

A LOOK AT OUR CHURCHES

The Southside Church of St. Louis was organized in January 1945 by the St. Francis County Quarterly Meeting. It had been existing since 1927 as an organized mission having been started by the Reverend T.C. Ferguson, a pioneer home missionary, who had come to St. Louis from Springfield, Mo. to help establish a Free Will Baptist church in the area.

Twenty-five fruitful years have followed this church and it has faithfully supplied our denomination with pastors, pastors wives, teachers, missionaries and lay workers for Christ. Much of the work in the St. Louis area can be attributed to this church since it has shared in the organizing of six other Free Will Baptist churches in the St. Louis area.

The Rev. Wayne Waggoner is presently pastor of this fine progressive church.

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Gem

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FREE WILL BAPTIST

Gem

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Personal from the Editor



THE EASTER season is upon us again. For some it will mean the pageantry of new clothes, family reunions, Easter egg hunts, or attendance at formal services of worship. Modern society has the tendency to corrupt holy days. By laws they are made holidays; by commercial enterprise they become spending sprees; and by custom they degenerate into ritual observances.

Easter can have lasting significance only for those who partake of its true nature. They must enter into personal conscious fellowship with the living Lord. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is an historical fact beyond dispute. It was a turning point in the history of the world whose full significance was understood first on Pentecost. As the real meaning of the resurrection became manifest to the disciples their lives were transformed. The craven cowards who had fled from the soldiers of Pilate became courageous crusaders for the Christ. The disillusionment and defeat of the crucifixion were metamorphosed into glory as the reality of the resurrection became an established fact. These disciples were transformed by the consciousness of a living Presence which gave them not only joy and peace but also spiritual power. The living Christ dwelt in them.

Easter is not a date to be dramatized and then forgotten. It is the doorway to a triumphant fellowship with the living Lord and with those who serve Him. Easter cannot be observed for a single day and then ignored. Either it has meaning every day or it is utterly without meaning. We who truly sense the significance of the resurrection today will be conscious of the continuing Presence tomorrow. We will let the impact of that Presence orient our lives. Day by day we will continue "steadfastly in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers." This day, and the next

and the next throughout life, we will abide in Him and maintain close fellowship with His followers.

"The Lord is risen." It is this tremendous fact that imparts joy and glory to Easter. The sadness of Gethsemane and the gloom and anguish of Calvary would be unbearable were it not for the glory and the gladness of Easter morning.

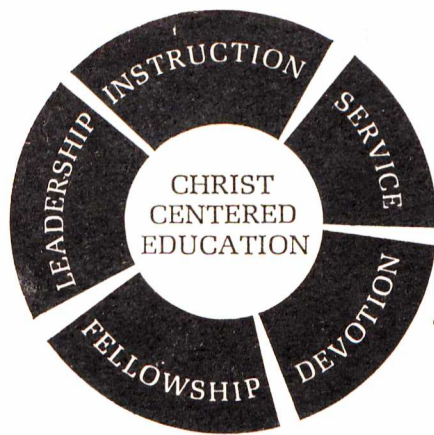
Light after darkness and life after death. That is surely the message worth telling forth to the sons and daughters of men in this sad, sinful and suffering world.

Everything is changed by the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Because He lives we live also in all the glorious power even here of an endless life. One often wonders what that first Easter morning meant to the disciples as the tremendous fact burst upon their minds that the Lord was alive from the dead. Even as they pondered the implications of it He stood in their midst. He not only stood there where they could see Him, but they talked with Him as of old and He ate with them. Think what it would be like if someone whom you have loved long since and lost awhile were suddenly at the evening hour to take the vacant chair at the table and have supper with you.

After the disciples had seen the Lord all things must have become new for them. The fears, the cares, the worries, the sins, the failures, the frustrations would fall away like dead leaves from a tree. All that mattered was that He was alive, and for them as for us death and the grave had lost its terrors, and life now had a new meaning and purpose. Does not Christ live today to give us health and strength and life forevermore? This is the testimony of heaven and earth, the testimony of angels and devils, all alike cry out that Christ is risen again.

LIBRARY

Free Will Baptist Bible College



Thanking God for Christian Colleges

by Randall L. McFarland

ONE WHO attends a small Christian college is a privileged person. After attending a secular and especially a state college, one is especially thankful for the privilege of attending a Christian college. Many facets of a small Christian college make attending this type of college very desirable and extremely profitable. Among these facets that make one cherish the time spent at a Christian college are the atmosphere, the students, the faculty, the facilities, and the courses. The combination of these and various other factors formulate the rewarding conditions a Christian college offers its students.

Probably the most important of the facets of the Christian college is the atmosphere. One is surrounded with the feeling that Christ is with each student. The ground, the trees, the air, the buildings, and the birds seem to vibrate the resounding strain that Christ is present and that He will be near to help in every problem. One finds a pleasant atmosphere at the secular colleges also, but the majority of the students in a secular school are unlikely to recognize the presence of Christ.

Another of the important facets of the Christian college is the student body. The students who attend a Christian college show a real concern for others, and in many cases they will sacrifice to help a fellow student with his problems. The Christian student is also intensely concerned with his own relationship to God. The Christian student can best be described as being kind, expressive, and warm. In every corner of a Christian college, the spirit of friendliness pervades. The students at a secular college may be concerned about themselves and the school, but much of this concern is lost in the vast maze of computer-numbered students. Attitudes of friendliness and fellowship are, somewhat impossible.

A third facet of a Christian college that is very important is the faculty. The faculty of the small Christian college is best described as "directed by God." These professors and instructors are deeply concerned about each student and are willing to sacrifice their time to help the students to solve difficult situations in order to aid the student to do his or her best work. The

faculty at a secular school is also concerned, but, however, because of the great numbers of students at the secular schools, many students are lost in the shuffle and never receive this personalized attention that many times is so very important to the success of the student.

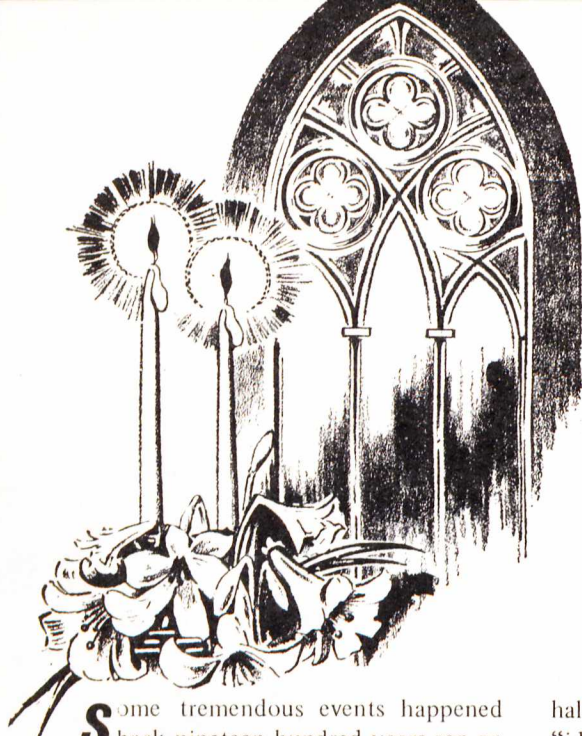
The facilities at the small Christian college is another facet that make the college important to the student. The facilities at a Christian college, few as they may be, seem to be taken care of in a manner of pride. The Christian students are proud of these facilities and try to assist all persons to use these facilities as they were meant to be used—properly. The students at the secular schools have the same or even better facilities as do the Christian students; however, the secular students seem to have no concern for their school or the facilities which the college provides.

The last facet of a Christian college to be mentioned in this exposition is the courses one is privileged to take at a Christian college. The courses are for the most part patterned after the Christian life. The courses are taught as Christ would have them taught—thorough and complete. The teacher of each course wants each student to get the most he can derive from the course. At secular schools, however, the teachers often seem not to care if one learns or not.

Although not all students that attend a Christian college are perfect examples of the Christian way of life, the environment of the Christian college will have a pronounced influence upon each student. The reaction from the influence has a diversified effect on each student, but in each case the possibility of a stronger relationship with God is introduced. One may find the Christian college to be the beginning of a bright spiritual outlook for the future.

One can plainly see the reasons why Christian students prefer attending the Christian college. One may also enjoy attending a secular school, but in my estimation the Christian college has more to offer than the secular college.

*Randall L. McFarland is
from St. Louis, Mo.*



Some tremendous events happened back nineteen hundred years ago on that first Easter morning that has ever since been surging through the world and lifting it to a higher level. Christendom itself is the consequence and mighty monument of the resurrection of Christ. However, the reality of the event does not rest wholly on this general fact, but also on many "infallible proofs."

This epochal morning opened with the faithful women, who were last at the cross, first at the tomb. What were they doing there? They had brought spices to anoint the body of Jesus. This loving act has immense significance as showing the state of mind of these women after the crucifixion. They believed that Jesus was dead and had no hope or thought of His resurrection. They found the tomb empty, and all the evangelists mention this fact, and it is an important and unbreakable link in the proof of this event. The women, after hearing the announcement, "He is not here; for he is risen, even as he said," fled affrighted, as men of stouter nerves would have done. They hastened to tell the disciples, but the startling news encountered persistent unbelief and even scoffs on the part of these men. "And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not." Who were these first unbelievers in the resurrection? Jewish priests? Roman officers? No, but "the apostles." Peter and James and John and all the eleven believed of these women to be some

hallucination of their excited minds, "idle tales," "the wild talk of the sick in delirium," as the Greek word means. No doubt Peter was the loudest scoffer among them. All this shows they supposed that all was over. "I go afishing," presently said Peter. Back to the boats! They were utterly bewildered, scattered and crushed. Their dream was dead. They were in no condition of mind, then, to invent or imagine a resurrection, and any theory of fraud or hallucination or vision on the part of the disciples in a psychological impossibility. This is incidental and undesigned but strong confirmation of the reality of this event that meets us on the threshold of this day.

The whole day was one of tremendous excitement among the disciples in which they could hardly believe their own senses. This fact is reflected in the language of the narratives which use such words and phrases as "affrighted," "amazed," "terrified," "idle talk," and "great joy." This excitement may explain the differences in the accounts found in the Gospels. They were impressionistic memories of that wonderful morning.

That afternoon Jesus appeared to two disciples on their way to Emmaus, and then in the evening to ten disciples in a room in Jerusalem, Thomas being absent. They also were affrighted "and supposed they had seen a spirit." Jesus greeted them with the assurance, "Peace be unto you." On this occasion it is noted in the narrative that "the doors

were shut," and at another meeting in the same room a week later when Thomas was present and cured of his persistent doubt, it is again noted "the doors being shut." It is evident that there was something mysterious in the resurrection body of Jesus by which He could appear through closed doors and vanish at will.

Five appearances are mentioned on the first day and then the scene shifts to Galilee where two more are recorded. The first was the sea of Tiberias (Lake Galilee) when the disciples were out fishing in their boat and Jesus appeared and greeted them as He stood on the shore; and again when he appeared to "above five hundred brethren at once." "And when they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted." Only an honest historian who was simply intent on telling the truth would have admitted this damaging fact that "some doubted." A partisan writer or pleader would have made it out that everybody worshiped and nobody doubted; the worship was absolutely unanimous! "But some doubted," calmly and boldly says Matthew, and he was there. We can trust a writer and a book that is so impartial and fearless in telling the truth.

There are ten of these recorded appearances and testimonies of eye-witnesses. They were numerous, competent and trustworthy men who could not have been deceived themselves and who sealed their testimony

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Is RISEN

"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" Luke 24:25, 26.

with their blood.

A witness of special weight is Paul, who after conversion went up to Jerusalem and spent fifteen days with Peter and James, the Lord's brother, investigating this event. He says he went to "visit" Peter (Gal. 1:18), a word that means "to know by inquiry and personal examination," or "it denotes visits paid to places of interest with a view of getting information about them on the spot." Paul, who had been schooled in the best universities and had the best teachers available, was a lawyer and man of eminent ability and he cross-examined these witnesses and made sure of the reality of this event.

This thing was not done in a corner but in the light of the fullest publicity. God left no uncertainties hanging around this fact, but placed it on a rock in the broad light of history. The disciples who at first were crushed by the death of Jesus were by his resurrection suddenly transformed into masterful men and who arose in their might and planted Christianity on this rock where it stands to this day; and they went everywhere preaching this fact and with it turned the world upside down.

As the knowledge of the resurrection of Christ brought reassurance to His despairing disciples, so today that same truth and a sense of his abiding presence at all times is God's answer to man's confusion and need. In a world of disorder and uncertainty, perhaps our

greatest need can be expressed in the words of Matthew Arnold, "To see life steadily and see it whole." This can be accomplished only if we view life through the perspective of the risen Christ, our hope for a redeemed world.

The "Easter Parade" epitomizes the contrast of our "so-called Christian society" with the early Christian community. For many, the observance of Easter means only fashions and feasting. Even Christian peoples, through making Easter a special festival day, slight its great significance by limiting their concern for its message to a single day or week. With our modern fad of specialization we tend to segment life into special jobs, special drives, special days. Easter could easily become only one of a myriad of special emphasis, soon to be pushed aside for another occasion which claims our attention.

Chrysostom comments on I Corinthians 5:7, "The whole of time is a festival unto Christians because of the excellency of the good things which have been given." The spirit and practice of the New Testament Church indicates that there were no special festival days but only a concern for "the promotion of a life of blamelessness and piety."

We dare not omit the special emphasis of Easter on that great central reality of our faith. We must not fail to proclaim throughout the year that Christ alone is "the Resurrection and the life."

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The LisTEENing Post

"I have very strict parents who never miss church and always take me and encourage me to go. But recently I was invited by the best player of the football team to a school dance. I didn't want to miss the opportunity to date this 'handsome guy' that I accepted. I thought we could just sit as everyone else danced. But he thought I was just being silly for not wanting to dance so he chided me into dancing with him. It didn't take me long to see this 'handsome' guy was dirty inside. I asked him to take me home before the end and now he has told many I am a dead beat and not an interesting date. What can I do?"

It is saddening that you are one of many who has been caught in the middle of the desire to be popular and the desire to date the popular and 'handsome guys.'

However, I feel there is hope for you since you were strong enough to resist the temptations of such things that are often associated with dancing.

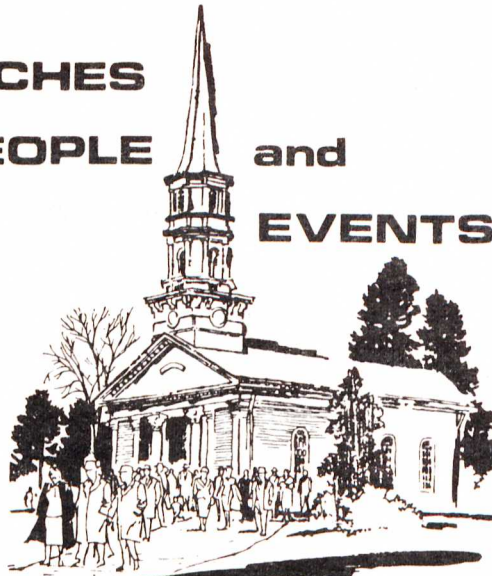
In a recent article I read where out of more than 800 girls expelled from one Chicago school district because of expectations that a fraction more than 500 stated the 'problem' started after a high school dance.

I realize it is hard for Christian girls (and boys) to keep away from functions in our school systems for fear they may lose their status on the 'most popular' lists. However, with an honest investigation you will see that you can be popular and well-liked and not have to endanger yourself or your Christian testimony by participating in events or happenings that may not only ruin your 'popularity' but your whole life.

As for your present situation. It will soon be passed on and your thoughts about it less. If you haven't already, I would suggest talking to your mother about it and praying both together and privately that God will help you.

I am a teenage boy that enjoys sports very much. It appears that I wish to miss church sometimes to attend some of the sporting events in our area and at my school. My parents like sports also and share with me in many of my interests. However, they ask me not to miss church and to get more involved at church. I don't have the interest in the church that I once had. What's wrong with missing church to go to a ball game?

CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS



ALUMNI HOMECOMING AT FWBBC

The second annual Homecoming of the Free Will Baptist Bible College Alumni will be held March 15-19 in Nashville, Tennessee. The plans were announced by the Rev. R. Eugene Waddell, the President of the Alumni Association. Members of the classes of 1949, 1959, and 1969 will be honored especially.

The activities will include a fellowship hour on Tuesday, March 17, during which the members of the honored classes will give testimonies. Wednesday afternoon, March 18, the Association has reserved the entire facilities of McCabe Park for organized recreation.

The business session will include reports from the Committee for a Greater Bible College, report from the Rev. Jack Paramore, Director of the expansion program, and the election of officers.

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE HAS NEW ENROLLMENT RECORD

Forty-five new day students were enrolled as the Free Will Baptist Bible College began its second semester in mid-January. This brings the 1969-1970 enrollment to 480, a new record for the school.

"The most important thing about these figures is the record second

semester enrollment," notes Dr. Robert Picirilli, Registrar. "Last year our second semester enrollment was 314, compared to this year's 365, an increase of 51 students."

Of the 45 new second semester enrollees, 20 are attending the Bible College for the first time. Of the 20 one is Leonard Pitts of Parkville, Missouri.

MISSOURI STUDENTS ON DEAN'S LIST

Five Missouri students have been named to the Dean's list at the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. Senior Neva Thomas, Juniors Roy Pearson, Lila Thompson, Eddie Vincent, and Sophomore Stephanie Vincent were among the 67 students who share in the honor.

OAK HILL CHURCH FREDERICKTOWN

The Oak Hill Church reports good attendance despite the bad weather and sickness. Mrs. Madeline McFarland, the church reporter, also states, "Our hearts were made sad when God seen best to call a very dear sister of our church. Sister Ursey Hesselmeyer was faithful to God and the church in every way. She is the sister of our Pastor, Rev. John Rogers, and was one of our faithful Sunday School teachers."

The church also reports one new member in February.

DEATHS

Mrs. Ursey Hesselmeier passed away on January 23, 1970 in Farmington, Missouri.

Mrs. Hesselmeier was buried in the Christian Cemetery at Fredericktown after services officiated by Rev. Kenneth Wirtmiller at the Wilson Funeral Home.

She was born January 16, 1904 in Stoddard County, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Henry Rogers.

She is survived by her husband Frank Hesselmeier, to whom she had been married 50 years on January 19, 1970, and two brothers, Roy Rogers of St. Louis and Rev. John Rogers of Fredericktown.

She was affiliated with the Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church of Fredericktown.

Mrs. Anne Belew of Saco passed away February 9, 1970 at the age of 91 years.

Mrs. Belew had been a faithful attendant of the Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church since it was organized and until her death.

The Rev. John Rogers, pastor of the Oak Hill Church, was in charge of the services at the Wilson Funeral Home in Fredericktown and the burial was at the Settles Cemetery at Twelve Mile.



The staff of the Gem wishes to ask prayers for the following persons whose needs were brought to our attention.

Pastor R.B. Spurgeon of the Trinity Church, Bridgeton, fell from a high position at the construction site of their new building. At this writing, he is much improved and able to do some pastoral work.

Pastor Seldon Bullard, the new minister at Leadington, fell and injured himself it has been reported. The degree of injury is not known.

Dr. J.D. O'Donnel, President of Oklahoma Bible College, was seriously injured in a plane crash in Oklahoma during the month of October. Dr. O'Donnell is progressing now and is able to do some of the tasks assigned to him as President and "is coming to the School some each day now, maneuvering about with the aid of a walker," Eugene Workman, Registrar.

FREE WILL BAPTIST NAMED "AIRMAN OF THE MONTH"

Marvin Jeffries, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Jeffries of Monett, Missouri, has been named "Airman of the Month" in Thailand. Marvin and his wife Doris are presently members of the Lakeside Free Will Baptist Church of Denver, Colorado but were formally members in Joplin and Monett before his enlistment in the Air Force. Marvin's parents, both ministers, pastor the Merl's Chapel Church at Cassville, Mo.

JOPLIN LAYMEN NAMED LOCAL CHURCH CHAIRMAN IN CITY-WIDE REVIVAL

Mr. Bill Parish, member of the First Church of Joplin, is serving his church as local church chairman for the City-Wide revival in May with Evangelist Bill Glass, a former professional football player with the Detroit Lions and outstanding evangelist.

Mr. Parish and his family recently moved to Joplin from Springfield where they were members of the Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church.

The Parish family are active in church work in Joplin after moving there when he was employed by the Security National Bank where he was recently named Assistant Vice-President.



Left to Right: Evangelist Bill Glass and Bill Parish.

FOREIGN MISSIONS GIVING — MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1969

Senior S.S. Class, Farmington	\$ 4.00
Fellowship F.W.B. Church, Flat River	260.00
Lois M. Skaggs, Farmington	4.00
James Mullen, St. Louis	25.00
L.D. Aldridge, Grandview	11.00
Young Married Class, Fredericktown	5.00
Anonymous	14.00
First F.W.B. Church, West Plains	128.42
Hannon F.W.B. Church, Liberal	29.68
Southside F.W.B. Church, Lemay	158.50
First F.W.B. Church, Berkeley	147.50
Inter. Boys, First, Farmington	4.00
Mrs. Laurine Maxwell, Cabool	7.00
Garfield F.W.B. Church, Couch, Mo.	20.00
Mr. Floyd E. Green, Lee's Summit	15.00
Reverend T.O. Hutchison, Neosho	1.00
Free Will Baptist Church, Salem	10.00
Belton F.W.B. Church, Belton	10.00
Rev. William Evans, Farmington	20.00
Mr. Ronald E. Barr, Arnold	5.00
Mrs. Alta Mikel, Greentop	25.00
Copper Mines Teen Class, Fredericktown	6.50
Anonymous	5.00
David Bagwell, Springfield	5.00
Eli Stephens, St. Louis	63.00
Mr. Billy J. Miller, St. Louis	5.00
Thayer F.W.B. Church, Thayer	5.00
First F.W.B. Church, Mtn. Grove	143.00
Ralph Cummins, Houston	5.00
New Harmony S.S. Class, Greentop	38.87
Farmington F.W.B. Church	209.14
Ralph Cummins, Houston	5.00
First F.W.B. Church, Fredericktown	40.00
Pleasant Ridge F.W.B. Church, Alton	3.68
First F.W.B. Church, Farmington	13.00
Mr. Otto McCormick, Springfield	2.00
Oak Grove Church, Norwood	108.87
Mrs. Green Beeson, Cassville	97.00
Beacon F.W.B. Church, Raytown	40.00
Monett F.W.B. Church, Monett	20.00
First F.W.B. Church, Springfield	39.14
Grace F.W.B. Church, Alton	28.45
Alton F.W.B. Church, Alton	25.00
Willow Springs, Mtn. Grove	4.00
Houston F.W.B. Church, Houston	10.00
Milford House, Gower	5.00
First F.W.B. Church, Desoto	31.50
Columbia F.W.B. Church, Columbia	20.00
Warrensburg F.W.B. Mission	32.00
Victory F.W.B. Church, Avondale	59.18
Belton F.W.B. Church, Belton	12.00
S. S. Class, Farmington	4.00
Joplin Area Missionary Conference	600.46
Archie Cooper, Kirksville	10.00
John P. Smith, Farmington	4.00
Val W. Arnold, Florissant	25.00
Mr. W.L. Evans, Springfield	10.00
Dale Crossgrove, Novinger	5.00
Low Ground F.W.B., Novinger	5.00
Parkview F.W.B., Desloge	102.00
Cuba F.W.B. Woman's Aux., Cuba	3.00
Pri. and Jr. Depts., Farmington	9.00
Southside F.W.B. Church, Lemay	500.00
Harold Kelsey, Greentop	12.00
Teen Class, Thayer	10.00
Anonymous	179.00
Ed Freeland, Fredericktown	20.00
Hickory Grove F.W.B., Harrisonville	17.40
Central Western 5th Sunday Meeting	25.62
L.D. Aldridge, Grandview	11.00
Philip Fry, Mtn. Grove	8.00
Rev. Clarence R. Mays, St. Ann	80.00
Verdella F.W.B. Church, Liberal	10.00
W.G. Wilson, St. Louis	150.00
Fellowship F.W.B., Flat River	280.00
Aulsbury Chapel, Bonne Terre	22.50
Leadington F.W.B., Leadington	23.50
Inter. Boys Class, Farmington	3.00
Oak Grove F.W.B., Cabool	15.00
Howard Muse, Alton	5.00
Mrs. Coy Rader, Marshfield	5.00
Melba White, Gower	50.00
Dorothy Millsap, Mansfield	48.64
Pleasant Ridge YPA, Alton	5.15
Cooperative Plan	498.42

\$4,742.12

GEM BULLETIN BOARD

NAE CONVENTION
MUEHLEBACH HOTEL
KANSAS, CITY
APRIL 7-9

MINISTER'S RETREAT
YOUTH CAMP
APRIL 20, 21

JOPLIN REVIVAL
MARCH 22-28

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE
OKLAHOMA BIBLE COLLEGE
MOORE, OKLAHOMA
MARCH 18-20

BIBLE CONFERENCE
FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE
NASHVILLE, TENN.
MARCH 15-19

FWBBC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
NASHVILLE, TENN.
MARCH 15-19

Does your Church, organization,
district group have a meeting
or date it wishes
to keep before your area
or state? Send your date
and announcement far in advance
of meeting for listing.

VICTORY CHURCH WEEK-END REVIVAL

The Victory Church of North Kansas City reports a fine revival with Rev. Dennis Bowman as the evangelist. The revival resulted in 7 decisions and 4 uniting with the church.

SUNNYVIEW CHURCH LEBANON

The Sunnyview Church has built six new class rooms for their Sunday school, added two new tables, two air-conditioners and purchased a new piano for the church.

Mrs. Effie Ruble also reports the addition of six new members.

Rev. James Henson is pastor of this progressive church.

STATE HOME MISSION BOARD MEETS AT SPRINGFIELD

The Missouri Home Mission Board met February 5th with the Grant Avenue Church with members Rev. James McAllister, Rev. Dale Skiles and Rev. Lawrence Thompson present. Home missionaries, Rev. Mark Vandivort, Rev. Earl Langley, Rev. Vernon Maggart and host pastor, Rev. Bill Adkisson, were also present.

Rev. McAllister, Chairman of the Board, reports \$246.00 per month has been pledged to Home Missions as a result of his visits to 32 churches in the state during the months of January and February.

Rev. Maggart reports 40-50 in Sunday School, representing 10 families at the St. Joseph church. Their church was a winner in the National Sunday School contest in December.

Rev. Vandivort reports an average of 35 in Sunday School with eight families represented. The chapel is now completed and seats 75. A gravel parking lot also has been added at the Columbia mission.

The Rev. Earl Langley reports an increase at the Independence Church with an average of 35 in Sunday School, representing 7 families.

The board announced projected plans to involve organizing churches in Warrensburg and Jefferson City.



Picture identification: Left to right, Rev. Vernon Maggart, Rev. Lawrence Thompson, Rev. Mark Vandivort, Rev. Earl Langley, Rev. James McAllister, and Rev. Dale Skiles.

MARSHALL CHURCH SETS RECORD

The Marshall Church has set a new record in Sunday School, Morning Worship, Evening Worship and offering on February 1st. However, that record lasted one week as on February 8th the record was broken with 93 in Sunday School, 132 in Morning Worship, 111 in Evening Worship and an offering of \$460.02 was received.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This fine church has grown to this number since May, 1968 when Rev. Cliff Bowman assumed the work at Marshall under the direction of the Missouri Home Mission Board. Note article of the church in November 1969 GEM, "The Church that can't stop growing."

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE OKLAHOMA BIBLE COLLEGE

Under the banner "Publish Glad Tidings", four Free Will Baptist representatives from the home and foreign mission fields will seek to challenge students and visitors alike during the annual Missionary Conference to be hosted by Oklahoma Bible College March 18-20.

Participating in this event will be Jim Combs, missionary to Brazil, South

America; Bill Fulcher, former missionary to Uruguay who will transfer to the field of Panama; Mrs. Mabel Willey, wife of reknown missionary to Cuba, the late Thomas "Pop" Willey; and the Reverend Robert Shockey, Field Secretary for the National Home Missions Department.

The activities will begin with the opening service Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m., continue both Thursday and Friday with services at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m. concluding with the Friday evening service. Each evening service will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Moore, 507 East Main Street, with the day services being held in the campus chapel. these services.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS



Pictured are members of the Missouri State Executive Committee of the General Board, and visiting minister's at their annual meeting held at the Beacon Church, Raytown. Kneeling, left to right, Rev. Andy Lay, Rev. Lawrence Thompson, and Rev. Woodrow Matthews. Standing, Rev. Harry Beatty, Rev. Ken Goff, Rev. Earl Langley, Rev. O.T. Allred, Rev. Cliff Bowman, Rev. Dale Jones, Rev. Clarence Burton, Rev. James McAllister, Rev. Glen Rehkop, and Rev. Bill Evans.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS TO MEET IN KANSAS CITY

The 28th annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals will convene April 7-9 in the Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City.

The Convention theme, "Saving the

Seventies" will be followed by the outstanding speakers at the convention. Speakers include, Dr. Arnold T. Olson, President, Evangelical Free Church of America and the National Association of Evangelicals, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Dr. Elliott J. Mason, Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Los Angeles, California; Dr. Stephen Olford, Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, New York City; Dr. David L. McKenna, President, Seattle Pacific College, Seattle, Washington; Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, General Director, National Association of Evangelicals, Washington, D.C.; Dr. Paul S. Rees, Vice President, World Vision International, Monrovia, California; Dr. James Kennedy, Pastor, Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Bob Davenport of Taylor University; Dr. John Blanchard, President of National Association of Christian Schools; Dr. Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ.

For more information write: National Association of Evangelicals, Box 28, Wheaton, Illinois 60187.

Editor's note:

This is an opportunity for Missouri Free Will Baptists to see the working of the NAE in action. Our National Association of Free Will Baptists and many local churches of our denomination are members of this organization.

INVITATION TO JOPLIN REVIVAL

The Rev. Clarence Burton, pastor of the Berkeley City Church of St. Louis, will be guest evangelist at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Joplin, March 22-28. Pastor Alton Loveless invites everyone in the area to attend.



Be a mailbag missionary

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM
3100 Mt. Pleasant Ave.
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LIST ADDITIONAL NAMES SEPARATELY

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS
January 1970

Central FWB Church, Kansas City	11.71
First FWB Church, Monett	100.00
South Side FWB Church, St. Louis	27.50
Walden Robinson, Farmington	15.00
First FWB Church Senior Class, Fredericktown	5.00
First FWB Church, Fredericktown	20.00
FWB Church, Salem	10.00
Henry A. Jacobs, Fredericktown	5.00
Leadington FWB Church	26.00
W.A. Denton, Farmington	10.00
Myrtle FWB Church, Myrtle	5.00
Pleasant Ridge FWB Church, Urbana	10.00
Columbia FWB Church, Columbia	18.65
Rev. William Evans, Farmington	6.00
Mo. State Mission Board	325.00
Macedonia FWB Church, Monett	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Bowman	4.00
First FWB Church, Mtn. Grove	36.00
Victory FWB Church, Kansas City	35.75
Lone Star FWB Church, Seymour	35.00
Jones Chapel FWB Church, Stark City	5.00
New Home FWB Church, Hartville	30.00
Vencie Long, Hartville	5.00
Beacon FWB Church, Raytown	6.00
Elmer Patton, Springfield	12.00
Vernon Long, Festus	10.00
Richwood FWB Church, Richwood	6.00
Northeast Mo. Assn. of FWB	40.33
New Rock Springs FWB Church, Cabool	5.00
Mrs. Lucy Postlewaite, Mtn. Grove	3.00
FWB Womans Auxiliary, Cuba	15.53
	\$868.47

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING
1-5-70 to 2-5-70

Hurricane Church	100.00
Victory Church	81.50
Olivet Church	25.00
First Ch., Flat River	15.00
Hannon Church	128.59
Rock Chapel Church	10.00
Martinstown Church	27.00
Hazel Creek Church	14.24
New Harmony Church	14.23
St. Joseph Church	16.39
Farmington Church	25.00
First Ch. Monett	60.00
Parkview Church	15.00
Northeast Mo. Assoc.	6.00
Ruby Brewer	4.00
Hartville Church	21.00
Low Ground Church	10.00
First Ch., West Plains	17.50
Byrd Church	22.50
Alton Church	17.00
Smyrna Church	8.15
Myrtle Church	20.80
Waynesville Church	15.09
Grant Avenue Church	50.00
Central Church	20.00
W.L. Evans	15.00
Alsbury Chapel	15.00
East Independence	6.55
Fellowship Church	27.00
Faith Church	13.40
Berkeley Church	36.88
St. Louis Qtr. Conf.	50.00
Fourth Church	19.58
Jan. Cooperative Receipts	1104.62
Verdella Church	26.50
Pleasant Grove Church	10.00
Joplin Church	17.30
Cartersville Church	10.75
	\$2096.57

We praise God for the increase in giving to Missouri Home Missions.

Secretary-Treasurer
Rev. Lawrence Thompson
3416 N. Bellefontaine
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

MONETT

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett has voted to share \$95.00 per month to the Dr. LaVerne Miley account. The church accepted the challenge having been made aware of the Miley's need.

**TRINITY COUPLE HONORED
AT 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Williams were presented a gold refreshment serving set, from the Trinity Church, Bridgeton, on Sunday, January 25th, in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

INDIAN CREEK OFFICERS

The Indian Creek Quarterly meeting recently elected their annual officers while in session with the Neosho Church. Moderator, Rev. Tommy Carlson, Monett; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Billy Joe Gentry, Stella; and Secretary, Mrs. Delois Loveless, Joplin.



Picture: Left to right, Rev. Tommy Carlson, Rev. Billy Joe Gentry and Mrs. Delois Loveless.

BIBLE COLLEGE GIFTS

Missouri churches and friends have given 58% toward their quota of \$12,000 as of January 1970. The 58% compares to a total of \$7,086.96 which is an increase of 583.83 for the same period of 1969.

CHURCH BONDS AVAILABLE

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Waynesville, Missouri is selling first mortgage bonds paying 7 and 8 per cent. Please contact: First Free Will Baptist Church, P.O. Box 201, Waynesville, Missouri 65583, for more information.

**MINISTERS RETREAT
APRIL 20, 21**

The annual Ministers retreat will meet at the Youth Camp April 20, 21 near Niangua. Chairman Cliff Bowman urges every minister to attend this meeting of fellowship and study.

The retreat speakers this year will be the Rev. Roger Harwell, pastor of the First Church of Lebanon, Rev. Bill Adkisson, pastor of the Grant Avenue Church of Springfield, Rev. O.T. Allred, pastor of the Monett Church and Rev. Peyton Smyers will conclude the series of messages with the 11 o'clock service on the 21st.

Rev. Luther Gibson, pastor of the First Church of Mountain Grove, will teach a course of Ministerial Ethics and the Rev. R.B. Spurgeon, pastor of the Trinity Church, Bridgeton, will present a Book Study.

On Monday evening, April 20th, the Rev. Dale Skiles will show his slides of the Holy Land taken on his recent trip.

The retreat begins at 12:00 noon April 20th and concludes at noon April 21st. A free will offering will be taken to cover food expense.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES
FOR JANUARY**

Grant Ave. (Springfield)	173
Trinity (Bridgeton)	147
West Plains	116
Farmington	115
Lebanon (First)	102
Parkview (Desloge)	74
Hannon	43
St. Joseph	34
Hickory Grove	30
Twin City (Festus)	28
Salem	27
Mine La Motte	19

You are invited to submit your Sunday school averages to be printed in this column each month. Please send monthly.



Woman's Auxiliary Editor
Mrs. Eunice Edwards
101 N. Sixth Street
Desloge, Missouri 63601

Woman's Auxiliary Page

FESTUS

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Festus met for their monthly meeting February 3 with five members present.

"We are praying before next meeting about adopting a Missionary that we might be able to help in our Missions program."

WAYNESVILLE ORGANIZES

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Waynesville organized a Woman's Auxiliary November 20, 1969. The Auxiliary had 11 members at their organizational meeting and have two members who have joined since.

Nada Maness was elected President of this newly formed group.

Their January project consisted of using an autograph book and placing their poems, recipes, Bible Scriptures, etc. to be sent to a Foreign Missionary woman. They also added to their nursery supplies.

Mrs. Lucille Beatty, State Field Worker, taught a Standard Study Course on the Manual February 16-17.

MONETT

The Monett Auxiliary had as their February Missions project the sending of hose to the Missionary Provision Closet. The Benevolence project was to send a Valentine to Bro. McClure in the Cassville Nursing Home.

WEST PLAINS

The West Plains Auxiliary met for their monthly meeting January 12 with 10 members and 1 visitor present.

"Our Pre-Christmas offering for Home Missions was \$55.19. We voted to send \$15.00 to the Home Mission Church at St. Joseph, Mo. and also voted to send \$10.00 to Foreign Missions for the Frank Cousineau family in the Ivory Coast."

BERKELEY

The Berkeley Auxiliary met January 7th with 12 present. "We delivered 8 fruit baskets to families for Christmas. We have voted to not charge dues but to operate on a free will offering this month was designated for furniture for the Bible College in Nashville. The program "Fruitful Christian" was given by Glenda Fulcher. "Our February meeting saw 17 present who approved of our offering going to the Herbert Waids."

VICTORY

"We started our year with 12 members and have added 4 new ones. We are not great in number but we feel God's Spirit in all our meetings. We have shared in a number of projects this year. We helped fix the Church kitchen. We have visited the shut-in, presented a playlet in our Church evening service, took special offerings for Missions, had a book study, observed the Pre-Thanksgiving and Christmas week of prayer and made fruit baskets for the aged and shut-in delivering them and singing Christmas carols as we gave them."

HELP !

These things are needed at the Free Will Baptist Childrens Home, Eldridge, Alabama. 1. Dress Materials. 2. Sewing Scissors. 3. Little Boys House Shoes (sizes 11-3). 4. Throw Rugs. 5. 9 x 12 linoleums. 6. Hose (sizes 8½-11).

NOTICE

District and local corresponding Secretaries are asked to send your new slate of officers with complete addresses of each. Please rush so we can have more accurate reports for the State and National Conventions. Send to: Mrs. Gloria Carlson, Route 2, Monett, Mo. 65708



JANUARY COOPERATIVE 1970

Granby	\$ 20.87
Jackson	6.60
First FWB, West Plains	68.00
Willow Springs	59.73
Union Light	11.85
Central, Kansas City	120.00
Fredericktown	442.15
South Side	159.00
Myrtle	161.25
Grant Ave.	183.72
Mine La Motte	8.51
Alton	14.00
Salem	20.00
Viburnum	38.78
Cope	39.01
Olivette	108.83
Victory	142.31
Berkeley	271.60
Lebanon First	340.00
Grace	612.14
Thayer	44.78
St. Joseph	12.28
Pleasant Ridge	14.90
Leadington	150.00
New Rock Springs	10.00
Mill Creek	83.66
Verdella	113.09
New Harmony S.S.	5.71
Pleasant Hill	10.00
Buffalo S.S.	18.61
Flat River First	314.78
Jones Chapel	10.00
Hannon	50.60
Pleasant Home	61.92
Aulsbury Chapel	115.44
Fourth	146.24
Desoto	73.00
New Home	22.10
Carterville	28.40
Beacon	154.61
Mt. Grove	235.40
Hurricane	305.00
Byrd Free Will Baptist	10.00
Hickory Grove	33.45
Rock Chapel	25.26
Farmington	142.84
Monett	185.31
Copper Mines	55.00
Richwood	135.35
Merl's Chapel	38.55
Grant Ave.	248.30
Mt. Valley	63.93
Beacon	139.51
New Harmony S.S.	6.88
Central Kansas City	120.00
Fellowship	50.00
Willow Springs FWB	45.75

Total January receipts: \$6,109.00

Disbursed:

1.00% Missouri Superannuation	61.09
1.50% Mo. CTS & S.S.	91.63
4.00% GEM	244.36
4.00% Mo. Youth Camp	244.36
7.75% General fund	473.45
16.00% Mo. Promotional Dept.	977.44
18.00% Mo. State Missions	1,099.62
47.75% National FWB Assn	2,917.05
100% Disbursed, total amount	\$6,109.00

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY'S CORNER

THE MONTH of January was plagued with bad weather. Snow has prevailed since Christmas plus the fact I had the flu didn't permit my leaving the office as often as usual.

However, I was permitted to attend the St. Louis District Quarterly Meeting which convened with the Overland Church where Harry Asher is Pastor, on January 24th. Evangelist James McAllister of Marshall, Mo., delivered the principal sermon. Each of our fourteen churches were represented and the church reports indicated some have had persons saved and members added in their churches in the last three months.

The Rev. Ralph Hampton, Moderator, granted plenty of time for our Missouri State Promotional service and Co-operative program.

Please note our fine January Co-operative receipts report. We received funds from 51 churches. The first six months of our fiscal year show our receipts comfortably above our suggested quota of the \$50,000 yearly goal. The amount given to January 31 is \$26,466.79. "Praise the Lord!"

Missouri is the number one state in Co-operative giving to our National Association of Free Will Baptists. This is a blessed way to enter this new decade. Thanks brethren for this fine participation in Co-operative giving to the world-wide ministry of the Lord.

The Director of Public Relations of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, the Rev. Paul Kettelman and the College Quartet, participated in the St. Louis area banquet, Saturday evening, January 24th seeking support for the College.

On Sunday morning the group conducted services in the Grace Church and their final service was held Sunday



Harry Beatty

evening in the Southside Church. The response and attendance were both good. Director Kettelman's report revealed Missouri Churches have given \$5,035.56 during the last six months, a total of 42% toward our \$12,000 quota to the Bible College General fund. We trust new and additional support will be forth coming in the next six months.

Missouri went over our 1969 Annual Foreign Missions quota of \$40,000 with \$40,074 given.

THANK YOU LORD

Thank you Lord, for being mindful
Of all the earthly need,
For sending the rain and sunshine
Our mother earth to feed.

Thank you Lord, for being mindful
And keeping with your care
The loved ones that I've brought to you
With in a shield of prayer.

Thank you Lord, for being mindful
With depth of love untold
You saw my need and ransomed me
When Grace you did unfold.

Thank you Lord, for being mindful
In your strength I can stand
Safe in the power and mercy
You hold within your hand.

—Alice Bowen
Parkview Church
Desloge, Mo.