



FREE WILL BAPTIST
GEM

APRIL, 1970
VOLUME 39, NUMBER 4

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Gem

(Cover story page 10)



Personal from the Editor



PROPHETS HAVE predicted the end in the '70s. What a thought! Having just entered a decade in which the United States will celebrate its 200th birthday and with all she has brought to each of us in all our wealth and prosperity, but the thoughts of utopia in this world are over, friend! Already before us is the world money crisis which economical advisors say will fall in 1970-71. Chief advisors say 1972 is the year of insurrection at home and civil war. Communist take over is set for 1975 and the end of the world—1977!!!

In this issue I hope you will receive a warning, a plea, an advertisement for new ways of life. Anyone can see that weapons, pollutants and reproduction make it pretty clear that the old ways will kill us all. It is not the question of 1977 or 1980 being the end of the age; but unless we turn around some basic values, by 1980 mankind may be too far gone to rescue. We can't keep trying to correct evils an inch at a time. LOOK beloved, we're in a new era. It's time to IDENTIFY ourselves. You and I are p-e-o-p-l-e! God uses PEOPLE—ordinary laymen and housewives; teenagers; couples. In this decade things are going to happen. BIG things are about to take place. BIG MIRACLES, BIG HAPPENINGS. Laymen are going to do EXPLOITS. God is imparting BIG FAITH for the END TIME. He has YOU in His spotlight.

The Church today possesses resources and wealth unmatched in history. In fact, this is much of our problem. Because we are rich we want to employ others to do OUR JOB. Jesus had much to say about this in the second and third chapters of Revelation when he spoke of the churches in Asia.

While the fear of God is a costly business, it also provides the greatest reward, for it releases the believer from the fear of life and death. Jesus observed that the body can be killed, but not the soul. We need to take courage in this since we live in a time when more and more people are talking about power. Student Power, Flower Power, Woman Power, Black, Brown, Yellow and White Power—hardly anyone can talk about it clearly and candidly.

We too must present arms! Arms of God's testimony in us. The 1970's must see the Christian Church CONDUCTING mass crusades to reach multitudes for Christ. It will have to see us PIONEERING schools to teach the Jesus-life to thousands and millions of new believers. We can combat the efforts of others by PRINTING millions of tons of literature and presenting it across the country and into every dialect around the world. WORKERS' INSTITUTES will have to be high on the list of efforts in the 70's to reproduce our "breed" of soulwinner for an effective evangelism. Thus, we will have to INAUGURATE an outreach to evangelize hundreds of villages in America without one evangelical church and into thousands of areas world-wide without the gospel message. Not a one of these efforts will be fulfilled without the DEDICATION of ourselves to Christ. We must deliver ourselves over to God in a time when the religious prophet of today says the church will get poorer in this ten year period. People will give less, they suggest. It is true many denominations have cut their budgets by millions and show strong fallings in their giving but giving represents a dedication to God. The Christian who identifies himself to Christ is one who gives to His cause. It is an interesting note that the only time God suggests that we PROVE HIM is when he is speaking of money. "Prove me now, saith the Lord! . . . see if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:10).

So—we march into the '70s by faith. We must project our biggest goals. We must labor harder with the chores greater . . . but the gold and silver and cattle and lands are God's. He has entrusted them to His people and they will bring them for His work and PROVE GOD IN THIS END TIME.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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*"For he supposed his brethren
would have understood
how that God by his hand
would deliver them:
but they understood not."*

Acts 7:25

GOD

Our Deliverer

by Dale Skiles

The 7th chapter of Acts deals primarily with the martyrdom of Stephen, and of his stalwart defense of the gospel delivered unto the nation of Israel from the time of Abraham until its fulfillment in Christ. Stephen contended, and rightly so, that Jesus Christ was indeed the Son of God, and the long awaited Messiah, who would deliver the people from their sins.

Our text, verse 25, deals with Moses' defense of one of the Israelites who was being oppressed by an Egyptian, and of the oppressed man's attitude in being delivered. *"For he (Moses) supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not."*

We would like to examine this verse of Scripture, and perhaps find the spiritual implication and application contained therein.

First of all, I believe there could be two interpretations of this key verse:

1. It could have reference to the fact that although Moses was raised in the court of the Pharaoh as the adopted son of Pharaoh's daughter, that at heart he was still an Israelite, and his sympathy was toward his people in their affliction. Therefore, when he saw the Egyptian persecuting one of his own kindred, he intervened and delivered him from his oppressor.

2. It could also have reference to the fact that Moses realized at this early age that God had already chosen him to deliver His people from under the Egyptian bondage. And because of his miraculous escape from death at the water's edge, when he was rescued by Pharaoh's daughter; Moses supposed that the people of Israel would recognize that the hand of God had been placed upon him to be their deliverer. I believe this to be the correct interpretation of this verse. I also feel that this is important because we have been led to believe that Moses did not recognize this Divine Calling until his encounter with God and the burning bush some 40 years later.

Now, let us briefly take a look at the history of the Nation of Israel during their sojourn in Egypt. Up until the time of Moses, the children of Israel had been under Egyptian bondage for a period of about 400 years. During this time, there was no indication that God was hearing their pitiful cry for deliverance. No Prophet had been sent among them to reassure them of their place in the favor of God. No word directly or indirectly had been received from God that would even hint or indicate that God heard, or was even aware of their predicament.

Yet, when hope was nearly gone; when it seemed that the darkness of despair would engulf their souls, God spoke instructions to Moses from a burning bush. God's words to Moses were words of deliverance. Words that were to bring hope to the hopeless, comfort to the despairing, and freedom to the enslaved. In the midst of darkness, a light began to shine that would illuminate their pathway from Egyptian bondage unto a land flowing with "Milk and Honey". The land which many years prior to this, God had promised to Abraham their Father, and unto his seed.

No, God had not forgotten. He was very much aware of their plight, and concerned for their welfare. He was even more aware of their need. And so with gentle hand and loving heart, their God led them across the Red Sea, destroying their enemies in their sight, and went before them to point the way to the "Promised Land."

We could write of their temptations and their sin in the wilderness. We could tell of God's displeasure, and how His wrath came upon them. We could tell of their wanderings in the Wilderness for 40 years, until many of them died, never being permitted to view the "Land of Promise."

However, the picture we present to you is a beautiful picture of triumph. After all the failures, all the temptations, all the years of wandering, the faithful finally reached the brink of the Jordan River. Here they saw their last obstruction rolled away, as God rolled back the waters, and they passed into the "Land of Promise" on dry ground. The Ark of God was before them and shouts of praise resounded from their lips.

God does not forget His people. Even though sometimes it may seem that God is not aware of us, or that He just isn't concerned; just as surely as he sent Moses to deliver His people from Egyptian bondage, just as surely in the fulfillment of time, He will send our Lord Jesus Christ back again. Jesus, who by His coming into the world, and through his death on the cross, delivered us from the bondage of sin. This same Jesus shall come again with power and great glory; to roll away the last remaining obstacles, and usher we that have been faithful into the "Promised Land" in the presence of God and His holy angels for ever and ever. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus. Amen"



*Rev. Skiles
is pastor
of the First Church,
West Plains.*

IF YOUR PASTOR IS READY TO QUIT...

by C. S. Lovett

(He'll hide it from you)

PASTORS ARE DISCOURAGED

I hear from over 100 of them every day. Many pour out their feelings in their letters. Monotony has overtaken a host of churches. Interest is waning, offerings are down, social issues are receiving the priority, and many churches are becoming stale. "It's disheartening," said one dear preacher, "to minister to the same ones week after week and see no change. I'm stagnating myself by staying here." Good men are leaving the ministry in increasing numbers.

You can see how an idle congregation could discourage a man of God when there is so much to do for Christ. As healthy individuals must reach out to others, so must healthy churches reach the homes around them. A church must reach out to souls if it is to glow with the Spirit. Those that don't are sick. And sick churches produce sick pastors. If your pastor suffers this sickness, he won't let on. But you can judge your

church for yourself. Are new families coming in steadily? Is the membership aglow from sharing Christ with others? If not, you've got a sick church on your hands. Your pastor could be close to quitting. He won't tell you about it, but he might write of it to me. I'm far away.

HEALTHY CHURCHES

The healthiest churches visit continually. Published accounts show how churches ALWAYS EXPAND when the members go out in visitation teams. The greatest success stories, without exception, are of congregations EXPLODING through systematic visitation. New families joining a church fills

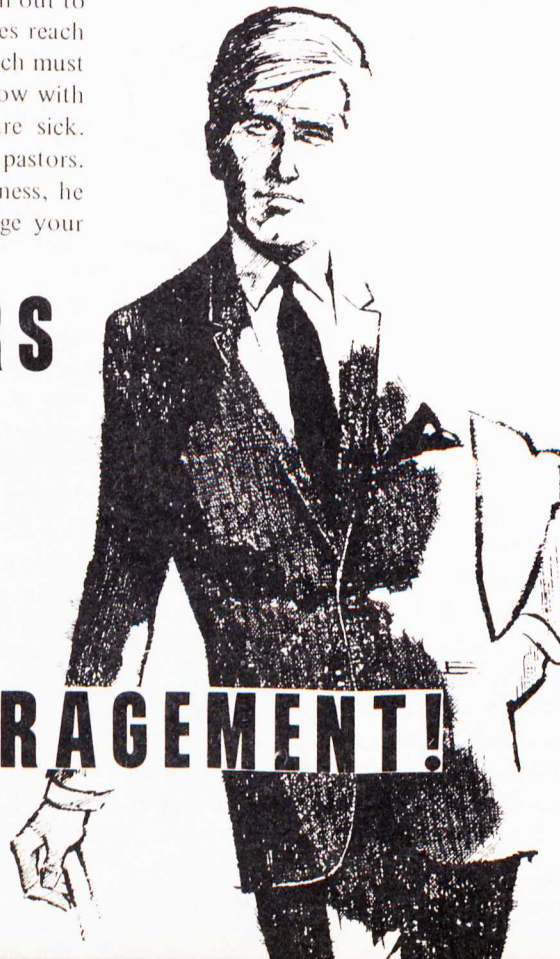
the air with excitement. Souls going forward each Sunday add sweet vitality. The atmosphere is one of joyous success in the Spirit. This in turn produces a joyous pastor. A happy pastor is a delight to his people. His soul soars into the heavenlies. He becomes a super-charged minister whose messages flow from the Spirit-fired furnace within him. This is the privilege of a church ignited by the thrills of visitation—expansion.

The quickest way to bring such an influx of people to your fellowship is to use TRAINED visitors for a systematic reaching of every house within a reasonable radius of your church. No sooner does such a program get under way, than a miraculous transformation occurs in the pastor and his people. But hear this: *only you can ignite your pastor!* How? By helping him ease the church into a systematic visitation program. If you don't, who will?

BUT VISITING IS SUCH A NIGHTMARE!

You're so right. You perhaps know the TERROR of standing on a strange porch to hear the sound of answering steps. The fear of the unknown and unexpected stir panic within you. Only the mightiest of Christians can take much of that. Why? No one can be a confident visitor until he has sampled the power of the Holy Spirit OUTSIDE his church. We need the power of God to serve the Lord in the world, where His Commission sends us. We don't need it in church. To be courageous visitors, we must move in the Spirit's power—IN THE WORLD. Not one in 10,000

**PASTORS
HIDE
THEIR
DISCOURAGEMENT!**



Christians has done this. That's why we have so few mighty visitors and so many stale churches.

Until a man acquires the MECHANICS for moving in the Spirit *outside of his church*, he is practically useless to Jesus in the world. Serving Christ in the world reduces all Christians to cringing cowards unless they know how to use the Spirit's might as their own. The man who stands on that strange porch must ALREADY be armed with experience and the know-how of working with the Spirit. He must have *witnessing muscle* before he attempts to be a visitor. Visiting homes is one of the hardest jobs in Christianity.

You may think devotional experiences equip one to work with the Spirit. Sorry, they have nothing to do with the lost.

CHRISTIANS MUST LEARN TO WITNESS FIRST

Why? Because witnessing is the ONLY way to acquire the Spirit's power in the world. Witnessing provides the needed actions and experiments for sampling His might. In the world believers learn *by experience* (not lessons) how to conquer their fears in His strength. Once they have that ability, visitation is an exciting adventure instead of a terror. After a Christian has learned to handle FEAR in the power of God, he's ready for some fun when he rings that doorbell. Intimacy with "*the Comforter*" makes all the difference in the world.

There's no short cut. Pastors have tried visitation programs with non-muscled Christians. They continue only as long as the pastor drives or shames his people into it. But it is a different story when pastors build witnessing muscle into their people first. And after that, to equip them with some sharp visitation techniques. Even the finest of visitation skills are useless until a man has learned to *move* in the power of the Spirit. Thus it takes two kinds of training to develop mighty visitors: (1) witnessing training (to develop spiritual muscle) and (2) visitation training (techniques for conducting a successful visit). Pastors

who give their people BOTH SKILLS can have exploding churches in no time at all.

BUT IT MUST BE SYSTEMATIC WITNESSING

Simply sending people out to witness is not what I mean at all. Witnessing is a new way of life for most Christians. 98% of all Christians have no strength for Jesus outside of the church. So they must begin at the bottom of this new life and work their way up one step at a time. They must begin at the bottom of this new time. They must begin with non-threatening steps so simple they can chat with the Spirit even as they do them. That's how they get acquainted with Him *in the world*. They feel his added muscle as they reach for the next higher step. In time they arrive at the 10th step or top of the witnessing ladder with great power in the Spirit. Once they have that, they are ready to acquire the skill and techniques of successful visitation.

CARE ABOUT YOUR PASTOR?

What would you give to see him ignited? Would it be worth a wee investment of your time to see him completely aglow in the Spirit? Your work in your church will not only inflame the pastor, but rejuvenate the entire fellowship.

The Holy Spirit has a surprise for you. If your church will get acquainted with Him IN THE WORLD, a spiritual prairie fire will sweep across the congregation. Then your pastor will forget all about quitting. What minister would think of leaving a church that knows how to . . .

GO AND GLOW!

Dr. Lovett is president of Personal Christianity and is known nationally as an author of many books in the field of personal evangelism. I am grateful for his permission to print this article for GEM readers.



MISSOURI—FOREIGN MISSIONS GIVING MONTH OF FEBRUARY

| | |
|--|------------|
| Aulsbury Chapel Church, Bonne Terre | 45.00 |
| Mr. Billy S. Miller, St. Louis | 5.00 |
| Fellowship F.W.B. Church, Flat River | 260.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Philip Fry, Mtn. Grove | 8.00 |
| Hazel Creek F.W.B. Church, Kirksville | 20.00 |
| Alton F.W.B. Womans Aux., Alton | 10.00 |
| Southside F.W.B. Church, Lemay | 110.00 |
| Mrs. Laurine Maxwell, Cabool | 2.00 |
| Copper Mines Teen Class, Fredericktown | 6.50 |
| Hannon F.W.B. Church, Liberal | 24.10 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Eli Stephens, St. Louis | 28.00 |
| Pleasant Ridge F.W.B. Church, Urbana | 10.00 |
| First F.W.B. Church, Mtn. Grove | 125.00 |
| Free Will Baptist Church, Salem | 10.00 |
| Wolf Creek Church, Mansfield | 18.23 |
| Myrtle F.W.B. Church, Myrtle | 46.78 |
| Beacon F.W.B. Church, Raytown | 15.00 |
| Warrenburg F.W.B. Church, Warrensburg | 71.13 |
| First F.W.B. Church, Berkeley | 157.72 |
| Mr. & Mrs. John P. Smith, Farmington | 4.00 |
| First F.W.B. Church, Fredericktown | 40.00 |
| Alton F.W.B. Church, Alton | 30.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. W. Porter Clark, Belton | 5.00 |
| Young Married, First Church, Fredericktown | 5.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Cummins, Houston | 10.00 |
| New Harmony Sunday School, Greentop | 36.28 |
| Otho McCormack, Springfield | 2.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Bill Spears, West Plains | 25.00 |
| Pleasant Home F.W.B. Church, Mtn. Grove | 60.00 |
| New Home Church, Hartsville | 56.00 |
| Anonymous | 5.00 |
| Columbia F.W.B. Church, Columbia | 136.82 |
| Columbia F.W.B. Church, Columbia | 47.50 |
| First F.W.B. Church, Springfield | 96.36 |
| Verdella F.W.B. Church, Liberal | 10.00 |
| St. Louis Quarterly Meeting, Brentwood | 50.00 |
| Oak Grove F.W.B. Church, Norwood | 147.25 |
| James W. McAllister, Marshall | 5.00 |
| Belton F.W.B. Church, Belton | 50.00 |
| Victory F.W.B. Church, Kansas City | 50.53 |
| Anonymous | 14.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Eli Stephens, St. Louis | 28.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Milford House, Gower | 5.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Harold Kelsey, Greentop | 20.00 |
| First F.W.B. Church, Monett | 25.00 |
| Hickory Grove, Harrisonville | 19.22 |
| Rev. T. O. Hutchison, Neosho | 1.00 |
| Leadington F.W.B. Church, Leadington | 20.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Eli Stephens, St. Louis | 28.00 |
| Archie Cooper, Kirksville | 10.00 |
| Parkview F.W.B. Church, Desloge | 107.00 |
| Mr. W. L. Evans, Springfield | 10.00 |
| Rev. & Mrs. Lester Jones, Sedalia | 5.00 |
| Mrs. Coy Rader, Marshfield | 10.00 |
| First F.W.B. Church, DeSoto | 31.50 |
| Thayer F.W.B. Church, Thayer | 48.09 |
| Mrs. Billie Reed, Berkeley | 27.00 |
| Masters Men, Thayer F.W.B. Church, Thayer | 5.00 |
| Ruby Griffin Class, Farmington | 2.00 |
| Area Conference, Kirksville | 593.29 |
| Union Grove F.W.B. Church, Norwood | 155.00 |
| L.D. Aldridge, Grandview | 11.00 |
| Fellowship F.W.B. Church, Flat River | 260.00 |
| Mary Martha Class, Leadington Church | 10.00 |
| Billy J. Miller, St. Louis | 5.00 |
| Val W. Arnold, Florissant | 25.00 |
| Cuba Womans Aux., Cuba | 8.00 |
| Garfield Church, Couch | 20.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Cleo Clay, Unionville | 5.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Dale Crossgrove, Novinger | 5.00 |
| Low Ground Church, Novinger | 5.00 |
| Mr. Ed. Freeland, Fredericktown | 20.00 |
| Houston F.W.B. Church, Houston | 10.00 |
| Cooperative Plan | 303.81 |
| | \$3,695.11 |

letters to the editor

"I appreciate the way you are face-lifting the magazine. I believe you have made it much more attractive to your readers. Thank you for the excellent coverage of news concerning the Bible College."

Paul J. Kettelman,
Director of Public Relations
Nashville, Tennessee

"We like the "new" Gem, you seem to be doing a nice job."

Mrs. Larry Wallace, Alton

"I can hardly wait for the GEM now, as there is so much more good news of those we know and love. I also appreciate the wonderful messages in each one."

Alpha Jane Wilson, Falcon

"I think you are to be commended for the splendid work you are doing with the GEM. May God continue to bless you in this worthy ministry."

Rev. Max Courtney, Salem

"The GEM is the very best I have ever seen it."

Dale Jones, Kansas City

"Keep up the good work on the GEM. There is a 100% improvement. Praise God!"

Lawrence Thompson, Kansas City

"First, I want to commend you for the fine job you are doing with the GEM. Second, I want to commend you for the effort that you are putting forth to secure more Missouri church news..."

Willard L. Hovis, Normandy

Editor's Note: I appreciate the fine commendations, but I must relate to GEM readers that far more credit is due Mr. Jim Lauthern and his fine staff at the C.T.S. Printing Department, who print the GEM and who correct so many of my mistakes before it reaches the presses.

CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS



REV. HERBERT BOGGS ASSUMES MYRTLE PASTORATE

The Rev. Herbert Boggs has assumed the pastorate of the Myrtle Church. Brother Boggs pastored the New Home Church of the Laclede County Association prior to his call to Myrtle.

SALEM CHURCH REPORTS PROGRESS

"God continues to answer prayer. We are encouraged by three things. A good spiritual feeling in the services, a gradual rise in attendance, and a sincere interest on the part of the membership," writes pastor Max Courtney. He states that the attendance of their church has been increasing since moving into their new building.



PLATTE COUNTY MISSION ORGANIZES

The Platte County Mission, which started March 16, 1969 with 54 in

attendance, was organized into a church, November 29, 1969, with fourteen charter members.

The Rev. Woodrow Matthews, Moderator of the Missouri State Association, presented the message and many pastors of the local association were present to share in the organizational meeting.

The Rev. Ralph Cook has been elected as the pastor of the newly organized church which presently averages 25.

The church, who voted to name themselves the Royal Oak Free Will Baptist Church, has a full program of officers and has already received additional members into their fellowship.

This church is located just north of the Kansas City area at Parkville.

OKLAHOMA BIBLE COLLEGE EXTENDS APPRECIATION

The Reverend Lynn Wood, Director of Promotions, extends the appreciation of the Oklahoma Bible College to the many in Missouri that have shared in promoting and sharing in the needs of OBC. He also states, "we appreciate those from Missouri that have chosen to attend a Christian College and we feel God shall wonderfully use them perhaps in your state in the near future."

If you would like to know more about the Oklahoma Bible College, write, Lynn Wood, Director of Promotions, P.O. Box 343, Moore, Oklahoma 73060, requesting information pamphlets, materials, brochures and catalog for any of your youth who are interested in attending the college.



Some of the youth attending Grant Ave. Banquet.

GRANT AVENUE HAS C.T.S. BANQUET

Forty-two youths and sponsors were present at the "89er" restaurant in Springfield, February 28, for their banquet sponsored by the C.T.S. department of the church.

The General Director, John O. Atkins, and the officers and sponsors welcomed the youth and presented them a program featuring the Messenger's Quartet of Purdy and an after-dinner message by the Rev. Alton Loveless, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Joplin.

Future plans were announced to invite youth in the southwest Missouri area for a regional banquet next year.

The Rev. Bill Adkisson is pastor of this fine church.



Seated, left to right, Mrs. Betty Hampton, Mrs. Sandra Pointer, Mrs. Peggy Adkisson, Mrs. Sue Atkins, Mr. Raymond Hampton, Mrs. Aliene McCormick, Mr. John Atkins, Mrs. Richard Pointer, Mr. Otho McCormick, Rev. Bill Adkisson.

INDEPENDENCE MISSION

Home Missionary, Earl Langley, of Independence, reports a time of spiritual refreshing during an itinerary with

the churches in the Madison County Quarterly Meeting. The trip also included a service at the Grace Church in Arnold. The pastors and those in attendance at the services showed a genuine interest in the work that the Home Mission Board of the State Association is doing. Rev. Langley, who has been at Independence Mission since November 23 of last year believes that the presence of God's great power and grace in these services is further testimony that Home Mission work is high on God's agenda. Gifts received during the itinerary amounted to \$201.21, and \$33.00 monthly support was promised. The monthly promises were made on the basis of one dollar per month per person. Should there be other individuals in the State who would like to share in this way they are encouraged to send their gifts to the following address: Rev. Lawrence Thompson, Treasurer, Missouri State Home Mission Board, 3416 Bellefontaine, Kansas City, Mo., 64117.

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE RECEIVES MISSOURI ASSISTANCE

Since June, 1969, Missouri churches have given extremely well to the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. As of March 1, Missouri is only 10% behind her quota. Let's go far over the suggested quota of \$12,000.00 this year by taking a special offering or by sharing a gift to our denominational Bible school. Our fiscal year ends May 31, so send in your contribution as soon as possible.

O'FALLON HAS WEEKEND REVIVAL

"We have just finished a weekend revival with the "Singing Wallace's." We had some good services and had one rededication," reports the Rev. Dale Underwood, pastor of the church.

Pastor Underwood requests prayer for their mission and for many new young families that have begun attending their church who are not Christians. He states, "Help us pray that I will be able to win them or that God will supply the right evangelist."

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS FEBRUARY

| | |
|---|----------|
| Mrs. Dora Fry, Mtn. Grove | 2.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Walden Robinson, Farmington | 15.00 |
| FWB Ladies Auxiliary, Frederickton | 20.00 |
| Fellowship FWB Church, Flat River | 20.00 |
| Missouri State Home Mission Board | 325.00 |
| Alton FWB Womans Aux., Alton | 22.50 |
| South Side FWB Church, St. Louis | 48.00 |
| Myrtle FWB Church, Myrtle | 5.00 |
| Free Will Baptist Church, Salem | 10.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Henry A. Jacobs, Fredericktown | 5.00 |
| First FWB Church, Fredericktown | 20.00 |
| First FWB Church St. Dept., Fredericktown | 5.00 |
| First FWB Church, Monett | 70.00 |
| New Home FWB Church, Hartville | 30.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Vencie Long | 5.00 |
| Cooperative | 185.13 |
| Jones Chapel FWB Church, Stark City | 5.00 |
| First FWB Church, Mtn. Grove | 7.00 |
| Victory FWB Church, Kansas City | 35.53 |
| Leadington FWB Church, Leadington | 25.00 |
| Rev. & Mrs. William Evans, Farmington | 6.00 |
| Mr. & Mrs. W.A. Denton, Farmington | 10.00 |
| Beacon FWB Home Builders Class, Raytown | 10.00 |
| Mrs. Lucy Postlewaite, Mtn. Grove | 5.00 |
| Mr. Leslie L. Hansen, St. Louis | 7.25 |
| Grant Ave. FWB Church, Springfield | 48.56 |
| WNAC | 10.00 |
| | \$956.97 |



Missouri State Home Mission Giving
2-5-70 to 3-5-70

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Trinity Church | 17.67 |
| First Church, Mtn. Grove | 35.65 |
| Mission Quarterly Meeting | 18.38 |
| First Church, Houston | 9.00 |
| Union Church | 9.13 |
| Rock Chapel Church | 19.75 |
| Joplin Church | 10.00 |
| Myrtle Church | 7.50 |
| First Church, DeSoto | 15.00 |
| Farmington Church | 57.00 |
| Olivet Church | 25.00 |
| Verdella Church | 5.00 |
| Cuba Church | 14.00 |
| First Church, Flat River | 20.50 |
| Niangua Church | 8.02 |
| Amity Church | 13.72 |
| Black Oak Church | 21.40 |
| Conway Church | 7.00 |
| Monett Church | 25.00 |
| Victory Church | 87.07 |
| Arnold Church | 18.42 |
| Mill Creek Church | 14.00 |
| Mine La Motte Church | 33.75 |
| Union Light Church | 39.55 |
| Copper Mines Church | 48.26 |
| Fredericktown Church | 31.00 |
| Twin Oaks Church | 16.25 |
| Byrd Church | 7.00 |
| O'Fallon Church | 5.00 |
| Fellowship Church | 42.00 |
| Parkview Church | 15.00 |
| First Church, Lebanon | 41.52 |
| Leadington Church | 7.00 |
| First Church, Waynesville | 8.50 |
| Union Church | 8.00 |
| Co-operative Receipts | 676.20 |
| | \$1,437.24 |

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

GEM BULLETIN BOARD

**MINISTER'S RETREAT
YOUTH CAMP
APRIL 20, 21**

**LACLEDE COUNTY
FELLOWSHIP MEETING
FIRST CHURCH
WAYNESVILLE
MAY 11**

**TEEN CAMP
NIANGUA
JUNE 14-19**

**PRE-TEEN CAMP
NIANGUA
JUNE 22-26**

**WOMAN'S AUXILIARY
RETREAT
NIANGUA CAMP GROUNDS
AUGUST 3, 4**

**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.**

newsfront

WAYNESVILLE CHURCH TO BUILD NEW CHURCH

Plans are under way to sell bonds to the amount of \$31,000.00 to build a new building in Waynesville. If plans continue the church will be completed by fall. Pastor Vergel Maness writes, "The services have a new spirit of expectance and with new visitors each week."

The bonds will pay 7 and 8 per cent for a 10½ year program. Seven per cent will be paid on 30% of the bonds to be sold which will mature the first three years and 8% on the 70% of issue to mature in the last 7½ years. These are all first mortgage bonds with full backing. If you wish information write, First Free Will Baptist, P. O. Box 201, Waynesville, Missouri 65583.

LACLEDE COUNTY FELLOWSHIP MEETING

The Laclede County Fellowship Meeting was held at the Happy Hill Church, March 9th, with all but one pastor present. The host pastor, the Rev. Joe Fulkerson, began the services and after special music presented each minister who gave a brief sermon.

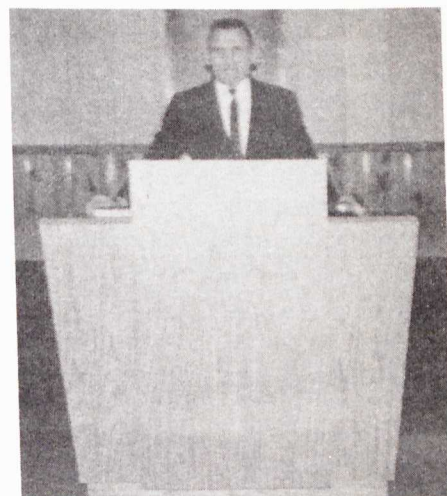
The Fellowship meets the second Tuesday of each month.

OBC YEARBOOK WINS WINS FIRST PLACE

The Oklahoma Bible College yearbook, "The Harvester," has received a first place rating in the 35th annual yearbook contest sponsored by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association of Columbia University, New York City.

The first place honor was awarded the 1969 yearbook in its junior college division. Each entry is compared with the others in its own particular classification and is rated according to its relative standing with reference to other entries in its class.

Registrar Eugene Workman, formally of Springfield, Missouri, who served as advisor to the 1969 staff, noted that this is the first OBC yearbook to receive the first place rating.



TWIN OAKS FREDERICKTOWN

The Twin Oaks Church had built a pulpit in loving memory of Sister Lurana Tinnin who recently passed away at age 91. "A good portion of the cost was given by her grandchildren," according to Rev. Earl Ames, pastor.

Pastor Ames related, "Although Sister Tinnin was not able to attend church much in recent years, she was always an inspiration to our church. She always assured us she was praying for the church."

The pulpit was built by Brother John Huffman a member of the Fredericktown Free Will Baptist Church.

OAK HILL FREDERICKTOWN

The Oak Hill Church reports a gain in attendance since last reporting and a good participation of youth in their church services. The church was host to the Madison County Singing Convention

recently where many of the youth from the church were able to share in the convention according to Madeline McFarland who writes.

LYNN STREET LEBANON

The Lyrn Street Youth Group has purchased a bus for the church. Rev. Howard Anderson, a young licensed minister, is leading the young people in the project.

TRACT AVAILABLE

ETERNAL SECURITY-FACT OR THEORY? by Rev. Max Courtney has been printed by the First Free Will Baptist Church of Salem. Up to five copies are available free of charge by writing, Rev. Max Courtney, Rt. 1, Licking, Missouri. If 5 or more tracts are ordered a slight charge will be made to cover printing and mailing costs.

VICTORY CHURCH IN REAL REVIVAL

The Victory Church of North Kansas City has had 51 altar decisions to date in 1970. They have added 20 new members to the church membership during the same period.



DE SOTO

Pictured is the results of "Twin Sunday" at the De Soto Church held

the last Sunday of a revival with Rev. Lawrence Thompson of Kansas City. Pastor Charles Miller reports 16 saved or rededicated in the week of services.

The church set a new Sunday school and morning worship record with 104 in Sunday school and 116 in the morning worship. Brother Miller is blessed with an outstanding group of young people who share in the teen choir on Sunday evenings and have spoken in the Wednesday prayer services.

The young church now has a membership of 75.

MONETT CONCLUDES FINE REVIVAL

The First Church of Monett had 12 first time conversions, 3 rededications in their recent revival with Evangelist Jame McAllister of Marshall. Rev. O.T. Allred, the pastor, recommends Rev. McAllister highly.



JOPLIN MASTER'S MEN HEAR MOSLEM SPEAK

The Master's Men of the First Church, Joplin, heard Fannun Kannan, an outstanding businessman of Joplin, speak concerning the Jewish and Moslem struggle in the Middle-East in their March meeting.

Mr. Kannan, a Moslem, who was born in Lebanon, but who has been a citizen of the United States for 12 years, recently represented the United States government to the United Nations meeting in Europe in October, 1969 regarding the Middle-east crisis.

OOPS, EDITOR MAKES MISTAKE

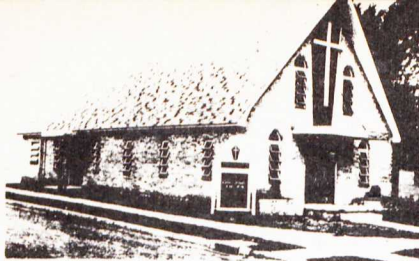
In my effort to condense the material sent to me by Pastor Wayne Waggoner of the Southside Church, St. Louis, for the cover story of "LOOK AT OUR CHURCHES" (see March GEM cover page), I made a mistake that I am sure many Free Will Baptists will immediately recognize as in error. I stated the church was organized by the Rev. T.C. Ferguson. The article should have given record, "that the Rev. Harvey E. Hill organized the Southside Mission with the St. Francis County Quarterly meeting in 1945." Rev. Hill pastored the church until his resignation in 1953.

Rev. T.C. Ferguson was an early Free Will Baptist evangelist in the St. Louis area and did serve as evangelist for the Rev. W.C. Hill, the father of Rev. Harvey Hill, shortly before the elder Rev. Hill organized the very first Free Will Baptist work in St. Louis, and not the Southside church.

I appreciate the letters that advised me of my error and trust you will always keep me aware of any mistakes.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTER FEBRUARY AVERAGES

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Berkeley (St. Louis) | 342 |
| Trinity (St. Louis) | 150 |
| West Plains | 129 |
| Farmington | 118 |
| Lebanon (First) | 115 |
| Victory | 113 |
| Koshkonong | 86 |
| Joplin | 83 |
| Parkview (Desloge) | 75 |
| De Soto | 73 |
| Willow Springs | 69 |
| Meramec Heights | 60 |
| Hannon | 58 |
| O'Fallon | 50 |
| Saint Joseph | 33 |
| Hickory Grove | 32 |
| Twin City | 25 |
| Mine La Motte | 24 |



A LOOK AT OUR CHURCHES

FIRST CHURCH JOPLIN

In October of 1951, the Rev. Paul Williams and family moved to Joplin to lay the foundation work for a Free Will Baptist Church. There had been several attempts prior to this to place a church here, but these efforts had failed. In November, 1952, a prayer meeting was held with thirteen persons present. These prayer meetings continued until January, 1953, when a building was rented for services. This building was sold and the congregation again had to meet in the homes of its families until August when another building was rented until the purchase of property was made at 18th and Virginia where the congregation began the construction of their first church edifice valued at \$30,000.00 in April, 1956 with ground-breaking after an Easter service. The building was completed and the first service held on Easter Sunday in April, 1957.

The church lost its founder and beloved pastor the Reverend Paul Williams who passed away in January, 1963. The Reverend Ted Davis assumed duties as the pastor of the church in May 1963. Under the leadership of Reverend Davis the church was to again launch a building program. The church purchased a three acre site and broke ground March 29, 1964. The L-shaped structure of brick and masonry contains approximately 7,840 square feet of floor space which house the church auditorium (cover) and educational building. The educational wing contains 24 class rooms, a portion of the foyer, church office, library and pastor's study. A parsonage was constructed on the church site and completed in August 1964.

The church was completed and the first service was held Easter Sunday in April 1965. Dedication services were held June 6, 1965 and were conducted by the Reverend Billy Melvin, Executive Secretary of the National Association.

The Reverend Ted Davis resigned July 1, 1966 to enter the Home Mission field. The Reverend Alton E. Loveless of Monticello, Arkansas assumed the pastorate in August 1966 and is currently serving as pastor.

The church has grown to a present membership of 169 with a Sunday enrollment of 140.

MISSOURI FREE WILL BAPTIST YOUTH CAMP FINANCIAL REPORT

January and February 1970

Accounts Receivable

| Name | General Fund | Expansion Fund | Total |
|------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|
| Alton | \$ 17.00 | | 17.00 |
| Amity | 13.73 | | 13.73 |
| Black Oak | 21.40 | | 21.40 |
| Berkeley | 36.88 | | 36.88 |
| Buffalo | | 11.00 | 11.00 |
| Byrd | 22.25 | 7.00 | 29.25 |
| Carterville | 10.75 | | 10.75 |
| Conway | 7.00 | | 7.00 |
| Faith | 13.40 | | 13.40 |
| Fourth—St. Louis | 19.58 | | 19.58 |
| Grant Avenue | 50.00 | 78.56 | 128.56 |
| Hannon | 19.00 | 25.00 | 44.00 |
| Hazel Creek | 14.24 | 5.00 | 19.24 |
| Houston | 9.00 | | 9.00 |
| Joplin | 17.30 | | 17.30 |
| Lebanon | | 61.52 | 61.52 |
| Martin's Town | 16.00 | | 16.00 |
| Mission Qtly. Meeting | 18.37 | | 18.37 |
| Missouri Co-op Program | 381.56 | | 381.56 |
| Monett | 60.00 | | 60.00 |
| Mountain Grove | 35.65 | 20.00 | 55.65 |
| Myrtle | 20.80 | 7.50 | 28.30 |
| New Harmony | 14.23 | | 14.23 |
| New Rock Springs | | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| Niangua | 8.01 | | 8.01 |
| Olivet | | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| Pleasant Grove | 10.00 | | 10.00 |
| Refund on Phone Calls | 30.00 | | 30.00 |
| Rock Chapel | 19.75 | 10.00 | 29.75 |
| St. Louis Qtly. Conf. | 25.00 | | 25.00 |
| Smyrna | 8.15 | | 8.15 |
| Thayer | | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| Trinity—Cabool | | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Trinity—St. Louis | 17.67 | | 17.67 |
| Union | 9.12 | | 9.12 |
| Verdella | 26.50 | 5.00 | 31.50 |
| Waynesville | 15.09 | | 15.09 |
| West Plains | 17.50 | | 17.50 |
| TOTAL | \$1,004.93 | \$285.58 | \$1,290.51 |

Accounts Payable

| Name | General Fund | Expansion Fund | Total |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|
| Citizen's State Bank | | \$285.58 | 285.58 |
| L. L. Day Lbr. Co. | 547.50 | | 547.50 |
| Hamilton & Sons | 192.00 | | 192.00 |
| Rev. James McAllister | 533.80 | | 533.80 |
| Missouri St. Tel. Co. | 23.83 | | 23.83 |
| Rev. Wm. Reeves | 180.00 | | 180.00 |
| Travel Expense | | | |
| (Board Members) | 32.20 | | 32.20 |
| Webster Elec. Co. | 24.04 | | 24.04 |
| TOTAL | \$1,533.37 | \$285.58 | \$1,818.95 |

Balance Sheet

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------|--------|------------|
| Bal. Brought Fwd. | \$ 891.49 | | \$ 891.49 |
| Accts. Rec. | 1,004.93 | 285.58 | 1,290.51 |
| Total | \$1,896.42 | 285.58 | \$2,182.00 |
| Less Accts. Payable | 1,533.37 | 285.58 | 1,818.95 |
| Balance on Hand | | | |
| March 1, 1970 | \$363.05 | | \$363.05 |



CO-LABORERS WRITE

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

NOTICE

WOMEN'S RETREAT

The annual Women's Retreat is planned, the first Monday and Tuesday in August, 1970 at the Youth Camp Grounds near Niangua, Mo. Please pray for your committees as they plan and prepare for this precious time.

A detailed program will be published in the GEM. Watch for it!

NEWS

AROUND
THE STATE

MOUNTAIN GROVE

The Woman's Auxiliary met Thursday and Friday Nights, February 19 and 20 for a study course from the book "In a Barley Field," taught by the Rev. Bud Hill.

The Book, a story from the Book of Ruth, highlighted the story of the romance between Boaz and Ruth and their ancestry to Christ.

Rev. Hill used the following five words in presenting the story: 1. Redemption, 2. Kinsman, 3. Love, 4. Kinsman Redeemer, and 5. Grace.

The Thursday evening program also featured a pantomime of the Book of Ruth given by ten members of the Mountain Grove Auxiliary. On Friday evening the special feature, refreshments were served by the Willow Springs Auxiliary as Ruth and Naomi would have served. The refreshments consisted of homemade wholewheat bread, blackberry jelly and grape juice.

About 35 women enjoyed the two night study course attending from Willow Springs, Cabool and Mountain Grove Auxiliaries.

LYNN STREET (LEBANON)

The Lynn Street Auxiliary held a "Make It and Take It Sale," where most of the church attended a sale of donated items auctioned off by Pastor Bill Eden. The sale totaled \$55.95 which was given to the church treasury to buy gifts for the sick and shut-in.

INDIAN CREEK DISTRICT AUXILIARY MEETS

The Indian Creek District Woman's Auxiliary met in their bi-annual meeting March 10th at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Neosho. The church was decorated by "Praying Hands" and the theme "Prayer" was presented throughout their program. The Rev. Cecil Campbell presented the 11:00 o'clock message and a film, "Quang Dyak" concluded the afternoon session. Mrs. Delois Loveless is president of the district convention.

JOPLIN

The Joplin Auxiliary reports gifts of \$50.00 to the Carlisle Hanna account, \$30.00 toward a Master's Men project, and gifts to the provision closet since last reporting. They also share monthly toward the Dr. Laverne Miley account in the Ivory Coast.

GRANT AVENUE

The Grant Avenue Auxiliary sent a fifty-piece set of stainless steel silverware, two sheets, two dish cloths, and a tupperware set of salt and pepper shakers to the missionary provision closet in January. Also, they sent thirty-five pairs of socks to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee.

The Auxiliary has a prayer-partner

system where at each meeting each lady draws a name and prays for the person every day for the next month. They report many prayers answered through this program.

BEACON

The Beacon Auxiliary sponsored a Sweetheart Dinner on Valentine's Day to help promote the auxiliary work in the church. Center pieces listed missionary couples and their locations. Each couple was encouraged to take home a center piece and pray for these missionaries. The auxiliary gave \$50.00 toward the purchase of new Hymn books for the church.

FESTUS

The auxiliary of the First Church in Festus in their March meeting agreed that their offerings be sent to the Wesley Calverys in Japan.

Their project in the pre-Easter period is to make Easter prayer cards for the local hospital and nursing home food trays.

Dear Auxiliary Members:

It is our earnest hope that the Woman's page in the GEM be used to its greatest good for the greatest number of people. Since our space is so limited we have resorted to using only an edited portion of your news. This method enables us to serve more auxiliaries. We sincerely hope you understand and continue to send in your news.

Mrs. Eunice Edwards

COMP - GEM
MRS EUNICE EDWARDS
101 N 6TH ST
DESLOGE MO 63601

PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY'S CORNER



Promotional Secretary with Farmington pastor, the Rev. William Evans, in a recent meeting.

ON SUNDAY, February the eighth, I enjoyed two good services with the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church of St. Louis. I delivered the message in both services for Pastor Johnny Land while he made a missionary trip to Old Mexico. The Fourth Church continues to move forward for the Lord.

Sunday evening, February 15th, I visited the Berkeley Church where the youth had full charge of the service. They sang several special songs and a young minister, Terry Coleman, delivered the message.

The Kansas City Quarterly Meeting assembled Friday evening, February 20th, with the Central Free Will Baptist Church. Seven churches were represented and two new congregations which were received by petitionary letters, the newly organized Royal Oak Free Will Baptist Church in Parkville and the Warrensburg Free Will Baptist Mission in Warrensburg. Pastor Dale Jones delivered the evening message. After their business session I was permitted to present our promotional program. Commendations go to this quarterly meeting. The two new congregations have adopted and paid their first co-operative contributions this month which makes their association a one-hundred percent participating one.

Sunday morning, February 22nd, we worshiped with Pastor Ken Golf and our Warrensburg Mission. I delivered the morning sermon there. They are meeting in the Carpenter's Hall Building located on business route Highway no. 50. They have a good potential in this

college town and already have six families in their mission.

I CHALLENGE churches throughout Missouri who have duly organized and developed church memberships, and church properties free of debt to think of what your church could do for the co-operative program and helping new congregations such as this one and others in the state needing your help.

Sunday evening we shared in the Gray Summit's Mission evangelistic service. Two adult men responded to the altar invitation.

February being a short month the co-operative gifts were only fair. However, we are still on schedule toward our \$50,000 goal for this year.

Thursday, February 26th, I sat as an honorary pallbearer, along with eighteen other ordained ministers, in the funeral service of Rev. Joe Sisk at the Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church. There were large number of brethren and neighbors present. In the early part of my ministry I helped win Brother Sisk to the Lord. I wish to extend my sincere Christian sympathy to his fine family that remain.

IN MEMORIAM

REV. CLARENCE A. DODSON

The Rev. Clarence A. Dodson, passed away February 19, 1970 at the age of 69 years at his home in Alton, Missouri. He was preceded in death by his wife Berlie, January 30, 1970.

REV. JOE SISK

The Rev. Joe Sisk who passed away February 24th, 1970 was held in memory with a service at the Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church, Myrtle, Missouri on February 26th.

DEACON LUKE BOZE AND DEACON RAYMOND WILLIAMS

The Rev. Davie Combs reports the passing of Brothers Luke Boze and Raymond Williams who were both deacons of churches in the Cave Springs Association.

February 1970 Cooperative Receipts:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Mine La Motte |\$ 7.59 |
| Jackson |9.50 |
| Mt. Grove |202.52 |
| Grace |183.72 |
| Salem |20.00 |
| Warrensburg FWB Mission | |
| (Adopted:) |35.70 |
| Pleasant Ridge |7.60 |
| Granby |11.27 |
| St. Joseph |20.50 |
| Carterville |24.25 |
| Black Oak |30.00 |
| Hannon |48.20 |
| West Plains |58.00 |
| Belton |63.00 |
| Meramec Heights |100.00 |
| Fourth |151.02 |
| South Side |158.00 |
| Berkeley |335.46 |
| Cabool |78.86 |
| Cedar Ridge |55.62 |
| Monett |90.62 |
| Garfield |11.84 |
| Royal FWB Church | |
| Parkville, (Adopted) |56.05 |
| Desoto |61.00 |
| Thayer |46.32 |
| Cope |10.87 |
| Olivett |101.80 |
| Verdella |35.04 |
| Farmington |163.76 |
| Hickory Grove |21.04 |
| Lebanon First |200.00 |
| Waynesville |82.77 |
| Victory |165.27 |
| Copper Mines |45.00 |
| Columbia |76.27 |
| Grant Ave. |227.92 |
| Parkview |90.26 |
| Fellowship |50.00 |
| Beacon |138.08 |
| South Side |168.00 |
| First FWB, West Plains |61.00 |
| Willow Springs |46.40 |
| Mine La Motte |13.19 |
| Waynesville |84.33 |
| New Harmony S. S. |7.69 |

Total Receipts:\$3,756.72

Disbursed:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1% Mo. Superannuation |\$37.57 |
| 1.50% Mo. CTS & SS |56.35 |
| 4.00% Mo. Youth Camp |150.27 |
| 18.00% Mo. Missions |676.20 |
| 4.00% Gem |150.27 |
| 7.75% General Fund |291.15 |
| 16.00% Mo. Promotional |601.08 |
| 47.75% National FWB Assn. | 1793.83 |

100% Total amount\$3,756.72