesday noon. The women have their annual one-day conclave on Tuesday.

Highlighting the Monday evening gathering will be a special proclamation heralding the heritage and spiritual contributions of Free Will Baptists for the past 250 years. The denomination's spiritual roots in America date back to 1727.

As far as the Motor City is concerned, every day is a work day—and what is all in a day's work for Detroit can be a thrilling experience for the visitor. Production of 25 percent of the nation's cars and almost as many trucks continues there

around the clock. Most Detroit auto-makers permit entry into the workshops of their production plants.

One giant complex alone, the Ford Rouge, uses as much electric power in a day as the city of Dallas, Texas. Conventioners can watch a car being assembled there from the first nut to the last hubcap. "Hot strip" to some may mean Hollywood, but to Detroiters it is the forming of rolls of steel in block-long, red-hot ovens, where visitors step back from the intense light and heat even from their catwalk vantage point suspended 30 feet above the ovens.

Quaint Greenfield Village in the Henry Ford Museum Complex immortalizes the past. This 260-acre, indoor-outdoor history book is the only place around where visitors can walk through the homes and workshops of famous Americans, like Henry Ford's friend Thomas Edison, or ride a real steam locomotive or take a paddle-wheel riverboat ride to a turn-of-the-century park.

One of the special events for those attending the National Youth Conference will be a trip to the Henry Ford Museum. Convention planners suggest that families come early to the convention or stay over for extra days in order to take advantage of the many family-type points of interest in and around Detroit.

## RESERVATIONS ARRIVING

The Metropolitan Detroit Convention and Visitors Bureau reports that reservations for the national convention have been coming in at a good pace. A spokesman for one hotel property said that the rate the reservations were being received in early May indicated that facility would be completely utilized by Free Will Baptists by convention time.

Sensing that perhaps an additional facility was needed, convention planners were able to negotiate with a third hotel, the Hotel Ponchartrain, for a block of rooms. This facility is located immediately across the street from Cobo Hall. The reservation form with a listing of hotel prices and locations was carried on pages 15 and 16 of the May issue of *CONTACT*. Reservations should be made by July 1.

## CAMPING SITES

Conventioners who want to bring their travel trailers and camp during the convention will need to make individual contact with the campsite operators. Approximately a 45-minute drive from Cobo Hall is the Brighton Recreation Area, Howell, Michigan, 313/229-6566; and the Island Lake Recreation Area, Rural Route, Brighton, Michigan, 313/229-7067. The latter facility does not have electricity. Approximately a 30-minute drive from Cobo Hall is Proud Lake Recreation Area,



Wixsom, Michigan, 313/685-2433.

The Rev. Charles Cooper, pastor of the Troy Free Will Baptist Church, states that a number of camping vehicles can be accommodated in the church parking lot. Anyone desiring to use these facilities should contact Mr. Cooper at 2300 John Road, Troy, Michigan 48084; telephone 313/689-8686. The parking charge will be nominal.

For conventioners who desire to use camping facilities on the Canadian side of the Detroit River, the local committee has obtained the names and addresses of 4 parks which may be contacted individually. Prices were not available, but in addition to the camping fee there will be a toll charge for vehicles each time they cross between the 2 countries. Facilities are as follows:  
Mic-Mac Park

Ojibway Parkway & Prince Street  
Windsor, Ontario

Holiday Beach Provincial Park  
Box 128  
Amherstburg, Ontario

Martindale Beach Park  
556 Tecumseh Road, Box 9  
Emeryville, Ontario  
519/735-4428

Pleasant Valley Trailer Park  
3180 St. Patricks Drive, Route 2  
Windsor, Ontario.

### CONVENTION PARKING

For the convenience of conventioners who will be driving daily to Cobo Hall, 150 parking spaces will be reserved only for Free Will Baptists until 9:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday. After 9:00 a.m. the remaining spaces will be open to the public.

The charge is \$1.25 per day with no in-and-out privileges.

### MEETING WITH MEALS

An educator, evangelist, missionary leader and pastor of the largest Baptist church in the Rocky Mountain Empire will be the guest speaker for the annual Pastor's Dinner, Tuesday, July 19, at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Ed Nelson, pastor of the South Sheridan Baptist Church, Denver,

Colorado, has proven himself to be a man with diverse leadership abilities. At the time he accepted his current pastorate, the average attendance was less than 200. Today, the church regularly exceeds 2,000 in attendance. The Silver State Baptist School, a ministry of the church, has an enrollment of 850. Dr. Nelson serves as president of the Colorado Association of Christian Schools and the American Association of Christian Schools.

The ministry of Dr. Nelson has been characterized by an aggressive emphasis on evangelism, soul winning and missions. He has authored several booklets dealing with these subjects. He serves on the board of Baptist World Missions, as well as the boards of San Francisco Seminary, Maranatha Baptist Bible College and the Christian Legal Defense Foundation.

In keeping with the special emphasis on Sunday school during the workshop sessions and the national convention, Dr. Nelson will challenge pastors and guests with the subject, "Igniting Revival Fires in the Sunday School." This dinner will climax the special emphasis given to Sunday school growth throughout the seminar sessions. A total of 10 aspects of Sunday school growth will be covered during specific seminars.

Over the years the annual Fellowship Dinner of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention has grown in appeal to husbands as well as to women who are involved in the ministry of this arm of the local church. Thus it has become distinguished as the largest attended meal function during the national meeting.

This year the group will hear Mrs. Elizabeth MacDonald share the reality of Christ in a woman's world. She is the wife of Harold C. MacDonald, vice-president of the research staff of the Ford Motor Company in Detroit. She is a frequent speaker at women's meetings in the United States and Canada. The Fellowship Dinner will be Monday evening, July 18, at 5:00.

The first of 2 breakfast meetings will be the Music Fellowship Breakfast on Tuesday, July 19, at 7:30 a.m. This breakfast is sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Music Ministries. Special guest for the breakfast and seminar, which will immediately follow, is Mr. Chuck Ohman, a trumpet artist who is also known for his rich, persuasive, baritone voice. Earlier in his career he was regularly featured on a television program on a major network, but he is presently serving as minister of music at



*CANADA TUNNEL—Detroit's City-County Building looms in the background of this shot of the entrance to the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel, which connects downtown Detroit with downtown Windsor, Ontario, in Canada. Free Will Baptist convention goers can journey from the U.S. to Canada in less than 5 minutes by auto or bus through the tunnel. There is a toll charge.*





**CONVENTION TIME IS  
A'COMING!**

(Cont. from page 9)

Calvary Baptist Church in Detroit. He also has regular engagements in radio and television and public meetings throughout the country.

On Wednesday morning, July 20, at 7:00 the spotlight will be on the laymen of the denomination as they gather at their annual Master's Men Breakfast. The special speaker for this breakfast meeting is Mr. Jim Williams, a layman who serves as executive secretary for Texas Free Will Baptists. Mr. Williams has recently been appointed to serve with the National Home Missions Board in Mexico.

One of the highlights for alumni of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, is the annual Alumni Luncheon and meeting. This year the group will gather on Wednesday, July 20, at 12:15 p.m.

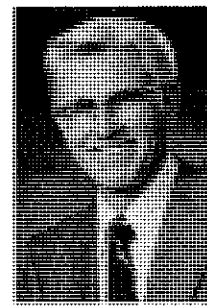
to share in a luncheon meeting in which newly elected alumni president Dann Patrick will preside over his first session.

All meetings with meals will be held in Cobo Hall. Advance tickets to each of these meal functions are available by filling out the request form on page 10 of the June issue of *CONTACT* Magazine. The price of each meal function is listed. All requests for advance tickets must be received by July 6. Each order must be accompanied by check or money order.

NYC participants are reminded that all meal tickets for the youth conference must be obtained directly from the CTS Department and not from Convention Ticket Sales. However, the address for both is P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

**CONVENTION DELEGATES**

Voting delegates at each National Association include ordained minis-



NELSON



PATRICK

ters who are in good standing with a local association affiliated with the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 5 delegates elected by each state association and 3 delegates elected by district associations in states where there is no organized state association. All local churches may be recognized at the National Association by one voting lay delegate providing the credentials are completed and submitted with a \$10 fee.

The credentials form for lay delegates is found on page 12 of this issue. The credentials for other delegates are to be secured from the clerk of each respective state association and completed with proper signatures.

Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey requests that all state clerks send their completed state letters with representation fees to the Executive Office no later than July 1. Since the national meeting is convening one week later than in prior years, this additional time should allow state clerks to compile the reports of their state meetings and forward them to the Executive Office in advance. No delegate from any state can be seated until a report from the state clerk is properly filed.

**VICTORY IN JESUS**

What more appropriate song than "Victory In Jesus" could be chosen as a theme song to illustrate the convention theme of "Triumphant in Christ." Based on II Corinthians 2:14, the theme will speak to conventioners of a successful, victorious venture which brings gladness and joy.

Therefore, the various topics are selected to present a broad perspective of how Christ leads the

**REQUESTS FOR TICKETS TO MEAL FUNCTIONS  
1977 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

Number	Meal	Total
_____	<b>W.N.A.C. Banquet</b> —\$5.00 each Monday, July 18, 5:00 p.m./Cobo Hall, Cafeteria Speaker: Elizabeth McDonald	\$ _____
_____	<b>Music Fellowship Breakfast</b> —\$4.00 each Tuesday, July 19, 7:30 a.m./Cobo Hall, Room 3037 Speaker: Chuck Ohman	\$ _____
_____	<b>Pastor's Dinner</b> —\$5.00 each Tuesday, July 19, 5:00 p.m./Cobo Hall, Cafeteria Speaker: Dr. Ed Nelson	\$ _____
_____	<b>Layman's Breakfast</b> —\$4.00 each Wednesday, July 20, 7:00 a.m./Cobo Hall, Ballroom Speaker: Jim Williams	\$ _____
_____	<b>FWBBC Alumni Luncheon</b> —\$4.00 each Wednesday, July 20, 12:15 p.m. Cobo Hall, Room 3037	\$ _____
	<b>Total Enclosed</b>	\$ _____

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

MAIL REQUEST TO: Ticket Sales, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.  
Please send check or money order. DO NOT send cash.  
All requests must be received by July 6, 1977.

(NOTE: Order all youth banquet tickets from CTS Department.)



believer to a successful and victorious life in 5 specific areas.

**SUNDAY MORNING**

**July 17, 11:00 a.m.**

*"Christ Triumphant in the Individual Believer"*

Serving in a dual capacity as both pastor and principal is the speaker for the Sunday morning worship service. The Rev. Dennis Wiggs, moderator of the North Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists, pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Beaufort, North Carolina. He also is the principal of Beaufort Christian Academy.

Mr. Wiggs prepared for his dual roles at Bob Jones University, Greenville, South Carolina, where he was awarded a B.A. degree, and at Columbia Bible College Graduate School, Columbia, South Carolina. In addition to his present pastorate, he has served First Free Will Baptist Church, Charleston, South Carolina, and Palmetto Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina.

In his message Mr. Wiggs, who serves as a member of the National Foreign Missions Board, will seek to show how Christ leads to triumphant Christian living through (1) perfect dedication, (2) walking in daily obedience with the Lord and (3) growing through faith into spiritual maturity.

A native of Smithfield, North Carolina, Mr. Wiggs and his wife are parents of 5 children.

**MONDAY EVENING**

**July 18, 7:00 p.m.**

*"Christ Triumphant in the Home"*

Family life can reflect harmony, love and glorification of God if each individual is triumphant in his personal responsibility to Christ. The

Rev. Joe Ange, father of 5 children, is a logical speaker for the subject "Christ Triumphant in the Home." Not only did Mr. Ange influence many young men during his pastorate, but he was also instrumental in guiding and instructing his own family. He and his wife have 2 sons who are in the ministry, and a third is a layman serving in the Christian education movement.

Mr. Ange is director of religious activities at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee. He assumed that position in August, 1972, after spending over 20 years as a pastor. Immediately prior to moving to Nashville, he ministered with the congregation of Liberty Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina.

Mr. Ange studied at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Detroit Bible College and Duke University. He was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from Bob Jones University in June, 1971.

**TUESDAY EVENING**

**July 19, 7:00 p.m.**

*"Christ Triumphant in the Church"*

The Rev. Frank Davenport, pastor of the Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, is a knowledgeable person to explore the topic "Christ Triumphant in the Church." Since ordination to the ministry in 1952, he has been instrumental in the organization of 9 Free Will Baptist churches in North Carolina. In the course of his message he will show that a triumphant community of believers must work together in love, harmony and fellowship; that they can enjoy spiritual as well as numerical growth; and that paramount in the ministry of the church is an aggressive soul-

winning outreach, particularly through the Sunday school.

Mr. Davenport was educated in the public schools of Maury, North Carolina. He and his wife are parents of 3 sons. He is a member of the North Carolina Bible Bookstore Board and also serves his local association in various capacities.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING**

**July 20, 7:00 p.m.**

*"Christ Triumphant In the World"*

The Rev. Fred Warner, a member of the National Foreign Missions Board, will be the speaker for the annual missionary service on Wednesday evening. He will seek to show how Christ leads to a triumphant missionary outreach by obedience of the Great Commission through an effective program of action.

Mr. Warner is presently pastoring the First Free Will Baptist Church, Russellville, Arkansas. He assumed the leadership of this church in November, 1973, following 6 years as promotional director for Arkansas Free Will Baptists.

After 4 years of training at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, Mr. Warner entered the evangelistic field for 4 years. During that time he held revivals in 10 states, and to date his total revival ministry numbers about 175 meetings. The North Carolina native and his wife are parents of 4 children.

**THURSDAY MORNING**

**July 21, 9:00 a.m.**

*"Christ Triumphant in the Believer's Prayer Life"*

A layman turned pastor could well describe Trymon Messer, the speaker for the Thursday morning service. Brother Messer, who is



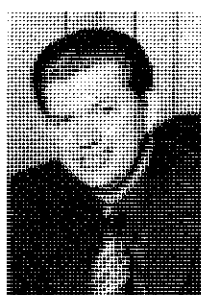
WIGGS



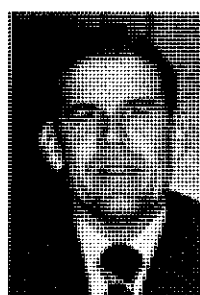
ANGE



DAVENPORT



WARNER



MESSER







# The Local Church on Review

## PART IX

By Leroy Forlines

In this article I want to discuss the worldwide responsibility of the church. Obviously, no one local church can carry out this responsibility. It is the responsibility of churches working together to reproduce themselves around the world. However, every local church must be concerned about and active in this worldwide responsibility.

The Abrahamic Covenant is the basic redemptive covenant. It is for this reason that Paul in Romans 4 and Galatians 3 goes back to Abraham as the foundation of his

proof that justification is by faith.

When God called Abraham, He set in motion the beginning of the nation of Israel. It was to the nation of Israel that God was to reveal His plan of redemption. It was this nation that was to give to the world its Redeemer. After the call of Abraham, all of the prophetic revelations in the Old Testament were either to an Israelite or in some way involved Israel.

Israel was in a position of advantage (Romans 3:1,2 and 9:4,5). The position of Gentiles from

Abraham to Christ is described by Paul in Ephesians 2:11,12. God's interest in Gentiles is expressed in His covenant with Abraham. He said to Abraham, "In thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3). While God's interest in Gentiles was expressed in the Abrahamic Covenant, an aggressive program of redemption among Gentiles awaited the Great Commission by Jesus and its implementation by the church.

It is true that Gentiles could be saved during the Old Testament period, but there was no aggressive program of redemption among them. The only recorded example of an Israelite prophet preaching and getting a great response from among Gentiles was the case of Jonah. The Book of Jonah is an eternal testimony both to Jews and Gentiles of God's interest in the salvation of Gentiles.

*(Please turn to page 30)*

### CONVENTION TIME IS A'COMING

(Cont. form page 11)

pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Salina, Kansas, assumed that role in 1967 when the church's founding pastor accepted another work. Having served as a lay worker with the church for 2 years, he accepted the challenge to lead the

church because there was no available replacement. The church has seen remarkable growth under his leadership and is one of the fastest growing churches of the denomination in the Midwest.

In 1969 the U.S. Marine Corps veteran was honored as Layman of the Year for the National Association of Free Will Baptists. He serves his denomination as a board member of Hillsdale Free Will

Baptist College, Moore, Oklahoma; as the chairman of the Kansas Home Missions Board; and as a member of the National Home Missions Board.

The aim of this inspirational time together is to show how Christ leads to a triumphant prayer life by obedience to His commands, belief in His promises, and application of His Word.

Mr. Messer and his wife are the parents of 3 children.

### LOCAL CHURCH DELEGATE'S CREDENTIALS

THIS CERTIFIES THAT \_\_\_\_\_

is a duly authorized delegate to the National Association of Free Will Baptists from \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of church)

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

(District Association)

(City)

(State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Clerk or Secretary

IMPORTANT: This form properly signed and accompanied by a \$10 registration fee entitles a local church delegate to register for voting privileges.

### CONVENTION TAPES

As a service to those attending the convention and those who are not able to attend, an advance form for ordering tapes for each session of the 41st annual national convention will be available in the July issue of CONTACT. The form may be filled in and brought by conventioners to Detroit, or it may be mailed to the address specified. If the tapes are ordered by mail, there will be a handling and postage charge.

Available tapes will include seminar sessions, major addresses of the convention, and addresses of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention.

# THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## 41st Annual Convention/July 17-21, 1977 Cobo Hall/Detroit, Michigan

### *Theme: "Triumphant in Christ"*

**CONVENTION HYMN:** "Victory in Jesus"  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Blaine Hughes  
**ORGANIST:** Fleda Snow  
**PIANIST:** Phil Long  
**NURSERY:** Cobo Hall — Room 1134  
**CONVENTION OFFICE:** Cobo Hall — Room 1156

#### SUNDAY MORNING / July 17

10:00	Sunday School	Detroit-Cadillac Hotel:
	Primaries: Susan Burgess	Normandie Room
	Juniors: Howard & Patsy Gwartney	Founders Room
	Teens: Rick Vanderburg	Crystal Room
	Adults: Edgar Hyatt	Grand Ballroom
10:45	Intermission	
11:00	Morning Worship	
	Presiding: Lonnie DeVoult	
	Special Music: Janice Williams	
	Message: "Christ Triumphant in the Individual Believer" — Dennis Wiggs	

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

2:00-6:00	REGISTRATION for National Convention (Ministers, Delegates and other Members) and WNAC. Registration continues through 12:15 p.m. Wed.	Cobo Hall: Exhibit Hall D
2:00	REGISTRATION for National Youth Conference	Detroit-Cadillac Hotel: Check Room, 4th Floor
4:00	Mass Adult Choir Practice	Detroit-Cadillac Hotel: Ballroom

#### SUNDAY EVENING / July 17

6:30	NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE Keynote Speaker: Billy Bevan	Cobo Hall: Arena
9:00	Youth Social Activities (See National Youth Program.)	

#### MONDAY MORNING / July 18

8:00	WNAC Executive Committee Meeting	Howard Johnson's Motel: Essex Room-South
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8:00	GENERAL BOARD MEETING	Cobo Hall: Ballroom A
9:00	Youth competition and Children's Activities (See National Youth Program.)	Detroit-Cadillac Hotel
9:30	WNAC Nominating Committee	Howard Johnson's Motel: Oxford Room

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

1:00	Youth Competitive and Children's Activities (cont.) (See National Youth Program.)	Detroit-Cadillac Hotel
1:00	WNAC State Presidents, Field Workers and Executive Committee	Howard Johnson's Motel: Oxford Room
1:30	General Board Meeting Reconvenes	Cobo Hall: Ballroom A
1:30-2:30	EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS "How to Get Your Church in the News" — Bert Tippet "Resolving Conflicts in the Home" — Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Winkle "Current Theological Issues & Trends" — Ralph Hampton "The Church's Role in Today's World" — Clate Raymond	Cobo Hall: Room 3045 Room 2043 Room 3035 Room 2040
2:00	EXHIBIT AREA OPEN	Cobo Hall: Exhibit Hall D
3:00-4:00	EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS "How to Interpret an Auditor's Report" — Herman Hersey "Personal Bible Study Can Be Exciting" — Randy Cox "The Pastor as Leader & Administrator" — Don Pegrum "The Role of the Pastor's Wife" Symposium: Jo Ann King, leader	Cobo Hall: Room 3038 Room 3040 Room 2040 Room 2043
4:05	Mass Adult Choir Practice	Cobo Hall: Arena
5:00	WNAC FELLOWSHIP DINNER Speaker: Elizabeth MacDonald	Cobo Hall: Cafeteria

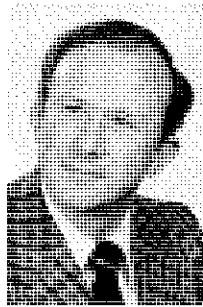




**NATIONAL CONVENTION PROGRAM (Continued)**



HAMPTON



TIPPETT



WINKLE

**MONDAY EVENING / July 18**

- 7:00 **WORSHIP SERVICE** Cobo Hall:  
Arena
- Presiding: Ronald Creech
- Special Music: Mass Adult Choir  
Blaine Hughes, directing
- Session Called to Order and Moderator  
Introduced: Waldo Young, Clerk
- Report of Committee on Committees:  
Dr. J. D. O'Donnell, Moderator
- Welcome to Detroit — Michigan  
Moderator J. B. Varney
- 250th Anniversary Proclamation —  
Rufus Coffey, Executive Secretary
- Special Music: Ann Maines
- Message: "Christ Triumphant in the Home" —  
Dr. Joseph Ange
- 9:00 Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)
- 9:00 Youth Social Activities Detroit-Cadillac  
(See National Youth Program.) Hotel

**TUESDAY MORNING / July 19**

- 7:30 **FWB Music Ministries Breakfast** Cobo Hall:  
Room 3037  
Speaker: Chuck Ohman
- 8:30-9:30 **EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS** Cobo Hall:  
Room 3038  
"Developing a Church Choir"  
Chuck Ohman
- "Activating Men to Serve the  
Master"  
Symposium: Jim Williams, leader Room 2043
- 8:30-10:50 "The Dynamics of a Growing  
Sunday School"  
Symposium: Dr. Joe Ange, leader Ballroom B
- 9:00 **WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY  
CONVENTION** Cobo Hall:  
Arena  
Presiding: Clara Picirilli, President
- 9:00 Music and Arts Festival Detroit-Cadillac  
(See National Youth Program.) Hotel
- 9:30 Children's Activities Detroit-Cadillac  
(See National Youth Program.) Hotel

- 9:50-10:50 **EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS** Cobo Hall:
- "Building Bridges of Interpersonal  
Relationships" — Dr. Ronald Winkle Room 2043
- "Contemporary Cults (Mormonism  
and Spiritism)" Room 303B  
Dr. Wade Jernigan & Bill Jones
- "The Pastor's Preaching Program" Room 2040  
Dr. Melvin Worthington
- 11:00-12:00 **WNAC Missionary Service** Cobo Hall:  
Message: Larry Powell Arena
- 12:20 State Promotional Men's Luncheon Cobo Hall:  
(By invitation) Room 3037

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 19**

- 1:00 Youth Competitive Finals and  
Children's Activities Detroit-Cadillac  
(See National Youth Program.) Hotel
- 1:30 **WNAC Reconvenes** Cobo Hall:  
Arena
- 1:30-2:30 **EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS** Cobo Hall:
- "World Outreach — Mainline or  
Incidental?" Ballroom B  
Symposium: Rolla Smith, leader
- "Reaching Youth at Various Age  
Levels" — Dr. Donald Howard Room 3038
- "Developing Stronger Family Ties"  
Gordon Sebastian Room 2043
- "How to Prepare for Revival"  
Panel: Richard Cordeil, leader Room 3039
- 3:00 Music & Arts Festival (cont.) Detroit-Cadillac  
(See National Youth Program.) Hotel
- 3:00-4:00 **EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS** Cobo Hall:
- "ATTACK: Action Plan for  
Sunday School Growth"  
Dr. Roger Reeds & Robert Shockey Ballroom B
- "Effective Lesson Preparation"  
Leroy Scudder Room 3035
- "Why Christian Day Schools?" Room 2043  
Dr. Donald Howard
- Music Ministries Reading Session Room 3038  
Blaine Hughes
- 4:05 Mass Adult Choir Practice Cobo Hall:  
Arena
- 5:00 **PASTORS' DINNER** Cobo Hall:  
Topic: "Igniting Revival Fires in  
the Sunday School"  
Speaker: Dr. Ed Nelson Cafeteria
- 5:00 Adventurer and Youth Banquets Detroit-Cadillac  
(See National Youth Program.) Hotel

**TUESDAY EVENING / July 19**

7:00 WORSHIP SERVICE Cobo Hall:  
Arena  
Presiding: Dann Patrick  
Special Music: Mass Adult Choir  
Free Will Baptist Bible College Quartet  
Message: "Christ Triumphant in the  
Church" — Frank Davenport  
9:00 Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)  
9:00 Youth Special Event and Social Activities  
Adventurer Social Activities  
(See National Youth Program.)

**WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 20**

1:00 Youth Special Event  
(See National Youth Program.)  
1:45 CONVENTION DEVOTIONAL TIME Cobo Hall:  
Elzo Bevins Arena  
2:00 CONVENTION BUSINESS Resumes  
National Department Reports (cont.)  
National Layman's Board: Loyd Olsan  
Executive Office: Rufus Coffey  
General Board Final Report  
Partial Report of Nominating Committee  
Election of General Board Members  
4:00 Business session recessed

**WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 20**

7:00 Laymen's Breakfast Cobo Hall:  
Speaker: Jim Williams Ballroom A  
8:30 CONVENTION PRAYER SERVICE Cobo Hall:  
Presiding: James Earl Raper Ballroom B  
Special Music: Gospeliers Quartet  
9:00-10:50 CONVENTION BUSINESS SESSION Cobo Hall:  
Moderator's Message: Arena  
Dr. J. D. O'Donnell  
Report of Credentials Committee  
Seating of Delegates  
Partial Report of General Board  
Partial Report of Nominating  
Committee  
REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS  
(Board members elected at conclusion  
of each report.)  
Church Training Service: Dr. Malcolm Fry  
Free Will Baptist Bible College:  
Dr. L. C. Johnson  
Foreign Missions: Rolla Smith  
Home Missions and Church Extension:  
Robert Shockey  
Retirement and Insurance: Herman Hersey  
Sunday School: Dr. Roger Reeds

**WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 20**

7:00 WORSHIP SERVICE Cobo Hall:  
Arena  
Presiding: Jim Walker  
Special Music: Victorymen Quartet  
Introduction of Missionaries  
Special Music: Bill Gardner  
Message: "Christ Triumphant in the  
World" — Fred Warner  
Missions Offering  
9:00 Session Recessed (Exhibit Area Open)

**THURSDAY MORNING / July 21**

10:00 NYC Awards Presentation Detroit-Cadillac  
Hotel:  
Grand Ballroom  
11:00 SPECIAL FEATURES Cobo Hall:  
Arena  
National Layman's Board  
Executive Office  
12:15 REGISTRATION closes Cobo Hall:  
Exhibit Hall D

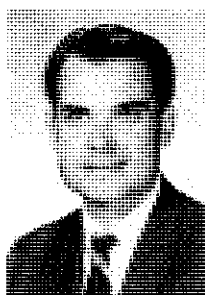
9:00 CONVENTION DEVOTIONAL Cobo Hall:  
SERVICE Arena  
Presiding: Joe Grizzle  
Special Music: Ralph Sturdivant  
Devotion: "Christ Triumphant in the  
Believer's Prayer Life"  
Trymon Messer  
9:35 CONVENTION BUSINESS SESSION Cobo Hall:  
(cont.) Arena  
WNAC Report:  
Cleo Pursell, Executive Secretary  
Historical Commission Report:  
Ronald Creech  
Commission of Theological Liberalism:  
Leroy Forlines  
Report of Committees  
Registration  
Budget  
Resolutions  
Nominating Committee's Final Report  
Election of General Officers  
12:00 Adjournment



RAYMOND



PEGRAM



WORTHINGTON



# 1977 NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

## July 17-20 / Detroit, Michigan

**THEME:** "Jesus Christ . . . Lord of All" — Acts 10:36

**NYC COORDINATOR:** Tim Rolen

**REGISTRATION COORDINATOR:** Nancy Cole

**AREA COORDINATOR:** Leroy Welch

**MUSIC AND ARTS COORDINATOR:** Larry Gunnoe

**COMPETITIVE COORDINATOR:** Guy Tucker

*(All activities are in the Detroit-Cadillac Hotel unless an asterisk [\*] appears.)*

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

2:00 NYC Registration      Check Room,  
4th Floor

### SUNDAY EVENING / July 17

6:30 NYC Keynote service      \*Cobo Hall  
Speaker: Rev. Billy Bevan

9:00 Adventurer after-service activities      Washington Room  
Youth after-service activities      Grand Ballroom  
(Heralds, Crusaders and Ambassadors)

### MONDAY MORNING / July 18

7:45 Breakfast meeting with NYC staff,      Reception Room,  
judges and officials      4th Floor

9:00 Head Start      Grand Ballroom  
Speaker: Billy Bevan

9:30-11:30 Adventurer crafts      Washington Room  
Discoverer/Learner activities      West Room

9:30 Bible Tic Tac Toe Assembly      Crystal Ballroom  
(All teams and coaches)

Bible Bowl Assembly      Grand Ballroom  
(All teams and coaches)

10:00 Bible Tic Tac Toe winners #1      Crystal Ballroom  
(waiting room-  
Parlor C)

Bible Tic Tac Toe winners #2      Founders Room  
(waiting room-  
Normandie)

Bible Bowl winners #1      Grand Ballroom  
(waiting room-  
Reception Room)

Bible Bowl winners #2      English Room,  
Mezzanine (wait-  
ing room-Foyer)

Bible Sword Drill Preliminary      Woodward Room

### MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

1:00-2:30 Bible Tic Tac Toe winners #1 (cont.)      Crystal Ballroom  
Bible Tic Tac Toe winners #2 (cont.)      Founders Room  
Bible Bowl winners #1 (cont.)      Grand Ballroom  
Bible Bowl winners #2 (cont.)      English Room

1:00-3:30 Discoverer/Learner activities      West Room/  
East Room

1:00 Bible Memorization Program Grade 1      Woodward Room

2:15 Bible Memorization Program Grade 2      Woodward Room

2:30-5:30 Bible Tic Tac Toe Consolation #1      Crystal Ballroom  
Bible Tic Tac Toe Consolation #2      Founders Room  
Bible Bowl Consolation #1      Grand Ballroom  
Bible Bowl Consolation #2      English Room

3:30 Bible Memorization Program Grade 3      Woodward Room

### MONDAY EVENING / July 18

7:00 Main Convention Service      \*Cobo Hall

9:00 Adventurer after-service activities      Washington Room  
Youth after-service activities      Grand Ballroom

### TUESDAY MORNING / July 19

9:00 Music and Arts Assembly      Grand Ballroom  
(All coaches and contestants)

9:30-11:30 Adventurer crafts      Washington Room  
Discoverer/Learner activities      West Room/  
East Room

9:30 Music & Arts Section 1 (music)      Grand Ballroom  
Music & Arts Section 2 (music)      Founders Room  
Music & Arts Section 3 (music)      Crystal Ballroom  
Music & Arts Section 4 (oral)      English Room  
Music & Arts Section 5 (oral)      Woodward Room

### TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 19

1:00-2:45 Competitive Finals      Grand Ballroom  
Tic Tac Toe, Sword Drill, Bible Bowl

1:00-3:30 Discoverer/Learner Activities      West Room/  
East Room

3:00-4:30 Music & Arts Section 6 (music)      Founders Room  
Music & Arts Section 7 (music)      Crystal Ballroom  
Music & Arts Section 8 (music)      English Room

5:00 Adventurer Banquet      Woodward Room  
Youth Banquet      Grand Ballroom

### TUESDAY EVENING / July 19

7:00 Main Convention Service      \*Cobo Hall

9:00 Special Event #1      \*Bob-Lo Cruise  
(Subteens must be accompanied by  
parent or sponsor.)

9:00 Adventurer after-service activities      Washington Room

### WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 20

10:00 NYC Awards Presentation      Grand Ballroom

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 20

1:00 Preparatory: Board buses for tour      Front of Hotel

1:45-4:40 Special Event #2      \*Henry Ford Museum  
(One sponsor to every 10 students)      Greenfield Village

4:40-5:30 Return to Detroit-Cadillac Hotel

### WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 20

7:00 Main Convention Service      \*Cobo Hall

Adjournment



## MUGGERIDGE TELLS EDITORS CHRISTIANITY IS ALTERNATIVE IN WESTERN WORLD GONE 'AWRY'

SPRINGFIELD, MO. (EP)—“The Christian alternative is our only hope, our only prospect, in a darkening world,” British author, critic and TV personality Malcolm Muggeridge told members of the Evangelical Press Association in their 29th annual convention May 9-11.

“If Christian revelation is true,” Muggeridge declared, “then it must be true for all times and circumstances.”

The largest EPA convention to date, 338 editors, writers and publishers meeting in the Howard Johnson Convention Center, heard the British lecturer conclude that, “finding in everything only deception and nothingness, the soul is constrained to have recourse to God Himself and to rest content with Him.”

Free Will Baptist representatives at the meeting included *CONTACT* staff members Rufus Coffey, Eugene Workman and Susan Burgess and *HEARTBEAT* staffers Don Robirds and Marjorie Sutherland.

In general session members of EPA elected Eleanor Burr as the association's first woman president. Mrs. Burr is editor of *OMS Outreach* in Greenwood, Indiana.

EPA's new vice-president is Gary Warner, editor of *The Christian Athlete*, Kansas City.

Two new advisers are Betty Skinner of *The Navigators* in

Colorado Springs and Jerry Jenkins, editor of *Moody Monthly*, Chicago, Illinois.

The 1978 convention will be held May 8-10 in San Bernardino, California, at the Arrowhead Springs headquarters of Campus Crusade for Christ.

Members of the association finished their convention in the Silver Dollar City resort. Dr. Arthur Mallory, Missouri Commissioner of Education, spoke at the concluding banquet on burning issues in educa-

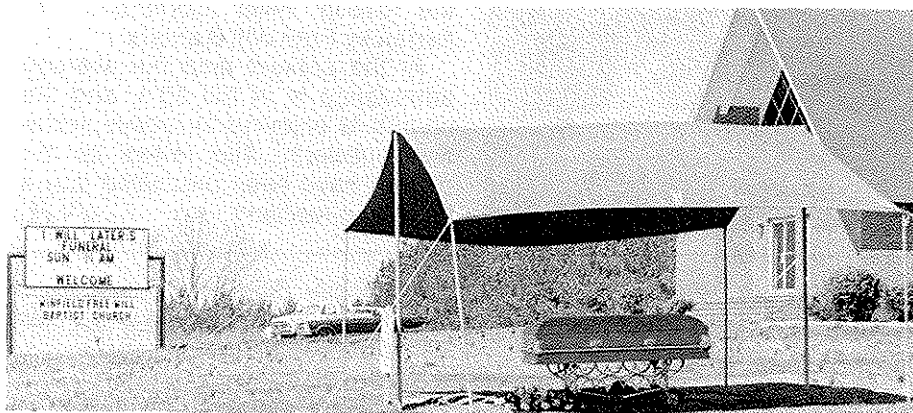
tion and appealed to his listeners to use their medium to crusade for change.

Norman B. Rohrer, named by the board to serve for his 13th year as executive secretary, presented outgoing President Richard G. Champion a desk set etched with a tribute describing him as the “paladin of the evangelical press.” Rohrer expressed appreciation for the 6 years the managing editor of *The Pentecostal Evangel* served as a board member of the association.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

**newsfront**



## UNUSUAL FUNERAL SERVICE CLIMAXES ATTENDANCE EMPHASIS

WINFIELD, Ala.—Startled travelers on Highway 78 West in Winfield took second looks as they passed the Winfield Free Will Baptist Church during the week of March 21-27. Situated prominently under a grave canopy on the lawn of the church was a casket on a bier. A large sign read, “I Will Later.”

On Sunday, March 27, during the 11:00 a.m. worship service, Pastor A. J. Loper conducted the funeral of Mr. “I Will Later.” At the conclusion of the service 5 first-time decisions and one rededication were made. During March the average Sunday school attendance was 237.

During the first quarter, 1977, Pastor Loper said the church experienced a season of revival. It began the first Sunday of January, the first anniversary of Pastor Loper's ministry with the church, with the commencement of a revival under the preaching of Rev. Joe Ange, Nashville, Tennessee. During that meeting over 60 decisions were recorded with 23 salvation decisions. Through the last Sunday in March, Pastor Loper had baptized 41, and 56 believers had united with the church.

## NEW PRICES

Effective June 1, 1977, the cost of Free Will Baptist Hymn Books will be as follows:

1-24	\$4.00 each
25-99	3.90 each
100 or more	3.75 each
Looseleaf	8.00 each

Order from  
Your nearest

Free Will Baptist Bookstore

or

**FREE WILL BAPTIST  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**P.O. Box 1088**

**Nashville, TN 37202.**





## BUILDING PROGRAM OF MISSION CHURCH BECOMES REALITY

BOWLING GREEN, KY.—It was on Thanksgiving Day, 1975, that a small group of people met in the meeting room of a car agency in Bowling Green to form the nucleus of what became Trinity Free Will Baptist Church. Without the leadership of a pastor, the group continued having regular Sunday school and worship services, using supply speakers from Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, until Christmas of that year. At that time the Rev. John Murray assumed leadership responsibilities of the group and served until April, 1976, when the group called the Rev. Glenn Thomas as their first full-time

pastor.

Eleven months after Brother Thomas' arrival, the group had the first service in their new building. The structure is located on 8.82 acres of choice property near the intersection of I-65 and Green River Parkway. The location is in the midst of one of the fastest growing sections of Bowling Green, and the site overlooks several small lakes. Dedication services were held Sunday, April 17.

The first unit for the new church affords 4,560 square feet of space and has a full basement. The auditorium seats 290 people. There are 8 classrooms, nursery and pastor's study. Pastor Thomas noted the building was constructed without financial aid from any missions board. The church is a member of the Green River Conference of Kentucky Free Will Baptists.

At the present time the average attendance is in the 50's, and the church is enjoying an active visitation outreach. The ladies of the church have been organized into a Woman's Auxiliary.

that Sunday. Since that time several of these have been saved and united with the church.

On the first Sunday of March, bus banks were distributed with the request that everyone place a dime a meal in the banks for 31 days. At the time of this report, with less than 25 percent of the banks returned, over \$700 has been contributed for use in the bus ministry.

During the entire month on Wednesday nights, Mr. Green and his bus workers presented special programs dealing with the children's ministry of the church. As a result of the emphasis, Mr. Green reports there is renewed interest in the ministry and new workers have volunteered their services. This has added further depth to this outreach ministry.

The Rev. Don Pegram is pastor of this church.

## 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

#### ARKANSAS

Tim Hackett to Pleasant Grove Church, New Hope

#### GEORGIA

Fred Lockwood to Ebenezer Church, Glennville

#### MISSISSIPPI

Mike Jones to Beech Springs Church, Saltito

#### MISSOURI

Albert McFarland to Gateway Church, St. Louis  
Kenneth Dodson to Fourth Church, St. Louis

#### OHIO

Gene Brammer to Campbell Chapel Church, Ironton

#### OKLAHOMA

David Sutton to First Church, Ada from Jenks Church, Jenks  
Orville Romine to Liberty Heights Church, Bixby from First Church, Sulphur  
Johnny Groat to Liberty Church, Oklahoma City

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

Van Powell to Grace Church, Lake City from Eastside Church, Florence

#### TENNESSEE

Ronald Graham to Pardue Memorial Church, Clarksville from First Church, Cape Girardeau, Missouri  
Joe Grimmitt to Fellowship Church, Nashville

#### TEXAS

Ron McMillin to First Church, Denison from Oak Grove Church, Charlotte, Tennessee

### OTHER PERSONNEL

#### MISSOURI

Mike Creech to Fellowship Church, Flat River as associate pastor

## CHILDREN GIVE THANKS TO CHURCH FOR THEIR OUTREACH MINISTRY

NEWPORT NEWS, VA.—The highlight of the "March-of-Kids" Campaign of the First Free Will Baptist, Newport News came on Sunday, March 27, when all the children present from the 3-year-olds to sixth graders marched through the auditorium. The children's march was a standing thanks to the congregation for providing an outreach ministry for them.

Bus pastor Edd Green described the service as "soul stirring." On that day 569 kids arrived on 13 buses to attend services.

The 5-week campaign began on Sunday, February 27, which was designated as Parent Sunday. Over 90 bus parents visited the services



**“SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS”  
ENLARGEMENT CAMPAIGN  
SPAWNS NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL  
GROWTH**

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The Mile High Free Will Baptist Church, Northglenn, Colorado, garnered the greatest percentage of increase in Sunday school attendance to win divisional honors and to be recognized as the greatest percentage gainer in all 8 divisions.

Competition for the spring campaign, “Soldiers of the Cross,” was conducted throughout March. During that time the Mile High Church experienced an average attendance of 72.75 in contrast to their average for September through November of 22. This gave them an increase of 230.68 percent.

The Mile High Church was formerly known as the Lakewood Church and was located in Lakewood, Colorado, a suburb of Denver as is Northglenn. Under the auspices of the National Home Missions Department, Charles Harris became the missionary pastor of the struggling church in August, 1976. He was joined by a couple from California, Reverend and Mrs. Bobby Thomas, who moved for the sole purpose of assisting in establishing the work. Some growth was noted prior to the move from Lakewood to Northglenn.

In November the church occupied a spacious, modern building, left vacant by another denomination. It was purchased completely furnished for \$80,000. The present appraised value is \$92,000. The building, which includes an auditorium seating 125, a full basement, 8 classrooms, and paved parking lot, is located atop a hill overlooking Denver.

Sunday schools in 21 states participated in this campaign which is sponsored by the Sunday School Department of Free Will Baptists. New growth was spawned by this campaign as evidenced by the 40.54 percent net increase over the fall quarter's average attendance for those churches reporting.

Appropriate awards were made to those earning first and second place berths in each division. A list of winners follows.



Division			Sept.- Nov. Avg.	Campaign Average	Increase
A		No Reports			
B	1st	West Tulsa—Tulsa, OK	406	474	16.75%
	2nd	-----			
C	1st	Bethel—So. Roxana, IL	346	398	15.03%
	2nd	-----			
D	1st	Tupelo—Tupelo, MS	204	292	43.14%
	2nd	Kirby—Taylor, MI	209	292	39.71%
E	1st	Mt. Calvary—Perryman, MD	161	250	55.28%
	2nd	First—Berkeley, MO	155	228	47.10%
F	1st	North Modesto—Modesto, CA	119	208	74.79%
	2nd	First—Chester, SC	128	213.5	66.80%
G	1st	Sheraton Park—Greensboro, NC	67	172.25	157.09%
	2nd	Providence—Columbus, GA	70	138	97.14%
H	1st	Mile High—Northglenn, CO	22	72.75	230.68%
	2nd	Ventura—Ventura, CA	17	49	188.24%

**OHIO CHURCH DEDICATES NEW BUILDING**

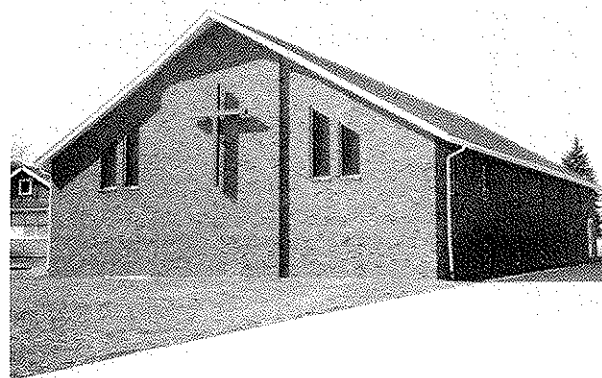
CLEVELAND, OHIO—The recently completed edifice of the Cleveland Free Will Baptist Church was dedicated in special services March 5, 1977, with the Rev. Homer Willis, Nashville, Tennessee, preaching the dedicatory sermon.

Located in a desirable residential area of Cleveland, the church's proximity to the downtown area is close enough that the Terminal Tower Building in the center of the public square can be seen from the door of the church. The outreach ministry in the neighborhood is expanding each week, according to Pastor Robert L. Prichard. With the many recent decisions, the new converts class now numbers approximately 50 people. The class is being taught as part of the Sunday school curriculum.

The auditorium of the new building will seat approximately 500 people. There are 11 classrooms plus a fellowship hall and a concrete parking lot for about 100 cars. The

property consists of 2 choice acres. The average Sunday school attendance for March was 277. Pastor Prichard notes that for the fall quarter the Sunday school average was 218, a further evidence that the church is growing.

Also joining Pastor Prichard and the congregation for the dedication services were the Rev. Alton Loveless, executive secretary for Ohio Free Will Baptists, and the Reverend Carl Vallance, member of the National Executive Committee and pastor of the Central Free Will Baptist Church, Huntington, West Virginia.





# newsfront

(continued)

## ILLINOIS CHURCH OCCUPIES NEW BUILDING

SOUTH ROXANA, ILL.—It took almost 3 years from the time construction began before the congregation of the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church was able to occupy the new church plant. However, Pastor Jim Walker says each delay was of the Lord.

On April 10, 1977, the first Sunday in the new building, 661 persons were present for Sunday school, and 806 attended worship services. The Sunday school average for April was 428.

The auditorium is designed to seat 700 on the lower level and an additional 450 in the balcony. However, the balcony is still under construction. Thus the capacity crowd on the first Sunday in the new building showed the need to complete the balcony seating, according to Pastor Walker.

It was in July, 1974, that construction began on the new facility. The first setback was an unexpected problem in excavation at the site. This was followed by labor and steel strikes. However, Pastor Walker says, "I tell my people the Lord has certainly blessed here at Bethel. But we have had to work for everything that we have. This has kept us praying, dependent upon the Lord and more faithful to the task."

One of the projects for the outreach of this church is a future Christian day school. The educational space of the new building was constructed with this in mind. The former church building is presently for sale. ▲



## Currently . . .

By  
EUGENE WORKMAN  
Administrative Editor

Congratulations are in order for **Pastor Melvin Knott** and the congregation of the **Mascoutah, Illinois**, for winning the yearlong Sunday school attendance campaign sponsored by the Illinois State Sunday School Board. The winner is determined by the largest percentage of gain in attendance over the previous years' average. The Mascoutah Sunday school attendance increased 24.2 percent. In recognition for this achievement, Pastor and Mrs. Knott will be going on an expense-paid trip to the Holy Land, probably in early fall.

The breaking of 33 Love Loaves by the congregation of the **Mount Olive FWB Church, Reynolds, Georgia**, yielded \$405, an average of \$12.30 per loaf. According to **Pastor Don Reeds**, 50 percent of the proceeds will be used to fight hunger in the disaster areas of the world through World Vision International. The other half will be sent to **Camp Mount Bethel**, which is a Free Will Baptist youth camp in Georgia. The pastor added, "We believe the program was a success. It gave our church families a new awareness of world need as well as an opportunity to do something about it. It costs World Vision about \$15 to feed a hungry family of 5 for a month. So we have a feeling we have done something important."

The library of **Tippett's Chapel FWB Church, Clayton, North Carolina**, has increased from 22 volumes to its present 400 books since the Woman's Auxiliary started the project in October, 1973. Last year the ladies designated a certain percentage of the money they received each month to buy library books as one of their projects, according to **Mrs. Annie Belle Beasley**, who is serving as librarian. **Rev. Nathan Eason** is pastor of the church.

The adult choir of **Bethany FWB Church, Norfolk, Virginia**, initiated an unusual project to raise funds for new choir robes. They prepared a memorial booklet to be distributed on Mother's Day. For any donation of \$1 or more to the choir's project, one could have his mother's name placed in the book in the form of "In Loving Memory of" or "In Love and Honor of." **Bialne Hughes** directs this choir, and **Galen Dunbar** is the church pastor.

The **Pea Ridge FWB Church, Pea Ridge, Arkansas**, recently increased its church rolls with the addition of 19 new members. On Sunday, March 6, pastor **Jack Wilcox** led the church in the observance of the fourth anniversary in their new church building.

**Fayetteville FWB Church, Fayetteville, Arkansas**, has launched a new ministry for handicapped children under the direction of **Mrs. Shirley Thomas**. The group is called the "Sunshine Class." **Lloyd Thomas** is pastor.

**Pastor W. B. Hughes, Hamilton FWB Church, Hamilton, Alabama**, reports April was a record-breaking month. Sunday school attendance reached a high of 111 on one Sunday for an average of 102 for the month.

May 8 was a special day for the **Sherwood Forest FWB Church, El Sobrante, California**. On that date the church was 21 years old. This milestone was observed with homecoming and a special Mother's Day emphasis. Statistics for a recent week showed 270 present for Sunday school, making this the second largest church in California. **Pastor Milburn Wilson** reports that Sunday, April 10, was a high attendance day with 460 present for morning worship.

**Assistant pastor Howard Gwartney, Capitol Hill FWB Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**, demonstrated his willingness to part with his own personal possessions in order to increase attendance at the church's recent revival. He offered his 29-volume, illustrated biblical commentaries to the individual who brought the most first-time, nonbus visitors. That sounds like a real incentive for Sunday school teachers to bring visitors.

**Pastor Billy Bevan, Tupelo FWB Church, Tupelo, Mississippi**, recently baptized 6 people in a Sunday evening service. Five of those baptized were reached through the bus ministry. That is what it is all about. The outreach of the bus ministry averaged 30 per Sunday for a recent month. The church averaged 228 in Sunday school attendance in April.

The **Alabama Bible Institute** observed its first graduation exercises Tuesday, May 31. **Dr. Robert Picirilli**, registrar at FWBBC, Nashville, Tennessee, was commencement speaker. This institute met regularly in the **Guln FWB Church, Guin**. **Richard Cordell** is host pastor.

**Pastor Glenn Posten, Hazel Dell FWB Church, Sesser, Illinois**, thinks a 21 percent increase in Sunday school attendance during April is a praise item. A new attendance high of 197 was set April 10. **Danny Sample** is leading the Sunday school as superintendent.

The congregation of the **First FWB Church, Vero Beach, Florida**, took a step of faith recently when they voted to accept the responsibilities of a full-time outreach. **Don Hicks** became the church's first full-time minister following his graduation in May from Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee.

Magazines have a ministry . . .



May was Christian Family Month at **Cofer's Chapel FWB Church, Nashville, Tennessee.** **Pastor Eugene Waddell** stated that during that month there were sermons, seminars and sharing sessions dealing with such subjects as biblical view of marriage, roles of the husband and wife in the home, common causes of divorce, alternatives to divorce, sweetening a sour marriage, winning your children to Christ, role of children in the Christian home and practical suggestions on how to handle money. Also, to better meet the needs of a single person, seminars on the problems of a single person, how to be happy and single, and wholesome hobbies for Christian women were presented on consecutive Wednesday evenings. Not to be omitted in this emphasis were the teenagers who considered family life from their perspective as well. Pastor Waddell met with them for questions and answers during the 6:30 p.m. services on Sundays. Recently the congregation raised \$2,810.33 on one Sunday for Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville. Cofer's Chapel has long been a generous supporter of the denomination's only nationally operated college.

In the quarterly financial report to the congregation of **First FWB Church, Berkeley, Missouri, Pastor Bill Van Winkle** noted that better than 20 percent of all giving went to support outside causes. In March outside giving was more than 27 percent of the total expenditures. The Lord will bless this kind of giving.

**Pastor Winston Sweeny, Fellowship FWB Church, Kingsport, Tennessee,** projects the congregation will exceed its mission goal of \$13,000 for the church year as a result of the special Easter offering for missions. A total of \$3,881.88 was received in that special offering.

In reflecting upon the past 10 years of growth of **First FWB Church, Decatur, Illinois, Pastor Larry Nix** notes that in 1966 the average Sunday school attendance was 75. In 1976 the average was 204. Those years certainly reflect growth. The question is, "What will the statistics read for 1977?"

The business of the church is important to **Pastor Russell Spurgeon, Trinity FWB Church, Bridgeton, Missouri.** For that reason a 2½ hour informational meeting was held recently in regards to the needs of the church. Pastor Spurgeon reports that a great deal of research and planning preceded the meeting, thus enabling those present to make some definite recommendations for consideration by the congregation at the next regular business meeting. This prebusiness-meeting research and planning certainly sound like a reasonable move, enabling this church to conduct business in decency and order.

**Pastor Clate Briggs Jr.** and the congregation of the **First FWB Church, West Helena, Arkansas,** are serious about raising \$30,000 to be used in enlarging their facilities. On June 2-4 the entire church membership will participate in a 50-mile march-a-thon to Brinkley, Arkansas. Marchers are getting from 10 cents to \$1 per mile from sponsors. If the sponsor is a business, the firm will be advertised on a banner carried by a marcher.

It was an all-out battle with great effort on the part of both churches, but **Tupelo FWB Church, Tupelo, Mississippi,** won over the



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

### COOPERATIVE PLAN OF SUPPORT April, 1977

#### RECEIPTS:

State	April '77		April '76	Yr. to Date
	Co-op	Design.		
Alabama	\$ . . .	\$ . . .	\$ 982.50	\$ 742.56
Arizona	. . .	. . .	. . .	220.96
Arkansas	1,745.98	. . .	2,175.41	7,378.47
California	1,083.11	. . .	905.49	3,359.91
Florida	16.66	. . .	494.68	66.64
Georgia	232.12	. . .	284.20	809.09
Idaho	. . .	. . .	. . .	69.84
Illinois	939.90	. . .	1,077.10	4,868.93
Indiana	. . .	. . .	. . .	50.00
Iowa	243.41	. . .	181.23	1,127.26
Kansas	116.35	. . .	314.63	250.30
Maryland	80.00	. . .	117.54	289.56
Michigan	. . .	. . .	. . .	499.96
Mississippi	252.02	. . .	45.06	455.29
Missouri	6,445.95	(6445.95)	4,599.17	15,675.11
New Mexico	292.77	. . .	. . .	292.77
North Carolina	125.00	(50.00)	176.54	546.85
Northeast Assoc.	. . .	. . .	47.59	. . .
Northwest Assoc.	126.35	. . .	77.87	341.50
Ohio	10.00	. . .	486.22	3,868.86
Oklahoma	. . .	. . .	5,652.44	14,029.41
Tennessee	1,021.59	(220.00)	1,210.23	3,748.50
Texas	411.51	. . .	25.00	1,090.52
Virginia	22.50	. . .	27.36	128.01
Virgin Islands	102.00	. . .	80.00	390.00
West Virginia	. . .	. . .	. . .	125.65
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 13,267.22</b>		<b>\$18,960.26</b>	<b>\$ 60,425.95</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 6,999.59	\$(1,110.53)	\$ 6,378.81	\$ 27,385.23
Foreign Missions	2,361.57	(2,188.85)	4,198.10	11,557.89
Bible College	1,607.17	(1,439.97)	2,766.84	7,350.57
Home Missions	1,138.90	(1,021.92)	2,374.15	6,237.75
Church Training Serv.	502.36	(403.04)	1,390.20	3,378.52
Retirement & Ins.	482.50	(403.04)	1,170.25	2,863.11
Layman's Board	72.50	(49.30)	439.09	1,064.80
Commission on Theological Liberalism	52.63	(49.30)	110.82	325.26
Other Ministries	50.00	(50.00)	132.00	262.82
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 13,267.22</b>		<b>\$18,960.26</b>	<b>\$ 60,425.95</b>

**Randall Memorial FWB Church, Memphis, Tennessee.** During March these congregations competed to see who could have the highest average attendance. **Pastor Dann Patrick** led the Memphis congregation to an average of 274; nevertheless, **Pastor Billy Bevan** and the Tupelo Church garnered the victory with an average of 292.

**Pastor Adrian Condit** and several members of the **Village Chapel FWB Church,**

**Ceres, California,** had their vision of world need enlarged when they attended a recent international fellowship dinner sponsored by World Vision in nearby Modesto. The group came away with a greater awareness of spiritual and physical needs in various places of the world.



**CURRENTLY . . .**  
(Cont. from page 21)

**Stratford FWB Church, Stratford, Oklahoma**, set new attendance records Easter Sunday according to pastor **Jerry Dudley**. With 161 in Sunday school the attendance surpassed the old record of 159, and a record attendance of 228 in morning worship bettered the former record of 219. To accommodate the increased attendance, the men at the church remodeled the interior of the educational annex during the month of May. This will provide additional classroom space. Pastor Dudley expects the Sunday school attendance to reach an average of 150 or above without an additional building program.

As a pastor would you find it exciting to see Sunday school teachers running up and down the hall trying to find chairs to seat crowds in the classrooms? **Pastor Darrell Pickle** watched this scene with glee Sunday, April 10, when the Sunday school attendance at **White Oak Hill FWB Church, Bailey, North Carolina**, reached 252 to break previous attendance records. Four decisions were witnessed during the morning worship. The church is meeting a spiritual need in this rural community.

New construction is under way at **Missouri's youth camp near Niangua**. Volunteers have been aiding in the construction of a 2-apartment cottage which will house the camp evangelist and camp cook. This additional housing should make the tasks of these important camp personnel easier.

According to the treasurer's report of the **First FWB Church, North Little Rock, Arkansas**, this congregation gave \$1,718.75 to denominational causes during the first quarter of 1977. Of this amount, \$947.04 went to the Cooperative Fund. If more of our churches were concerned about the outreach beyond the local scene, God's kingdom could be better advanced through Free Will Baptist denominational outreaches. **Ben Scott** pastors this church.

Two direct answers to prayer were recently evidenced in the expansion of **Gateway Christian School and Gateway College**, both of which are ministries of **Fairmount Park FWB Church, Norfolk, Virginia**. **Pastor Dale Burden** shared that the option for the adjoining 14 acres to the campus property was extended for 6 months and that permission was granted to build the classroom building on the present property. The first floor of the building will be finished to meet the needs for the fall semester. The second floor will remain unfinished to allow for enrollment increases in the future. At the present time the congregation has access to about 40 percent of what must be spent this summer in preparation for the fall term. Partial financing and drainage of the school property are major hurdles facing expansion efforts at this time, according to **Pastor Burden**. **College Dean A. B. Brown** reports enrollment prospects from 7 different states for the fall term. Grade school enrollment is expected to jump from 270 to about 400.

**Pastor Buddy Henry** has recently extended the ministry of the **Cordova FWB Church,**

**Alabama**, with the initiation of a weekly radio program on a local station.

**Beaufort Christian Academy**, a ministry of **First FWB Church, Beaufort, North Carolina**, is adding grade 10 for the 1977-78 school year. According to Pastor-Principal **Dennis Wiggs**, this was a major step since it necessitates the addition of typing courses, foreign language class, science lab and a sports program.

**New Hope FWB Church, Joelton, Tennessee**, set a new attendance record Easter Sunday when 277 were present for Sunday school. **Vernon Barker** is pastor of this growing congregation.

The radio ministry of **Grant Avenue FWB Church, Springfield, Missouri**, continues to have a positive outreach, according to **Pastor Ted Wilbanks**. The program is aired on a local FM station on Wednesdays and Fridays.

For some years **Pastor Earl Langley** has felt impressed by the Holy Spirit that a church needs to be united consistently about a common theme and a common program. His theme proposal for such an effort at **Good Springs FWB Church, Pleasant View, Tennessee**, is "Obeying the Great Commission." To give variety to the program, there will be a special emphasis each month

based upon scriptural events and at times denominational emphases. These monthly emphases are as follows: June—"Because the Holy Spirit Enables Me"; July—"With God's Powerful Word"; August—"Through Our Women"; September—"Through Fellowship"; October—"Through Our Men"; November—"Because We Are Thankful"; December—"With Peace and Good Will." **Pastor Langley** is also extending the church's outreach through a recently initiated church paper called *The Fountain*.

**Pastor Thomas Kirkland** and the congregation of **First FWB Church, West Palm Beach, Florida**, dedicated their new church building in special services Saturday, April 23. Representatives from several churches across the state and the Florida Home Missions Board were present for this special service. The West Palm Beach work was begun as a mission by the **Rev. Ed Cook**. At the present time the average attendance is 45.

**Pastor Paul Thompson, Welch Avenue FWB Church, Columbus, Ohio**, recently presented 120 E.T.T.A. certificates to members of the congregation who successfully completed designated courses in the Welch Bible Institute. Brother Thompson



## ON THE MISSION FRONTS

Compiled  
By Staff

**Clint Morgan**, missionary appointee to **Ivory Coast, West Africa**, will have a Honda to use when he finally arrives on the field. At a recent missionary conference at the **First FWB Church, Benton, Illinois**, one of the members donated the Honda to Mr. Morgan. In the same conference the church had set a goal of \$300 per month in missions giving, but the pledges actually totalled \$600 monthly at the conclusion of the conference. **Pastor Gene Norris** is excited about the increased interest in missions.

**Rev. Jim Summerson** began itinerant services in **Illinois** in mid-May in preparation for establishing a new Free Will Baptist church in that state. The **Rev. Larry Ciyatt**, chairman of the **Illinois Home Missions Board** under whose auspices the new work will begin, said that several cities are presently under consideration including Champaign-Urbana, Bloomington, Rantoul, Galesburg and Centralia.

Free Will Baptist missionary **Carlise Hanna** has been given the responsibility of overseeing a project to increase the availability of water in **West Bengal, India**, near **Sonapurhat**, where he ministers. The World Relief Commission of the National Association of Evangelicals has allocated and sent \$21,500 for the sinking of 20 tubewells, constructing 4,000 feet of irrigation channels and purchas-

ing 10 mobile pump sets for irrigation. The project is designed to irrigate approximately 100 acres of land. With the availability of additional water, the Indians hope to cultivate 2 or 3 crops yearly instead of their normal one uncertain crop.

Sunday, June 19, has been designated "**Ron and Linda Callaway Day**" at the **First FWB Church, Raleigh, North Carolina**. These missionary appointees to Spain are trying to raise their necessary monthly pledges and needed cash in order to depart for Spain by August of this year. **Randy Cox** pastors.

A former pastor from the state of Texas, **Rev. Sanford Davis**, has been appointed by the National Home Missions Board to begin a new Free Will Baptist church in **Temple, Texas**. Brother Davis, who is a 1977 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, began itinerant work the latter part of May. Temple is a city of approximately 46,800 population and is said to be the nation's sixth fastest growing area. The nearest Free Will Baptist church is approximately 35 miles from Temple.

**Ken and Marvis Eagleton** are due back from **Sao Paulo, Brazil**, in mid-August at the conclusion of their fourth term of service as Free Will Baptist missionaries in that country. Missionary Eagleton expresses an urgent need that the mission have at least one missionary family in Sao Paulo at all times. The **Bobby Pooles** are scheduled to depart from the states July 13, and the **Sammy Wilkisons** will leave in midsummer for Brazil.

**Jim and Barbara Williams**, a lay couple from Bryan, Texas, have been approved by the National Home Missions Board as Christian lay workers to **Monterrey, Mexico**. Mr. Williams will reopen the Institute of Gold, a Free Will Baptist school near Monterrey which has been closed for several years because of the lack of personnel. Mr. Williams is presently serving as a

credits the steady growth of the church during the 1970's to the emphasis on the study of God's Word. He has long been an advocate of training at the local church level.

**Pastor O'Dell Harris** reports progress is being made at **Emmanuel FWB Church, Jacksonville, North Carolina**. During the past 6 months attendance has increased from an average of 67 to 94 with 35 additions to church membership rolls. Offerings have increased from \$291 per week to \$500. The congregation is currently considering plans to expand the church facilities.

Recent newcomers to *CONTACT's Church Family Plan* include **First Free Will Baptist Church, McAllen, Texas, Pastor Larry Powell; Victory Free Will Baptist Church, Andrews, South Carolina, Pastor I. Bennie Turner; First FWB Church, Batesville, Arkansas, Pastor Kenneth Faison; and First FWB Church, Carlsbad, New Mexico, Pastor John E. Jeffrey, Sr.**

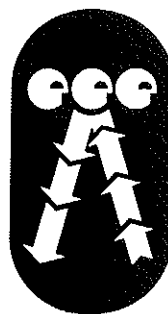
The month-long Sunday school competition during March between the **First FWB Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee**, and the **Fellowship FWB Church, Nashville** ended with the Murfreesboro congregation being treated to a fellowship supper by the Nashville congregation. The Murfreesboro Church,

under **Pastor J. D. Donnell's** leadership, increased 40 percent during the month over their fall attendance while the Fellowship Church increased 30 percent under the direction of **Phil Jones**, interim pastor. The friendly competition allowed both congregations to become better acquainted.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Since this column was started in March, 1976, it has proven to be one of the most widely read features of the magazine according to feedback the staff has received from across the denomination. I am grateful for this response. But I would not have been able to have shared the wealth of information concerning happenings and progress within the denomination without the many publications I have received. I am indebted to leaders who have faithfully sent their church and associational publications for use in my gleanings.

With this issue I am leaving my position with the denominational magazine after almost 6 years of service. But I am sure my successor will desire to continue receiving church bulletins, newsletters and other published sources of information. ▲



## NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

### OBSCENITY, NOT PORNOGRAPHY, CAN BE PROSECUTED SAYS U.S. ASSISTANT ATTORNEY

CHICAGO, Ill.—A young assistant U.S. attorney from western Tennessee, Larry Parrish, has challenged evangelical leaders to give guidance to those in local communities concerned about taking action against obscenity.

In his challenge Parrish pointed out that fighting "pornography" as the issue is difficult because it cannot be defined. Obscenity, however, has been defined by the Supreme Court and can be successfully combated. The law defines obscenity in 3 parts: 1. that which is patently offensive; 2. that which appeals to the prurient interest; and 3. that which lacks serious artistic or political value. Parrish stressed the idea that a film or publication must be tested according to the Supreme Court definition. For conviction in court, proof must be supplied. According to Parrish, that proof is not difficult to supply. He pointed to research studies and writings of psychiatrists as just a few places to find evidence and case studies on the results of obscenity on individuals and society.

Parrish maintained that, contrary to what many evangelicals may believe, the church has an obligation to promote high public standards, not to police private morality. "We Christians tend to announce that obscenity is bad because 'God said so,'" he stated, "expecting the secular world to accept that reason alone. The public is fed up with the situation today and frustrated about where to go from here," Parrish concluded. "Christians have the obligation to help provide that direction, to explain the effect of growing obscenity on individuals and on society."

### ROLE OF PRIVATE, RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS GREAT IN U.S. EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—A report issued by the U.S. Office of Education states that private and church-related elementary and secondary schools educate more U.S. young people than the 27 largest city school systems in the country.

The agency's report indicated that the private schools' total, country-wide, indicated an enrollment about 300,000 greater than the so-called "Great Cities" in the nation—a total of 5.3 million children (10.7% of all students in those categories throughout the country).

(Please turn to page 29)

promotional secretary of the Texas State Association of Free Will Baptists. He begins his itinerate July 1.

Despite the fact that it is a mission church, **First FWB Church, Ponca City, Oklahoma**, showed its concern for world missions by participating in the recent Call-a-thon offering for Free Will Baptist foreign missions. **Pastor David Bigger** reports an offering of \$40.30. On that Sunday a new attendance record of 39 was set in Sunday school. The Ponca City mission is a joint project of the Oklahoma State Missions Board and the National Home Missions Department. The congregation has purchased land and is in the preparatory stages of construction.

**Jerry Gibbs**, missionary to **Rennes, France**, expresses pleasure that the church there recently undertook the financial obligation of 2 projects. One project was to participate in Foreign Mission's Project 5000 in the amount of \$220. The second was to sponsor a Cambodian family coming to Rennes from Thailand. The husband is presently worshipping with the congregation, but his wife and her family are still in a refugee camp in Thailand. The Gibbs are due to arrive in the states June 14 to begin furlough. They will be residing in Knoxville, Tennessee, while stateside.

Missionary pastor **Wallace Hayes**, now serving in Lebanon, Tennessee, under the auspices of the Tennessee State Missions Board and the National Home Missions Board, reports 40 were present in Sunday school for the first service of the mission May 1. The congregation is presently meeting in a lodge building while seeking property on which to build.

**Missionary Tom Hughes**, serving in **Uberlandia, Minas Gerais, Brazil**, reports it took 6 trips to Sao Paulo, much patience and \$1,862.22 to get the family's personal belongings out of customs. For almost 4 months

after their return to the country in January, the items were detained. Mr. Hughes stated that had not the American Consulate helped them because there had been recent changes in the law, they would have lost all their belongings.

Decisions are being witnessed by Free Will Baptist missionaries in **Japan**. **Missionary Jerry Banks, Sapporo**, shares that 2 young women have recently received Jesus as Savior. **Fred Hersey**, who labors in **Tokyo**, reports that an 18-year-old man was recently baptized and 3 teenagers have professed Christ as Savior. The Sunday afternoon English class and Bible study, which Mr. Hersey conducts, has recently seen a sizable increase. One Sunday 15 were in attendance (13 men and 2 women), and only one of these was a Christian. Mrs. Hersey continues to extend her outreach among the neighborhood women by conducting cooking classes. A recent one found 10 women learning to mix edible ingredients while being offered some spiritual instruction as well.

**Melvin Clark**, youth director at **Grace FWB Church, Greenville, North Carolina**, and his wife **Jean**, have been approved for language school at Rio Grande Bible Institute, Edinburg, Texas, preparatory for mission assignment in **Mexico** under the National Home Missions Department. Language study will begin with the fall semester. Melvin is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, and has done summer missionary work in Puerto Rico. Prior to his present position, he served in the youth department of the Lawnwood FWB Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**Jim and Olena McLain** will arrive in the states June 10 to begin a year's furlough. They are presently serving in **Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan**. ▲



# Senior Adults: Alive, Well, But Overlooked

**Q.** When did you first become interested in ministering to senior adults?

**A.** The beginning of my interest goes back to my desire to do something for our retired pastors and retired ministers' widows. As I saw their needs, I became aware that we needed to do something for them. As a result the Retirement Pension Plan came into existence in July, 1968.

*"So many of our pastors have unwittingly said, 'As soon as I get in that church, I am going to get rid of all the gray heads on that deacon board. I'm going to get a board of young bucks who will go along with what I want.' Therefore, senior adults have felt the same thing in church that they felt at the factory: We are no longer needed...."*



**Q.** What are the provisions of the Retirement Pension Plan?

**A.** This plan is designed for pastors, missionaries and employees of a church or denominational agency to provide retirement security. The funds are available at disability or retirement. We enroll members who make regular contributions to the plan that now includes over 430 participants.

After the Retirement Plan had been active for about a year, I realized we needed a ministry for all the senior adults of our denomination, not just the retired ministers and missionaries. This became a burden of my heart.

**Q.** Before we discuss this burden further, can you share some of the other services your department offers?

**A.** Since our department became a full-time ministry in 1973, we have been expanding our services. We now offer several types of insurance for a pastor and his wife, such as a travel policy, supplemental hospitalization insurance and a cancer-care plan. Also, our ministry of investing money from the retirement program allows us to help many of our churches in bond building programs. We are just making our first loan on a mortgage, and we hope to do more in the future. Since we own over a half million dollars in bonds, we will be able to increase our ministry in this direction.

Then we have our ministry to older adults. Actually, our main purpose in this ministry is to act as a catalyst to inspire our churches and to provide information on how to develop programs for older adults in their areas.

**Q.** In what age category do you place senior adults?

**A.** To a group of older adults, senior adults are always people a little bit older than they are—regardless of what age they are. I know of people in their 80's who talk about older women living down the hall who are in their 60's. But churches with a ministry for senior adults usually consider persons over 55 in this category. Then preretirement planning can also be included in the program.

**Q.** *Why has our denomination apparently been slow in meeting the needs of senior adults?*

**A.** I don't know whether we have been slow or not. Possibly it has been a lack of communication because we haven't known what was being done. Generally, a lot of our pastors have not been aware that elderly people do have particular needs. Part of the lack of progress has been due to the emphasis on youth. Yet as far as I know, with possibly one exception, we do not have a full-time staff member in any of our churches who is ministering to this very large and important segment of our population.

**Q.** *As you travel about our denomination, do you see any particular problem prevailing among our older church members?*

**A.** Yes, a number are retiring with less sense of worth. A person retiring from the business world may no longer feel needed. It is a traumatic shock for people in industry when they retire.

The same thing is happening in our churches. So many of our pastors have unwittingly said, "As soon as I get in that church, I am going to get rid of all the gray heads on that deacon board. I'm going to get a board of young bucks who will go along with what I want." Therefore, senior adults have felt the same thing in church that they felt at the factory: We are no longer needed. This attitude is very serious because one cannot adjust mentally, emotionally or socially in retirement years if this feeling exists.

**Q.** *Are there sociological problems when the American population wants to bypass the expertise of older people in many areas, whether church or business?*

**A.** I don't believe this is universally true, but it is to a limited degree. Two basic attitudes in history pertain to the elderly. In ancient oriental countries old age was considered the very summit of life. In China and Japan for instance, it went to the extreme of ancestor worship. Then in the Greek culture another exaggerated position existed when Greeks looked for the fountain of youth because old age

was a tragedy.

In America we have a combination of these views on aging. Some feel old age is the summit of life. Of course, this is taught in the Old Testament. I believe the Scriptures are on the side of those who teach that the elderly should be revered and the wisdom of the aged should be valued. Then we also have the folks who want to be young forever and to whom old age becomes a tragedy.

**Q.** *Other than our denominational retirement program, what is being done to meet the needs of the aging?*

**A.** Quite a few things are being done now. As far as our ministry is concerned, we conduct seminars and workshops on developing a ministry for older adults in our churches. At the last 2 conventions we held workshops on this theme, and the response was very good. We have conducted a number of 4-hour seminars, covering subjects such as the needs of older adults, what our denomination should do for them, starting and maintaining a ministry to older adults in the local church, and preretirement and estate planning.

The seminars we conducted were by invitation from a church or association. Not too long ago we had a seminar with 6 churches represented and 48 people present. We encourage pastors, Sunday school teachers and anyone who is burdened for a ministry with older adults to attend.

A number of senior adult groups have been started across our denomination. Our pastors are beginning to see a real soul-winning potential here. Senior adults can be enlisted to win other senior adults. For example, senior adults have more time to spend with someone, even all day, and thus win them. This has proven to be effective in other churches and denominations.

**Q.** *When the pastor recognizes he has older individuals in his church who could fulfill this type of ministry, how can he go about getting them organized?*

**A.** First I recommend that he conduct a survey. We have pre-

pared a survey sheet which is available free to our churches by writing the Board of Retirement and Insurance, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202. The survey asks for a profile of the individual—his family situation, if he lives alone, where the closest relatives are, transportation needs, general interests, etc. We recommend that a church begin with the older adults now attending the church and families of members. Then they can take a survey of the community to see how many older adults are nearby and how mobile they are.

Basically there are 3 classes of older adults. First, some are able to take care of themselves and also drive. Some are homebound. The term "shut-in" is misleading. I always get the idea of bars shutting in someone. I think "homebound" is a much better term. Thirdly, many senior adults are being taken care of in institutions. If a church is going to effectively minister to senior adults, it must have a three-fold ministry to meet the needs of these various groups.

From this point they do not need to be highly organized. All they need is a place to come together.

One pastor said, "I started a senior adult meeting, and I had 4 men and 3 women come. But all they wanted to do was play checkers, sew and talk." That's great! They need to have this personal interaction of getting together with a small program and a devotional message. The program should be varied with a meal occasionally. But basically let them do their own thing.

**Q.** *Should a pastor enlist as workers those who are nearing the age of these older people, or should he try to seek younger people to work with them?*

**A.** I think he ought to seek whoever has a burden for this work. For instance, my wife and I went with another denomination's group on a cruise to Nassau sometime ago. Several young men in their early 20's had part of the responsibilities to care for the senior adults. Also, older people had charge of some





## SENIOR ADULTS: ALIVE, WELL, BUT OVERLOOKED

(Cont. from p. 25)

other groups. It depends on who ever has a burden and an aptitude.

**Q.** *What activities do senior adults enjoy within the church framework?*

**A.** First of all, senior adults want to be active in the church. It is not so much what the church can do for them but what they can do for the church. Their talents need to be utilized. For example, a choir member who can no longer sing can become librarian of the choir's music. A senior adult can work in the church library. A retired bookkeeper could help keep the financial records of the church.

If I ever pastor again, I will turn the church grounds over to some of the dear grandmas and say, "I want you to grow some flowers in our churchyard as you do at home." They really know how to do it and



*"Surveys and studies have shown that a senior adult can be just as active and his mind can be just as alert at age 80 as at age 40. It may take him a little longer to learn, but he can still learn."*

take pride in their work. They should be given an opportunity to do anything they can. They want to have a place of service and feel they are needed, missed and useful.

The social activities usually take care of themselves when there is a place for them to meet. These are secondary in importance to a place of service in the church.

**Q.** *How limited are senior adults by health problems or failing memory?*

**A.** Surveys and studies have shown that a senior adult can be just as active and his mind can be just as alert at age 80 as at age 40. It may take him a little longer to learn, but he can still learn. Winston Churchill, Grandma Moses, Thomas Edison, a number of the great composers of music and several scientists did their most productive work when most folks feel they are ready to sit in a rocking chair and retire.

Of course, physical handicaps are going to come to everybody. Because a number will be physically impaired, the greatest single need of older adults seems to be transportation. This means not only transportation to church services but also transportation to the doctor, drugstore, bank, etc. Many churches are running their buses once a week to take senior adults to shopping malls so they can take care of these needs.

**Q.** *What are some other emotional or spiritual needs older adults might have?*

**A.** Shakespeare put it this way: "The five saddest words in the English language are 'I am old and lonely.'"

A major problem is dealing with widows because they need to make a number of adjustments. One of the best ways to solve that problem is with a widow-to-widow program. A person who has gone through the experience and made a somewhat successful adjustment is given training to support a new widow and help her in making decisions. The problem of being alone is one of the worst.

One woman expressed her loneliness this way: "I go to the store, post office, bank and church, and everyone is nice to me. But hardly

anybody ever calls me by name. They always talk about that sweet lady who usually wears a red hat to church."

There are also financial adjustments for persons living on fixed incomes. Many do not know they can qualify for assistance such as food stamps. Others are just too proud to apply. They fail to realize that built into our social security system today is the recognition that folks will get food stamps if they are below a certain income level. Finances become a more serious problem when senior adults have to maintain their own homes.

Another problem is adjustment to a new role in life. A senior adult was once the head of the home, but if he lives with children or in an institution, someone else rules the roost now. On his job he was in a position of authority, but retirement ended that. Unfortunately, as adults age, they are gradually removed from positions of authority in the church.

One of the biggest problems is that we no longer have the extended family. The family as we knew it 30 years ago has been replaced by the minifamily. It is very common for grown children to live over 1,000 miles away from their parents. Therefore, the church must become in a literal sense a substitute family to many people.

A number of churches encourage families to adopt a grandparent. Grandparents who have no grandchildren in the area get together with grandchildren who have no grandparents in the area and adopt each other. They celebrate holidays and birthdays together. It actually becomes a real family situation for the older adults and children. Instead of organized activity this is a one-to-one situation, but someone in the church has to get it started.

**Q.** *In what other practical ways can the local church help?*

**A.** Number one would be to have a telephone assurance program. This meets a two-fold need. It not only puts older adults to work, but it also checks up on them. A church can use a buddy system where each senior adult calls another person



every day. This system gives them someone to talk to and assures them when they are sick or have problems that someone cares, and it works 365 days a year.

Then churches need to consider practical help such as homemaking services. Changing a light bulb in the ceiling takes the average person only a minute, but to the older adult it is mission impossible. They may need help with storm windows or lawn mowing. This is an area where I am encouraging our teenagers to volunteer their help. Older folks with arthritis and failing eyesight may need assistance in reading and writing letters. Sometimes mail just lays on the table until someone comes and reads to them.

Churches can provide meals occasionally, particularly for adults who are homebound. But if you take a meal to someone, don't just leave it. Take time to sit down and eat with the senior adult. That person needs your presence more than he needs the food.

The same thing is true when members take a cassette tape of church services to an older person. Part of worship is fellowship with someone. I'm sure none of us would want to spend the rest of his life going to church in an isolation booth and never be associated with other people. Occasionally, someone needs to listen to the message with the senior adult. Here is a place where older adults who are active can serve.

**Q.** *What can churches do for those who are in nursing homes or rest homes?*

**A.** First of all, the church needs to give these people a sense of serving the church as much as they are able. Many in nursing homes can work for the church. For example, they can mail letters and brochures and help in a tract ministry; and practically all can help in a prayer ministry. This would be a very vital service to them.

Then the church must consider what it can do for the person. Mainly they need to be dealt with on an individual basis. Administrators of many rest homes have told me, "Tell the church families to bring their small children because older



*"... I have found that most older adults who know the Lord look forward to death as a coronation day.... But, they need help in this area. Nearly everyone is failing as far as helping those who are dying."*

folks just love them." There is nothing quite as inquisitive as a small child, and they are often the best therapy for people in rest homes.

Grace Free Will Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, has a specially designed bus, "The Gloryland Express," which has a hydraulic lift. The church sends the bus to nursing homes and brings people in wheelchairs to church. The Sunday I was there, they had 18 present in wheelchairs. Now they have 2 buses devoted exclusively to this ministry. But specially designed buses must be used for those in wheelchairs.

**Q.** *How does the consciousness of approaching death affect elderly Christians?*

**A.** In my limited experience I have found that most older adults who know the Lord look forward to death as a coronation day when they will be reunited with departed loved ones and friends after the cares and

trials of this world are over. But they need help in this area. Nearly everyone is failing as far as helping those who are dying. There are several good books on the subject, and more literature is being written in general. We would have to give the Christian slant to a lot of the books, but the basic psychological needs are the same.

**Q.** *Meeting all these needs is a big task. It seems that retirement homes are doing a good job in this area. Are there plans for Free Will Baptists to have a retirement home?*

**A.** In our long-range plans we envision a retirement village for Free Will Baptists. We don't know how it will actually develop. We hope to obtain several hundred acres where we could have a village for folks to retire in and give support to one another. This could be a trailer park or motel-type units. Some existing villages have all services provided including meals. Others encourage those living there to help one another out and to do their own housekeeping and cooking.

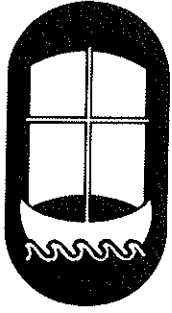
We are studying the subject and challenging our people to give. Somewhere someone has the land for us to develop this project. Of course, this could be very important for our retiring pastors and missionaries. Our missionaries have not had the privilege of buying their own home. Pastors who spend their lives in parsonages will certainly need somewhere to retire. Even with our retirement plan many will not have enough to own a home unless they joined the plan at an early age.

**Q.** *What are our Free Will Baptist churches doing specifically for older members?*

**A.** A number of our churches are doing many significant things for our senior adults. Some churches are having senior adult weekends with banquets and special services on Sunday. Many have Jolly 60's Clubs and JOY (Just Older Youth) Clubs.

Probably several of our churches have ministries to older adults that we don't know anything about. It would be interesting to hear from these churches and find out what they are doing. ▲





## FREE WILL BAPTIST HERITAGE

# Virginia's Lady Evangelist

By Mary R. Wisehart

"I believe God was in the arrangements. That's how it worked. "I'm sure it was," Mrs. Della Salyer said of the response to her services in a Baptist church in Kentucky. Her statement reflects her belief about a lifetime of service to God within Free Will Baptist churches.

Della had gone from Virginia to visit her grandparents in Kentucky. News of her speaking at prayer services and of her first message at Dorchester Presbyterian Church in Virginia had preceded her to Kentucky. Her grandfather was a deacon in the Missionary Baptist church (Southern), and he suggested that Della hold services in his church. She agreed if her grandfather would get the approval of the pastor. When several people responded to the invitation to accept Christ, people urged her to continue the meeting. The response continued, and Mrs. Salyer held services in the spontaneous revival for 10 consecutive nights, with people being saved each night.

Those saved wanted her to baptize them, but she told them she could not. Instead she advised that they have the pastor there baptize them and join that church. When the pastor stood for the baptism, he publicly commended Mrs. Salyer by saying, "I've been pastor of this church about 6 years, and this girl has done more in 10 nights than I have in 6 years." Mrs. Salyer believes that God was working to bring people to Himself.

Della was born in East Bernstadt, Kentucky, May 7, 1892, to Mr. and Mrs. Steve Centers. Her father was a miner, and when Della was 14, he

introduced her to the Salyer brothers from Virginia. One of those young men, L. M. Salyer, took a special interest in the girl, and in 6 months they were married. Mr. Salyer was 22 years old at the time.

During a revival in a Free Will Baptist church in Virginia, where she and her husband were living, Della was saved when she was 18 years old. She asked her mother for advice about what church to join. Although her mother was Methodist, she advised Della to join the Free Will Baptist church where she had been saved. Della did join and immediately began working in the church, speaking at prayer services and other meetings. Her first message with a text was delivered at the Presbyterian church in 1915.

When news of the spontaneous revival in Kentucky got back to Virginia, a minister in the Free Will Baptist quarterly meeting there, H. A. Counts, suggested that Della Salyer should be ordained; consequently, in 1919 she became the first woman ordained to preach in Wise County, Virginia, at least the first one on record.

Her husband and her mother-in-law both supported and encouraged her in her work. During her early struggle with the inner urge to preach, she went to her pastor and asked, without revealing her own feelings, if a woman could preach. Her pastor was definite. "No, women can't preach."

"Well," she asked, "if they are burdened and feel impressed and can't get rid of it, what must they do?"

"They must just give it up," the pastor said.

"Well, if one should go ahead,

thinking that she is right and being honest in it, what would be the results?" she persisted.

"Then she would be lost," was her pastor's final word on the subject.

Della was crushed; she did not know where to turn. She felt a strong leading of the Spirit, and yet she wanted to be sure she was right before she went ahead. Her mother-in-law was like a mother to her, and assured the girl that she must do what she felt was right and offered to stand by her and help her in any way she could. Her husband also encouraged her to follow the Spirit's prompting. After she was ordained, her pastor made no protest. In fact, she states that she had no opposition but met with encouragement, help and invitations to preach.

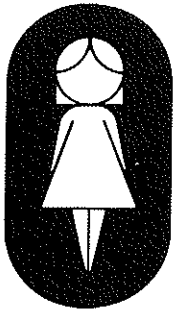
Most of Mrs. Salyer's work was done in Virginia, although she recalls one revival in Warrior Mines Free Will Baptist Church in War, West Virginia. She did hold some pastorates, serving in one church 8 years, but felt that her real ministry was in revival services and other such meetings.

A highlight of her ministry, she feels, was her participation in a month-long revival in the early 1920's at Crane's Nest Free Will Baptist Church in a mining community of Virginia. During the month 217 people were saved.

"It has just been wonderful," she said, "what God did do for me and with me, how He used me." Although she has been quite ill recently and confined to her home, she still keeps her sense of humor, serenity and a bright witness for Christ. She lives in Norton, Virginia.

When Mrs. Salyer was asked what advice she would give to a young girl who came to her and asked the question which she asked her pastor, she replied, "If the Spirit is leading you that way, there's nothing else to do."

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Wisehart, who is on the faculty of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, has a keen interest in the historical aspects of her denomination and particularly the role women have played over the years. She was awarded her doctorate from Peabody College this past summer.*



## OUR WOMEN SPEAK

# SCHIZOID, ANYONE?

By Ellen Smith Morlock

Hospital patients often become mentally disarranged through fever, shock, drugs or other causes. Not knowing where they are in time or space, they are confused and dis-oriented.

Although Christians have accepted Christ and intend to follow Him, they also get bogged down in the physical and material world and become confused. We are subject to the sort of split personality it takes to exist in a world where there are spiritual values and spiritual evils we do not readily comprehend.

We live in a universe ruled by God Almighty, but in a world ruled by the lesser god Satan. If Satan were obedient and in accord with God, there would be no conflict; but since the lesser ruler opposes the One over him and incites us to rebellion, we are in confusion!

It is often hard, even well-nigh impossible, to decide to follow the True One, whom we know only by spiritual sight, when our temporary ruler makes it so easy to love his way. By the means of physical and material things of this world he blinds us to the One who really loves us. We stray, falter, fail and forget our first love because we fail to "stay our minds" on Him!

Recall with me the story of Peter walking over a stormy sea to the Savior. Imagine his confusion and terror in the midst of the howling wind and rain. He looks down and sees his feet, not on solid ground but sinking in boiling waves. Yet seconds before he has been walking purposefully over those same waters and through the storm on his way to Jesus! Only when he lost sight of his goal and looked around

him did he become confused and frightened. He would have been lost in the deeps if he had not instantly seen his perilous need and cried, "Lord, save me!"

Yes, there is confusion, dichotomy of intention and paradoxical behavior as we stagger out of darkness into light and away from evil toward good. Our actions at times are schizophrenic because our bodies and our world are not yet redeemed from our evil ruler!

However, let us take heart and know that we can be secure in the living, loving Christ, who holds in His hands all power in Heaven and on earth.

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (II Corinthians 4:18).

Let us not be confused and dis-oriented. Let us not forget who we are and who our Father is or where our Home is! May we live daily in the spiritual realm and reconcile our daily activities with our heavenly goals!

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Morlock is a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Washington, North Carolina. The mother of 12 children, she is a registered nurse working part time at a local hospital.*



## NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

(Cont. from page 23)

### MENNONITES: HIGH COST OF COFFEE IMPROVES LOT OF HAITI'S PEASANTS

AKRON, Pa. (EP)—Mennonite volunteers in Haiti say Americans might be more tolerant of rising coffee prices if they knew higher prices are bringing some relief to Haitian peasants.

Higher coffee prices are cause for praising God in many church services in Haiti, according to Gordon Hunsberger and Steven Mason, Mennonite Central Committee volunteers there.

They reported that the price paid to peasants per pound of coffee they market has increased from 20 cents to \$1.

"For the first time in years the peasants in the Mombin Crochu area have an economic incentive to increase their coffee production," Mr. Mason said. "This increase in price is a great development assistance to the Haiti peasant to improve his own living situation, much more valuable than any direct assistance I can give him."

### 29 NEW BIBLE TRANSLATIONS IN '76 BROUGHT WORLD TOTAL TO 1,603

NEW YORK, N.Y. (EP)—Bible translations were published in 29 more languages in 1976, bringing to 1,603 the total languages and dialects in which at least one book of the Bible has been published since the invention of printing.

Among the 29 newly added languages are 5 spoken in Nigeria and 3 Native American languages spoken in the U.S., according to the American Bible Society's annual Scripture language count.

The list indicated that the complete Bible is now available in 262 languages, the New Testament in 401, and portions of the Bible in 940. The Gospel of Mark was found to be the book most frequently appearing first in a language.

"Mark tells the story of Jesus in a direct, dynamic way," explained Dr. Eugene A. Nida, executive secretary of the Bible society's translation department. "It avoids the long genealogy that begins in Matthew, the long Old Testament quotations in Luke, and the philosophic prologue of John."

### MIAMI MINISTER OFFERS TITHE REFUND IF UNSATISFIED

MIAMI, Fla. (EP)—Pastor Conrad Willard, minister of Central Baptist Church here, has offered refunds of up to \$2,000 to anyone who started to tithe and became dissatisfied, according to the Associated Press.

So far, says the minister who is convinced that giving 10 percent of one's income is part of worship, there have been no requests for money back from any of the church's 4,000 members. Tithers among the congregation have increased from 33 to 40 percent, he noted, since he made the offer in December, 1976.

God apparently has only satisfied customers among tithers, the minister commented.

### 'THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS' ON TAPE

LONDON, ENGLAND (EP)—A best selling book for 300 years, *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan, has now been put on tape by Roderick B. Manson.

The album has 6 long-playing records offering 6 hours of reading, designed especially for shut-ins, blind persons and the elderly.





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## NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

(Cont. from page 29)

### DEPROGRAMMING, A THREAT TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The matter of religious freedom and religious deprogramming is one of the leading concerns before the church today, according to William Willoughby, religion editor of the *Washington Star*.

Speaking to a group of pastors and lay leaders in Washington, D.C., Willoughby said, "The question of deprogramming sits at the core of the Constitution—the First Amendment. No matter how I might disagree with a religious doctrine, as long as it is not a threat to society as a whole, those who wish to must be allowed to embrace it because I embrace mine."

Willoughby also said that every adult over 18 years of age has the constitutional right to choose his own religion or choose no religion. "Decisions made by the Court on this issue will affect the entire religious community," he stated.

### 17 NATIONS SEEN FORBIDDING BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

NEW YORK, N.Y. (EP)—Seventeen nations around the globe still place severe restrictions on the distribution of the Scriptures, according to a report from the United Bible Societies.

Those nations are Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bulgaria, Cuba, Lebanon, Libya, Mainland China, Mauritania, Mongolia, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tibet, Turkey, Vietnam and Yemen. ▲

## THE LOCAL CHURCH ON REVIEW

(Cont. from page 12)

Before the coming of Christ, the Jews had worked on maintaining their distinction from Gentiles. For the most part, they had failed to understand God's concern for Gentiles. When we keep in mind that the word "nation" in Matthew 28:19 means Gentiles, it is not difficult to see how hesitant Jewish Christians were in getting started with the implementation of the Great Commission as it relates to its geographic and racial scope. Jesus was telling his Jewish apostles to go and make disciples of the Gentiles.

It was necessary for God to speak to Peter through a vision before he was willing to take the Gospel to the Gentiles (Acts 10:9-22). The Jerusalem Council in Acts 15 had to deal with the problem of whether the

Gentiles had to submit to circumcision to be saved. The Book of Romans deals with the problems of Jews who found it difficult to fully comprehend that the Gospel was for the Gentiles.

Jesus gave the command in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47,48 and Acts 1:8) that was to set in motion the program of worldwide evangelism for all people. The puzzled Jewish Christians eventually understood. The program of aggressive worldwide evangelism was begun. We live in the only age of aggressive worldwide evangelism.

Every local church must assess its concern and involvement in this ministry. As Simon Peter said with reference to Jesus Christ, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). ▲



FROM  
THE BRIDGE

# Will You Be at Our Convention Next Month?

By Rufus Coffey  
Executive Secretary

It's almost convention time again—that time of year when a host of Free Will Baptists from across the nation and several foreign countries meet to conduct God's business in a way that honors Him. I hope you are planning to be with us in Detroit next month.

At 8:00 a.m., July 18, 1977, members of the General Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists will meet in Ballroom A of Cobo Hall to hear reports from various heads of our national ministries. These reports are reviewed annually by the General Board before being referred to the national body for final approval or rejection. (The General Board is elected by the association in session and includes representatives from each member state.) In reality, we may call these reports an *accounting* because the national convention is always a time of *accountability*. Have the various national departments been good stewards of time, energy and money during the past 12 months? Which new plans need approval? The



General Board considers each report and proposal carefully before recommending it to the national body for final disposition.

□ The work of the National Association is carried on through various boards with specifically delegated responsibilities. In fulfillment of their delegated roles, these boards plan and supervise their individual programs of operation. Yet they are ultimately responsible to the national body for the conduct of their affairs. Each board is required to give an accounting to the national convention concerning its scope of activities and financial condition. We assemble for fellowship—yes. But a major portion of the convention is devoted to the consideration of departmental reports and proposed goals. Listening to these reports may not always be mentally stimulating nor exciting, but it is an *expression of stewardship* to carefully examine the reports and evaluate accomplishments. Delegates to the convention then vote to adopt or reject the plans proposed by the board and committees.

Delegates and other participants may not feel that their personal input on a particular matter is significant; however, their personal involvement in decision-making is tremendously important. Even non-delegates are eligible for participation in discussions, and they should never forfeit this privilege to voice their feelings.

Through debate, resolution and recommendation, delegates are able to participate in *policy-making decisions* which determine the direction of the denomination. Therefore, the national convention is the official meeting to transact business, vote on issues of concern and deal with problems that affect the future welfare of our denomination.

Some of the discussions that take place on the convention floor may be redundant or irrelevant. In some instances they may emanate from one who is misinformed or overzealous. Yet, we must not look with disdain on the conscientious attempts of a less articulate delegate to make a point. While the majority vote prevails, the minority must be

heard. This is what open discussion is all about. Let us guard against negative reactions and forming judgmental attitudes toward those with whom we may not agree. The love of Christ, the spirit of humility and genuine respect for our brother demand that we patiently listen and try to thoughtfully understand his viewpoint.

Care must be taken to exercise maturity during discussions. Furthermore, every conventioneer should always feel free to express his or her ideas and opinions.

□ One of the trademarks of our denomination is our love and appreciation for fervent preaching of God's Word. Through the years Free Will Baptist preachers have stirred our souls during the annual convention. So, if you're in need of *inspiration* (and who of us isn't?), you will not want to miss this year's convention. Hear 5 Free Will Baptists with a sense of mission explore the subject "Triumphant in Christ." These dedicated men will challenge us to experience first-hand the victory that Jesus Christ has already effected for us at Calvary. The victory is ours for the claiming!

□ A major part of Jesus' ministry was given to *instruction*. We read repeatedly in the Gospels that "He taught . . . He taught . . . He taught." Workshops are not a substitute for the main meeting, but rather a complement to the preaching of the Word. Instructional workshops are a means of enlarging one's vision and stimulating laity and pastors alike by presenting fresh approaches that strengthen personal and family life, intensify our evangelistic efforts and help us build stronger churches for the glory of God. The seminars are not a panacea for church growth (nor for personal growth), but rather a tool we are using to inject fresh, innovative insights into various means of denominational growth.

Workshops slated for this year are the most requested workshops on last year's questionnaires. They are the workshops you asked for. Workshop leaders have experienced personal growth as well as church growth. They will present

tried ideas from years of experience. They will share with conventioners practical programs that have worked for them. Participants are encouraged to expand on their suggestions and adapt them to their own particular situations. We must keep in mind that God uses different men in different ways to meet different needs. So, if a person receives just one idea from each workshop he attends, he can use that idea to cope with some difficult problem and hopefully find a solution for solving it. All of us are struggling with complex problems in today's confused society. We keep trying to discover new and more effective ways to reach a larger number of people for Jesus Christ. I believe this year's workshops will provide many of the answers for which we have been seeking.

□ Another reason for meeting in this annual conclave is to enjoy sweet Christian fellowship. The Greek word for fellowship, *koinonia*, has as its root the word "common." The Holy Spirit brings us together in Christ and in a life of mutual love, sharing and caring for one another.

A Korean who was learning English said, "Fellowship is 'fellows in same ship.'" We are fellows in the same ship, and we enjoy getting together each year at our convention and loving and encouraging one another.

When we come together for this annual meeting, the convention always creates a new awareness of our need to cooperate with one another. No single department can do the job alone. It takes the cooperation of all. Cooperation implies that we are all going in the same direction—not necessarily sameness, but a working together to accomplish mutual goals. And it takes more than approving them as attainable goals. "Co" in the word "cooperation" means *with* and "operation" signifies *action*.

As we meet in Detroit next month, let us determine to unite in praying and acting together to advance God's kingdom work as we march forward triumphantly under the authoritative banner of our Lord. ▲



## CONTACT

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# SAINTS

By Carmen Poulos

The first time  
I heard myself called a "saint"  
I was stunned.  
"Saint" had always  
brought to mind  
silver medals and painted statues  
and pictures of pious imaginings,  
(from the brushes of very human artists),  
faces upturned with radiant suffering  
of some deep righteous agony  
none of us "mortals"  
could ever understand.  
Sometimes, a halo shone thinly  
like a giant gold wedding band—  
though threadlike —  
just to whisper attachment  
to heavenly realms.  
Sometimes the fragile, white sainted body  
was supported by winged beings  
as if to give superhuman strength  
to one of many gods —  
Olympus was the home of mythology, I recall —  
But I was new in the Lord then,  
freshly and ignorantly new,  
and like many, I didn't know  
that sainthood was not created  
and confirmed by a select few persons  
here on earth  
but was part of God's gift —  
"saint" — another name,  
a beautiful name for "brethren,"  
believers,  
reborn into the family home of Jesus Christ  
and while we're here,  
we have both feet on the ground,  
and no supernatural significance  
or power

of our own, for all things are possible  
only with and through our Lord.  
We don't fly about  
or hide ourselves from the world  
in hermit caves  
spending the rest of our lives here,  
separate, beating breasts,  
meditating, and in general,  
of no use to anyone.  
Not separate *that way*,  
for who could ever know then  
that the secret of sainthood  
is not kept behind a purple velvet curtain  
drenched in incense and candle flames,  
cloaked and crouching,  
hiding from everyday man  
in some sort of misty, angel-wing country club.  
Indeed,  
it is no secret at all.  
The club is not exclusive in snobbery.  
It is universal.  
And membership is easy . . .  
not a puzzle,  
or a maze to be plowed through  
and we, like guinea pigs,  
hoping to be rewarded with a crust of bread  
at the end of the twisting journey.  
Not a puzzle in which the pieces are fitted  
by religious sects  
or man-made rites.  
Jesus Himself hands out the membership cards,  
and the dues are free,  
for He already paid the lifetime membership price,  
and it's irrevocable.

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Miss Poulos is a free-lance writer living in Chicago, Illinois.*