

Grider, Thora
Star Rt.
Greenfield, Mo.

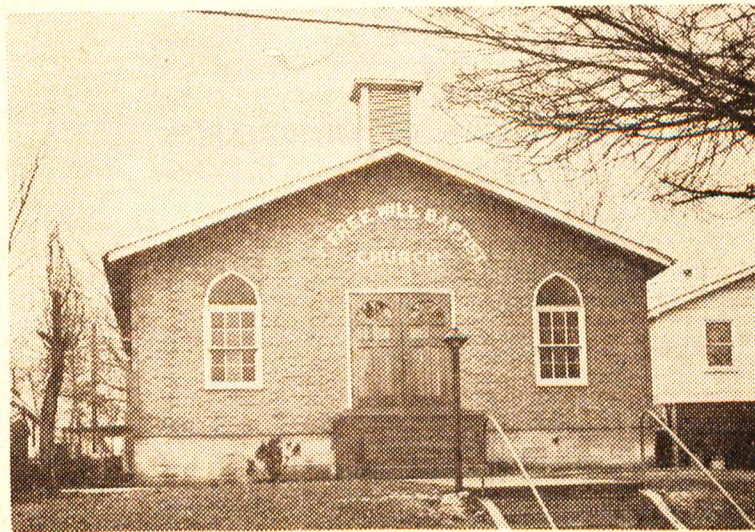
Sept 58

The Free Will Baptist Gem

Vol. 27—No. 5

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

May, 1958



The above picture is that of the Berkeley City Free Will Baptist Church, Berkeley City, Missouri. See page 6 for brief history of the Church and picture of the Pastor.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists. Serving the church everywhere. Endorsed by National Association.

Published Monthly at Poplar Bluff, Missouri

Editor: Rev. Albert Halbrook
Mine La Motte, Mo.

Entered in the Post Office at Poplar Bluff, Missouri, under second class mailing permit.

TERMS

One dollar fifty cents (\$1.50) per year cash in advance. Paper will be discontinued when subscription expires.

STATE ASSOCIATION**—Officers—**

Moderator.....Rev. O. T. Allred
904 Fifth Street, Monett, Mo.
Clerk-Treas.....Rev. Albert Halbrook
Mine La Motte, Mo.

—Executive Board—

Harry Beatty, Sec.-Treas.,—Thayer
John Bough Stockton
Rolla Smith, Chm. Flat River
Paul Williams Joplin
O. T. Dixon Mountain Grove

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**—Officers—**

Exec. Sec. Rev. W. S. Mooneyham
3801 Richland Ave., Nashville,
Tenn.
Moderator Rev. Chas. Thigpen
242 Victor Ave., Highland Park,
Mich.
Clerk Rev. Dean Moore
College Manager .. Dr. L. C. Johnson
W. A. Ex. Sec.....Mrs. Eunice Edwards
3801 Richland Ave., Nashville,
Tenn.

—National Boards—

(Chm.†, Sec'y.§, or Prom. Sec'y.)
General† Rev. Chas. Thigpen
242 Victor Ave., Highland Park,
Mich.

Foreign Miss. Rev. Raymond Riggs
3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Home Miss. Rev. H. E. Willis
3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Leagues § Rev. Ray Turnage
3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Superannuation § .. Rev. K. V. Shutes
Rt. 5, Thomaston, Ga.
Pub'catn-Liter.† Rev. J. C. Griffin
Sunday School† .. Rev. Wm. Mishler
3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

ADDRESSES OF MISSIONARIES

Rev. and Mrs. Thomas H. Willey
Miss Bessie Yeley
Miss Lucy Wischart
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Phenicie
Apartado 27
Pinar del Rio, Cuba

Miss Laura B. Barnard
Miss Volena Wilson
"Westfield"
The Nilgiris,
Kotagiri, South India

Rev. and Mrs. Daniel R. Cronk
Kishanganj,
Purnea District,
Bihar, North India

Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna
Kishanganj
Purnea District
Bihar, North India

Rev. and Mrs. Fred Hersey
110—1 Chome
Shimo Uma—cho
Setagaya Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Calvery
Nishi 3 Chome
Minami 11 jo
Abashiri Shi
Hokkaido, Japan

FAMILY

I have now disposed of all my property to my family. There is one thing more I wish I could give them, and that is the Christian religion. If they had that, and I had not given them one shilling, they would have been rich; and if they had not that, and I had given them all the world, they would be poor.

—Patrick Henry

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Fredricktown	151	174	166	186	165	136	172	172	168	166			163		
Mt. Pisgah	41	42	48	56	52	50	52	51	49	49	52		56	50	54
Coppermines	93	101	104	105	107	100	103	102	102	105	90	102	105	100	
Fellowship, Flat River	200	199	192	204	198	184	192	178	193	216	196	199	207	180	181
Leadington	116	117	118		158	135	128	133	139	130	111	131	123	95	111
Desloge		101	102		97	95									
Farmington	55	58	62	60	67	60	63	70	70	70	60	73	70	49	59
Fourth St. Louis	61	57	65		73	63	56		64	78		54	50		46
Old Bethel	23	23	22		16	19	22	24	22	22	23				
Berkeley City	190	180	178	204	139	161	146	161	180	188	172	166	192	154	
Richwoods	65	65	65	67	70	67	61	71	64	62	56	64	54	48	58
Neosho	45	45	45	45	45	39	39	36	35	40	34	32	44	47	
Mtn. Grove	196	215	215	311	232	231	230	237	252	244	245	252	271		
Joplin	57	66	59	84	75	61	60	49	62	56	46	55			
Kirkville	90	114	93	116	116	115	102	108	104	89	94	103	100	90	117
Grant Ave., Springfield					52	49	57	57	57	56	49	53	68	59	
Hazel Creek	57		51		45	51	52	50	41	46	44	44			47
Cuba	32	30			55	45	49	52	53						
Bethel, West Plains	33	37	35	37	37	33	45	47	36						
Twin Oak	49	59	57	70	68	44	54	55	61		62		55	42	68
Scuth Side Church								135	156	148	137	161	150	137	162
New Hope, Kansas City									27	31	35	28	39	35	37
Springfield First												171			
Mine La Motte													44	38	37
Mill Creek													57	47	49
First Church, Kansas City													75	65	75

Please send us your average, too.

What It Costs Not To Be a Christian

By James Donald Elmore
Nashville, Tenn.

Some people place much emphasis upon the cost of discipleship to Christ upon the demands of the church. In fairness to the question we should contrast what it costs not to be a Christian. Once two young soldiers were talking about the service of Christ. One of them said: "I cannot tell you all that the Lord Jesus is to me or what he has done for me. I do wish you would enlist in his army." "I am thinking about it", answered the young man, "but it means giving up several things—in fact, I am counting the cost." A Christian officer, just passing, heard the last remark, and laying his hand on the shoulder of the young man said: "Young man, you talk of counting the cost of following Christ but have you ever counted the cost of not following him?" For days that question haunted the mind of the young man, and he found no rest till he trusted the Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of sinners, whose faithful soldier he has been for twenty-seven years.

Have you ever stopped to think what it costs not to be a Christian? Perhaps you have heard it said many times what one gives up to follow Christ, but what does one give up if they reject Christ who was willing to give himself for us? As the message goes forth, I want you to take an inventory of your life and decide which is the greater price to pay, the wages of a sinner's life or living a life for Christ. Here are a few things that as a sinner you are having to sacrifice or give up by living a sinner's life.

First, as a sinner, you sacrifice peace. In Isaiah 57:21 we read, "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." A sinner cannot rest and have peace, he is like the troubled sea; whose waters cast up mire and dirt; the waves fling nothing but foam, weeds, and refuse to the shore, so the mind of the sinner is productive of nothing but polluted thoughts and corrupted actions as worthless as the mire and clay left behind it by the retiring storm. True peace and happiness of the soul is impossible with the sinner.

He may fool people but he doesn't fool God or himself and he doesn't fool people long; his sins will come to the surface bye and bye. I was raised on a farm in Alabama, I had to help my father plant the crop in the spring of the year. Once I turned over

the corn planter and spilled the corn. I covered it over with dirt to keep it concealed from my father. I thought I had it concealed from him and did for a while but when a shower of rain came, the seed came up, and there it was and my father knew what had happened.

You cannot conceal your sins forever, the Bible says, "be sure your sins will find you out." We cannot hide our sins from God. His eyes are upon us all the time. We try so hard to keep our sins from being found out by man when God, the Creator, sees and knows all things. We will all stand before God some day to be judged. How will it be with you? Do you have peace with God? Are you trying to find happiness? God is the only one who can give this peace.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee." Isaiah 26:3. How can you have this perfect peace? The latter part of this verse tells you, by trusting in God. We cannot have peace by trying to acquire it by ourselves, but we must trust in God, the author and finisher of our faith. Trusting in God is having faith to believe that He will give you perfect peace that He has spoken of in this passage. When you reject Christ you are sacrificing peace, accepting Christ is the only way to have peace. It's wonderful to lie down at night and know that you have the perfect peace of God in your heart instead of fear. Christ gives peace that passeth all understanding. Let us notice also in this passage of scripture the condition. God will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Him and who trusteth in Him. We must trust and believe on Him. A sinner cannot have this peace because he doesn't know the author or maker of this perfect peace. You have to believe in the giver of it.

Not only do you sacrifice peace but you sacrifice joy, the highest joy spoken of in John 15:11—"These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy may be full." A sinner may have joy but not the highest joy spoken of here. He can have joy over having wealth. Perhaps you have heard many say, "I wish I had as much money as Mr. Smith, I would be happy." We forget many times that money isn't real happiness. We never know what Mr. Smith is thinking. He isn't happy or he doesn't have joy in his heart because he has not accepted Christ who came to bring joy into the world. Remember the story of the Prodigal Son in Luke the fifteenth chapter. He had money,

friends and had a good time he thought, until his money was gone. Then all his friends and happiness was gone until he realized he must arise and go to his father. When he came to the point that God or his father was the only source of happiness, he arose and went. His father was willing to receive him, joy, peace, and happiness came to his heart. Your Father through Christ can give you joy if you will only arise and come to Him. He is willing, ready and waiting to give you perfect peace and joy.

There are two types of joy. (1) Earthly joy—this is the joy the Prodigal Son had—wealth, friends, but when his money was gone the happiness was gone. It only lasted temporarily as long as the money lasted. When the money was gone the joy was gone. (2) Spiritual joy—is that joy that only a born again child of God can have. Only those that know Christ as their personal saviour and it is an everlasting joy; it lasts forever and ever. Joy is found in the word itself.

J—Jesus first.

O—Others second.

Y—Yourself last.

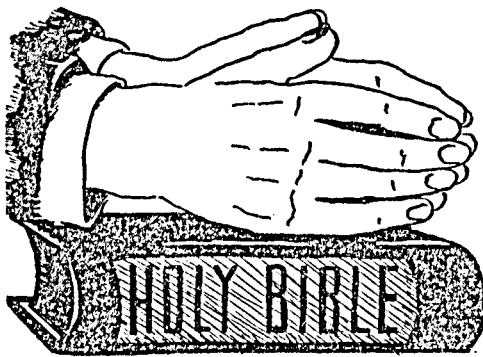
As a sinner you are putting yourself first, others second and Christ last, and where Christ does not have preeminence in your life there is no joy. "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

There isn't anyone who wishes to die and go to hell. What have you profited in this life if in the end you lose your own soul? Then you would give anything in the world to have another opportunity to accept Christ; have joy, but it will then be too late. Would you like to have joy, be with God in heaven instead of losing your soul?

As a sinner you sacrifice true success in life. One may make money, acquire fame without being a Christian. Matt. 5:45—"That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." A person doesn't have to be a born again child of God to be able to be a success in life, worldly speaking. In the sight of God we are all equal. He gave His Son a ransom for the rich, poor, for the black, red, yellow, and white. God prospers the just as well as the unjust. One may have all the world can offer as far as material wealth and yet be a complete failure. It matters not what one has in this life. You are a complete

(Continued on Page 5)

The Family Altar



"WHAT IS A HOME?"

Recently a London magazine sent out 1,000 inquiries on the question: "What is a home?" Out of 800 replies received, seven gems were selected as follows:

1. Home—A world of strife shut out, a world of love shut in.
2. Home—The place where the small are great and the great are small.
3. Home—The father's kingdom, the mother's world and the child's paradise.
4. Home—The place where we grumble the most and are treated the best.
5. Home—The center of our affections round which our heart's best wishes twine.
6. Home—The place where our stomach gets three square meals daily and our hearts a thousand.
7. Home—The only place on earth where the faults and the failings of humanity are hidden under the sweet mantle of charity.

—The Covenanter Witness

"HOME, SWEET HOME"

The author of "Home Sweet Home," John Howard Payne, a genial-hearted, kind little man, was walking with a friend in the great city of London, and pointing to one of the aristocratic streets in Mayfair, where wealth and luxury had the windows closed and curtained lest the least warmth and light go out, or the smallest air of cold winter come in, where isolated English comfort was guarded by a practical dragon of gold, he, this tiny man with a big heart, said: "Under those windows I composed the song of 'Home Sweet Home,' as I wandered about without food, or a semblance of shelter I could call my own. Many a night since I wrote those words that issued out of my heart by absolute want of a home have I passed and repassed in this locality, and heard a sweet voice coming from within these gilded, fur-

lined comfortable walls in the depth of a dim, cold London winter warbling 'Home, Sweet Home,' while I, the author of them, knew no bed to call my own." —Selected

LIFE'S GREATEST DECISION

These are days of uncertainty and dread. The very mention of atomic weapons binds us with fear and alarm. There is much consternation about the awful storms and tornadoes that occur more frequently in recent years. People are terrified at the Satanic rage of murderers. We are often reminded of the crime wave sweeping our nation among the juveniles. These are also days of profanity and wickedness. Sin and degradation is on every hand with an increasing number of alcoholic derelicts and drug addicts.

You may nonchalantly say, "So what, it makes no difference to me." Perhaps you are being lulled into this state of apostasy by Satan. You may be so blinded by the forces of evil that sin does not appear sinful to you. But this is serious business, sin is sin and there are no degrees in it. There are no little lies and big lies. In God's sight sin is sin and must be punished. "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23). Also we are warned in God's Word, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7).

Remember you can make your own choices in life but God will make the final decision for you. He will determine where you will spend eternity by the life you have lived here. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). God's Word is true and it is final.

When the Bible states that "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" it means exactly that. There is not a spark of goodness in any of us that can be fanned into a flame of Godliness. "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags" (Isa. 64:6).

There are only two classes of people in the world—sinners and Christians. You either belong to God or the devil. If you have never accepted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour from sin then you are not a Christian. Where will you spend eternity? "Choose you this day whom ye will serve" (Josh. 24:15). This is life's greatest decision. No one can decide for us. Are you ready to meet the Lord?

Contributed by Mrs. Menge.

HOW TO BE BLESSED OF GOD

Emma Moore
3200 Sheridan
Springfield, Illinois

Psalms 1 tells of the man who is blessed. It says his delight is in the law of the Lord (the Bible). In it he meditates day and night. This is the reason he doesn't walk in the counsel of the ungodly. He finds his counsel in God's holy word. Following this counsel will keep him from partaking of the sinner's sin. So he doesn't stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of the scornful.

Saved by the word of God; "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth for ever." (1 Peter 1:23)

Assurance of salvation by the word of God: "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." (1 John 5:13)

Growing by the word: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." (1 Peter 2:2)

Cleansing by the word: "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word." (Psalms 119:9)

Sanctification by the word: "Sanctify them thru thy truth; thy word is truth." (John 17:17)

Peace through the word: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

Built up through the word: "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)

Fruit bearing by the word: "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." (Psalms 126:6)

May you be the blessed man born of God's word, nourished by it as you meditate on it day and night; and may you bear the precious seed to others is my prayer.

The man who walks close to God will leave no room for the devil to come between.

Life is not salvage to be saved out of the world, but an investment to be used in the world.

WHAT IT COSTS NOT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

(Continued from page 3)

failure if you do not have Christ as your saviour. You may be a success in the eyes of man, but without Christ you are completely nothing.

Yes, have all the world offers, but without Christ you are lost and headed for an eternal hell. In Luke 12:15 "And he said, unto them, take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of things which he possesseth." The rich man had an abundance of goods and didn't have anywhere to store them. Instead of giving it to the poor he built a greater storehouse and stored it away. He said, "I'll eat, drink, and be merry," but the Lord said, "thou fool this night thy soul shall be required of thee." So it is when one's treasure is here on earth. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Your treasure is in the things you have, and unless you repent your soul is lost and bound for a devil's hell.

As a sinner you sacrifice the loss of your own soul. Ezekiel 18:4, "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth it shall die." Your soul is sinful and it will die and suffer punishment in a burning hell. In Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin is death—! Sin brings death, if sin is paid off it will be paid off in death. You are laboring in sin and your wages at payday will be death instead of life eternal. Yes, the way of a transgressor is hard. God hates sin and always has and He will punish sin, and you can be assured He will punish you and give you your wages on the day of judgment.

Remember the story of the rich man and Lazarus; how Lazarus desired to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. "And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivest thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed; so that they which would pass from hence

to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from hence. Luke 16:22-26. Yes, you will be lost in hell and cry out like the rich man but help will not come, it will be too late.

Oh! how thankful I am that the verse doesn't end there, notice the rest that follows "but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." You don't have to die and go to hell. Notice God always makes a way of escape for a sinner if he will only use that way of escape which has been provided. A prisoner may escape if his cell door is unlocked but even though the door is opened and there is no guard about he cannot escape unless he makes an effort on his own part. So it is with you sinner friend. The way has been made by the death of God's Son on the cross but unless you accept his gift, Jesus Christ, then you are still chained by sin and are a slave of the devil. Jesus Christ is the way to eternal life. John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me." Yes, it is only through Him that you can escape hell. "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.

Last but not least as a sinner you lose heaven, that wonderful place we talk about, read about, and sing about. That home which God has prepared for those that love Him. The place where we will never grow old and there will be no more heartaches, tears, no more sorrows and pain. Where the streets are paved with gold and precious stones those things which we value so much here are used to make up heaven. Yes, it must be a beautiful place, but my sinner friend you cannot go there for there is no sin in heaven all is pure. In Matt. 25:30, "Cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." This is you friend, a sinner which will be cast into this place. Rev. 21:8, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murders, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all lairs shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death." It is awful but this will be your home unless you repent and turn from your sins. I have heard some say that you will burn up and it will all be over, your suffering will not last long, but this is not true. The Bible plainly tells us in Rev. 20:10, "And the devil that deceived them

was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and false prophets are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." Notice it says forever and ever. Forever means without end, indefinite. You can be assured that this is true. God never fails. He always does as He promises. He never changes. He is an unchangable God and His word is true and will stand. You can depend on hell and the torments of hell for as a sinner this is your reward. Is it not pleasant to think about? No, but, it is as real as heaven is real. You don't have to go to this terrible place of torment. How about it sinner friend can you continue to pay the price of sin? Does it cost more to follow Christ than it does the devil? Evaluate these points, close out your books, do they balance or is the life of sin that you have been living still demanding more?

The way of the cross is the cheapest. Won't you turn from your sins and accept Christ as your saviour? He has paid the debt for you by His death on the cross of Calvary. "Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sin, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." I Peter 2:24. The price has been paid won't you accept Him by faith, repent of your sins, confess and forsake them, and believe on Him?

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Him. He is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. It is not God's will that you go to hell but it is your own will. But hell is your destination as it stands. "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation." Heb. 2:3a. You may say not now, but some other time. I want to sow a few more wild oats, have some more fun. Listen, delay may mean death and hell for you. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." II Cor. 6:2b. Now is the time. Tomorrow may be too late. You must make the choice now. The choice you make will either mean hell or heaven. Christ may come any moment any time now we know not when. "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Editor's Note; Rev. James Elmore is a student at the Free Will Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee and is the son-in-law of Rev. and Mrs. Lester Jones, our State Home Mission Workers.

From the Editor's Desk

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUMMER

The summer months are almost here and perhaps you are already making plans for them. However, we hope you don't overlook the fact that we have several important meetings that are of concern to each Free Will Baptist.

First, we have the Youth Camp Session for our young people next month, June 22-28.

Second, the National Association which will convene at the Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis, July 8-10.

Third, the State Meeting will convene at the Youth Camp Grounds, August 18-22.

Your attendance at these meetings is urged with a prayer that they will be a blessing to you and your church.

Also an important item which is both a privilege and a responsibility is the opportunity of having Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Hanna, missionaries on furlough from India, for a service at your church in July or August.



Rev. Harvey E. Hill
Pastor of the Berkeley City Church
Berkeley City, Missouri

BERKELEY CITY CHURCH

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Berkeley had its beginning on January 29, 1939, when a few people gathered together and started a Sunday School in a community hall at 8912 Flavia, now known as Springdale Avenue, in the southern part of Berkeley.

Howard Dobkins was the Superin-

tendent of the first Sunday School and Alma Henry, Lena Moore, Mildred Dobkins and a Mrs. Parker were the first Sunday School teachers. Virginia Stone was secretary for the first group.

From the original group of thirty-one who gathered together on January 29, 1939, the organization of the Free Will Baptist Church took place on March 5, 1939, with the Rev. Alva Gulley as their first pastor.

Seventeen charter members of the church included the Rev. and Mrs. Alva Gulley, Alva Gulley, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baybo, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Ferguson, Victor Ferguson, Ava Spann, Francis Morris, Mary Ann Morris, Herbert Morris, Nettie Wilson, Virginia Stone, Alma Henry and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Dobkins.

The present membership has grown to 225 and since the first meeting on Flavia, a church has blossomed into being. With each year improvements have been made and a basement and Sunday School class rooms have been added. A choir loft has been built and thirty feet has been added to the auditorium. With the growth of the church, parking became a problem, and the congregation purchased a plot of ground across the street from the church which is being utilized as a parking lot.

A new organ was purchased early in 1957 and it was just the beginning. The new year of '58 has seen many changes and improvements in our little church. The good men of our church gave the auditorium a new look by completely redecorating and also refinishing the floors to have a proper setting for the beautiful new pews, pew screen, pulpit, piano and other furniture. New hymnals were purchased to complete the picture. There was a love offering taken on Easter Sunday of "Thirty Pieces of Silver," which will help with plans to purchase ground and erect a new church.

Many other improvements have been made in the past two years such as an outside bulletin board, reshingling and remodeling of the parsonage, addition of a new room and sun porch to parsonage, a new hot water heater in the parsonage, a new concrete driveway has been put in, a water cooler and a new hot water tank installed in the church, and the Educational Building has been completed and plastered.

The Rev. Harvey E. Hill is our pastor, and has been with the church since October 1, 1955. He and Mrs. Hill and their sons, Edwin and Larry have been a great joy to all of us. Brother Hill has organized the Master's Men Club, C. F. C. and G. T. A. Young People's groups, and a new Board of Trustees, an Advisory Board, Junior Deacons and in Advertising Committee have been elected. A Junior Deacons and an Advertising and is progressing nicely under the direction of one of our young ministers, the Rev. Gaylord Huckaba.

During the history of the church, three missions have gone out and have now been organized into churches. They are the Salem Free Will Baptist Church of Salem, Missouri, where the Rev. Lawrence Thompson is pastor, the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church of St. Louis, where the Rev. Elmer Turnbough is pastor and the Wellston Free Will Baptist Church, whose pastor is the Rev. Harry Asher.

Bro. Hill is quite proud of his congregation and the 86 new members that have been added since he came here in October, 1955. The Sunday School attendance has doubled, the record in attendance broken, and a general increase has taken place in all auxiliaries. Recently two young men of the church announced their call to preach the gospel.

The congregation is also proud and well blessed to have such a man of God as Harvey E. Hill as their beloved minister.

Signed Mrs. Bonnie Deatherage,
Member of Advertising Committee and Gem Correspondent

REVIVAL

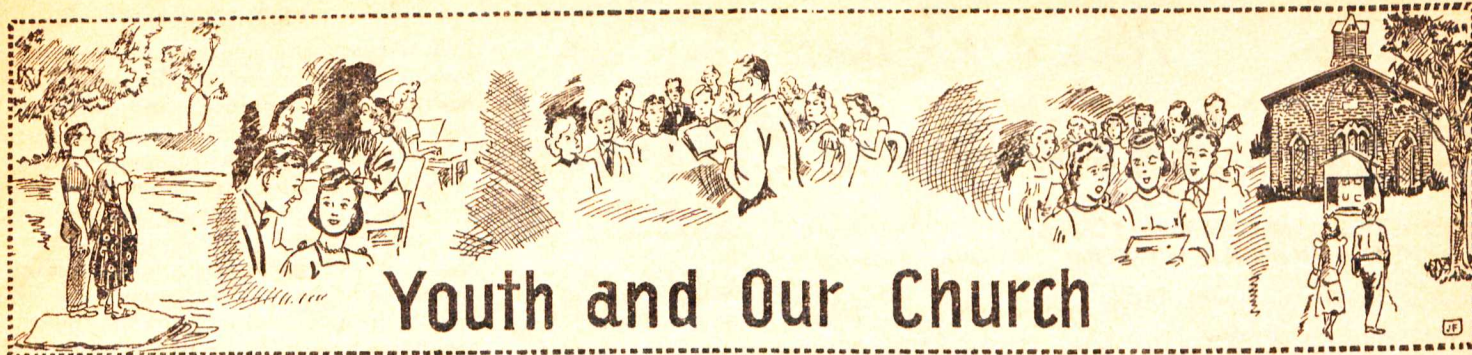
The First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River, Mo. held a weeks pre-Easter revival from March 30, until April 6. The Rev. Benjamin Scott pastor of the Fredericktown Free Will Baptist Church was the evangelist. There were two converts. The Rev. H. C. Beasley, is church pastor.

When God controls the inner man we have no trouble with the outer man.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Hanna, missionaries on furlough from India, will be available for special missionary services in Missouri during July and August.

Any church or organization desiring to have the Hannas for a service will please notify Rev. Rolla Smith, 601 Buckley Street, Flat River Mo.



YOUTH CAMP NEWS IT WON'T BE LONG NOW

Just sixty more days from this date (April 22) until the many boys and girls from all over the State of Mo. will be assembling for the Twelfth annual session of the Missouri State Youth Camp, which will be held beginning June 22, and close on Saturday, June 28. This is a time that our boys and girls look forward to, for it brings to them hours and hours of fellowship, recreation, and spiritual instruction as well as hearing the gospel messages each day. Last year a record crowd attended the Youth Camp when 260 registered. We feel that even more will be present this year. So begin now to make your plans to attend the Missouri State Youth Camp and enjoy one of the greatest times of your life.

SPECIAL YOUTH CAMP NEWS

The following has been added to the Youth Camp for this year's session.

1. Northwest Missouri is building a cabin on the boy's side, and the St. Louis District Quarterly Meeting is building a large dormitory on the boy's side. The Southside Church of St. Louis, is building a cabin on the girl's side. We feel sure that these additions will help us to accommodate the overflow crowd we expect at this year's session.

2. We have also added more land to our camp grounds by purchasing four running acres, one acre wide, back of the cottage and junior playground toward Niangua, which means that additional space for more cabins is now available and anyone wishing to build, please contact Rev. William Reeves, Niangua, Mo. He will be glad to point out a plot for your cabin.

3. The road into camp has been re-made and the ground landscaped by the road side, making a great improvement and the road wider.

4. We are hoping also that each Church or Association that owns a cabin will repair, paint, and redecorate all of their cabins before another camp time. If you own one of these,

please try to do so, for remember the State Association will also be meeting there this year.

5. The care-taker has also mentioned that if all Churches, associations, etc. who own cabins will send \$5.00 to him, all the extra brush, trees, rocks, etc. can be cleared away and the care-taker can mow around the cabins, making a big improvement in the camp appearance.

HELP YOUR CHILDREN TO ATTEND YOUTH CAMP

No doubt as Youth Camp time is nearing and a recession seems to have hit our country, many of our children are now in doubt that they will get to attend this year's Youth Camp session because of the lack of funds. Churches, associations, etc. why not sponsor your children and send them to camp? It will be money well spent and will prove to be a blessing to the children you send. Who knows, it could be the means of some of our children being saved from sin or answering the call to some special service which otherwise may never have happened to them. Remember, you can't out give God.

COLLEGE KITCHEN CAMPAIGN

At the National Association of Free Will Baptists which met in Birmingham, Alabama, last July, a new League project was presented. This project, "College Kitchen Campaign," has a goal of \$15,000 which is such a small amount for a whole denomination of more than 2,500 churches and more than 175,000 members. We believe this project is very worthwhile and it is a dire need.

Our plan is to ask at least 1,000 churches, Leagues, or individuals to send just \$5.00 per month for one year to "College Kitchen Campaign," 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee. If each of these respond favorably, we will reach our goal by the latter part of 1959. Already several Leagues have voluntarily pledged to give \$5.00 or more each month. Won't you join them?

Please challenge your League or church, or several of your members, to pledge \$5.00 per month and help us reach our goal.

I'm definitely counting on you. Don't let us down. Every penny sent to "College Kitchen Campaign" will be spent for new equipment for the new kitchen now near completion.

"God loveth a cheerful giver..."
II Cor. 9:7b.

In His service,
Ray C. Turnage
Promotional Secretary

FIRST MISSION ENDEAVOR AMONG JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Furnishing the only organized opposition to the movement known as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mr. William J. Schnell of Youngstown, Ohio, now associated with the Lutheran church, has in his possession letters from 663 former members of this sect who came free after reading his book, THIRTY YEARS A WATCHTOWER SLAVE. Mr. Schnell also publishes a magazine, THE CONVERTED JEHOVAH'S WITNESS EXPOSITOR which is sent free of charge to all who seek counsel in dealing with members of the Watchtower society. In addition, he is training 100 former Jehovah's Witnesses to work with members of this sect.

Printed copies of the American edition of THIRTY YEARS A WATCHTOWER SLAVE have reached the 50,000 mark. In addition, four foreign editions are now ready or in preparation, in England, Sweden, Netherlands, and Latin America.

(For further information, photographs, or cuts, please contact: Baker Book House, Grand Rapids 6, Mich.)

You may think yourself smart by throwing scoffs and scorns at the right, but good and great people know that you are only a fool.

Attend Church Sunday

News From The Mission Field

PRAYER AND PRAISE ITEMS FROM VOLENA WILSON,

Kotagiri, South India

Praise

1. For the 5-day Convention conducted by M. Matthews (Indian Christian, who is going to Africa as a missionary). There were 4 saved and 21 rededications.

2. For Jacob (One of our deacons), who has given up smoking. His smoking was a hindrance to some of our young people.

3. Two other Christians who gave up smoking and 2 women who gave up chewing. Two women who gave up the movies.

4. For 40 Hindus who made decisions Monday night, March 3rd, in a nearby village, Kil-Kotagiri, when M. Matthews spoke there while here with us.

5. For largest offering in history of church March 2nd. Our speaker, M. Matthews was amazed. But we know the Lord is the answer to all the blessings here.

6. For Gov't. recognition of our new school, Gopalapuram, at Aruvankadu.

7. For the birth of a son to both R. John Raju and Wilson Raj.

8. For the unusual interest in our Sunday Schools.

9. For the fearlessness of Mr. K. S. Avarran, the Mohammedan who was baptized here New Year's Day. He knows he will face persecution but he is not afraid.

10. For completion of our parsonage. It was dedicated Feb. 22nd.

Prayer

1. For Mr. K. S. Avarran mentioned above. Pray also that the wife may soon become a believer.

2. For our Sunday School work. We need at least 2 more teachers very badly. Also for our evangelistic efforts pray much.

3. For the 4 new converts and 21 rededications.

4. For the restoration of Joseph Rangaraj and victory for Mr. J. Paul.

5. Salomi Amma, our Bible woman, who is now 65 years of age. We

need at least 2 Bible women other than Salomi.

6. The possibility of one of our group to take over the Tamil Baptist Church at Coonoor.

7. For our pastor, Mr. D. Dorairaj, who has many heavy responsibilities and is such a valuable man in our work here.

8. For both John Raju and Wilson Raj in their evangelistic efforts.

9. For the Union Convention to be held here March 19-23 by Rev. G. M. Hamby, Florence, Alabama. We're asking the Lord for showers of blessing during this convention. Pray for the interpreter of Mr. Hamby's messages.

10. For Mr. and Mrs. M. Matthews in their final preparations to leave for British East Africa.

11. By all means much prayer for me.

I trust that all goes well there and that you'll have a wonderful Bible Conference at the end of the month. We shall be remembering same here.

How richly the Lord is blessing here. May He keep all of us out of His way so that He may bless in an even greater way.

If you receive this letter in time, we would appreciate special prayer for the Union Convention to begin here on the 19th and go through the 23rd. On the 24th Mr. Hamby wrote that he might be able to go with us out to our new school where there are mostly Hindus. We're trusting that he'll be able to go. I had not planned to entertain him and the interpreter here in the home, but all our dear Indian friends are beseeching me to do so. If he should stay here, I know he'll be a particular blessing to all of us in the home and in our group. God has graciously given revival in most of the places where Mr. Hamby has spoken here in India. He's a man of God and has an unusual burden for the lost millions of this earth. May God indeed come before him here and prepare us and him for this convention.

With all good wishes, I remain
Prayerfully yours,
Volena Wilson

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the work and responsibilities of the Foreign Mission Office continues to increase, and whereas, the duties of the office requires more time to properly and adequately take care of the affairs as related to our Foreign Mission Program, and whereas, the requests and opportunities for itinerate services, missionary conferences and missionary revivals are entirely too much for one man to handle in connection with the office work and correlating the work of our five (5) foreign fields, therefore be it resolved that section one of the By-laws of the Charter of Incorporation of the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists be changed to read as follows:

Section 1—Officers

The Foreign Missions Board shall at each Annual meeting, elect the following officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Recording Secretary. Said officers shall hold office for one year and until a successor or successors be elected.

The Foreign Mission Board shall also elect an Executive Director-treasurer who shall be elected for an unspecified term with the understanding that he is to be given, or give, a sixty day notice before termination of official duties. Also, the Foreign Mission Board shall concur or approve the selection of a Promotional Secretary who shall work in this capacity under the supervision of the Executive Director. The Promotional Secretary shall also be chosen for an unspecified term with a sixty day notice given before termination of official duties.

All officers shall be members of the Board except the Executive Director and Promotional Secretary who may or may not be a member of the Board.

In event of the death or removal or resignation of any of said officers, a successor or successors may be elected by the Board to complete such unexpired term or terms.

Note: The above resolution was adopted at the last meeting of the Foreign Mission Board and will be included in our next report to the National Association, for approval. It is hereby submitted for early consideration.

—Raymond Riggs

Wrong may put a man on a great earthly throne, but it certainly won't give him a mansion in Heaven.

BRAZIL

Dear Brethren:

Northern Parana State, the new coffee region of Brazil, with a population of one million inhabitants, and with an elevated indication of statistical and economical progress, offers in this country one of the greatest opportunities for missionary work in the fields of evangelization and education.

Rev. Thomas H. Willey, your missionary in Cuba, has visited this region and he could tell you of the challenge that this area offers to missionaries of every church.

In the status of a Brazilian, as well as a State Representative, and above all as an evangelical son of the American missionary cause, I have the esteemed privilege to direct an old Biblical appeal to you, "Come over to Parana and help us" in the work of spiritual redemption of our country, since we have nearly thirty millions of unschooled who do not know Christ as personal Saviour and Lord of their souls.

Confiding in the word of Rev. Raymond Riggs, we shall begin in the extreme western part of this state, in June, in the city known as Umuarama, the construction of the first building for the primary school, and the residence for professors. That growing city is the strategic point of a vast and promising region that embraces thousands and thousands of souls that need instruction in the alphabet and the Gospel.

Just as your government assists our government in the construction of highways, cities, etc., come over help us, you who are Mother Churches, to accelerate the work of conquering Brazil for Christ!

I am certain that the greatness of your heart, and the great spiritual heritage of your soul will be gripped in the sense that our plea will be answered with missionaries, nurses, and material resources.

Wishing you an annual meeting presided over by the Missionary Spirit of Christ, I remain,

Cordially yours,
Zaqueu de Melo

SUGGESTED ITINERATE

For Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna

May 29—Marion, N. C. Rev. J. E. Floyd, Marion, N. C.

May 30—Arcadia Church, Arcadia, S. C. Rev. J. E. Raper, Box 28, Arcadia, S. C.

May 31 P. M. and June 1 A. M.—Cramerton, N. C. Rev. Roy Rikard, Cramerton, N. C.

June 1 P. M.—Rockingham, N. C.

Rev. Walter Carter, East Rockingham, N. C.

June 2—Sand Mill—Rev. Hoyt E. Powell, Pamplico, S. C.

June 3—Popular Hill Church, Hemingway, S. C. Rev. Edison D. Kirby, Rt. 1, Box 96, Lake City, S. C.

June 4—Williams Mill Church, Walter F. Scott, Clerk, Rt. 2, Hemingway, S. C.

June 5—Happy Home Church, Rev. Hoyt E. Powell, Pamplico, S. C.

June 7—Tabernacle Church, Coward S. C., Rev. H. W. Richburg, Turbeville, S. C.

June 8—Bethany Church, Timmonsville, S. C. (Two services) Rev. W. L. Jernigan, Timmonsville, S. C.

June 9—South Side Church, Darlington, S. C. Rev. Clarence Lambert, Darlington, S. C.

June 10—Lockhart Church, Lockhart, S. C. Rev. A. F. Lawter, Lockhart, S. C.

June 11—Chester Church, Chester, S. C., Rev. Sherman Branch, 94 White Oak St., Chester, S. C.

June 12—High Point Church, Lancaster, S. C., Rev. Carl Shook, Rt. 4, Lancaster, S. C.

June 13—Clover Church, Rev. David Philbeck, 307 Valley Ave., Clover, S. C.

June 14—High Hill Church, Lake City, S. C. Rev. Fred S. Powers, Rt. 1, Timmonsville, S. C.

June 16—White Savannah Church, Conway, S. C. L. P. Brown, Conway, S. C.

June 17—Mt. Airel Church, Conway, S. C. C. T. Dew, Clerk, Rt. 4, Conway, S. C. Rev. McCloud Strickland, Tabor City, N. C. (Pastor)

June 18—Bay Branch Church, Timmonsville, S. C., Rev. B. Morris, Timmonsville, S. C.

June 19—Manning Church, Rev. M. Reedy Saverance, Timmonsville, S. C.

June 20—New Town Church, Lake City, S. C. Rev. Thomas Mellette, Turbeville, S. C.

June 21—Camp Branch, Lake City, S. C., Rev. M. H. Mellette, Turbeville, S. C.

June 22—Charleston Church, Charleston, S. C., Rev. Keith Boyd, in care of Columbia Bible College, Columbia, S. C.

"IS THIS GOD'S WILL FOR US?"

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Since I have been in Ghana I have wished so much that true Gospel preaching churches had a greater hold in Ghana. Many of the schools were started by missions, but as far as we

have been able to observe, there is much lacking from a Christian standpoint. This does not mean that they are doing no good at all.

Recently I was talking to one of the men who is helping to revise the Bible into the Asanti language. He is working in connection with R. Akrofi, our professor. He told me that he would like me to pray, as well as help him look for a headmaster to take over a secondary school (equivalent to our High School) that he started on February 3. He said that there are already some buildings and that if someone could come who had a degree, Bible College or University, he felt confident that soon the government would take over its support. At the moment it is self-supporting. It has an enrollment of 32 students, 27 boys and 5 girls. Twenty-five of them board at the school. He feels definitely it is these who will be Ghana's leaders. Most missions in Ghana do much educational work. If we wish to have work in Ghana, this may be a way of entrance. In connection with Christian work among the students, they could work in the surrounding villages, of which the greater part of the inhabitants are pagan. This school is situated about 20 miles from Kumasi and about 250 miles or less from our field. Mr. Denteh, the African scholar, has invited us to visit this area and the school when we pass through Kumasi at Easter on our way to the Bondoukou Circle. After that I will be able to give you our impressions of the challenge and the advisability of accepting this work. It would not be as expensive to equip missionaries in Ghana as it is in the Ivory Coast, also Dan could easily come over and do the building, if necessary. We could meet incoming missionaries at Accra as easily as at Abidjan. There would be no language to learn as this is English speaking territory, that is other than the native language. The great question is: "Is this God's will for us?". Secondly, is this the hour for us to open another field? Thirdly, will our people accept this challenge? Oh, that God would thrust forth laborers into the field. If only our people and leaders could see this needy land.

Please consider this as soon as possible and let me know your thoughts. If you feel that this might be of God, we will look into it farther and maybe you can visit it while in Africa. If it is not His will, I'm sure we will know it. May God direct you in every decision that you are called upon to make."

Lonnie Sparks

Alaskan Free Will Baptist Mission

General Delivery, Anchorage, Alaska
Dear Pastor Friend:

As I write this letter, my family and I are in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Johnnie Postlewaite, who are our home missionaries in Wenatchee Washington. After having spent the weekend with them, our faith has been strengthened and we have been encouraged as we have observed the way the Lord is blessing their efforts.

As we journey toward Alaska we want to personally thank you and your congregation for every contribution you have made toward making the Alaskan project a successful beginning. One of us have visited personally with most of you who will receive this letter, and have enjoyed the fellowship with you very much. Also, your interest in this work has been very encouraging.

On our way up we stopped by the National Home Mission office in Nashville, Tennessee where Rev. Willis transferred the Alaskan fund to us with the exception of approximately \$750 dollars reserved in case of an emergency arising at any time. We trust the amount that we have received will be enough to get us to the field, get established, and operate for at least two or three months.

We count it a privilege to be your representatives in Alaska, however leaving your home, loved ones and Christian friends is not as easy as singing "Where He Leads Me I Will Follow," or "Ready To Go, Ready To Stay." For this work to be a success depends on your future support.

As we make our final push into Canada and on into Alaska this week, I wish to make an urgent appeal to you to do three things for the Alaskan Mission.

First—Lead your congregation in making a special prayer for the Alaskan Mission.

Second—Encourage others to dedicate themselves to the Lord to serve with us in this great field.

Third—Lead your church or some auxiliary of it to give a special offering to the Alaskan Mission during the month of April.

We are trusting the Lord that the support of the work may not slump since we are gone and will not be making anymore contacts with you.

The nearer we approach this great harvest field the more we can see the greatness of the task assigned to us, but I have faith in you and your people that you will not let this cause for

Christ down and one glad day we will all come face to face with Christ, bringing the souls won to Him in Alaska.

Yours for Christ,
D. L. Whaley

LETTER FROM THE MIKELS

Dear Bro. and Sis. Halbrook and Gem Readers:

Greetings in the name of our wonderful Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We first want to express our thanks and appreciation to you as editor of the Gem. We look forward to each issue, and enjoy the good inspirational reading very much.

God has been so precious to us, truly we marvel at his marvelous love and grace, and the riches of his great blessings to his unworthy creation.

We were permitted the wonderful blessing of attending the Bible conference at our Bible Conference in Nashville. We were so thankful for the wonderful presence of God's Spirit that was manifested in each service. We are thankful to find people who are led by the Spirit of God in these evil days, and are standing firmly against the many besetting evils of these days. We are so thankful for people who will come out boldly speaking the truth and declaring the dangers and warning against the evils that are standing in 'high places'. Men, women, and youth of the Free Will Baptists let us continue to fight against sin and not be ashamed to proclaim the true gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is the power of God unto salvation.

May God richly bless everyone who is going forth led by his spirit and doing the will of God is our sincere prayer. How we need the prayers of each other in the battle against sin, that we will never be compromisers. Pray for us, for we feel so weak and unequal for the many tasks that confront us. We realize our full dependence upon God, for without him we can do nothing.

We are enclosing a check for fifteen dollars as offering from the Mendola Free Will Baptist Mission. This is a Foreign Mission Easter Offering.

We went to this church which was closed and had a revival last June and started a Free Will Baptist Mission. Since then we have purchased the church and two acres or more of ground with a two room cottage on it. We have such a nice group of willing workers. Please put this group on your prayer list. We believe there are great possibilities in this community. God has called out several to help in the ministry of the word and truly we

thank God for the fields are white and workers are needed as in many places. How we all need to pray as Jesus told us to pray that he would send workers into the fields that are white, ready to harvest.

We have had a number of ministers called from the Martinstown and Graysville Communities. They do a lot of the ministry of the word in these communities. It blesses our hearts to sit back and pray as God ministers his word through others.

We plan a revival beginning April 24th at the Martinstown Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. William Buster will be the evangelist. Pray with us for a great stirring of the church and the salvation of souls.

Let us trust God for greater accomplishments in 1958, for there is such need every where and we know God is able.

May God richly bless you in your labors for him is our prayer.

With love in Christ,
Gene and Alta Mikel.

YOUNG ONLY ONCE.... BUT REMEMBER

Carelessness gets the green light by the in-a-hurry teen, because you're only young once. Parental and pastoral counsel gets the brush-off for the same reason. Sin is winked at and in many cases openly flirted with because "the old fogies don't understand us."

When someone says, "You're only young once," you get hearty agreement on an absolute. But remember, the so-called "old fogie" is merely trying to help you by his experience. Experience is the best teacher, to be sure, but it always costs too much.

Why not smarten up and, in recognizing that you are only young once, make that youth-time count for you and for eternity?

"Oh, what's the diff? You're young only once!" is the excuse given by the young in heart for a number of things.

You're only young once, but "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Or, as one translation has it.... "Youth and manhood will not last, but remember your Creator in the flower of your age, ere evil days come on, and years approach when you shall say 'I have not joy in them.'"

—C. Bihl

The greatest whipping some people get is when they whip themselves.

An enemy may take a good man's life, but he can't destroy his influence.

Easter

Editor's Note: This message was delivered by Eleanor Wisehart at a Y. P. A. service at the Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church where Rev. Don Hill is the pastor.

Easter means different thing to different people. What does Easter really mean, and what does it mean to you?

To Pilate, the crucifixion must have been terrible. Pilate knew down in his heart that there was nothing to do with Jesus. He washed his hands as a symbol that he didn't want Jesus' blood on his hands. Of course, this didn't justify Pilate and he knew it. "Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him." (John 19:4)

The disciples would be the main leaders after Christ was gone to heaven. Can't you imagine how sad the disciples must have felt when they saw their Master, Teacher, Leader, and Friend being crucified!

The mothers of to-day can probably imagine how the mother of Jesus felt, more than we can. How terrible to see one of your children hung upon the cross and be laughed at and made fun in every way. "When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciples standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciples, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home." (John 19:26, 27)

It seems to us that the soldiers had no feelings for Jesus. "Then the soldiers when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout." (John 19:23) They cast lots to see who got the coat.

Jesus tasted death voluntarily for every man. He didn't have to suffer and die for us. He wasn't forced into it. He did it willingly. Jesus really suffered too. Jesus was even buried in a borrowed tomb. How wonderful to know that Jesus didn't have to stay in that tomb but three days and on the third day he arose! What a wonderful day for the Christian! What a sad day for those soldiers!

Some people today think of Easter as a time to buy a new dress and hat. They go to church to show them off. That is a terrible thing to say, but you'll have to agree that is the truth. Does Easter mean a new dress

to you, or does it mean that God gave His Son, Jesus Christ, to be crucified for you, and on the third day He arose from the grave?

Right now, let us thank God for sending His Son to die on the cross for us, that we might live.

Think it over. What does Easter mean to you?

The Seven Utterances From the Cross

Editor's Note: This message was delivered by Francella Brown at a Y. P. A. service at the Myrtle Church where Rev. Don Hill is pastor.

At this season of the year when our hearts are again turned to Easter, the time Christ arose from the dead, we also think of Calvary and the day when Christ suffered and died for our sins.

Meditate with me now on the seven utterances of Christ while on the cross. These seven utterances represent seven most important phases of Christ's character and work.

The first utterance was one of Forgiveness. (Luke 23:34) That included all who had any part in crucifying Christ. It is a word of confidence toward God and of love to his enemies. Great is the effect of pardoning mercy.

The story is told of an offending soldier. He was repeatedly brought before the commanding officer for his offences. Everything had been tried for punishment. A subordinate officer asked for permission to make a suggestion. "There is one thing that you have never tried," he said. "What could that be?" asked the colonel. "You have never forgiven him," was the suggestion made. After a moment's thought, the colonel sent for the offender. He was asked what he wished to say for himself. "Nothing, Sir," was the reply, "Except I am sorry for what I've done." When the Colonel told him he was forgiven, the soldier was struck dumb with amazement. Tears flowed down his face as he thanked the colonel. From that day his conduct was as perfect as any in uniform.

The second utterance was of Salvation to the repentant robber. (Luke 23:43) An unsaved man said to a Christian worker, "I am such a helpless, miserable sinner. There is no hope for me. I've prayed, resolved, tried and vowed until I am sick of my unavailing efforts."

The Christian worker asked, "Do you believe that Christ died for our sins, and rose again?"

"Of Course, I do", was the reply.

"If he were here on earth in visible form, and you went to him and asked him to save you, what do you think he would say?"

The man was silent for several moments, then as he looked up a new light came into his eyes, and a smile of peace stole over his face as he said, "Christ would say, I will."

The third utterance is the word of Love. "Woman, behold thy son!" (John 19:26) "Behold thy mother!" (John 19:27) Christ does not forget his Mother even if he is dying. He wanted to be sure she will be well taken care of.

The fourth utterance is the word of Atonement. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" A consummate (complete) testimony of what is and what Christ suffered to atone for it.

The fifth utterance is the word of Physical Suffering. "I thirst." (John 19:25)

The sixth utterance is a word Triumph. "It is finished." (John 19:30). No one since the world began could say that word as Jesus said it. There was complete atonement, because the offering was of a perfect life, human and divine.

The seventh utterance is the word Reunion. "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." (Luke 23:46). This was significant in that it was spoken at 3:00 P. M., the time of the Jewish evening sacrifice. The thought of the Father had penetrated our Lord's whole life. What wonder that he now turned to the Father in perfect confidence.

When the Christian system was being introduced, an old Roman said, "This system cannot stand, because it is founded upon a cross, upon the death of its own leader, upon a catastrophe, it cannot stand." Yet we know that is why it has and will continue to stand. The story does not heed ornamented to have power. We just lack the wisdom to tell it in its simplicity and to trust in the results. If rightly told, it will convert the whole world, for Christ himself said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

Men may take pleasure in sin while they are living, but we have never heard of anyone rejoicing in sin when dying.

A debt never gets too old for an honest man to pay it. True honesty shuns no just debt.

Woman's Auxiliary

A Dollar Talks

"Some \$'s are \$aved, some \$'s are U\$ed, some \$'s are wa\$ted. But many \$'s are needed! By Christian boys and girls to pay their tuition at the Free Will Baptist Bible College. Don't lo\$e me, be careful how you u\$e me and please don't wa\$te me. I beg you to \$end me to the W.N.A.C. Student Loan Fund so I can be u\$ed to train Pastors, Missionaries, Evangelists, Teachers, Deacons, and Christian Workers to win souls and work for Christ. I can do nothing by myself. I depend upon you to put me to the best use and how proud I will be to have you send me to the W.N.A.C. Student Loan Fund."

Yes, many dollars are needed and no one person can supply all the dollars, but if you will send at least one and encourage each woman in your Auxiliary to send at least one and if we will all work together we will indeed be surprised at just what can be done.

So, if you send your dollar\$
And I \$end mine
We'll help many \$tudents
Relieve their weary mind\$.

—Mrs. Helen Sanders, Chairman
Student Loan Fund Com.

* * * * *

JESUS WENT ABOUT DOING GOOD... ARE WE JUST GOING ABOUT?

The following was sent to me by Mrs. LaVerne Miley. I do not know the original source, but I want to share it with you:

"The many demands on a Christian's life can at the same time bring much good and much harm. Demand from family, church, and activities can give the Christian a full, rich and fruitful life. On the other hand, this potential blessing can wreck a Christian physically, mentally and, more important, spiritually.

The danger lies in the fact that we Christians can become ruled by our activities. In the mad rush of getting much done, our motives may unwittingly change from "unto the Lord" to "for its own sake." The motive is good, but it is not God.

In this busy life we are tempted to mistake momentum for a life with God. Greater momentum does not necessarily mean greater devotion. In fact, running pell-mell may be a defense mechanism to deceive ourselves

and others about our lack of a genuine walk with Christ.

When activities rule us we become so blinded by speed that we have no time to be taught by the Lord what is good and what is best. For instance, He might want to tell us sometime to befriend a non-Christian rather than attend some Christian meeting where doctrines are right but the spiritual life is dead.

Unspiritual busyness can get us into the habit of trying to appear busy at periods when we are less laden with responsibilities. In our attempt to keep up a busy front we find ourselves living a lie. Unfortunately this false front has the very bad side effect of keeping the needy neighbor from feeling free to turn into our door. He is sure we will not have time for him. One of the greatest needs today is for Christians who will give more of their lives to people, and less of the lives to programs for programs' sake."

MISSIONARY REVIVALS IN KENTUCKY A SUCCESS

During the month of March it was my privilege to visit in the state of Kentucky in the interest of foreign missions and the salvation of lost souls.

A Missionary Revival was held in the Second Free Will Baptist Church in Ashland, Kentucky, where Rev. Reford Meadows is the pastor. This is a young church and has a wonderful future and the vision of the people is what is necessary to give them the evangelistic fervor.

There were two definite decisions for Christ in this meeting. Also the Church gave \$201.78 for foreign missions.

After this meeting we moved to the Pikeville Free Will Baptist Church in Pikeville, Kentucky. Twenty decisions for Christ resulted in the first week. An offering of \$118.45 was given for foreign missions. Also the Church pledged \$893.00 for foreign missions to be paid during this year.

Then too, it was a real joy to visit the Floyd County Conference where Rev. Douglas Burkette is moderator. This is quite a large conference of Free Will Baptists and I thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship with the Kentucky brethren. The Conference received an offering for foreign missions which amounted to \$88.03.

All in all there was \$1,363.36 in

cash and pledges for foreign missions. This is indeed a great area among our people. I trust that more of our Preachers will find it possible to visit the brethren in the Eastern part of Kentucky. I have never met a more warm hearted folk and I thoroughly enjoyed my visit. I hope that I may return before too long.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESIGNATION

"It is with the deepest regret that I find I must resign the office of W. N.A.C. Youth Chairman. It is not an impulse, but a decision which has come about by much prayer and thought these last few months. I will continue to have much interest in the National Auxiliary program and will continue to pray that the Lord will lead to greater things in the future. May His richest blessings be on each of you as you go forth as "laborers together with God".

—Mrs. Avis Sublette

Executive Committee Action

"Motion carried that resignation of Youth Chairman be accepted with regrets."

"Mrs. Luther Sanders elected as Youth Chairman by acclamation."

(Mrs. Sanders was then called down to the office to meet with the Executive Committee and after a session of prayer, Mrs. Sanders promised to "give her best" in service to this office. She requests your prayer support.)

Please send all Declamation Contestants' names and Essays to:

Mrs. Luther Sanders, 206 Euclid Ave., Monett, Mo.

LEADINGTON AUXILIARY

The Women of the Leadington church held their Pre-Easter services in the homes of the different women of the church. Our average attendance was ten. The theme for the week was "The Easter Dawn Came, It Can Be Night Again".

During this week our ladies voted to give a sacrificial offering to Missions, both Home and Foreign. This offering amounted to \$45.60. Our women are also praying for our coming revival in June. We pray that this will be a great revival and many souls will be born into our Father's Kingdom.

Please pray for Leadington.

—Dottie Hargiss, Cor.

HAZEL CREEK AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary met April 2nd with Mary Filkins. There were eight members and one visitor present. The scripture lesson from Luke 10:1-3 and John 4:35 was read by Lena Miley. Prayer by Minnie Thompson. The work for the day was working on quilt tops and embroidering tea towels. The minutes of the last meeting were read. Individual monthly report blanks were filled out. There was a report of 510 Bible chapters read, twelve cards sent and twenty-five sick calls reported. An offering of a dollar and five cents was received. Four dollars was received for the Student Loan Fund.

The lesson was "Go Set a Watchman, Let Him Declare What He Seeth in Cuba". Topics were given by Minnie Thompson, Ethel Thompson and Leona Thompson.

The next meeting will be with Lena Miley. Benediction by Mrs. Ethel Thompson.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

THAYER AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Thayer Free Will Baptist Church met on Tuesday night, March 25. We did not have our regular meeting that night as Rev. and Mrs. Whaley were to be our guest speakers, but due to circumstances beyond their control it was impossible for them to arrive on time for service. The church enjoyed a bountiful supper in the basement at 6:30 which was planned for the Whaleys.

Rev. Davie Cambs brought us a message in their absence. Mrs. Whaley spoke to us on Wednesday night. We pray God will richly bless them in their work in Alaska.

Our auxiliary met on Saturday evening at the home of Mrs. Beatty with eleven members present.

The Woman's Auxiliary has sponsored a new piano for the church. The Lord has richly blessed and supplied our needs. We also observed the pre-Easter week of prayer with good attendance and a wonderful spirit among all.

—Nettie Bennett, Cor.

KIRKSVILLE AUXILIARY

The Women's Auxiliary met April 3, with Elfie Dare. There were ten members and one visitor present. The morning was spent working on quilts. A covered dish luncheon was served at noon hour. The afternoon program opened by singing, "The Kingdom is Coming", followed by sentence prayers. The Scripture lesson was from Luke 10:1-3, and John 4:35. There

was a short business session. Twenty cards were reported sent, one hundred and ninety-four chapters read and thirty-three calls made. The project for the month is a visitation on the 3rd Thursday afternoon, after the regular study class. Velma Wellman gave the introduction. Topics were given by Lillian Wood, Stella Gates, Ethel Thompson and Celia Lay. Benediction was rendered by all praying the Lord's Prayer in unison.

* * * * *

The Kirksville Woman's Auxiliary met April 17, at the Fellowship House, for the regular 3rd Thursday meeting, with six members present. The morning devotions were led by Stella Gates with a song service and season of prayer. Dinner was served at the noon hour and visitations were made in the afternoon. Two homes and five patients at a nursing home were visited. The Lord truly blessed in the services throughout the day.

GRANT AVENUE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Springfield, Mo.

The Grant Avenue Woman's Auxiliary met at the church March 20th at 1:30 P. M. with ten present. After singing "We're Marching To Zion", Fay Hilton led in prayer. After the roll call a chain of prayers. Program topics were given by Braxine Evans, Mary Kensinger and Arlene Mallory.

* * * * *

The pre-Easter week of prayer was held March 31, to April 4th, with an average attendance of twenty. Ralph Hampton of the Free Will Baptist Bible College was our guest speaker on Monday. The weeks program was delivered by the following: Tuesday by Mrs. Hicks; Wednesday by Mrs. Hilton and Mrs. Smith; Thursday by Braxine Evans and Mary Kensinger; Friday an Easter Acrostic was given by six of the ladies. Special songs by Reba Kensinger.

The program was closed each day with a special prayer for our revival.

FELLOWSHIP AUXILIARY

The Women's Auxiliary of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church at Flat River met Thursday, April 4, for their monthly meeting.

Theme—"Go Set a Watchman, Let Him Declare What He Seeth".

Hymn—"We're Marching to Zion".

Prayer—Mrs. Blanche Tucker.

Responsive Reading—Phil. 4:10-20.

Business period—Mrs. Agnes Smith.

Program period—Mrs. Della Getz.

Hymn—"Rescue the Perishing".

Introduction—Mrs. Della Getz.

Topic I—"Slum Areas in America" by Mrs. Alberta Turley.

Poem—Mrs. McCormack.

Topic II—"Indians in America" by Mrs. Zoro Horton.

Topic III—"The Challenge of Alaska", by Mrs. Willa Mae Barker.

Chorus singing—"My Lord Knows the Way" and "Got Any Rivers".

Praise service.

* * * * *

The Fellowship Church Woman's Auxiliary met at the church, April 24. The program was as follows:

Theme—"Go Set a Watchman, Let Him Declare What He Seeth in Cuba".

Hymn—"Throw Out the Life Line".

Prayer by Mrs. Zelma Baker.

Hymn—"Send the Light".

Scripture—Luke 10:1-3; John 4:35.

Business—Mrs. Agnes Smith.

The auxiliary voted to contribute to the Memorial Student Fund. The amount was \$17.30.

Program period—Mrs. Della Getz.

Duet—Mrs. Wanda Ragsdale and Mrs. Agnes Smith.

Topic 1—Mrs. Zora Horton; Topic 2—Mrs. Zelma Baker; Topic 3—Mrs. Edith Brooks; Topic 4—Wanda Ragsdale.

Benediction—Mrs. Willa Mae Barker.

Dinner was served and afternoon program was rendered.

Prayer—Miss Mary Burcham.

Lesson Study—"God and Missions Today", by Mrs. Wanda Ragsdale.

Benediction—Mrs. Bernice Dodd.

Mrs. Mildred Burcham, Cor.

MYRTLE CHURCH

We are happy to say that the Lord has been good to us; for we averaged sixty in Sunday School in January and fifty-one in both February and March.

The last two weeks in March we had a revival with Rev. Robert Shockey doing the preaching and we are happy to say that our church was really revived.

The last Sunday the Y. P. A. took charge of the Sunday morning services and we had a very good service.

The first Wednesday in this month the church met in a business meeting and voted to start a parsonage fund. We pray that the Lord will bless us in this effort and we would like to ask you to pray for us in this work.

—Rev. Bud Hill, Pastor.

News From Our Churches

KANSAS CITY FIRST AUXILIARY

Since our last report to the Gem several months ago, we have had our regular monthly meeting and sponsored many of the church projects, such as, Daily Vacation Bible School, Y. P. A. and G. T. A. We are now having pre-Easter services sponsored also by the auxiliary.

One project which has proven a great blessing has been Missionary Sunday. At present offerings are sent the Arizona Mexico Mission, Nogales, Arizona. We hope to fulfill the Auxiliary theme of being faithful watchmen and faithful to Christ's command, "Go ye into all the world".

SPRINGFIELD FIRST CHURCH AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary met at the church April 8, 1958. The meeting opened with singing, "Take My Hand Precious Lord" and "Bring Them In" led by Hattie Mace.

There were twenty members present and four visitors joined our Auxiliary. They were Marie Myers, Alice Royster, Emma Turner and Anna Shields.

Scripture reading was read from Luke 10:1-3 and John 4:35 by Georgia Glenn. Prayer by Maxine Smith. The offering was received by usher, Hazel Lowerd. The roll call was answered with Bible verses.

The secretary's report was given by Catherine Draper and the treasurer's report by Myrtle Corbin. Almost everyone reported that they had visited the sick.

A "Thank You Note", from missionaries in Africa, for birthday cards and letters we had sent them, was read by Bertha Wolf. Also, we received a "Thank You Note" from the Children's Home in Tennessee for the gift of clothing we had sent them.

The lesson introduction was given by Audrey Reeves. Topics were given by Maline Smith, Jessie Crowder, Clara Belle Lemons and Loletta Woods and were discussed by the group. We were dismissed with altar prayer by Lola Long.

We took gifts to the meeting and presented them to a needy mother in the community. Our Auxiliary sent flowers to the friend of Mrs. Bessie Fugate, a sister of Mrs. Jessie Yocum, one of our members.

Some twenty to thirty people from our church enjoyed another regular

visit to Sunshine Acres, Friday evening, March 28. They always are happy to have us visit them, and we received a great blessing in going. Cookies were taken for the patients.

Our church enjoyed six nights of pre-Easter revival conducted by Rev. Fred Wynn of Mountain Grove. Different ones in our surrounding churches came to the revival. Each one received a blessing from this meeting.

A full house was present for the Fifth Sunday Singing Convention which was held at our church, March 31st. We also had a full house for Sunday School for Easter Sunday and \$133.00 collection. Rev. Long has been delivering heart-felt messages. We are thankful to have such a pastor in these trying days.

Plans are being made to add needed rooms to our church.

—Bertha Wolf, Cor.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING

The Northeast Missouri Fifth Sunday meeting convened with the New Harmony Church, March 30, 1958 with Sunday School at ten o'clock. Morning worship service opened with congregational singing. Prayer by Rev. Stella Gates and Rev. Wm Buster. Rev. Vernon Maggert delivered a wonderful message. Following an invitation benediction was offered by June Thomas. A basket dinner was served at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was opened by congregational singing. Prayer by Bro. Herman Miley. Scripture reading from St. John 12:32 and prayer was given by the president. Minutes of last meeting were read. Letters from Low Ground, New Harmony and Hazel Creek Auxiliary were read for information.

The program was as follows:

Duet, "Insurance on Your Soul" by Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Kirkpatrick; Duet "Cleanse Me" by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Williams; Reading by Mrs. Oda Varoman; Duet, "Just a Closer Walk With Thee", by Mr. and Mrs. Ora Gates; Reading by Kay Wagner; Solo, "I Love to Walk With Jesus", by Mona Chrisman; Poem, "Prayer" by Mrs. Chrisman; Duet, "Sometimes" by June and Bernice Thomas. Trio by New Harmony. Mrs. Wendell Sevits conducted a Bible Quiz between the men and women of the audience. The men won and the women had to sing one verse of the

song, "More About Jesus" substituting the word, "Bible" instead of "Jesus". Jannie Adkins led the young people in singing "Sunlight" and "Heavenly Sunlight".

The congregation sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again". The next meeting will be with the Low Grounds Church. Rev. Mike Fowler to deliver the eleven o'clock message and Rev. Mildred Gilliam as alternate. Benediction by Earnest Thomas.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

PARKVIEW CHURCH Desloge, Mo.

Our revival meeting closed April 25th. Rev. James Davis, pastor of the Leadington Church, was the evangelist. Four accepted the Lord as their Saviour. The services were well attended and the Lord blessed the church in every service.

Our Sunday School is growing and we are thankful to have received the Sunday School Attendance Banner from the Sunday School Convention of the St. Francois County for the second time in succession with fifty-two present from our Sunday School. The average attendance for the past quarter was 96.

The League is also active and well attended. More young people are becoming league members. Larry McGreal, a young man of fifteen, is president of the League.

We are also thankful to have received the League Attendance Banner twice in succession. The next League Convention meets at the Farmington, Church, Farmington, Missouri, April 19. We are hoping to bring the banner back for the third time.

We are humbly thankful for the blessings we have received, but we aren't satisfied. We want more! And we want more people to share these blessings. There is much work to be done. Remember us when you pray.

—Mrs. Alice Bowen, Cor.

O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor. Thou hast put all things under his feet: O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

HONOR ROLL

OF CHURCH FAMILY PLAN

Church	Pastor
Fellowship	Rev. Rolla Smith
Amity	Rev. Ezra Vestal
Black Oak	Rev. Ezra Vestal
New Lebanon	Rev. Laverne Jones
Leadington	Rev. James Davis
Coppermines	Rev. Glen Rehkop
Myrtle	Rev. Bud Hill
Kirkville ..	Rev. Woodrow Matthews
Wellston	Rev. Harry Asher
Berkeley	Rev. Harvey Hill
First Church, Joplin	Rev. Paul Williams
Farmington	Rev. James Barker
Third Ch., St. Louis	Rev. John Rogers
Hazel Creek	
Union	Rev. W. M. Buster
Verdella	Rev. Archie Buress
Richwoods	Rev. Floyd Arnold
Old Bethel	Rev. Dale Statler
Mt. Zion	Rev. O. T. Allred
Southside	Rev. Roger Reeds
Thayer	Rev. Harry Beatty
Carterville	Rev. Kenneth Turner
Fredericktown	Rev. Ben Scott
Pleasant Grove	Rev. Chas. Black
Old Liberty	Rev. Wm. Reeves
Martinstown Church, Mrs. Alta Mikel	
Mountain View	Rev. Leslie Peterman
Hannon Church	Rev. Harry Sterling
Springfield	Rev. Henry Long
Mine La Motte	Rev. Albert Halbrook
Blue Eye	Rev. Millard Davis
Union Light	Rev. Cecil Sheppard
Bethel Church ..	Rev. Keith Johnson
Twin Oak	Rev. Truman Huffman
Fourth Church, St. Louis	Rev. Elmer Turnbough
Neasho	Rev. Lester Nutting
Mt. Pisgah	Rev. Ezra Butts
Victory Church	
(K. C.)	Rev. B. Spurgeon
Rock Chapel	
Mill Creek	Rev. O. D. Matthews
Beacon Church	
(K. C.)	Rev. Lester Jones
First Church (K. C.)	Rev. Alice Dickey
Merls Chapel	Rev. O. T. Allred
New Hope Church (K. C.)	
.....	Rev. James McAllister
Garfield Church	Rev. Davey Combs
Faith Church	Rev. Loy Smith
Greenridge	Rev. Len Gardner
Oskaloosa	Rev. Roena Thomas

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The St. Francis Sunday School Convention of Free Will Baptists was held Sunday, March 30, at two o'clock at the Farmington Free Will Baptist Church. The theme, "Resurrection Power" was carried out throughout the entire program.

The attendance banner was pre-

sented to the Desloge Sunday School. The Sunday Schools in the convention are Desloge, First Church of Flat River, Hurryville, Leadington, Aulsbury Chapel, Fellowship, First Church of Farmington. The total attendance including five visitors was 196. The convention was inspirational to all attending. Austin Boyd is president, with Mrs. Dale Blakeley serving as secretary.

ATTENDANCE PINS

The Sunday School of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River, Mo. presented their attendance pins and bars to members during the month of March.

Mrs. Dale Blakeley was presented her eighteenth bar for perfect attendance for eighteen consecutive years. She is teacher of the young people's Sunday School class.

Nancy Gammon was awarded her fifth year bar; Darrell Beasley, Virginia Beasley, Timmy Beasley, Mike Williams, Grace Abernathy were awarded fourth year bars; George Williams, Bertha Hovis, Midge Wilson, Mary Lou Watkins, Bonnie Sue Hollyfield were awarded third year bars; Diana Watkins, Mary Roussin, Laura Roussin, Bertha Hovis, Wanda Beasley, Dale Blakeley, Mary Lee Gamman, Joanna Smith, Genevieve White, Lee Gammon, were awarded second year wreaths; Ella King, Harvey Gene Faircloth, Richard Honbeck, Ronnie Wells, Garon King, Rosie King, Diana Ronbeck, Marion Wilson, Bobbv Wilson, Debbie Wells, and Sharon Blakeley were awarded first year pins.

Albert Stroup is Sunday School Superintendent, the Rev. H. C. Beasley is church pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Madison County Sunday School Convention met at the Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church, April 27, 1958.

Services opened with singing, directed by Rev. Truman Huffman. Opening remarks by the vice-President, Rev. Glen Rehkop, in absence of the president, Rev. O. D. Matthews.

Prayer by Clifford McGraw. Devotional by Milton Hovis, reading for a scripture Hebrews 3.

Welcome address by Joyce Brewington and response by Belle Coffey.

Numbers by Fredericktown and Copper Mines Sunday School.

The business consisted of the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, the financial report, letters from the

Sunday Schools, and the taking of enrollment. There were eighty-two present. Numbers by Twin Oak, Mine La Motte, and Union Light Sunday School.

The next convention will meet with the Twin Oak Sunday School. The Twin Oak Sunday School received the banner for having the largest number present.

Benediction by Rev. Melvin Howell.

DEACON ORDINATION

The Executive Board of the Madison County Quarterly Meeting met with the Fredericktown Church, April 23, 1958 for the purpose of ordaining Ralph and Clyde Matthews to serve as deacons.

The services were opened with singing led by Harold Baldwin. Rev. Scott, pastor of the Fredericktown church, gave the opening remarks and recognized the ordained deacons that were present. Prayer by Rev. Curtis Johnson. While singing, "In The Sweet Bye and Bye", the candidates were asked to come forward. Deacon R. L. Sharp led our thought in prayer.

Rev. Cecil Sheppard read for a scripture lesson, John 3:14-21 and Ezekiel 14:12, 13, 14. An instructive message was given.

Rev. George Hibbitts delivered the charge reading I Timothy, 3:8-13.

Rev. Albert Halbrook read Acts 6:6, "When they set them before the Apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them." The candidates knelt at the altar for the ordaining prayer along with all the ordained ministers and deacons that were present, while Rev. Cecil Sheppard and Rev. Ben Scott led in prayer. Our hearts were blessed by the presence of the Lord being in our midst. While singing, "At The Cross" a fellowship handshake was enjoyed. Benediction by Deacon Harold Baldwin.

A father was reading his paper one evening and his little boy kept pestering him to play games. The father, in desperation, tore a map of the world from the newspaper, tore it into several pieces and told his son to put it back together as he would a jigsaw puzzle. In about five minutes the boy was back with the map properly assembled, and the father wondered how he did it so quickly. Then the little boy explained: "There was a man on the back of the map, and when I got the man straightened out the world was right." Think it over! —Selected

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

January, February, March, 1958

Received:

Co-operative Fund:	
Alton Church	\$ 5.00
Aulsbury Chapel Church	113.65
Beacon Church	129.97
Bethel Church	6.90
Carterville Church	27.91
Copper Mines Church	131.78
Desloge Church	181.57
Embree Church	20.47
Faith and Hope Church ..	37.70
Farmington Church	69.20
Fellowship Church	384.52
Flat River First Church ..	278.49
Fredericktown Church	248.25
Grant Ave. Church	
Springfield	65.71
Hannon Church	53.14
Hazel Creek Union Church ..	47.94
Hurryville Church	57.67
Hickory Grove Church	28.85
Kirksville Church	75.00
Leadington Church	217.60
Merl's Chapel Church	76.65
Mill Creek Church	45.76
Mine La Motte Church	38.69
Monett Church	239.77
Mountain Grove Church ..	225.00
Mt. Pisgah	35.00
Mt. Valley	29.92
Myrtle Church	34.10
Number One Church	16.50
Richwoods Church	71.71
Springfield Church	116.97
St. Louis District Quar-	
terly Meeting	717.95
Thayer Church	31.51
Twin Oak Church	33.00
Union Church	16.00
Union Light Church	5.30
Verdella Church	127.83
Victory Church	42.06
Total Received	4,085.04

Disbursed as follows:

National Co-operative Fund	2,451.03
State Home Missions	898.70
Free Will Baptist Gem	204.25
Youth Camp	204.26
State General Fund	204.25
State Superannuation	122.55
Total Disbursed	\$4,085.04
Foreign Missions:	
Berkeley League	20.00
Fellowship Church	150.00
Leadington Church	100.00
Union Light Church	51.80
Wagoner Church	13.40
Total Received	335.20
Total Disbursed	\$ 335.20

Missions:

First Church Joplin	8.54
Fredericktown Church	17.81
Jewel Church	15.00
New Harmony S. S.	67.67

Rock Chapel Church	43.05
Total Received	152.07

Disbursed as follows:

Foreign Missions	106.44
National Home Missions ..	45.63
Total Disbursed	152.07
National Home Missions:	
Berkeley League	20.00
Leadington Church	100.00
South Side League	15.00
Wagoner Church	6.70
Total Received	141.70
Total Disbursed	141.70

State Home Missions:

Beacon Woman's Auxiliary	13.53
Wagoner Church	13.40
Total Received	26.93
Total Disbursed	26.93

Youth Camp:

Hazel Creek Union Church	10.65
Wagoner Church	13.40
Total Received	24.05
Total Disbursed	24.05

Bible College:

Fellowship Church	50.00
Kirksville League (Kitchen fund)	6.79
Northeast Mo. League Rally (Kitchen fund) ..	15.00
Total Received	71.79
Total Disbursed	71.79

Tennessee Orphanage:

Fredericktown Church	49.67
Hazel Creek S. S.	10.00
Rev. Jack McAllister	17.00
Total Received	76.67
Total Disbursed	76.67

Gem:

Subscriptions	339.63
Supplies	12.55
Books	25.25
Total Received	377.43

Signed, Rev. Albert Halbrook,
Clerk-Treas.**Life of A T. V. Viewer**

Saturday night—Couldn't attend church tonight, one of my favorite programs will be coming on about the same time the pastor's sermon begins.

Sunday morning—The late show was good. I'm just too tired and sleepy to get up this morning.

Sunday night—Oh, well, I missed the other services, I'll just sit here in my easy chair and enjoy the show. I won't be missed!

Wednesday night—Why does prayer meeting have to come on Wednesday night? All my favorite programs are on then.

Prayer time—I really should hear the childrens bedtime prayer, but I'll miss the ending of this show.

Bible study—Too many things to

do. I have a family you know. T. V. time again, well really now, I do have to get some relaxation, I'm so busy all day.

Yearly contribution time—We just can't possibly contribute to the church this year, our picture tube could go any time. We would need the money for repair bills, and we would be lost without the T. V. set.

Judgment day—My beloved T. V. set has gone along with all my other earthly goods. I remember something I heard our pastor say a long time ago about heavenly treasures. Where are mine? Wonder if Christ would recognize me? I never did see him on T. V!

I now have this off my chest. Our church hasn't fallen away one by one, but family by family as God prospered them so they could afford a T. V.

I don't consider myself a diehard concerning a T. V. set. Doesn't the Scripture say there is a time and place for all things? In Ecclesiastes 3:1 "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." I don't think we are bettering ourselves by giving up the assembling of ourselves together.

At church time in this community my family and I drive past a number of our Christian friends homes, they can be seen through the open window sitting before the T. V. set.

I can't understand why families with years of regular attendance can quit so abruptly. Were their spiritual roots so shallow?

How long can four or five members carry on a church program, with the pastor's regular monthly salary, the insurance, the utilities and other things that have to be purchased in order to keep the church going?

Should our pastor be urged to preach in a vacant church, should we try to carry on, when seemingly no ones cares?

I hope the poor excuses our members make for their absence, will stand up in the great judgment.

I have tried in the most Christian way I knew of to get our members back into church. It all seemingly fell on deaf ears, I truly believe I know how Noah felt. It had never rained, so why should it ever. Nothing has ever happened around here, that is in this community, nor will it ever, so is the attitude of the people.

We sometimes want to be the power house or at least the power; but all God wants us to be is a channel through which He can send the power.

Renew your subscription today!