

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Gem

IN THIS ISSUE

Special

Foreign

Mission

Issue

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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TERMS

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FOR THE GEM**

Dear Editor:

Please add my name to the Gem Mailing List. I am enclosing \$1.25 for one year's subscription.

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

**THE PROMOTIONAL
SECRETARY'S CORNER**

The Liberty Quarterly Meeting assembled March 2, 1963, with the Marshfield Church, 631 East Jackson Street, in their newly purchased property. The attendance was good. Rev. Cliff Bowman's son, Dennis was issued license to preach at this session and Rev. Moore was granted ordination papers. They gave time for the promotional program Saturday afternoon, and I brought the message for the Saturday night service. Rev. Wm. Reeves is pastor here. If you have people living in this locality, it would be real helpful if you would send their names to the pastor or the church.

I was in a service Sunday March 3, with our rural Cuba Church near Lebanon. This church responded to the promotional work and gave an offering to the same. Then Sunday night, I brought the message in our Cuba Church in the town of Cuba. Rev. Grover Pingleton is the pastor here. They are growing and glowing for the Lord, also participating through the Missouri cooperative plan in the world wide ministry of the word.

The Beacon Free Will Baptist Church entertained the Kansas City Quarterly Meeting, March 8-9th. This was a good harmonious session. They gave time, and an offering to the promotional work.

I was privileged to bring the message Sunday morning at Beacon and Sunday night at Victory. Rev. Elmer Russell of the Armourdale Skyline center, recently suffered the misfortune of the loss of his wife, in a plane crash. Due to this, Brother Russell honorably retired after thirty three years of service with the Center. In courtesy to Brother Russell, Sunday March 10, 2:00 P. M. an honorary service was held at the Center and during this service, the Armourdale Property and responsibility was officially transferred to the Salvation Army.

Harmony Quarterly meeting gave time for Missouri cooperative program while assembled at Lone Star Church March 30. Good spiritual services were enjoyed throughout this meeting.

Niangua Association also granted time for the cooperative program Sunday March 31. I was privileged to bring the message for the communion service Sunday afternoon. Cedar

Ridge Church responded to the promotional work Sunday night, and gave an offering to the work.

Cooperative receipts have been below normal for two months, Brethren let us rally to the cooperative plan and put it over the top.

Harry Beatty

**COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS
March 1963**

Monett	\$69.74
St. Louis District	253.40
Thayer	30.03
Olivet	15.77
Victory	75.64
South Side, St. Louis	56.10
Fellowship	75.00
Carterville	12.10
Farmington	53.11
First Church Springfield	46.74
Merl's Chapel	19.12
Grant Avenue Springfield	46.31
Copper Mines	25.46
Mine La Motte	9.35
Hannon	23.00
Hickory Grove	25.65
Total	\$836.52

Disbursed:

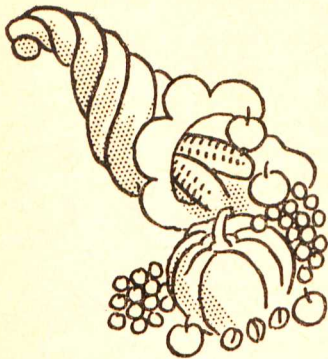
Free Will Baptist	
National Association	\$460.09
Mo. Promotional Department	167.30
Mo. Home Missions	75.30
Youth Camp	41.82
Gem	41.82
General Fund	41.82
Missouri Superannuation	8.37
Total	\$836.52



Rev. Bud Hill, Editor



Rev. Harry Beatty



GLEANINGS

FROM THE FIELD

Former Editor's Mother Passed Away

Funeral services for Mrs. Olive Reeds was conducted on Tuesday March 12th, in St. Louis, Mo. The Rev. McFarland brought the message. The Rev. Harvey Hill assisting. Mrs. Reeds was the mother of former pastor of South Side, the Rev. Roger C. Reeds.

Baptismal Service at Southside Church

March 10th after the regular service, a baptismal service was held. Eight were baptized, they are as follows: Kenny Long, Kieth Tallent, Dabbie Livingston, Sherry Camp, Kathy Reeds, Janet Barr, Carolyn Phillips, and Diane Stacy.

A blessing was received by those who watched these children follow the Lord in Baptism.

Singing Convention

The Jefferson County Singing Convention was held at the First Free Will Baptist Church March 9, 1963. The singing was enjoyed by all present. Sat. night March the 2nd, 1963.

The St. Louis District League Convention convened with the Northside Free Will Baptist Church.

The meeting was called to order by our President Bro. George Wood. Led in prayer by Bro. Harvey Hill.

There was a large crowd present. There were several special numbers by the various churches.

Rev. Lonnie Skiles gave a short talk about the Sunday School Convention, and the Youth Camp well.

Berkeley took home the banner for having the largest percent of their League present.

We were called into a business session by our President, Bro. George Wood. There was no old business.

The new business taken care of was as follows:

Motion made and seconded that we take \$50.00 out of our League Treasury and send to the Youth Camp for the new well. This money is to be sent to Bro. Harvey Hill of the Berkeley Church, and be earmarked sent

NOTICE

to
ALL CHURCH TREASURERS
Please make all checks to the
Cooperative Plan of Support Pay-
able to:

Missouri State Association
Of Free Will Baptists
Thank You

through the Christian Corporation.

Election of Officers as follows:

President—Bro. Jim Mullens

Vice President—Bro. Pat Boyd

Secretary—Sis. Linda Plummer

Treasurer—Sis. Norma Kennedy

Cor.-Sec.—Sis. Ernestine Burns

Playlet by the host church "Empty Church Seats." It was a very impressive playlet and enjoyed by all.

We would like to see more people at our next League Convention than was there this time. The next League Convention will be at Richwoods in September. Hope to see all of you there. Linda Plummer, Secretary

Annual Presentation

The annual presentation of awards for perfect Sunday School attendance was made at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River.

Mrs. Dale Blakeley was presented her 23rd year bar. Mrs. Blakeley is teacher of the Young People's Sunday School Class. She has twenty three years of perfect Sunday School attendance.

Mrs. Bob Vineyard was presented her 14 year bar. Grace Abernathy, 9th year bar; Genevieve White, 7th year bar; Richard Honbeck, 7th year bar; Bertha Hovis, 6th year bar; Sharon Blakeley, 6th year bar; Marion Wilson, 6th year bar; Bobby Wilson, 6th year bar; Joyce Horton, 5th year bar; Brenda Horton, 5th year bar; Hazel Scott, 5th year bar; Bessie Kirkpatrick, 5th year bar; Milborn Horton, 5th year bar; Teri Vineyard, 5th year bar; Margaret Horton, 4th year bar; Diana Watkins, 4th year bar; Mary Lou Watkins, 4th year bar; Beulah

Henson, 4th year bar; Toni Blakeley, 3rd year bar; Bobby Vineyard, 3rd year bar; Bobby Gammon, 3rd year bar; Melody Gammon, 2nd year wreath; Marilyn Hard, 1st year pin; Walt Pirtle, 1st year pin; Paula Jean Long, 1st year pin; Gary Wilson, 1st year pin.

Cleo Black is Sunday School superintendent. The Rev. Gene Norris is church pastor.

God blesses Church

We feel that God has richly blessed us at the Fourth Church this year. Seems as if Satan never tires of tempting God's people, but thank God, every time we overcome these temptations, we become stronger. It is Satan who takes away, but it is God who restores two-fold.

We have seen three gloriously saved this year, and have received three into the church.

Our Leagues are growing under the leadership of our new president, Bro. Pat Boyd. Our Sunday School is doing good, people are praying, and God is answering our prayers. Bro. Louie Willhite is the Superintendent.

Last month our Master's Men bought fifty songbooks for the church, and sent \$25 to the well fund at Youth Camp.

We love to read of the progress of our churches in Missouri in our paper, the GEM.

Let's unite our hearts in prayer that Free Will Baptists in this state will arise to meet the challenge of these perilous times.

Young Man Answers Call

The New Hope Church of Kansas City, Kansas praises the Lord that one of its' members, J. Wilson Stalling, who is a student at Free Will Baptist Bible College and a member of the college quartet, has answered his call to preach the Gospel February the twenty eighth.

He is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Jack V. Stallings of 4517 Jarboe, Kansas City 11, Mo.



THE MISSION FIELD

EASTER IN BRAZIL

By

Missionary Bobby Aycock

"And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished" (I Cor 15:14, 17, 18).

Have you ever stopped to think what our situation would be if Christ had not risen from the dead?

From Easter celebrations here in Brazil one would hardly get the idea that Christ rose from the dead and today is the living Christ at the right hand of the throne of God. His portrait is that of the dead Christ, and it seems that a spirit of hopelessness sweeps over the people as they mourn His death rather than rejoice in His glorious resurrection.

Some celebrations which reach their climax on Easter are begun many days before. One of these practices is the moving of the image of the virgin Mary, called "Nossa Senhora de Aparecida" (Our Lady of the Appearance), from house to house in all sections of town. The image usually stays from one to three or more days in each house. When it is moved, it is usually at night and is accompanied by a small group of people carrying lighted candles and chanting a wierd song. The home that is host to the image is supposed to receive special blessings and helps in their lives.

Palm Sunday is not without its celebration. Mass has a special attraction. Also, children are seen with weeds, grass, and branches from trees. Their objective is to celebrate the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem before His crucifixion. During the week, almost everyone attends a four to five-hour long movie portraying the story of His suffering to the resurrection.

My first year in Brazil I happened to be downtown in Campinas on Friday before Easter. I noticed that there was a great crowd of people from every

direction making their way toward the center of town. Being curious, I went to see what was coming off. Everyone was headed toward the big Catholic Cathedral. Shortly, a procession began which was made up of priests, nuns, altar boys, and a great host of regular members. There must have been several thousands of people.

There were banners, incense vessels, and crucifixes. A group of men passed who had the appearance of pallbearers supposedly carrying the body of Christ in a casket. The people following had their rosaries and prayed to the virgin Mary as they marched. When the body of Christ passed, the bystanders knelt down and repeated a memorized prayer making the sign of the cross.

If you should pass through the sections of town late Good Friday afternoon, you will see a stuffed dummy of a man. He is usually tied to a pole and sometimes even on a cross. Of course, this is Judas Iscariot. They have put him in Christ's place. He remains on the pole or cross until Saturday, at which time he is taken down and whipped and in many cases burned. The significance is obvious. It is vengeance for the death of Christ.

Easter celebrations come to a close with a special mass on Easter Sunday.

Even though Christ said, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" (John 11:25), millions sit in the darkness of sin without hope of life eternal.

This is the reason we are in Brazil today—to proclaim the glorious message of resurrection life to these who otherwise will never hear.

"NOW WE KNOW THAT GOD IS A REALITY, BECAUSE GOD ONLY SAVED US"

by Thomas Willey, Sr.

Director

Cuban Emergency Relief Fund

These were the words of the spokesman for a group of six Cuban countrymen just escaped from Communistic

Cuba. They were in our Free Will Baptist center here in Miami for clothing. Their party of 24 men, women, and children of all ages had just escaped by small boat from an isolated point on the southern coast of Cuba. They were from the poorest, most neglected mountain people.

They had miraculously slipped past Castro's militiamen, launched out to sea in a very inadequate, unseaworthy boat. Then for days they were at the mercy of high seas of the Atlantic but mercifully found a current that carried them to our free land and safety.

This company of human misery—cold, hungry, and thirsty, gripped with fear, risking everything they had in life and life itself for freedom—were snatched not from the waves but from the menace of Communism. Picked up completely exhausted by a passing fishing launch, ministered to by kind hands, they were immediately sent to us for clothing. As is usually the case with hundreds sent to us every week, they poured out the story of their suffering under Communism and Communism's failure.

This particular group was impressive because of their sense of gratitude and their newly awakened interest in spiritual discovery.

The speaker told of the difficulty to collect necessary provisions. Food was almost impossible to find for such a venture. They had no boat fit to venture out into deep sea, but escape was so urgent. Then there were the days of hunger and thirst. As he told his story with deep emotion and how in their hopelessness they all prayed for the first time and called on God whom they knew nothing about. Miraculously, the deliverance came.

He said, "We came from a part of Cuba where we never had anyone to tell us or teach us of God. No one of us has ever been in a church. There are no churches. This is the first time we have ever heard of this book, the Bible.

"Now we know there is a God. We have met Him. Only God could have saved us. Sunday we are all coming to your church to worship with you and to have you teach us of God's Book."

They all came as they had promised. Now they are our responsibility. They have asked for bread. Shall we give them a stone? They have asked us for a fish. Shall we give them a serpent?

What does this which I have told you out of our daily experience mean to you as a Free Will Baptists? As a mission and as a missionary, it is our purpose to lead this whole group to the Saviour. With our people sharing with us, we are meeting their immediate needs of clothing merely as a means to tell them of our wonderful Lord and Saviour and get them saved.

Then I want you to see with us the long range aspect. Some day they will return to their homes in the mountains of Cuba where the Gospel has never penetrated. When they do go back, the gospel must go with them.

We dare not lose our golden opportunity here and now to reach them when they come to us saying, "Teach us this Book."

GREETINGS FROM TOPEKA

I believe that this will be a report that will be of great interest to all. We are experiencing REVIVAL here in Topeka.

Sunday morning, January 27, we had 23 in Sunday School and church. This is the largest attendance we have had in any one service thus far. There was a great moving of the Holy Spirit through the preaching and invitation. There were at least three present that needed to make a move for the Lord. But the service closed and no one had come. But praise the Lord in the afternoon we were able to lead a woman to the Lord. Her name is Barbara Hulet, she and her husband and two small children live in Lincoln, Neb. Another young couple, the Whitakers, have come all the way from Lincoln to Topeka, a distance of 170 miles one way to be in service in the Free Will Baptist Church. Thy brought the Hulet's with them. It is truly wonderful to see the Lord transform a life.

Sunday night as I related the afternoon's events to the church, a true spirit of praise and worship prevailed. We began to pray and testify and sing songs like "When We All Get To Heaven." We didn't have any preaching that night; the first thing we knew

it was after 9:00. I just wish you could have been here to enjoy the blessings with us.

Let us here in Topeka say thanks to all who have prayed and given so that the church in Topeka could become a reality and not just a dream.

Our Sunday School attendance average has gone up each month. The last two weeks in September and for the month of October our average was 8; for the month of November 9; December 13; and January 16.

The Lord has opened the way so that we now have a large three bedroom house in which to worship. The garage has been made into a room which makes a nice study. It is in a good location and is about one block from where we live. This house has converted quite nicely into a church. It will seat about 40, and we could use a room to the side of the pulpit for an overflow of about 20 people or more. We started having mid-week services this past Wednesday night, January 30th. We have been able to furnish the church fairly nicely. We had purchased 15 pews before we had a building to put them in. Then we purchased an old upright piano that sounds pretty good. I built a pulpit, and we went to an auction and bought 19 chairs and 4 tables for the little folks Sunday School rooms.

Please continue to pray that the church will experience an even greater growth, with many souls being saved.

Robert Sharry
Home Missionary
1419 Glencoe
Topeka, Kansas

Receipts from Missouri for National Home Missions for February 1963

Mo. State Assn. of F. W. B.,	
St. Louis	\$ 5.33
Southside League, St. Louis ..	30.00
Southside Church, St. Louis ..	29.90
Myrtle Church	5.00
Co-op. Hdqts.	263.79
Berkeley League	5.00
Finis E. Sorrell, Myrtle	1.00
First Church, Fredericktown ..	20.00
H. S. Vandivort, Cabool	20.00
Rev. Lester Ferguson,	
Fredericktown	10.00
Oma L. Scott, Mtn. Grove ..	7.50
Rev. Harry Sterling,	
Webb City	10.00
Zona Smith, Mtn. Grove	5.00
Grant Ave. Aux., Springfield ..	5.00
Festus First Church	3.00
Louis Wilhite, St Ann	2.00

First Church, Berkeley	11.65
Berkeley League	5.00
Total Receipts	\$439.17
H. E. Willis, Treasurer	

FOREIGN MISSOIN OFFERINGS MISSOURI

February, 1963

Son Light Mission	\$ 17.85
Myrtle Church	7.84
Beginners S. S. Department,	
Flat River	6.00
Mo. State Association	39.04
Co-op Plan	478.13
Grant Ave. Church	10.00
Fredericktown Church	40.00
Berkeley Church	105.00
Oma L. Scott	3.00
Fellowship Church	135.00
Willow Springs Church	11.25
Mrs. Coy Rader	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Lester Barks ..	10.00
First Church, Pevely	3.00
Beacon Church	8.00
Park View Church	25.00
South Side Church	133.20
Aulsbury Chapel Church	15.00
Clifford Altis	30.00
W. N. A. C.	98.79
	\$1186.10

Dedication of Louisville, Ky. Church

South Louisville Free Will Baptist church held dedication services Sunday, March 24, at 2 p. m. This church was founded by Reverend Glenn Thomas under the auspices of the Kentucky State Mission Board and the National Home Missions Board. The church is located at 4618 Popular Level Road in Louisville. This property was recently purchased and will be used as a parsonage as well as a place of worship. The church is now a member of the Blue Grass Conference of Kentucky.

Dedication of Bettendorf Iowa Church

The Free Will Baptist Church of Bettendorf, Iowa, has recently completed a new building. This place of worship will be dedicated Sunday, April 21, with Reverend Homer E. Willis, National Home Mission Director, conducting the services.

This church was organized under the auspices of the National Home Missions Board, with Reverend Dale Skiles as the missionary. The present pastor is Reverend Lawrence Thompson. This is the only Free Will Baptist Church in the state of Iowa and has had marvelous success from the beginning.

(Continued on page 9)

MISSIONARY SERMON

OF THE MONTH

WITHHOLDING THE GOSPEL

Ecclesiastes 11:6—"Withhold not thine hand..."

Our missionary to Africa, Lonnie Sparks, relates a stirring personal experience. Upon giving the gospel to an elderly African man, the question was asked Brother Sparks, "Why have you waited so long to come tell us?" I believe one big reason that over half the world has never been told of God's love and plan of salvation is that the church has been guilty of withholding the gospel.

The word "withhold" means to keep back, restrain, limit, or refuse to give. Most of us have failed to obey the Great Commission to the fullest extent. Because of our neglect, indifference, and unconcern we have withheld the gospel from countless millions of dying souls. This is why we need to take heed to the exhortations of our scripture above, "Withhold not thine hand."

Hands speak to us of service and work. There are about 1440 references to this faculty in the Bible. Over and over they refer to a sacred and holy function. In Ecclesiastes 9:10 we read, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

"Withhold not thine hand" is actually a climax to the first five verses of Ecclesiastes 11. In verse 1 we are exhorted to "cast our bread upon the waters." Just as an oriental farmer plants rice in an inundated field. So we must cast forth the Bread of Life upon the waters. The waters according to Revelation 17:15 represents people, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

Bread comes from Christ's seed. Luke 8:11 Jesus tells us "The seed is the word of God," and again in Mark 4:26-29 Jesus says, "So is the Kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth food of herself; first the

blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the food is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come."

In John 6 Christ is revealed as the true and life-giving bread. We must, therefore, scatter and broadcast the gospel message of Christ to all nations. When we interpret Ecclesiastes 11:1 in the light of the Scripture we have the truth of the Great Commission clearly taught. Therefore, we must not withhold our hand of giving the gospel to a lost and dying world.

Just as we exercise charity, kindness, and courtesy without assurance of the results, so we must send forth the message of salvation to every nation, tribe, and tongue.

It is not always easy for the missionary to see the fruits of his labor in one or two terms on the field. Neither is it easy for a church to see results of a missionary's work in a short period. The missionary must sow the seed in faith, and we must continue to send them out in faith because we have the precious promise. "Thou shalt find it after many days." There will come a day of reaping and we will see the results of our labors, prayers and giving.

Dan Cronk, our missionary to India, has related how that it takes a great deal of time to win the confidence and interest and conversion of Indian people. This time of sowing demands patience in waiting for God to give the harvest. Even though we may not see the immediate fruits of our labors, we must proclaim the gospel by literature, by radio, and in person to all men and leave the final harvest to God. In spite of appearances, circumstances and criticisms, we must sow beside all waters and trust the promises of God to bless the seed that is sown. Do we really believe that God will give a harvest? If not, we withhold the gospel.

When We Withhold Our Faith

It is so easy to get into a spiritual rut and attempt to measure the work of God by human standards. In this mercenary and materialistic age of a fluctuating economy we often try to see our way clear before we move. This might be good business, but it is not good faith!

When Abraham was called to go to a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, he went out by faith, not knowing whither he went. The men and women whom God blessed in ages past were those who believed and trusted God implicitly. Are we willing to trust and obey today?

When Paul caught the vision of Europe's need he went by faith, and God gave him a glorious harvest in Philippi. Oh, that we may hear the Macedonian call anew and that we may move by faith.

We must sow in faith. Ecclesiastes 11:4, 5: "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap. As thou knoweth not what is the way of the Spirit, or how the bones do grow in the womb of her who is with child: even so thou knoweth not the works of God who maketh all." Obstacles, objections, excuses and difficulties must be overcome. Nothing should prevent us from sowing.

We may not understand the way of the Spirit, the laws of nature, or the manner of God's working, but be assured he does all things well. Without doubt and without question we must obey God. In the morning and in the evening we must continually sow the seed without stopping. For God's promise is certain and sure. He will give a rewarding harvest.

Do we expect our missionaries to exercise all the faith? We must share our faith with them in this matter of reaching a lost world with the message of salvation. Another way we withhold the gospel is

When We Withhold Our Approval

There are many who are not convinced that the supreme task of the church is to get the gospel to the ends of the earth. They do not see the value of missions. They do not endorse missionary support. Even if they are not outrightly opposed to missions, there is a half-hearted spirit and an attitude of reservation about missionary service. Because they are not sold on missions, they do nothing to further the gospel.

Failure to endorse God's program of world evangelism is a reflection of unbelief, unconcern, selfishness, disobedience and ingratitude. When we do not give our full consent we are guilty of withholding the gospel. If you cannot see the importance of missionary work then "lift up your eyes and look upon the field."

Psalm 74:20 tells us that "the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty." The spiritual plight of the benighted heathen is reflected by his immorality, his polygamy, his degraded morality, and his spiritual darkness. Though steeped in pagan religions he is a slave to Satan and sin. We must carry the message of light and life to those who have never heard, lest we be guilty of withholding the gospel.

It is the task of the entire church to evangelize the world. It takes the cooperation of every member. There must be a united front and a united program. We will never succeed in this great task of world evangelism unless Free Will Baptists stop dragging their feet. It's going to cost us. Are we willing to pay the price?

We withhold the gospel

When We Withhold Our Money

It is so easy to indulge in luxuries and spend lavishly for ourselves while the world goes to hell. The cost of world evangelism would be very meager compared with other business investments. The crying need of the hour is financial support. If we want a car, or a home, or nice furniture, we will obligate ourselves for a large monthly payment, but if we were asked for just a meager part of our credit obligation for the cause of world missions, what would be the response?

Our giving is a reflection of our faith. We expect our missionaries to go out by faith, and rightly so, but do we ask God to give us the faith to do our part in supporting them?

Look again at Ecclesiastes 11:2, 3,

"Give a portion to seven and also to eight; for thou knoweth not what evil shall be upon the earth; and if the tree falls toward the south or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there shall it be."

The truth taught here is that we are to give generously without limit or restriction. We are to give indiscriminately. As the heavens pour out a bountiful supply of rain, so we must exercise the same spirit. When souls are dead it is too late to give them the message of salvation.

There are so many needs that require money—personal support, missionary equipment, missionary housing, transportation, hospital and medical supplies, literature, school buildings, food, etc. All of this costs money, but when there is insufficient funds, the requests of our missionaries must be denied and their gospel outreach is hindered.

Again, we withhold the gospel

When We Withhold Our Compassion

"When Jesus saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion because they fainted and were scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd." The sight of human misery broke the heart of Jesus. If we could see the souls in heathen lands that have never had a chance to hear, it would surely stir us to pity.

It was not mere human emotion but genuine sympathy that motivated Christ to heal the sick, feed the hungry, open the eyes of the blind, and raise the dead. His soul was pained by the affliction and agony of mankind. May God give us a like spirit of compassion and love for the souls of all men.

In John 4:9 we find Jesus breaking the racial barrier, overcoming prejudice and custom to win the harlot of Samaria. Again, in Matthew 15:26, 27, the Gentile woman of Canaan, a Syro-Phoenician, gained an audience and found deliverance for her daughter because of the compassion of Christ. Unless we have some of the same compassion we will never be compelled to evangelize a lost world.

Also, we withhold the gospel

When We Withhold Our Prayers

This is more important than money. It is something that we can all do. Jesus said in Matthew 9:38, "Pray ye the Lord of harvest." We must not only pray for laborers, but for the heathen, the native workers, the needs of missionaries, and for open doors to

the gospel. As Joshua held up Moses' hands in the battle against Amalek, so we must hold up our missionaries in prayer until the battle against Satan is won.

"I want you to spend 15 minutes every day praying for foreign missions," the pastor said to young people in his congregation. "But beware how you pray, for I warn you that it is a very costly experience."

"Costly?" they asked in surprise.

"Yes, costly," he replied. "When Carey began to pray for the conversion of the world, it cost him himself, and it cost those who prayed with him much. They prayed for the dark-skinned savages, and after two years of blessed work, it cost him his life."

May we as Free Will Baptists dare to pray the Lord of harvest to thrust forth laborers to reap the wasting harvest fields. Even if it costs us hours of agonizing prayer, may we be willing to pay the price that the task of world evangelism may be accomplished in our generation.

We are guilty of withholding the gospel, I believe,

When We Withhold Our Children

The song writer says, "Give of thy sons to bear the message glorious." In Romans 10:14, 15 we read, "How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? How shall they hear without a preacher? How shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

The message must have a messenger to deliver it. God uses mortal man to herald forth the good news. Man has been entrusted with the stewardship of the gospel. Are we willing to encourage even our own flesh and blood to carry this message?

Someone has imagined that when Christ returned to heaven the question was asked Him, "Lord, have you finished the work of redemption?" He replied, "It is finished." Heaven echoed with praise. Then someone asked, "Lord, the world does not know. How will men find out?" The Lord answered, "I have commanded Peter, James, John, and all my followers to go into the whole world and preach the gospel to every creature."

The questioner continued to ask, "But Lord, what if they fail? What if

(Continued on page 9)

EASTER THOUGHTS

HE LIVES

I Corinthians, Chapter 15

By Rev. R. B. Spurgeon
Pastor: Trinity Free Will Baptist Church
St. Louis, Mo.

On April 14, 1963 practically every Protestant congregation in America will stand and gloriously sing "He Lives." Thousands of choirs will movingly render "He Arose." Hundreds beautifully portray that garden scene of the empty tomb and the Risen Christ. Then, tragedy of tragedies, in many churches Christ will be dead for the next fifty one Sundays!! The resurrection will be shoved aside as a once a year item on the church agenda.

Yet Paul considered the resurrection so important he devotes the entire fifteenth chapter of I Corinthians to it; along with numerous other passages. In fact, Paul says in the first five verses of I Corinthians fifteen, that the gospel he preached was the **death, burial, and RESURRECTION of Christ.**

We sometimes marvel at the spiritual vigor of the early Church—perhaps it was because their Christ was **ALIVE** fifty two weeks a year!

In our imagination let us go back nearly two thousand years and to the land of Christ.

See a small band of men—faces aglow, bodies pulsing with life. Follow them from king's thrones to caves in the hills and to the catacombs of Rome. And from their lips came one glad cry, "Good News." There was no obstacle too great, death couldn't stop them. They were men with more than a purpose, they were possessed with a passion to tell others of the Risen Christ.

Hear them as they say, "We are pressed on every side, yet not straightened; perplexed, yet not to despair;

pursued, but not forsaken; smitten, but not destroyed."

There they are—beaten bodies, tattered and torn robes, tired faces; but we stand and admire them, marvel at their courage, and are amazed at their accomplishments.

How could these men even in prison rejoice? How could they face dungeon and death with a spirit that could not be conquered? It was because they believed Christ was alive and with them. They were not alone! He was not a tradition handed down to them from their fathers. He was not some sort of drug to dim the sharp barbs of reality. He was not some pet theory that fitted into their logic. He was not some imaginary fulfillment of their imagination.

He was alive and they knew Him and He was with them. He was the Alpha and Omega. Why should they have been despondent or discouraged? Christ lives!

This fact has stirred the hearts of men of all ages and nations, and made them soldiers of their faith.

Governor Bradford of Plymouth Colony in the days of early America said, "The whole country full of woods and thickets, represented a wild and savage hue. If they looked behind them, the mighty ocean they had passed, and was now as a main bar and gulf—. What could now sustain them but the spirit of God and His grace? May not and ought not the children of these fathers rightly say, 'Our fathers came over this great ocean, and were ready to perish in this wilderness; but they cried unto the Lord and He heard their voices,

and looked on their adversity. Let them therefore praise the Lord, because He is good and His mercies endure forever'."

In the Dachau concentration camp on Christmas eve, 1944, as Martin Niemoeller starts to deliver a sermon to his fellow prisoners he recalls the name of Jesus, Imanuel, God with us. His voice carries new strength as he says, "We are not alone amid the horrors of these years, cut off though we are from the outside world. We are in the hands of God—the God of Jesus Christ, who is with us——."

Can we know what this can mean to us? We, who live amidst material abundance? Everything else will pale into insignificance when we realize God's great gift.

Let every heart rejoice—"Christ lives."

Another thing that filled the hearts of the early Christians was that because of the resurrection there was a triumph of the cross.

On the day of the cross all of the forces of evil and hell had been joined to win a victory over righteousness.

"They nailed Him on a cross and thought that they had won, "That love was lost and goodness dead and truth forever done."

But they forgot it was God's world! God spoke! Christ arose! He lives today! Some one once said, "Truth cannot be nailed to a cross, love cannot be buried in a grave, and goodness cannot be covered over in a wooden box." This was the faith of the early Christians and must become ours also.

Even though the cause of evil prospers, in the end it will be God alone

who shall stand. We must make this truth ours. While rival forces struggle for our allegiance and confusion reigns in the hearts of countless millions, we can live victoriously for Christ if we will realize He is a living Saviour.

Another thing that filled the hearts of the early Christians was that the resurrection meant that death was swallowed up in victory. Death was not an end, but only a beginning. Even if the gates of hell should rise up against them, the victory would still be theirs.

When the storms of life darkened the skies and cut off the sunshine of life's ease, they could still capture a vision of the New Jerusalem and say with John, "and I, John, saw the Holy City." Let us catch this vision that life may have meaning every moment of every day.

Our labour will not end at harvest time, but we shall merely go to work in the heavenly vineyard.

Our struggle will not end in defeat.
Our sacrifice will not be lost.
Christ lives! His is the victory!

WITHHOLDING THE GOSPEL

(Continued from page 7)

Peter and John go back to fishing and Matthew to tax collecting? What then?" A shadow crossed the Lord's face as He said, "They must not fail. I have no other plan."

Christian friend, our Lord is depending upon us to go ourselves and to give our children for this task of reaching the world with the gospel of Christ.

We withhold the gospel

When We Withhold the Message of Christ

In Romans 1:16, Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Again in I Thess. 2:14 Paul tells us, "We were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which tried our hearts."

To all of us is committed this stewardship of the gospel. We have been put in trust with the greatest message the world has ever known. It is our responsibility as stewards to be faithful in the dissemination of the truth. Since we have only one gospel and one Saviour, we have one supreme obligation!

No wonder Paul said, "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel." The word

gospel means good news. But news is only news where it has never been heard. Even the very implication of the gospel is that we should proclaim this message in all the world. It is a great tragedy for the church to withhold the gospel. Because of this failure souls for whom Christ shed His blood on the cross of Calvary will die and go to hell. One hundred thousand souls a day are passing one by one into eternity. Will their blood be upon our hands because we have refused to give them the message of Christ?

Furthermore, it is my conviction that if we withhold the gospel we will not only lose the reward and the joy of reaping the harvest, but we shall give an account in the day of judgment. Jesus says in John 12:48, "The word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him." When the Bible is clear on the commission to the church, surely to disobey the command of Christ will encourage His displeasure and chastisement.

The Apostle Paul also speaks in I Cor. 3:12-17 of our suffering loss for our disobedience. It is a solemn obligation, and we dare not withhold our hand of ministering the bread of life to the hungry multitudes that are perishing.

The Psalmist tells us, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." In that day of accountability when we shall stand to give an account of the deeds done in the flesh, will we receive reward or suffer loss because of our obedience to the command to carry the gospel into all the world?

If we have been guilty of withholding the gospel, may we determine as we read this message to not withhold our hands from scattering the seed of God's word. Let us determine to give the gospel to all and to broadcast this good news of salvation to the ends of the earth. May we dedicate ourselves to this task now. Tomorrow may be too late.

MISSIONS

(Continued from page 5)

New Property Purchased

The Bloss Memorial Free Will Baptist Church of Arlington, Virginia, serving our nation's capital, recently purchased

property upon which to build a church. Finding property in this area is no easy task. However, the church was able to acquire sufficient land to meet their building plans (a church that will seat 250-300 people, with basement and future educational quarters.) We thank God for the open door.

There are two houses on the land; one of which is rented at the present to one of the church members, and the rent off-sets the monthly payment. The other is used for the parsonage.

As you will remember, we had previously purchased a house for use as a place to hold our prayer meetings, teacher's meetings, etc., as well as serve as a parsonage. This proved a good investment in that a little more than \$2000 was realized in equity when it sold. This money helped to acquire the new land.

Our Bond Program of \$25,000 was used in the recent property negotiations (\$16,000 of the total Bond Program was actually used in the purchase.) We have \$9,000 worth of bonds for interested folks to invest in.

We as a church, have been informed that we must give up the school facilities where we meet unless we are "breaking ground" by June of this year. Even so, this we can do if we find investors for our bonds. Can you—will you help?

God knows our motive is pure and right in that we only want to glorify Him. Thus, we have the fullest assurance that God is going to see us through a building program.

Pray for the work here. Every step presents a new and greater challenge. If we could get into the first unit this summer we could have a much needed Summer Bible School!

We thank God for all of you who have been so faithful in your prayer and financial support. May your spiritual rewards be great.

Our new address is: Kenneth M. Walker, 712 North Barton Street, Arlington, Va.

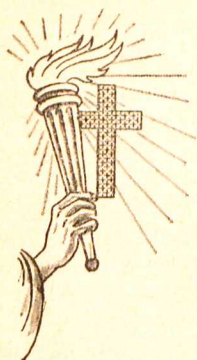
The Walkers—Area Workers
Washington, D. C.

New Family Plan Church

Sunny View Church

Mt. Zion—Thayer

Royal Oak Church



Woman's Auxiliary



Mrs. Lester Jones

Editorially:

"Too busy to pray!" You might as well say, "Too busy to live!" Jesus prayed before He worked and He got strength for His work. He prayed after His work and thus made His labors effective. Like Him, we should pray before we act and get counsel and strength. Then pray after we act and get the blessings of God. Otherwise we labor in vain and fail.

From West Plains

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Bethel Church met March 6 with eight members present. Due to bad weather and sickness we met thirty minutes early before prayer meeting. Prayer by Addie Atkinson. We voted to send \$15.00 to foreign missions. Our pre-Easter revival will be April 1-14. Study course was set for March 11, also talked about Bible School. A committee: Lou Moss, Pat Lewis and Betty Bell was appointed to raise money.

Ruby Blankenship, Cor.-Sec.

NOTICE

ALL WOMAN'S AUXILIARY NEWS SHOULD NOW BE SENT TO:

MRS. LESTER JONES
502 W. ELIZABETH,
KIRKSVILLE, MISSOURI.

INSTEAD OF THE "GEM" OFFICE IN ST. LOUIS

From Fredericktown:

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Copper Mines Church met March 12 with nine members and one youth present. Auxiliary opened with comments by president, Sis. Esther Hovis. We had prayer around the altar with Sis. Marguerite Darnell leading and Sis. Edith Underwood concluding. Topics of the lesson "Sowing The Seed" were given by Dorothy Hovis, Madge Hovis, Christina Halbrook and Mildred Kilian. Each Auxiliary member is going to write one of the missionaries. Dorothy Hovis, Cor.-Sec.

From Farmington:

The Farmington Auxiliary met Saturday evening March 9. Our president, Geneva Barker called the meeting to order. Scripture reading Luke 24:47-48. Prayer by Sis. Pearl Denton. Minutes were read by secretary, Jesse Hufford. Roll call was answered with a Bible verse with the word "sow," "soweth" or "sowing." There were eleven women and two children present. We voted to order youth chairman leader material to begin a youth Auxiliary. The program was: "Sowing The Seed" with the following taking part: Elsie Gray, Mamie Skaggs, Dorothy Ramsey, Genevieve Weiss and Geneva Barker. The meeting was closed with prayer by Mrs. James Miller. Rema Gross, Cor.-Sec.

From Leadington:

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Leadington Church would like to report their February activities. We have

been meeting each week to study on "Bible Basis of Missions." On February 21 there were eight present. Our lesson was "The Holy Spirit and Missions" taught by our pastor, Rev. Wilfong, a former missionary himself. We now have a clearer understanding and feel stronger spiritually and closer drawn to the Lord. We studied Acts 1 and 2. It is important that we learn the many offices the Holy Spirit fills in our lives, also in the church. The Spirit convicts and converts; performs works for believers; disciplines the church, exercises authority to send forth workers; presides over church councils, restrains and constrains workers and many other officers. We met again February 28 to conclude our study. Service was opened by Ruby Boren and prayer by Trixie Miller. "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" was sung, followed in prayer by Iva Treaster. Our lesson concerned Paul, the greatest missionary of all, other than Jesus Himself. On March 7, we met at the parsonage to study the Co-Laborer lesson "In Lobi Land." The introduction was given by Rev. Wilfong. Scripture Luke 24:47 was read by the president, Iva Treaster. Report was read by our secretary, Jerry Wilfong. The following items of business were passed: 1. That we observe Pre-Easter Week of Prayer. 2. That we order books for Doris Milburn to be used in the G. T. A. 3. That we pay \$5.00 for youth work. 4. That we order some hymn dramatizations to be used during week of prayer. 5. Prepare offering cups for Week of Prayer. The lesson was a blessing and our hearts are so burdened and we feel the need more to pray

and give that these people may be reached by the Gospel.

Anna Lincoln, Cor.-Sec.

Officers of the Month

Perhaps many of you know Leona Thompson, our Assistant Secretary of the Woman's State Auxiliary Convention. She has served as Assistant Secretary for several years as well as State Statistician of the State Association. Leona lives on a farm a few miles from Greentop. She has been very faithful with the jobs entrusted to her. She is qualified for her position in the State Auxiliary and she is now serving as Secretary of the North East Missouri District Convention as well as secretary of her local Auxiliary at Hazel Creek Church.

Tips for Youth Chairmen

ARE YOU A YOUTH SPONSOR? Did you ever stop to realize that you have a grave responsibility? A youth worker must know Christ, know the youth and know how to love and lead them. Do you know that the youth know Christ? The youth chairman can and should know these things. Young people are very sensitive to genuine love and will respond to such love.

Do you know how to lead them? Tactful boldness is needed in leading them. I don't have all the answers and don't know where you can find them except through prayer and seeking God's leadership.

How about your programs? Are they monotonous, boring, badly attended? Now don't pass the blame on to somebody else. Look for new ideas, let the youth suggest some ideas. Involve the youth in every phase of the program. Attach importance to their rank work. Encourage them to take part in the declamation and essay contests. The most important, **COMMIT THEM TO CHRIST IN PRAYER.**

You Y. P. A. sponsors who want help take note. Mrs. John Warren has written a supplement to be used with the programs. The price is \$1.00 and can be ordered from W. N. A. C. in Nashville, Tennessee. I'm not certain but there may be such a supplement for the younger groups. If you are interested write to W. N. A. C. and inquire.

Mrs. Doris Raper
Youth Chairman
Missouri State Convention

Fourth Church Auxiliary:



Here is a picture of the officers of the Women's Auxiliary of the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church.

From left to right they are, Alice McDonald, President; Opal Turnbough, Secretary-Treasurer; Wilma Dodson, Vice President; Mariam Willhite, Youth Chairman; Ruth Courtney, Study Course Chairman; Ruby Pendergrass, Program Prayer Chairman; and Freda Johnson, Personal Service Chairman.

This picture was taken at the installation of officers program in December.

The program was under the direction of Mrs. Harry Beatty. The theme was, "Sailing the Sea of Life."

As each officer lit her candle, she gave a personal testimony and pledge of her office.

Mrs. Beatty gave each officer her "Sailor's Charge" and closed the pledge service with all the officers saying the Sailor's Prayer in unison.

Rev. Harry Beatty dismissed the service in prayer and refreshments were served to all in attendance.

The women's Auxiliary of the Fourth Church was started soon after the church was organized under the leadership of Rev. Bill Turnbough, the pastor. Since that time, much progress has been made and many blessings received as the result of this organization of Christian Women.

In the past few months, many have commented on the progress that has been made and the outpouring of the Spirit of God in each meeting.

We, as members of the church, feel as if this group of women have added much to our church and services.

Sis. Alice McDonald, the President of our Women's Auxiliary, is working very hard to promote each program. The auxiliary has grown under her leadership.

We ask an interest in your prayers, both for her, and all the members of our Women's Auxiliary.

From Cuba:

The Woman's Auxiliary met January 22 with an opening song and prayer by Helen Brown. Scripture was read by Sis Helen Brown and Sis. Ben Ellis. Altar prayer for the sick. The lesson topics were given by Geraldine Dickens, Lucile Blume, Mrs. Ben Ellis, Jewel Varney and Helen Brown. The Corresponding Secretary marked the Standard of Achievement chart. The Treasurer collected the penny jars and they came to a total of \$3.75. The offering was \$1.52. We decided to measure our waist and put a penny per inch in a jar for the next meeting. The meeting was closed with prayer by Bro. Ed Varney.

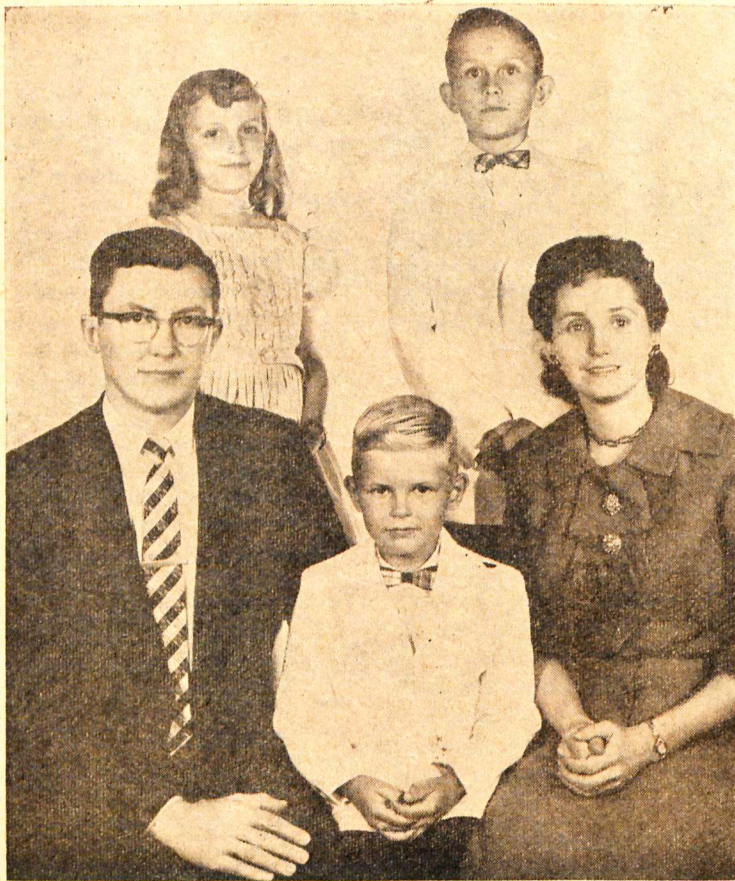
From West Plains:

The Auxiliary of the Bethel Church met February 4 with ten members and one visitor present. Prayer by Effie Lou Moss. Sis. Claudia Combs read Exodus 4. Ella James, Louise Louis and Eudine Atkins sang a special. Addie Atkinson gave the lesson introduction. Topics were given by Claudia Combs, Eudine Atkinson, Gracie Stevens, Nellie Gregory, Louise Louis, Ella James, Effie Lou Moss, and Addie Atkinson. Questions were asked by the group. The study course held January 28 was well attended. A Y. P. A. was organized following the study course. A letter from the Billows was read. The officer's reports were given. A study course on Evangelism was set for February 25. A quilt will be quilted next Monday given by Mrs. Conniham, which will be sold. We were dismissed in prayer by Bethel Richardson.

Ruby Blankenship, Cor.-Sec.

From Farmington—A New Auxiliary:

The women of the Farmington Church met January 12 and organized an Auxiliary. On February 4th they had the installation of officers at the opening of the evening service. Mrs. James Miller conducted a very impressive service as the following officers were installed: President: Geneva Barker; Vice President: Genevieve Weiss; Youth Chairman: Zola Francis; Study Course: Pearl Denton; Prayer and Program: Anna Stone; Personal Service: Mamie Skaggs; Recording Secretary-Treasurer: Jesse Hufford; Corresponding Secretary: Runa Gross. Rev. James Barker closed the service (Continued on page 12)



Dr. and Mrs. L. D. Miley and Family, Medical Missionaries to Africa



Rev. and Mrs. C. Hanna and Family, Missionaries to India

Letters from Our Readers

February 27, 1963

Dear Bro. Bud:

We just had to drop you a line and thank you for sending us the GEM. We appreciate it so much. We get to hear about a lot of people we know that we wouldn't hear about any other way. We think you are doing a very fine job with the GEM. It is a very good and interesting paper. We enjoy it so much.

How is Mary and your children? We haven't seen you in so long. We enjoyed seeing your pictures in the GEM. Tell Mary hello for us.

We want to thank you for the picture of our church being on the cover of the Gem and for the writeup in the November issue. That was a pleasant surprise for us.

The Lord is still blessing us here. We are so thankful for our building. We had such a hard time finding a place to worship before we got this building up. We were more or less forced to build. Our membership now is around 60. We usually run between 70 and 80 in Sunday School.

We still have a number of bonds to sell. If you should hear of any contacts that might want to buy some bonds please tell them about us. We need to get these sold as soon as we can.

Thanks again for your interest in us. We appreciate it more than you will ever know. Pray for us. May God richly bless you and Mary in your work for Him.

Love in Christ,
Johnny & Thelma

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

(Continued from page 11)

with prayer. The first meeting was held on February 9. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Geneva Barker. She also read Exodus 4. Prayer by Francis Johnson. Topics of the lesson were given by: Pearl Denton, Mrs. Clyde Gross, Dorothy Pinkston and Mrs. James Miller. The Program Chairman, Mrs. Orville Stone asked questions. There were thirteen members present.

Runa Gross, Cor.-Sec.

From Berkeley:

The Woman's Auxiliary met March 5 with fourteen present. Prayer by Eudora Stephens. The Intermediate G. T. A. girls served the Auxiliary at a banquet last month. A spaghetti supper was enjoyed with the girls doing a wonderful job. We had six to join our Auxiliary. Sister Lucille Beatty taught a study course. We voted to have a fish fry to raise money for the project of buying land for a church for the Fulchers. We plan to start a Circle soon for the young ladies of the church. Our lesson was "Sowing the Seed." Parts were given by Francis Combs, Sonnie Skiles, Gusta Barks and Sylvia Hill. Dismissed by Sis. Barks.

Florence McCallister, Cor.-Sec.

From Lebanon:

The Auxiliary met Tuesday with nine members and three guests present. Prayer by Sybil Agan. This was a special prayer for our missionaries at home and abroad. An interesting devotional was given on "Lobi People of Ivory Coast, Africa" by one of our home missionaries, Sis. Kathleen Perry. She also read from Luke 20:47. Business session followed. It was voted to give a love offering to Sis. Perry. We also enjoyed having her and her husband with us on Sunday. Our Pre-Easter week of prayer will begin April 14. The lesson was given with topics by Gladys Montgomery, Sybil Agan, Dorothea Mosier, and Jean Bowman. Our guests Mrs. Beth Florence, Mrs. Marjorie Willis and Mrs. Kathleen Perry. Refreshments were served in the social room.

Henrietta Garrett, Cor.-Sec.

From Thayer:

The Woman's Auxiliary met March 12 with fifteen members and one guest. The meeting was opened by Vice President, Helen Underwood, and prayer by Ella Crass. Business meeting attended to, with closing prayer by Maxine Bostic. The lesson was given by Sis. Maxine Bostic. Special prayer for Sis. LaVerne Miley and all missionaries was led by Clara Allen. We planned our Pre-Easter services for April 12. Refreshments were served in the church dining room by the Master's Men.

Ruby Brewer, Cor.-Sec.

From Lebanon:

The Woman's Auxiliary met February 12 with ten members present. Sis. Farron Jones gave the Scripture reading. Secretary and Treasurer reports were given. Lesson topics were

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES FOR 1962—1963

	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June
Victory, Kansas City	64	69	83									
Mt. Pisgah	72	70	84	77	67	84						
Copper Mines	103	101	94	85	87	79						
Fellowship, Flat River	197	188	187	188	204	194	179	178				
Leadington	40	44	52	47	44	59	49	54				
Farmington	93	88	81	97	86	93	75	87				
Mill Creek	55	56	53	54	58	56						
Berkeley City	213	226	264	262	243	246	230	241				
Richwoods	62	60	73	58	57	57	44	49				
Beacon	79	77	78	92	81		88					
Kirksville	86	82	68	83	84	83						
Grant Ave., Springfield ..		128	125	129	128	112	98	136				
Hazel Creek	58	57	57	63	65	62	39					
Twin Oak	63	57	59	65	56	43						
South Side Church	168	199	188	185	183	183	162	191				
New Hope, Kansas City	96	114	103	105	96	93	88					
Mine La Motte	34	31	26	28	31	30	19	26				
First Church Lebanon	76	70	92		66	66						
Overland Church	126	136	133	141	141	138	133	137				
First Ch., Mtn. Grove	338	335	335	335	342	335						
Myrtle	69	65	68	81	75	76	69					
Bethel, West Plains		130	157	155	153	162	143	164				
Desloge	111	116	112	112	103	110	83	103				
Thayer	110	104	118	110	102	108	98	107				
Meramec Heights	40	35	38	34	38	37	27	27				
Faith, Lemay	98	98	94	109	99	112	89	96				
Union Light	104	123	108	118	112	118	89					
First Church, Flat River ..	149		132	138								
Liberty, Phillipsburg		109	68	68	68							
Hannon	52	56	57	55								
First Church Greenfield					18							
Olivet Church, Marshall					18	19	24	31				
Festus Chuurch				67	56	53						
Northside St. Louis						69	71					
First Church, Springfield							169	133				
Grace Arnold	89	82	88	150	118	138	133	141				
Joplin	82	81	83	87	80	96	77	87				
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana							20					
Fourth Church							54	60				

given by Marylyn Allen and Frieda Hays. It was voted to have a fellowship service and "make it and take it sale" at 7:00 o'clock P. M. Feb. 22. Dismissed by Sybil Agan. Refreshments served in church dining room.

Henrietta Garrett, Cor.-Sec.

From Mendota:

Due to some sickness and some having small children there were four who braved the storm. In they tromped wiping cold noses, and stamping

snow into a newly finished but frightfully dirty, cold fellowship house, but before long the four had the fellowship house fit to use during the Christmas holidays. The business session was held; as a result, ten orphan children were purchased gifts. Candy and fruit were purchased for the aged in our community. We went caroling on the 15th. Here is proof that it doesn't take great numbers to do the job for Christ. On January 8th eight members

(Continued on page 16)

OUR YOUTH SPEAKS

Y. P. A. News:

I think all of us at one time or the other have been to a lake or maybe to the ocean. Have you ever noticed parents telling their children not to go too far from the shore? This picture may be a picture of our own lives. We still stay close to shore spiritually never going into the depths of Christian living. In St. Luke chapter five verse four, Christ told Simon to launch out into the deep. God needs us all for His great purposes. He cannot use us if we are afraid to venture out into the depths of Christian living. With God we can attempt the impossible and make it possible. We should follow God with child-like faith. We should do and go wherever he leads. Dr. Moody once said "Give God your life. He can do more with it than you can." As the sponsors of Berkeley Y. P. A. we ask for your prayers that we may lead the youth of our church into the depth of Christian living.

Yours in Christ,
Betty & Bob Delaney

RESULTS OF THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

Last month the Missionary Conference proved to be a great blessing to each and everyone who attended the services. Saturday night at our church, Rev. Rufus Coffey brought an inspiring message to all. He spoke against the Hollywood movies using Biblical names to lure Christian boys and girls, men and women to see them. Also, he brought out some of the excuses that people used for not attending a certain church. His message was a challenge to all, **to live a consecrated Christian life.** The next morning, Mrs. Roy Thomas, the wife of Rev. Roy Thomas, the Director for Colorado, gave a talk on their work in Denver. The Lord has really blessed them in Denver. Their church is the only one within 100 miles of another Free Will Baptist Church. She also brought out that people are moving out to the western states and expecting to start in a Free Will Baptist Church, but there is none there for them to go, and they drift away

slowly, but sure. Her talk really was very interesting. That night, Rev. Homer Willis brought to us another inspiring and challenging message. If the other churches received the blessing that we did, then I'm sure that this Spirit will stay with us, for a long time.

Ernestine Burns
Meramec Heights
Free Will Baptist Church

The few years that we have been working with the young people of Berkeley Church have been a great blessing to us.

In the past few weeks we have seen three young people saved and three re-dedications of lives to God. We do not know whether or not we played any part in this, but if something we have said or done resulted in this, all time that has been spent has been well worth the effort put forth. The final decision was left for the individuals, because God touched their hearts and laid conviction upon them and they accepted Christ as their personal Saviour therefore resulting in defeat for Satan.

We are planning a Youth Revival Saturday May 11 with Rev. Bill Hill from Hazel Park, Mich. as the evangelist. We pray that many souls will be saved and many re-dedications to the Lord will be seen. With the prayers of the many that read this article we know that this revival will be a success. Sat. night, May 11, will be Youth Night. All youth in the St. Louis area are invited, and we hope to make this Youth Rally a success. We pray that all churches of the St. Louis area will be represented, so come on out and let's give Bro. Hill our support.

We ask for your prayers for our youth and for us; as we continue in this work. Pray that we will always remain in the center of God's will and that we may be drawn closer to HIM.

Yours in Christ,
Bob & Betty Delaney

G. T. A. News

The Jr. G. T. A. of the Berkeley Church could easily be called "The Busy Bees" because of their many activities in the past few months. They

were granted permission in October to assume the gigantic project of raising approximately \$525.00 for 300 new Free Will Baptist hymnals needed by our church. With the cooperation of the members of our church, the Jr. G. T. A. was able to donate 70 hymnals alone through a gospel sing, the sale of newspapers, magazines and Christmas cards, a bake sale and two rummage sales. Our group only lacks 53 hymnals of reaching our goal of 300—thanks to donations from our church people. We ordered 100 hymnals for our Christmas Service and hope to order the remaining 200 in time for Easter Services.

Our G. T. A. is mission-minded and knows many of our missionaries and where they are laboring for our Lord. Each month we send \$2.00 to Glenda Fulcher and then choose a missionary or a worthy project such as the new well at Youth Camp and give \$3.00. On Valentine's Day we sent valentines to 68 little missionaries—the children of all our home and foreign missionaries. Periodically each member of our G. T. A. writes a personal letter to a selected missionary.

We have had a number of personal service projects such as a fish fry to raise funds to help children go to Youth Camp who need financial assistance and also contributed \$18.00 toward the new well at Camp. We sent gifts to the Missouri Baptist Children's Home at Christmas and also remembered our pastor, Brother Hill, with a small gift on his birthday. Our G. T. A. sponsored a baby shower for a mother of one of our members and presented her with a lovely comforter and pillow set, a dozen diapers and several gifts from the ladies in the church. A program and corsages are presented to all the ladies in a nursing home every Mother's Day.

Our group had an unusual experience on one of our monthly tours when we were invited to attend services at the Temple Israel. We all learned a great deal about the Jewish Faith. We also visited the Old St. Louis Cathedral and the Second Presbyterian Church. Our monthly tours have taken or will take us to the Wildlife Museum, Art Museum, Jewel Box,

Jefferson Memorial, Museum of Transportation, Museum of Science and Natural History, Grant's Farm, Lincoln's Memorial in Springfield, Illinois, Zoo and Popeye TV Show, on August 16th.

Each week the group draws a name from our box of names turned in for prayer. I received a rich blessing a short time ago when Brother Ed Stroud came to me at church and told me that he was saved the same week that we had chosen him as our prayer partner. Prayer **CAN** change things and can be effective even when uttered by children. I thank the Lord for the wonderful privilege that I have been granted—the privilege of being the sponsor of the Junior Go Tell Auxiliary of the Berkeley Church.

Mrs. Bonnie Jane Deatherage

Berkeley Intermediate G. T. A. is glad to report to the Gem about our activities.

Our group of Intermediates meet each Monday night at 7 P. M.

The officers of our group are as follows:

President—Linda Delaney

Vice President—Donnie Leonard

Secretary—Betty Bingham

Treasurer—Gary Lix

One night a month we have our G. T. A. Mission Study Course. And we are going to join the Y. P. A. one night a month for cottage prayer meeting in the home of one of the families of the church. Then two nights a month are fun nights. All in all the boys and girls enjoy themselves and yet learn about the Lord also.

We, as sponsor of this group, ask for each and every reader of the Gem to pray for the Youth of the Berkeley Church. It's a privilege to be a sponsor. Lots of hard work but the Lord rewards us so bountifully. So please remember us in your prayers.

Sponsor,
Marie Wood

Berkeley Missionary Midgets:

The Missionary Midgets of the Berkeley Church was reorganized in January of this year. We have had an average attendance of 21 since that time. Our meeting time was changed from Mon. nights to every 2nd and 4th Wednesday night, and this has proven to be very successful, as many of the children can attend who never got to come on Monday night. Now we get the parents to prayer meeting and the children can attend missionary midgets.

There are quite a few things planned for the future. This is a very young age. A time for building Christian Character, a time for teaching that Jesus loves all the children regardless of race or color, and a time for teaching we can be missionaries at home. We select a country and call each missionary serving there by name, and pray for them that night. We are also teaching them the missionaries' children's names. This way they can better pray for them, and feel like they are some one they know personally. We keep a map on the wall showing the missionaries and the place they are serving in. Pray for us as we work with these children.

The Sponsors,
Sylvia Hill, Gusta Barks
and Judy Coulter

The Psalmist encourages us to learn who God is, how he is, and what wonderful things He is always in the process of doing. It is God who brought us into this loveliness today. It is God who accompanies us in every thing we do from day to day. It is God who gives His beloved rest. It is God who awakens us again in the morning refreshing us for another day living out of His hand. We are tempted to forget that God is the God who forgives all our iniquities and thus make it possible for us to be His children. If we would be stimulated to thanks, if our devotions become dull and our responses to God have grown cold, we need to kneel again on the hill where God's Son died for us. Here alone is where we learn to know God and ourselves. God is God who loved us even unto the death of His Son. We do not call upon God's love because we are worthy. We are worthy because God loves us in Christ. Pray for me that I may always be worthy of His love.

Ronnie Skiles
Berkeley Church

A ROUGH ROAD

People are always talking about different jobs or tasks they have had to do, and saying that it was a "rough road" in accomplishing it. Sincerely, I think the roughest road anyone could take, is the straight and narrow road to heaven. The road to destruction is the easiest road to take. When taking this road, you don't have to face all those trials and tribulations that a Christian has to go through.

In going up this rough road, as a child of the King, there are many times you get made fun of or laughed at for believing and upholding the word of our Lord Jesus Christ. The true servant of the Lord surrenders to Him, no matter what the conditions or consequences; and as a result he gains that which is permanent, although it may seem a loss momentarily. Witnessing for God is a wonderful thing. The giving of your life to God is the most important decision anyone could possibly make.

Sometimes when the way seems weary, and people are mocking and laughing at you, just ask yourself if the mocking people could stand and witness about the Lord while being mocked and laughed at, or would he turn a cowardly and disloyal person and "run from it" so to speak? It's hard to live a straight life and trying to like everyone no matter what the case might be.

In the end on the "Great White Throne of Judgment" those who have led a life that leads to a "devil's hell" will hear the voice of our Lord saying to them, "Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I never knew you," and will wish they had led a straight life so they could hear Him say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant." I would think people would want to hear these words, for God's gift is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Satan's "gift" is burning in a "devil's hell" through eternity.

The wide and crooked road is an easy one to travel down. Instead of bearing the thought of being mocked at or made fun of, you can just "go along with the crowd," and be ashamed to stand up to what you believe.

You should always witness to the Lord for he hath said, "Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." (Mark 13:35-37) So we should always be witnessing for our Lord, for we knoweth not when the Lord may come.

Yes, a Christian life is the roughest road a person could hope to pursue, but in the end it is all worth fighting for the one and only way, to walk that rough road alone, for no one can walk it for you.

By Connie Lynn Cook
Hickory Grove F. W. B. C.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

(Continued from page 13)

met with a work schedule lined out. Eight cold members without a match to light the stove or a key to get into the fellowship house. But we didn't give up, just can't let Lucifer have his way, even though he is industrious. Even though late in getting started, a box of clothing was prepared to be sent to an orphanage. Lunch was served at noon after which we held our business meeting. Our lesson "Beside All Waters" was enjoyed by all, for having shown we weren't to be defeated easily. February 12th six members met for our Auxiliary meeting. The morning was spent rearranging and mending clothing. The business meeting was led by our Vice President, Roberta Haines. We voted to meet an extra day to catch up on our work. A blessing from the Lord was enjoyed by all in attendance. Perhaps you are wondering what the hindering forces were doing. Sure enough there was a flat tire on the faithful old Dodge.

GREETINGS TO OUR MANY FRIENDS OF AMERICA:

Again we are late with "MEETING THE CHALLENGE." This month has been a very busy one, and beside all this, I had to get sick as soon as school was out, I felt I couldn't go any more. The Doctor requested that I leave the church work for a few days. Thank the Lord, that school was out and most of the work which needed my attention. I took Jenell and all my children, and made a trip to Tampico, the Sea Port of the State of Tamaulipas. While there, I visited the church of Altamira. I was indeed impressed with the way that the Lord is blessing our church in that place. The members of the church are working from early hours till late, building their church. In a few more days they will have it done, and a revival meeting has been announced, and seems as though every one in Altamira is waiting for it. I was asked to speak to the church one Wednesday which I did, (after fussing with my wife about it). It thrilled my soul, to see Brother Sotero Mata the former Mayor of the city sitting in the front row. Two weeks ago he was appointed by the Governor, as the new Judge of the city of Altamira. I noticed in his office next day, an announcement, "GIVE JESUS A CHANCE, COME TO THE REVIVAL MEETING IN THE MONTH OF APRIL." Sitting with him was mayor of the city, Senior Alfaro Gal-

legos, also a member of the F. W. B. Church.

Many of you knew that the city of Altamira was going to donate our church a lot on the main part of the city. This was already done, but the Priest of Altamira came and requested that he be given a lot right next to ours, but the Mayor, who is his uncle and a member of our church, would not give him a lot, and knowing that this would cause friction among the two only churches in Altamira and for miles around we decided that the money which had been sent for the building be used for buying the lot, and use what was left for the moving of our brush arbor from the Mayor's lot to ours. The property which has been purchased is a very beautiful spot facing the main Highway which goes into Tampico. Through this highway, thousands of tourists travel each month and the church can be seen very plainly from the highway. We wish that many of you could visit this spot of Old Mexico. Tampico is a very beautiful Port. Crossing the canal one finds himself in the historical state of Veracruz, a state which has some of the kindest and friendly people I have ever met, but very poor. In crossing the state from one end till you come to the other not a single church is found anywhere except on the sea port. The church in Altamira are praying for this state, and believe that soon they can be able to send one of their students to work in this area.

Now for the newest news, a new mission has been started in Monterrey. Brother Antonio Lopez is in charge of it, and reports that the building no longer holds the people who are coming to the service. A revival was scheduled there this month but had

to be post-poned indefinitely, because they have no space. The church of Monterrey is planning to lease a lot in that colony for the mission to build a lumber building for this new work. Pray with us over this.

Another new work has begun in the mountains "El Canelito." The first year students have asked their parents for a place to worship and they have given them an old barn which has been cleaned and painted and has become a mission for Christ. These students are all new in the Lord. They are the ones who came this past year not knowing that Christ had died for them and all were saved the first week of the school opening. They want a pastor. We have the minister but our fund has gone down some and we are not able to send one. I am sure that many of you know that all native pastors who are receiving a salary are paid out of our fund and we have noticed that our fund as of late is very low. I realize that you folks have many other obligations and expenses and we assure you that we are praying to the Lord for you. We know that all things will come out successful for you, and for the work of the Lord. We are anxiously waiting for the month of September, because our Annual Convention meets, and there are great things which will take place this year. I feel that the church of Old Mexico will vote to do many things themselves. All the native churches are working very hard sending their 10 percent to the Convention besides the fifth Sunday's offerings.

The young men of the church have organized a "MEN FOR THE MASTERS" group who are doing great things for the cause of Christ this year. PRAY please PRAY.

Arturo and Jenell

Ambassadors for Christ in Latin America . . .

"For we are labourers together with God." I Cor. 3:9a

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BILLY FULCHER

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