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FREE WILL BAPTIST

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Gem



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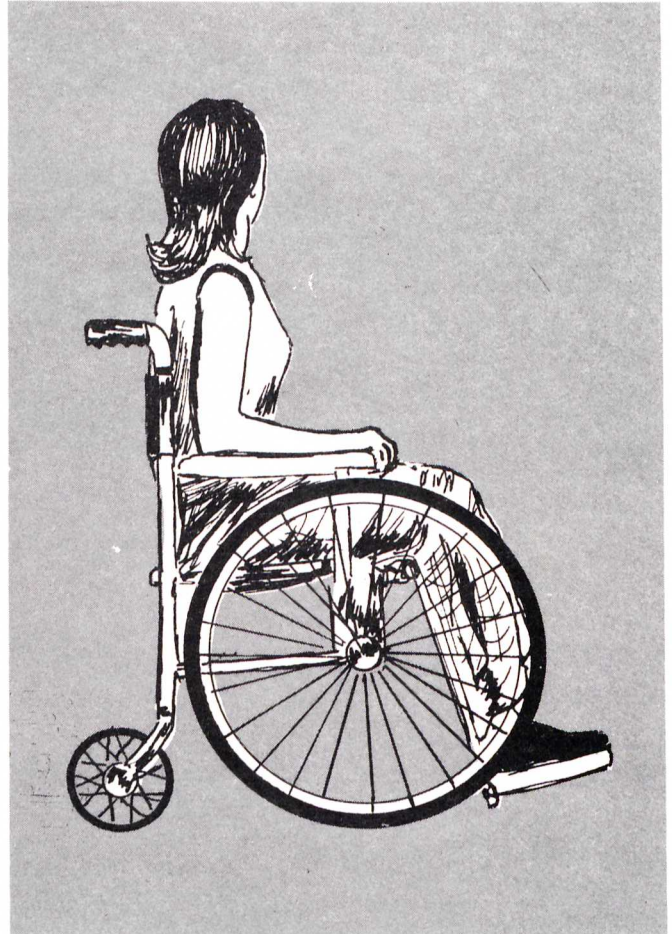
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Bud Hill

THE BEST THAT I HAVE

by Carolyn Martin



To do the best you can with what you have. This creed seems to sum up my attitude toward life. And with this idea I will attempt to write my testimony to the power of God. The dates and circumstances of when and where I first experienced the power of God seem to be unimportant. But what is important is that I have found that Christ does satisfy a thirsting soul and can give a purpose and meaning to life.

Before I accepted Christ there was little chance that I would amount to anything. God can give each life a purpose to strive for high goals. Through my teens I had a hard time in school, and I just didn't seem to fit because I didn't want to adjust myself to my circumstances. Not until my late teens did I realize that God wanted me to accept my circumstances and try to adjust myself to them. People are not going to adjust themselves to me, rather it is I that need to adjust myself to others. It was with this new attitude that I started to better apply myself. And when I did people were more ready to help me for people are kind and are always ready to help others help themselves.

It was suggested to me that I try to write as a means of finding something to do with idle time. The first writing that I did was a short paragraph about finding God, and was published in a newsletter. That was my first taste of writing and I liked it. My parents and teachers were pleased with the discovery that I could write.

It was not until years later when I was pondering what I was going to achieve with my life that the idea occurred to me that I could write. Besides, writing is a ministry, too. So I started to set my goals toward writing. This pleased my parents so much, especially Daddy. Even now when I go home Daddy just devours my writings. And when Daddy reads something other than his newspaper, that's something! Sometimes I get frustrated with my writings when I am trying to write a perfect paper and it turns out a mess. I think that I have wasted several packets of typing paper trying.

I know that it is God's will for me to write. I will have to apply more elbow grease but I will do it! God never expects the impossible—just the possible at our best.

The one thing which is so downgrading to me is pity. I hate the subject for I have seen what it can do to a life. Pity is something very harmful and dangerous for one to indulge. True, many times one hears my making wisecracks about my handicap. One of my favorite jokes is about c.p. Jello. We are often served Jello at the workshop. One day I was trying to eat Jello when it ended up on the floor. Then the therapist helped me with it. I made the remark that it must be affected by cerebral palsy, too, because it is so shakey and unstable. So now we always have fun with c.p. Jello as they feed me to prevent it from falling on the floor.

I am sure that some of you would be horrified if you could hear what goes on during my therapy sessions. Instead of gently saying, "Don't fall down because you might hurt yourself," the physical therapist says, "If you fall, I will beat you; besides, I hate the sight of blood on my clean floor." Actually I love people like this and have more respect for this type of person because it gives me the feeling of being human and not just something to be pitied. Personally I feel that God judges people on their ability to reason and understand rather than in the physical realm. I feel that pity in any form is wrong. It is better to look on the bright side of life than to always be looking on the gloomy.

Psychology tells us that it is not natural for a normal man to find life pleasant and satisfying all of the time. Sometimes one cannot help but despair. The Bible tells us that Jesus also had moments of despair. Yes, I get frustrated over seemingly small things. For instance, too many errors on a composition will send me into a fit of tears. It is on these occasions that Isaiah 26:3 means so much to me. I am thankful that when I do despair I seem to be reminded that I am in God's hands and He takes care of those who are trying to serve Him.

When young people reach eighteen they are usually through school or it is just too bad. In my case it was just too bad, for I was just entering the seventh grade. I didn't feel that I was ready to quit school yet for I was determined to get through high school. So my sister Maxine

protested and got a private tutor for me. She was a very good teacher. Within two years of study under her I was able to grasp enough basics to pass my high school entrance exams and get into high school classes at the workshop.

My parents and I discussed the reasons why I should go to a place for the handicapped. We could see how hopeless the situation was getting to be. I was becoming a vegetable with the lack of stimulation. I could see as I grew older that something must be done before I got worse and wouldn't even have the desire to better myself. Often during these months I prayed that God would give me the strength to leave home. Many months passed of correspondence to various places for handicapped adults. Then we found the workshop where I could work, go to school and get therapy. Questions about living quarters were soon settled, and I started to pack for the unknown. I was very frightened for I never managed my own affairs and had never thought that I could.

I came to Seattle only to find what I thought was a very detached world. I was scared of the dark, gloomy basement workshop. (We have since moved into our new facilities). It seemed that I was the only outsider and I felt utterly alone. I remember sitting by a window and wondering where God was. To say that I never doubted God would be a lie. Here I was unable to communicate with any one, and I thought that the situation here was just as it was at home. Where did I get the crazy idea to leave home? I asked myself many questions and all had a negative answer. So with all the utter hopelessness I just decided to go home, and when I got old they could cart me off to an institution. It was a very defeated attitude.

During the first week of my arrival I met Lloyd and Betty. I could communicate with them with the use of my letterboard. I told them that I had decided to go back home. They seemed to be so disappointed that I was giving up. Betty and Lloyd seemed to have a confidence in me and foresight that made me think. I can't explain it but their faith in me really did something. I started to gain confidence in myself and really make an effort to apply myself because Betty and Lloyd had faith in me.

The next six months I tried harder, knowing that they had faith in me, and we prayed that God would help me to apply myself better. Things started to fall in place now. I was moved to the South Wing where the kids were and where the nurses had experience with handicapped people. One of the first things that they did was to place my typewriter on a sturdy table where I could get at it better. Then I started to concentrate on my writing and to read again. The only way that I knew how to settle down was to start doing things that I enjoyed doing and make this my home. I prayed that God would help me apply myself as He would have me to do.

Carolyn is a wonderful Christian girl who is a victim of Cerebral palsy. She was converted at our church in Anchorage, Alaska and is now a member of our church in Seattle. She cannot speak but is very gifted with a brilliant mind.

NEWS of INTEREST

FROM THE EDITOR

As you have seen by the last two copies of our state paper, we have changed its format. At the last State Association meeting in August, members voted to change publishers.

Since the change of publishers, quite a few mistakes in our mailing list have been brought to our attention. We hope you will forgive us for these errors. The change in publishing and mailing operations should help alleviate such difficulties. Please bear with us as we try to serve you better.

We hope you will like the new format. Why not write and let us know your feelings. I believe our paper is already more attractive, and we're looking forward to better articles.

As editor, I want to encourage each church to send articles and features about what they are doing, as well as news items. Preachers, I want to especially urge you to send messages, outlines, and other articles to be published. If you do, please have them typed.



MISS YELEY DIES

Miss Bessie Yeley, retired Free Will Baptist home missionary, went to be with the Lord on January 23. Funeral services were held in Portsmouth, Ohio, on Saturday, January 25.

Miss Yeley joined the home mission staff in 1955 after serving about twenty years in Venezuela and Cuba. Most of those years were under the sponsorship of Free Will Baptists. Miss Yeley served with the home mission board in Spanish work in Texas, Arizona, and Miami, Florida.

God called Miss Yeley for missionary service when she was a young woman. Miss Yeley asked the Lord for a promise and He gave her Joshua 1:9 which was a blessing to her.

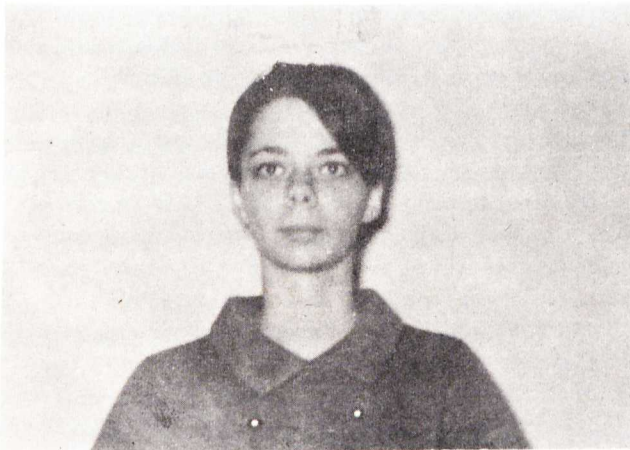


"Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:9).

THE BURDEN OF OUR HEARTS

by Robert A. Francis

THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH TO A CHRISTIAN



Faith is one of the most important characteristics of a Christian. Without it we could not be Christians. We must have faith so that we can believe in God's Word. Without faith we can have no answers to our prayers. Faith is the main stem from us to God. Because of our faith, God has given us miracles, answers to our prayers—proof to us that there is a God and that He is still working for us only if we have faith in Him.

We must have faith to live in this world today. There are wars raging, racial riots, hippies, and corruption. Without faith, we simply could not live through it. Faith in God does not help us to overlook these things, but it does help us to place our thoughts on Him and work for Him until His coming.

As a teenager, I know that faith is very important in school and outside activities. We can be tempted and persecuted if we do not go along with the crowd, but through faith, God will help us through our trials.

I think that this is the importance of faith to a Christian.

The above was written by Carolyn Copeland of the O'Fallon Free Will Baptist Church. It was a theme she wrote in CTS. She is a fine Christian, and teacher of the teens' Sunday school class.

I can not recall a time in my ministry when I have not seen and had a burden for the needs of lost souls in large cities. I suppose being reared in a large city, St. Louis, Missouri, had something to do with this burden. Every time I have the opportunity to drive through a large city, it seems that I am irresistibly drawn to the downtown sections and there, as I look upon the multitudes of people, I see them as "sheep having no shepherd" and I cannot escape the words, "but the laborers are few".

Not being able to escape the words, "the laborers are few", and realizing the need of and having the burden for souls in the large cities, God spoke to my heart in a very real and definite way. It was in 1966 during the missionary service at the National Association in Little Rock, Arkansas. The call was simple. "Why don't you do something about the needs of the souls in large cities?" The call was an abiding one and still remained with me in 1967 when I spoke to Brother Homer Willis about it at the National Association in Jacksonville, Florida. It was in 1968, after a conversation with Brother Bob Shockey, that I yielded and told the Lord I was ready to go if He would show me where he wanted me to go.

I wrote to several large cities where there were no Free Will Baptist churches requesting information and began to pray and meditate about where God would have me go. After much prayer, I felt led to the city of St. Paul, Minnesota. We met with the Home Mission Board in November, 1968, and presented our burden for this work. We were approved and authorized to begin itinerary work to raise our financial and prayer support for this work.

The St. Paul - Minneapolis area offers to us a great opportunity. The Twin City Metropolitan area has a population of over one and a half million people. St. Paul is the capitol of Minnesota and sits in the center of the state. The state of Minnesota is bordered by at least three other states—North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin—and as such is strategically located. There is a liberal influence in the area and the need for a fundamental evangelical witness is great.



GLEANINGS



FROM THE FIELDS

MADISON COUNTY YOUTH FOR CHRIST

Our regular monthly meeting convened with the Mill Creek Free Will Baptist Church January 5. President Marvin Chapman called the meeting to order with congregational singing. Prayer was by Rev. Turman Huffman.

The youth choir, which consists of youths from different churches of our Quarterly Meeting, sang "Surely Goodness and Mercy" and "What A Day That Will Be," directed by Rev. Lloyd Durlin, accompanied by Mrs. Durlin, pianist.

Devotion was given by Bro. Elza Rehkop.

The Juniors were given time for Bible Sword Drill, directed by Joan Boland.

We had a short business meeting, and enrollment was taken with six churches represented. There were 74 present.

Bible Tic Tac Toe was played by the teen-agers, directed by Paul Matthews. "Name That Tune," directed by Rev. Truman Huffman, was enjoyed by the entire congregation.

Brother Lee Myers dismissed the group with prayer. The host church served refreshments.

Pray for our youths that they might do great things for the Lord's work.

Lillie Matthews, Reporter

NEWS RELEASE

from

Louis Neibauer Co., Inc.
1315 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Penna.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR LOCAL CHURCHES TOPIC FOR SEMINARS

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—"Planning a Stewardship Program in the Local Church" is the topic of a series of day-long Stewardship Seminars to be held in Chicago, March 10; Atlanta, March 24; Los Angeles, March 17; and Dallas, April 21.

Subjects to be discussed include: Unlimited Stewardship Horizons, Stewardship Facts and Fancies, Year 'Round

Stewardship, The Basic Task and Tools for Local Stewardship Leaders, The Financially Responsible Church, Programming in the Local Church, Educating Members for Stewardship Responsibility, Tools and Messages that Move People to Give, and Deferred Giving and Wills.

Sponsored by the Louis Neibauer Company of Philadelphia, Pa., originators of stewardship programs now being used by more than 40 denominations, the seminars are designed to bring new and fresh stewardship thinking to pastors and laymen. Based on proven, successful programming which has been tested in 45,000 churches throughout the country, the emphasis is on total year 'round commitment and complete plans and materials will be presented to carry out this plan.

Speakers will include Rev. Edward J. Hales, Director of Stewardship of the Baptist General Conference; Rev. Waldo J. Werning, Director of Stewardship of the South Wisconsin District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, and Rev. Howard Teusink, formerly Director of the Reformed Church in America. Various denominational leaders will also participate in the program in each city.

Complete information on programs and registration can be secured by writing the Louis Neibauer Company, Inc. 1315 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.

Dear Bro. Hill,

I like the size of the new *Gem* and I like the cover made out of heavier paper. There is one thing I fear may not be well received among our elderly people, however, and that is the size of the printing of the Sunday school averages and Missions giving. So many with failing eyesight won't be able to read this material. Otherwise, I like it.

I know it takes much work and a lot of cooperation from all the churches in the state to produce a good paper. I appreciate what you are doing, and pray that the Lord will bless all your efforts. We always look forward to getting our *Gem*.

Yours in Christ,
Dora Fry

January 6, 1969
Zion, Illinois

Bro. Hill and *Gem* Readers,

In the past 14 months, we have been home to attend very few services at Meramec Heights Free Will Baptist Church. We did attend services in three churches in Columbus, Ohio, where we met Brother Homer Willis who was present for an anniversary service at the Welsh Avenue Church. We did not locate a Free Will Baptist church in Midland, Mich.; Morris, Ill.; Lake Charles, La.; or here in Zion, Ill. But we're thankful for the welcome we've received as we attended other churches. We pray for groups everywhere as they gather to worship God in spirit and truth.

Yesterday afternoon we attended a Gospel Sing here in Zion. One of the quartets present, which we enjoyed very much, was the "Prophets Quartet" with Bro. Ed Hill, a cousin of our editor.

We attended a Christmas program at First Baptist Church here, and spent Christmas day in Illinois, going home the following weekend.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Thomas Willey, Sr. last October.

May God grant the desires of your heart, pleasing to Him in 1969.

Leonard and Mary Lou Lynch



This is the youth group at the O'Fallon Free Will Baptist Church. A few months ago they sponsored a film presenting "God's Answer to Juvenile Delinquency" which was shown at the church.

Invitations were sent to each church in the O'Fallon area inviting the youth and sponsors of their church to attend. Also present were some youths of the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church of Maplewood, Missouri, with their sponsor Miriam Whillhite. We at the O'Fallon Church feel we are honored to have such fine young people who are willing to use their talent for the Lord. Among the group is our church pianist, our CTS director, a girl's trio, and a Sunday school teacher.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES FOR 1968

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Farmington	116	129	142	160	153	147	136	140	130	199		154
Southside, St. Louis	109	117	133	142	120	119	126	118	124	112		
Trinity, St. Louis	117	149	156	144	134	123	122	128	126			
Kirksville	109	127	136	151	142	136	124		134	141		134
Grant Ave., Springfield	175	188	186	187	183	178	160	174	176	194		181
Viburnum Church	43	44	43	54			46	42	44	40	43	46
Mine La Motte	17	31	27	36	36	33	38	25	25	28	25	
KoshKonong	43	51	62	62	63	56	60					
First, Springfield	213	277	287	287	288	274	301	284				
Desloge	74	82	90	89	92	79	86	77	87	89		
First, Springfield	211	213	262	268	225							
Hannon	54	63	64	61	62	65	59		56	58		
Leadington	112	133	156	166	146	140		120				
Copper Mines	62	90	93	85	87	77	88	109	92			
Fourth Church, St. Louis	162	183	190	176	188	132	115	124	108	125		103
West Plains	162	169	176	181	166	148	124	124	133			
First, Lebanon				92	90	113	97	99	129	114		119
Myrtle Church	50	67	62	70	66		70	64	60	55	60	63
Twin City Ch., Festus	49	59	64	55	52	43	43	46				
Cape Girardeau	24	48	75	70	60	52	61	45	50	48	44	42
Sunnyview, Lebanon	67	68		81		72	58	67	50			52
Desoto	41	52	56	58	53	52	55	63	61	54		65
Thayer	102	129	129	135	124	125	132	128	128	118		116
Overland	162	201	216	215	203				128			
Salem					26	25	21	25		30		31
Willow Springs, Mtn. Grove	76	77	82	86	84	85	94	90	90	80	89	85
Twin Oaks Church	44	55	57	64	50	58	45	51	90			
Fellowship Church					213	217	223	208				
Faith Church, St. Louis	60	72	63	76	67	62						
Richwoods Church							61	56	57			
Berkeley Church	304	346	410	395	345	323	299	285	342	346		
Central Church K. C.	154	163	156	146	174	141	145	136	154	154		
Parkview, Desloge												83
Trinity, Bridgeton												131
Harenon												53



Woman's Auxiliary

As I sat down to write this article, I said: "What can I say about Stewardship and Prayer that everyone hasn't already thought of?" Then my little boy came up with a six-year-old suggestion: "Tell them not to stew, but instead to pray." Crudely worded maybe, but he does have a thought. How many of the problems that we face individually and as a nation do we "stew" over instead of pray about? Too many, I'm afraid. As we approach the World Day of Prayer, this would be a good time to stop "stewing" and start praying.

As a suggestion for observing the World Day of Prayer, why not make paper globes and pass them out with the reminders of the Lord's words: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3). Little things to take home from monthly meetings are great ways to help remember the special requests. Prayer partners help too. You can get together over the phone or in your home, and share requests. As the chorus says: "Pray, pray everyday. Never, never cease. Praying is the touch with God, that brings to us sweet peace."

But when to pray is something else. Some of my greatest times with the Lord have been in hot water . . . and not the trouble kind of hot water. As a minister's wife and mother, about the only two times I really have to myself are in the bathtub and doing dishes. So this is my usual prayer time. The Lord didn't say where, but to always be ready . . . anywhere.

Stewardship involves a word which we usually would rather not discuss. The word is money. But remember that in giving, not only money is involved, but everything about you: your time, talent, and just plain you. Make giving a blessing. Don't be like the Christian this poem describes:

Once there was a Christian
He had a pious look;
His consecration was complete,
Except his pocketbook.
He'd put a nickel in the plate
And then, with might and main,
He'd sing, "When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain."

Make giving interesting. Get involved in a project and learn about it. Our state project is "Help Build a Fort for the Vandivorts". Draw a fort and cover it with money. Make clever blanks to take home for those pennies, nickels and dimes you find here and there. Or try saving a penny a meal for a month.

Bulletin boards make wonderful places to let people know what you are doing as an auxiliary. You may be surprised at the support you have from non-auxiliary members. You may even get some new members when they see that you are really interested and working.

We can get so carried away in working and doing that we forget the real reason behind our working. Remember to give God the glory in your prayer life and giving.

The life that costs is the life that really counts for Christ. "Whatever you lose and cannot find again in Christ, is better lost."

by Kathy Jo Lay, State
Stewardship — Prayer Chairman
of the Woman's Auxiliary

The Berkeley Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary held its monthly meeting January 8. The meeting was brought to order by Mrs. Wilson, our missions chairman, in the absence of our president who was ill.

Reports were given from our last meeting. We are sending \$10 to the Calverys in Japan.

Five joined our auxiliary, bringing our total number of new members to eight. We thank the Lord for that. Our prayer is that we will work together to bring souls to Christ and help our missionaries.

Vivian Burton dismissed us with prayer.

Verna Smith
Corresponding Secretary

The First Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary, Kirksville, Missouri, was hostess to a Family Night supper, December 18. Approximately 75 persons enjoyed the carry-in style supper. After the meal, a program was given by women of the auxiliary. The song "Send the Light" was sung. Mrs. Joan Filkins was in charge of the program. Prayer was given. Mrs. Reda Maggart read a poem and Acts 1:8 and lit the "candle of light." Rev. Lay sang a solo.

Mrs. Kathy Lay read Scripture from John 13:35 and 17:18 and lit "a candle of compassion". Mrs. Lila Thompson read Matthew 28 and lit "a candle of commitment to Christ". The chorus, "Lead Me to Some Soul Today" was sung by all. Mrs. Lola Matthew read Proverbs 4:18 and lit "a candle for continuance in prayer". Mrs. Joan Filkins read Luke 2 and John 3:16 and lit "a candle for consecration" and led in prayer. The meeting was closed with the presentation of a Christmas tree laden with gifts for Rev. and Mrs. Lay and children.

Corresponding Secretary,
Martha Barnhill

"LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD"

1 Cor. 3:9

The Alton Free Will Baptist Auxiliary met December 9 with seven members present. Opening prayer was led by Lois Forrest.

Our Lesson, entitled "God's Christmas Gift . . . A Missionary," was read by Lela Muse, Eileen Gonterman and Helena Barton.

Business session opened with prayer by Bea Frey. Missionaries Bill and Joy Jones were sent \$5 by the auxiliary. The meeting was dismissed with an altar of prayer.

Pre-Christmas prayer services were held December 9, 10, 11. The offering of \$8 was sent to Brother Vernon Maggard's account. Twenty three plates of fruit were taken to sick persons by auxiliary members Lois Forrest and Eileen Gonterman.

On January 13, the auxiliary met with 10 members present. Opening prayer was by Lula Foster.

The program, "A World in Hunger," was read and discussed. The business meeting was opened with prayer. Officers reports were given. Personal Service Evangelism Chairman Lois Forrest had made several visits to the ill and shut-ins. Get-well cards and sympathy cards had been sent. The auxiliary is sending \$5 this month to be applied to the account of missionaries Sherwood and Vada Lee.

Flowers were sent to Hazel Bales, who is in the hospital. We pray for her speedy recovery.

Secretary
Mildred Wallace

Overland Ladies' Auxiliary held its monthly meeting January 7 at the church.

President Alice Stevens called the meeting to order. The opening song, led by Gloria Berry, and prayer by Lois Buie preceded the reading of the minutes. Treasurer's report was read without correction.

Business consisted of the following:

1. Unanimous decision by the group to sell Stanley products for profit for auxiliary and missions.
2. Decided to start a missionary file.
3. Discussed Easter program. Plans to be made at next meeting.
4. Discussed starting a GTA group. No definite decision was made.

Sue Revelle led the program presentation followed by a group discussion on the topic.

Meeting was adjourned. Bandages and medicine bottles for the Miley family were packaged up and plans were made for mailing.

Closing prayer was by Gloria Berry.

Yours in Christ,
Lois Buie
Corresponding Secretary

The West Plains Missouri Free Will Baptist Auxiliary met January 6, with 12 attending. After an opening song, the Scripture reading was given by Eudene Adkisson. Phyllis Miller led in prayer.

All viewed a good picture of the boys and girls in the Children's Home at Greenville, Tennessee. Reports of officers followed:

Treasurer and Secretary report read and approved.

Study Course Chairman: Set study course on Stewardship for January 31. A book, "Why Tithe," was reviewed by Brother Dale Skiles.

Program Prayer Chairman gave good report on pre-Christmas week of prayer.

Personal Service Chairman thanked everyone for food brought to the pastor's home for the evangelist.

Corresponding Secretary had sent 23 cards and 5 letters.

The auxiliary voted to send \$10 to the district treasurer for Youth Camp project of the District Auxiliary. They also voted to send \$10 to the Literature Department for printing of material in foreign language and to have a shower for the Provision Closet of pot holders, aprons, etc.

Phyllis Miller and Effie Lou Moss are to plan the program for our auxiliary at the next quarterly meeting. Two new members, Ladie Mae and Lounita Spears, were welcomed.

The Co-Laborer Lesson, "A World in Hunger," was studied, including a reading of the poem "Prayer for Daily Bread."

After prayer, "Vision, Compassion, Willingness to Serve" was given by Lounita Spears.

Topics were given by Elaine, Addie and Ella Mae. Next month's lesson was planned and everyone was asked to bring poems or anything that would help out in our program. We were dismissed in prayer by Beverly Dollius.

Do pray for our auxiliary. We need more workers.

Hattie Sims,
Corresponding Secretary

The Cabool Free Will Baptist Auxiliary met December 10 for its monthly meeting. Reports were read from the previous session.

We decided to send cookies and candy to the boys from our church who are in the Armed Services. We had sent packages earlier to a 101st Airborne division in Viet Nam, and it proved to be a great blessing. It means much to these boys who are far from home to know that their church is thinking of them and praying for them.

We also voted to prepare fruit baskets to be delivered at Christmas to those who are unable to get outside.

The lesson in *Co-Laborer* was read and discussed. Everyone enjoyed it.

Pray for us as we endeavor to work for our blessed Lord.

Pauline White
Corresponding Secretary

MISSION NEWS



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings from your missionaries in St. Joseph! We are certainly happy to be back in Missouri. In the fall of 1959, we loaded up our 1951 Ford and moved to Nashville, Tennessee to attend the Bible college. With the help of my dear wife, I graduated in the spring of 1965. In the fall of that same year, we accepted the pastorate of the Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia. We served there until we accepted the work here in St. Joseph.

Both my wife and I were members of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kirksville, Missouri. I was saved there and answered the call to preach at the Youth Camp in Niangua, Missouri. Thank God for Youth Camps! Although we enjoyed southern hospitality, we are happy to be back in our home state. The Lord did bless us in the South though. Two Maggarts left Missouri but four came back. Our little boy is five years of age and our little daughter is nine months old. We so much about our history.

We have been in St. Joseph for three months and the Lord is already opening doors of opportunity for us. We have purchased some property in the northern area of the city. Our property is near two new sub-divisions. A third sub-division is now being developed only eight blocks from our church. Our property is more than an acre in size. It has a nice five-room house with a full basement and central heating. We are using the entire house for the church. When our congregation becomes too large for the house, we have room to build on the same lot. We paid \$11,500 for our property. Compared to other tracts we looked at, we feel that this was a reasonable price. We are in an excellent location, the opportunity is great, and the fields are ripe unto harvest. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into his harvest." (Matt. 9:38)

We held our first service in our new property November 24. We had 28 in Sunday school and 35 for preaching. Our Sunday school attendance is presently running between 20 and 30. We enrolled 10 in Sunday school the last two weeks. Last Sunday two children were enrolled who had not attended church in over a year. This is a real ministry!

As I write this article, I can look out the window and see numerous homes which house the unsaved and unchurched. Every day I see precious children missing valuable Christian training because of materialistic minded parents. Daily we are reminded of the power of the adversary. The great majority turn deaf ears to our witness and counsel; yet we go from door to door searching for hungry hearts. This work takes patience faith, prayer, determination, and a

burning heart. We must have your prayers! What the Lord accomplishes here will depend a great deal upon whether you pray or not. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16b).

Why are we establishing a Free Will Baptist Church in St. Joseph, Missouri? It is because God has raised up Free Will Baptists in these last days to join with other fundamental denominations in heralding forth the truth. Free Will Baptists are not great in number, but we are great in the eyes of God because we preach and teach the infallible Word of God. Recently I had a conversation with a pastor of another denomination. This man is pastor of a large church in one of our southern cities. This co-called pastor made the statement that the doctrine of the Virgin Birth was not important. Another pastor in still another denomination recently made this statement in a well-known southern newspaper: "If you are tired of the old time religion, we have the answer for you." We live in a day when cardinal doctrines are being forsaken in favor of the ideas and concepts of men. So-called religious leaders are advocating the unimportance of doctrine. They would have us become "less radical" about such doctrines as the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection, and the Atonement, and join in the effort to have a world church. We as Free Will Baptists will have no part of it. We will continue to preach and teach Divine truth. Our God changes not! His Word changes not! There is only one way whereby man may escape the justice of God. He must repent of sin and receive the risen Savior by faith (Luke 13:3, Ephesians 2:8). There must be a Free Will Baptist Church in St. Joseph because we simply herald forth the truth.

Thank God! There is a Free Will Baptist Church in St. Joseph. It exists because of the financial support of Missouri Free Will Baptists. Let me encourage you to give liberally and regularly to the Cooperative Plan of Support. Not only will you make possible the establishment of new Free Will Baptist churches, but you will be supporting all phases of the work in your denomination.

Do you have friends or relatives in St. Joseph who might be prospects for our church? If so, please let us know about them. I write this article with a prayer on my heart. I pray that there will be an individual or a family somewhere in Missouri who will step out on faith and move over here and help us. This would thrill my heart. Pray for us and come to see us.

In Christ,
Brother Maggart and Family



NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT HAS RECORD RECEIPTS AND RECORD APPOINTEES

Nashville—Reverend Homer E. Willis, General Director of National Home Missions and Church Extension, reported today that gifts to the Home Mission Department for 1968 set an all-time high.

Twenty-four states gave more than they did in 1967 with the total increase in offerings of more than \$13,000.

Ten states exceeded quotas: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio and Tennessee.

Four states gave more than \$10,000. Tennessee was first with \$21,915.96. Oklahoma gave \$20,672.77, followed by North Carolina with \$16,523.87, and Missouri with \$15,036.23.

In 1968 eleven missionaries were appointed.

In reporting the *increase in missionary appointments and the gifts* Mr. Willis said, "I am thankful that we still have men who will offer themselves for this pioneer work and I am grateful for the support they have received."

REPORT OF MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION BOARD OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

November — December 1968:

COLUMBIA: God is truly blessing our Columbia mission. Their attendance is in the 30's, and they are planning to build in the near future to meet the needs of their present congregation. Pray for the Vandivorts as they labor for Christ in this mission work in Columbia.

ST. JOSEPH: The St. Joseph church has bought property on the north side of town in an excellent location. Their attendance is increasing, and God is blessing their efforts. Pray for the Maggarts as they continue to labor here.

Those making contributions to the State Home Mission Department during November and December are listed below:

Hazel Creek Church	\$ 4.94
Fellowship, Flat River	5.00

Kirksville Church	39.00
Willow Springs, Mountain Grove	20.00
Farmington Church	60.00
Mountain Grove Church	99.00
Mr. Wayne Randleman	100.00
Victory, Kansas City	102.64
Olivet, Marshall	75.00
Northeast Association	100.00
Mountain Valley Church	70.00
Pleasant Home	30.00
Cabool Church	51.57
Mrs. Oma Scott	10.00
Overland, St. Louis	49.91
Mr. Crossgrove	10.00
New Rock Springs Church	42.17
Central, Kansas City	37.88
Mrs. Ruby Brewer	4.00
Low Ground Church	10.00
Berkeley, St. Louis	50.00
Frances Foger	6.00
Hannon Church	62.20
Merl's Chapel, Cassville	4.00
Copper Mines, Fredericktown	20.00
Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Evans	15.00
Cooperative Receipts, State Association	1070.12

Total:	\$2,188.43
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In behalf of the State Home Mission Board I would like to thank each individual and church for contributions during the past two months. However, the need is still great. And we challenge each church in Missouri to place State Home Missions in your budget for this new year.

Rev. Dale Skiles
Secretary-treasurer

MISSOURI FOREIGN MISSION GIVING

Phillip Fry, Mountain Grove	8.00
Lehman Riggs, Jennings	100.00
Belton F.W.B. Church	11.00
Koshong F.W.B. Sunday School	25.00
Cora Johns, Ferguson	20.00
South Side F.W.B. Church, St. Louis	146.00
Co-operative Plan	493.17
First F.W.B. Church, DeSoto	10.00
Hannon F.W.B. Church	34.20
Vendella F.W.B. Church, Liberal	10.00
Rev. H. Woodrow Matthews, Raytown	10.00
Otha McCormack, Springfield	2.00
Pleasant Ridge F.W.B. Church, Urbana	10.00
Garfield F.W.B. Church	20.00
Myrtle F.W.B. Church	37.00
Alton F.W.B. Church	11.60
Betty Banes, Fredericktown	3.50
Mrs. Virginia Loomis, Farmington	10.00
First F.W.B. Church, Kansas City	29.79
Rev. T. O. Hutchison, Neosho	1.00
First F.W.B. Church, Fredericktown	40.00
Columbia F.W.B. Church	10.00
Auburn Chapel, Bonne Terre	67.50
Oak Grove Church, Norwood	112.33
Twin City F.W.B. Church, Festus	25.00
O. B. F.W.B. Church, Fredericktown	50.00
El F. Stephens, St. Louis	20.00
Floyd E. Green, Lee's Summit	45.00
F.W.B. Church, Berkeley	147.50
Victory F.W.B. Church, Avondale	26.77
Farmington, F.W.B. Church	13.00
Cope Church, Hartsville	145.16
Hazel Creek CTS, Kirkville	25.00
Ed Freeland, Fredericktown	40.00
Fourth F.W.B. Church, St. Louis	30.00

First F.W.B. Church, Mountain Grove	87.00
New Harmony F.W.B. Sunday School, Greenleaf	26.71
Mellord House, Gower	5.00
Houston F.W.B. Church	10.00
First F.W.B. Church, Neosho	5.00
Miss Geneva Barks, St. Louis	50.00
Missionary Midgets, Willow Springs F.W.B. Ch., Mtn. Grove	9.44
Mrs. L. H. Glenn, Springfield	5.00
F.W.B. Church, Cuba	3.00
F.W.B. Church, Cuba	10.00
Mrs. Laurine Maxwell, Cabool	2.00
Leadington F.W.B. Church	4.00
Grace F.W.B. Church, Arnold	27.50
Paul Hatfield, St. Louis, Mo.	14.00
W. L. Evans, Springfield	10.00
Archie Cooper, Kirkville	10.00
Lloyd Aldridge, Grandview	11.00
Rev. Lester Jones, Marshall	10.00
Thayer F.W.B. Church	6.00
Donald E. Barr, Arnold	5.00
Primary Dept. Berkeley F.W.B. Church	25.00
Rev. Andy W. Lay, Kirkville	10.00
Lloyd B. Smith, Mountain Grove	10.00
First F.W.B. Church, Springfield	46.50
David Bagwell, Springfield	5.00
Columbia F.W.B. Church	10.00
Fellowship F.W.B. Church, Flat River	141.00
Gilbert Farney, Springfield	5.00
Mrs. Alta Mikel, Greentop	50.00
George Martin, Springfield	5.00
Parkview F.W.B. Church, Desloge	59.50
Dale Hargrove, Novinger	5.00
Low Ground F.W.B. Church, Novinger	78.25
Myrtle F.W.B. Church	5.00
Billy J. Miller, St. Louis	5.00
W. Porter Clark, Belton	5.00
	\$2,575.42

MISSOURI HOME MISSION GIVING

Mrs. Phillip Fry, Mtn. Grove	4.00
Myrtle F.W.B. Church	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. Henry A. Jacobs, Fredericktown	5.00
Mo. State Home Mission Board	433.33
South Side F.W.B. Ch., St. Louis	8.65
First F.W.B. Ch., Fredericktown	20.00
Columbia F.W.B. Ch.	5.00
Cooperative Plan	292.75
Victory F.W.B. Ch., Avondale	16.77
Mrs. Lucy Postlewaite, Mtn. Grove	3.00
Beacon F.W.B. Ch., Raytown	15.00
First F.W.B. Ch., Mtn. Grove	2.00
First F.W.B. Ch., Mtn. Grove	2.00
Ever Ready S. S. Class of First F.W.B. Ch., Monett	15.00
Hannon F.W.B. Auxiliary, Liberal	28.25
Leadington F.W.B. Ch.	4.00
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn E. Thurston, Kansas City	40.00
Central F.W.B. Ch., Kansas City	140.00
Central F.W.B. Ch., Kansas City	100.17
Overland F.W.B. Ch.	25.00
Ladies Auxiliary of First F.W.B. Ch., Springfield	5.00
Mrs. Goldie Kirk, St. Louis	2.00
Ronald E. Barr, Arnold	5.00
Mrs. Alta Mikel, Good Shepherd Ch., Green Top	50.00
William M. Daniel, Overland	10.00
Fellowship F.W.B. Ch., Flat River	10.00
Columbia F.W.B. Ch.	5.00
Cooperative Plan	247.00
	1,498.92

Promotional Secretary's Corner



HARRY BEATTY

The funeral service for Deacon Dempsey Matthews was held December 13 in Fredericktown Free Will Baptist Church. As one of his former pastors, I served as pall bearer, along with five other ministers. Bro. Dempsey is the father of Rev. O. D. Matthews, and brother of Rev. Woodrow Matthews. We extend our sincere sympathy to his surviving Christian family.

As an observer, I attended the special Treaty Study Committee meeting held in Nashville, December 2 and 3. Clerk Andy Lay, one of our Missouri delegates, will report their decision to the *Gem* paper. However, I do express my appreciation for the unanimous conclusion of the elected representatives in their final vote to recommend to the National Association an appendix page of five paragraphs to be inserted in the current treaty.

As we look back in retrospect to 1968, we observe that we are running below our monthly average in cooperative giving. The past five months we averaged \$3633. We needed \$3833 to reach the proposed budget. Thus, we are below our suggested quotas to the Bible College and Foreign Missions, due to some decline in anticipated designated monies to each.

However, we are out front in National Home Missions giving, perhaps due in part to the joint effort in Columbia and St. Joseph, Missouri. Please observe that Belton Church and Columbia Mission both adopted the cooperative plan in December.

Remember, Bibles at 1969 catalogue prices are available from eight Bible companies: Cambridge, Collins, Harper, Holman, Oxford, World, The Marked Color, and Thompson Chain Reference.

December

Co-operative Receipts;

Farmington	Nov.	\$156.97
Olivett	Nov.	69.21
Berkley	Nov.	304.73
Hannon	Nov.	68.40
Sunnyview	Nov.	15.66
Salem	Nov.	20.00
Mt. Pisgah	Nov.	20.00
Cope	Nov.	14.36
Willow Springs	Nov.	49.19
East Independence	(2 mo.)	51.26
Black Oak		30.00
West Plains First		
FWB Church	Nov.	51.00

Jones Chapel	(2 mo.)	20.00
Eldorado First	Nov.	3.90
Merl's Chapel	Nov. Dec.	50.18
Carterville	Nov.	14.16
Central	Nov.	128.00
Victory	Nov.	157.36
Mt. Grove First	Nov.	214.80
Columbia FWB Church	(adopted)	8.25
Granby	(2 mo.)	26.00
Hickory Grove	Nov.	29.20
Belton	(adopted)	50.52
Buffalo FWB S.S.		20.70
Copper Mines	Dec.	60.00
Leadington	Nov.	177.00
Grace	Nov.	160.00
Mine La Motto		10.68
Thayer		49.31
O'Fallon	Dec.	29.00
Central Kansas City	Dec.	60.00
South Side, St. Louis	Dec.	159.00
Grant Ave.	Dec.	242.28
Twin Oaks	Dec.	50.00
Fellowship	Dec.	50.00
St. Joseph	(3 mo.)	42.08
Willow Springs	Dec.	60.87
Garfield	Dec.	29.35
Robert Carlson	(Gift)	10.00
Total Receipts		\$2,863.42

52.00% National Association	\$1,488.98
1.00% Missouri CTS	28.63
1.00% Missouri Superannuation	28.63
3.75% Gem	107.38
4.00% Missouri Youth Camp	114.54
8.25% General Fund	236.23
14.00% Promotional Department	400.88
16.00% Missouri Missions	458.15
Disbursed 100% Total amt.	\$2,863.42

"DOLLARS FROM THE SCHOLARS" CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

A "Dollars From the Scholars" campaign, sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Sunday School Department to assist the current Free Will Baptist Bible College building program, has been set in motion by Sunday School Director Rev. Roger Reeds. The campaign will encourage all Free Will Baptist churches to raise one dollar for the Free Will Baptist Bible College Development Program from each pupil enrolled in their local Sunday schools.

In an announcement of the campaign Reverend Reeds stressed the responsibility held jointly by the Bible college and the Sunday School Department for Christian education within the denomination. He states, "Time will prove this to be a wise investment in the total Christian education program of our denomination."

The "Dollars from the Scholars" drive will run the entire 1969 calendar year and is aiming for a goal of \$50,000. All money raised for this campaign should be sent to: Sunday School Department, Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37205.