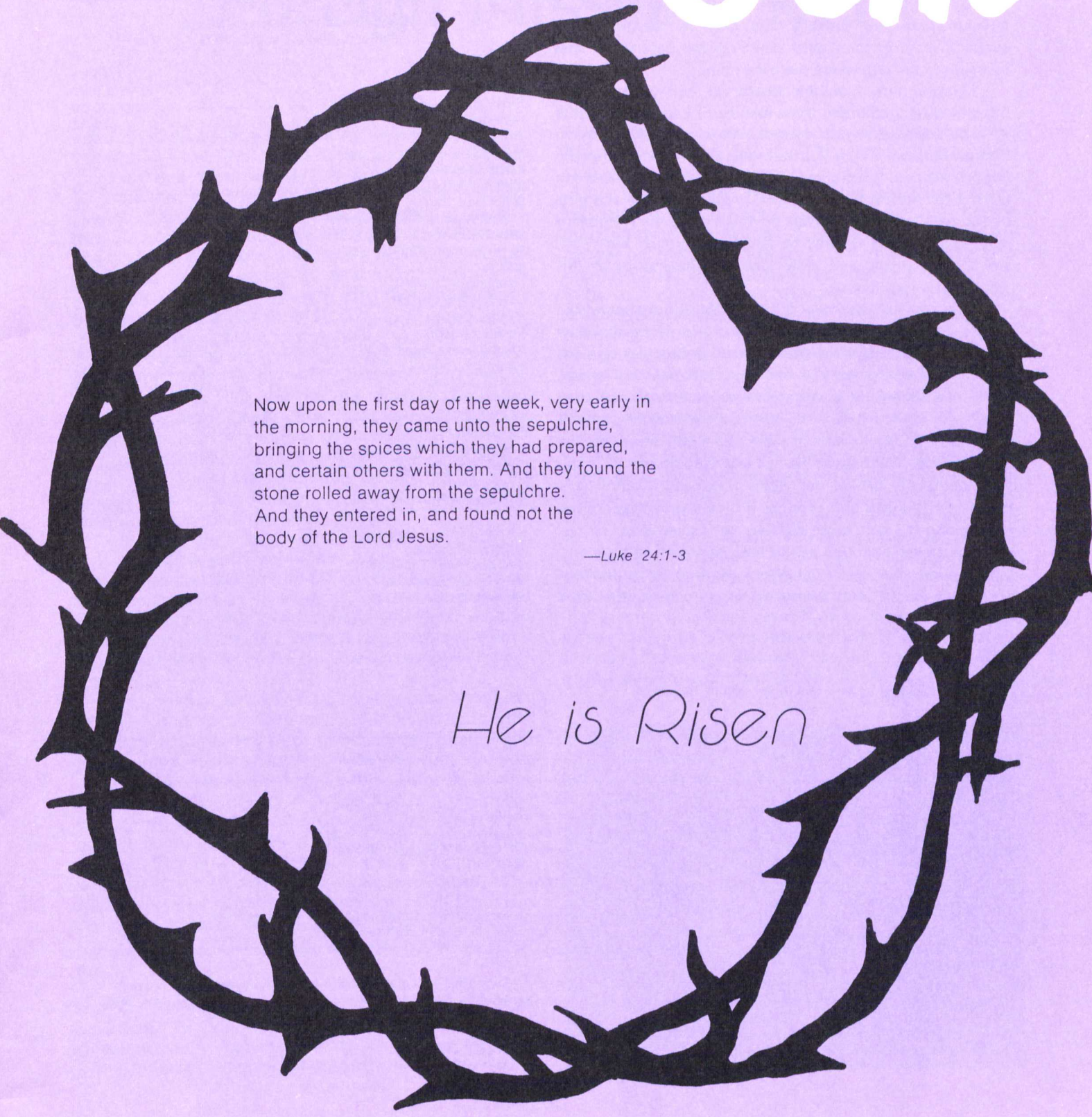


FREE WILL BAPTIST

April, 1973
Volume 43
Number 4

Gem



Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

—Luke 24:1-3

He is Risen

Home Missions

THIS ISSUE of the GEM features one of the most vital areas of our Missouri State Work: Home Missions. Through our State Home Mission Board Free Will Baptists in Missouri pool our spiritual and material resources in a cooperative effort to establish new Free Will Baptist churches in areas of our state where there are none.

Having served on this Board for two years I know something of the burden these men carry and the work that they do (without pay, of course). The success of our Home Mission program which you will read about in this issue did not just happen. It has come about because God has used and blessed the sacrificial labor, time, prayers, wisdom and gifts of the men who have served on this board, the missionary families who have labored so faithfully through the years, and those churches and individuals who have stood by this work with their support.

Church buildings now dot the state as a monument to those who have labored; and souls once lost in sin that now serve God and sound His praises stand as trophies of a job well done. But the work is not over. It is only just begun. More than 30 Missouri towns with a population of more than 5000 still do not have Free Will Baptist churches. And I believe some folks in each of those towns will never hear the Gospel if Free Will Baptists do not take it to them.

Let's rally behind our Home Missions program! Let's rethink our budgets and consider if State Home Missions has as high priority as it ought to have. Let's surge ahead on our knees in prayer that God would bless this work to His glory. Let's sound the call that men of God with pastoral experience would offer themselves to go to these new areas

to do the hard job of starting a new church. Let's sound the call for laymen, established in the faith and trained in the Word and work, to be willing to move with the pastors to these new areas and assist the new works. The need is urgent, the time is short, the laborers are few, and multitudes are in the "valley of decision."

Missouri State Home Mission Giving:
February 5 thru March 5, 1973

Grace Church	25.00
Pleasant Home Church	25.07
First Ch. Fredericktown	20.00
Hannon Church	56.82
Willow Springs Church	15.12
Myrtle Church	16.40
Salem Church	10.00
Mine LaMotte Church	20.00
Black Oak Church	58.85
First Qtly. Mtg. Mission Assoc.	100.00
Lee Chrisman	2.00
South Fremont Church	2.50
W.N.A.C.	45.00
Leadington Church	6.00
Low Ground Church	5.00
Victory Church	175.96
Thayer Church	23.00
Rock Chapel Church	20.00
Viburnum Church	68.32
Parkview Church	20.00
First Ch. West Plains	20.00
South Side Church	5.00
Fellowship Church	83.87
New Rock Springs Church	9.70
Fourth Church	45.98
Aurora Church	20.44
Cooperative Receipts	1,053.96
	1,953.99

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A Trip to the Foreign Mission Field

by Gigi Banks

IF YOU had told me a number of years ago that I would leave the United States and visit a foreign mission field, I would have thought that you were just kidding. But that's just what did happen. It was a very chilly morning Monday, February 5, when I left St. Louis, Missouri, via TWA along with Reverend and Mrs. Clarence Burton. By 5:00 p.m. we had arrived in warm, sunny Panama City, Panama, to begin an eleven day vacation trip that I had been looking forward to for some time.

This trip for me had a dual purpose. First, I would be able to visit with my only sister, brother-in-law, and their family (the Fulchers) and also at the same time visit one of our Free Will Baptist foreign mission fields. The Berkeley Church, of which Glenda is a member, was sending the Burtons as a vacation and also for a first-hand view of the work in Panama so that they would be able to report back to the church on how the work there was going and what the needs were.

It had been a year since I had last been able to visit with Bill and Glenda and I was anxious to see them again and the children. Sure enough, the whole family was there to meet us at Tucmen Airport and all ten of us got into Bill's small Japanese car with all the luggage and headed toward Las Cumbres eleven miles outside of Panama City where they have rented a house.

If I tried to write down all the impressions I got of the country of Panama, I would not be able to make you understand what it was like. I will just say that it is a country not be able to make you understand what it was like. I will just say that it is a country of great contrast. A contrast of great riches and great poverty, of great beauty and great ugliness, of beautiful buildings and dirty slums. Panama City is an experience in itself. The crooked, winding streets crowded with cars and buses, sidewalks crowded with people, and the smell from the open air markets and the waterfront is something that you just can't explain. You have to experience it.

Free Will Baptists can be proud of the work that is being done in Panama. While there I was able to attend five church services, four at the Augua Buena Church and one at the San Juan Church, which are both churches where Bill and Glenda work.

Also, I was able to stop by and see the First Free Will Baptist Church of Panama City where Tommy and Mrs. Willey have their work.

I learned many things on this trip, things that I had been taught all my life but had not really given much thought to before. I learned that people are people no matter where they live or what they look like and that they all need to know Christ as their Saviour. I came to love the people from the Augua Buena Church just as I love the people from my own Berkeley Church. I attended their church; and, even though my skin is light and theirs dark, it didn't make any difference. We all serve the same God.

This church, which recently completed building on an addition, had over 100 in Sunday School the Sunday that we were there. At their dedication service in January there were 250 in attendance. They have several teenagers who attend the services regularly and most of them teach a Sunday School class. They made a lasting impression on me and I will not forget them—Valentina, Santos, Tomas, Marcianna, Margrietta, Edaleda. Santos, a 19 year old boy, lives back in the bush about one and one half miles from the church. He must walk this distance to and from church on a small path, up and down hills, but it does not stop him from coming on Sunday morning, Sunday evening and fire other evenings during the week for different services. The

(continued on page 4)



Why A State

Home Mission Board?

by Lawrence Thompson

THE QUESTION may be asked, why a State Home Mission board since we have the National Home Mission board at Nashville, Tennessee. Recognizing that men working in a state would be more familiar with local situations, the National offices recommend that a state have such a board. There is no conflict of interest here as both the National Home Missions and Church Extension Board and the State Home Mission Board have a singular goal: establishing new churches in cities where there is no existing Free Will Baptist work. Often the National and State work together in joint efforts.

The Missouri State Home Mission Board began its functions about sixteen years ago. It has realized a tremendous growth since that time. They have been active in assisting new churches and actually starting new churches across this great state. Included in these are: First Church of West Plains, Grant Avenue Church of Springfield, Beacon, Victory, and Central of Kansas City, Olivet Church in Marshall, Conway, O'Fallon and St. Joseph churches. The Home Mission Board now supports fully or partially mission works at Independence, Aurora, Columbia, Jefferson City, and Cape Girardeau. Recent counsel and token support have been given to Fordland, North Springfield, and Licking missions.

During the 1971-72 year the Mission Board sponsored a record album by the Missionaires Quartet for the purpose of establishing a loan fund. Singing in the quartet are Jim McAllister, Frank Giunta, Dale Skiles, and Bud Hill. These men are successful pastors in our state. The record has been well received. We still have several albums for distribution at \$5.00 each.

Contributions to Missouri State Home Missions has experienced a fantastic growth from a 1968 budget of \$15,268.59 to a 1971-72 budget of \$37,797.75. Praise the Lord! As men and money become available, we hope to double our missionary staff across the state. We anticipate the day when the Loan Fund will have \$100,000.00 to lend to new mission works. Impossible? No, less than ten years ago we did well to have one missionary on the field. We now have five. All things are possible if we will only believe and obey the voice of the Holy Spirit of God. Our past is a challenge for our future.

Finally brethren pray for us that God will give us His wisdom as we make decisions regarding where to begin our next mission church in Missouri.

(continued from page 3)

future of the Augua Buena Church rests with Santos and the other young people and we should remember to pray for them. There are great possibilities for this church in the community in which it is located.

On Saturday evening we went out to the San Juan Church located in a small village some distance from the city in the country. Bill and Glenda go there every Saturday evening and hold services. They had over 100 in their Daily Vacation Bible School recently. Several were teenage boys. There is no other Protestant Church in this village of hundreds.

It was strange to sit in a service and not be able to understand what was being said and to hear so many of the songs that we sing in our services being sung in Spanish. Even though I couldn't understand what was being said, I could feel the presence of God in the services and could feel that these people were sincere.

I guess that is what impressed me the most. The way the people are eager to learn and hear about Jesus. I have gotten use to the indifference that we find back here in the States, and to see how these people respond to the Gospel touched my heart. There are so many opportunities open in the country of Panama. There are countless thousands of small communities and villages that do not even have a church. What an opportunity that we as Free Will Baptists have in this country if we will take advantage of it.

There are some very definite needs that we should pray about. More missionaries are needed to reach these people. Pray that the Lord will deal with people here in the States that they may see the need in Panama. A bus or some kind of van is needed. At the present time a small van type bus is being hired for \$7.00 a day to pick up children for Sunday School at Augua Buena. No one in the entire church has a car but Bill and if they want to go anywhere, he must make several trips. Also the van could be used to store literature and tracks to be distributed throughout the different communities. Also there is a need for a parsonage. Rent is quite high, and if a parsonage were built, it would cut down on the expenses each month. There is land adjacent to the church which is available on which a house could be built. Pray that the Lord will direct and supply the funds necessary.

Also, remember to pray for Bill and Glenda and family that the Lord will direct their lives and supply their needs. They desire the prayers of the people from Missouri. The family is well and send their greetings.

As I left the country of Panama, I knew that my thinking would never be the same again. I hope and pray that I will stay as concerned as I am now for missions and particularly for the people of Panama.

Returning to St. Louis to freezing temperature and snow was quite an adjustment. I look forward to being able to journey to Panama again soon.

Meet Your State Home Mission Board

The Missouri State Home Mission Board consists of five members, each serving a five year term, with one term expiring each year. The Board meets together as often as their business requires, usually three or four times a year.

REV. CLIFF BOWMAN, Chairman of the board

Brother Bowman is the pastor of the Olivet FWB Church in Marshall, where he has brought the church from mission stage to a full-time pastorate, supporting the entire denominational program. His son Dennis is the mission pastor at Independence. He has a daughter, Cathy, of the home. His faithful companion, Francis, and he have served previous pastorates at Marshfield and Cuba.

REV. LAWRENCE THOMPSON, Secretary and Treasurer of the board

Brother Thompson is the pastor of the Victory FWB Church in Avondale, a Kansas City suburb. Under his leadership the Victory Church has been a leading contributor to all phases of state work. They won second place in a national Sunday school contest last fall, and for several years have received the Home Mission plaque for being the largest contributor to State Home Missions. Brother Thompson is a native Missourian who has also pastored in Bettendorf, Iowa. He has two married sons and a wife named Ruth.

REV. DALE SKILES

Brother Skiles is pastor of the West Plains FWB Church. He began the mission work at St. Joseph, Missouri, sings in the Missionaires Quartet, and is Missouri's representative on the General Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

REV. JOHNNY LAND

Brother Land has been in the ministry for 20 years and was the founding pastor of the Grace FWB Church in Arnold and the Meramec Heights Church in Valley Park. His last pastorate was at Fourth FWB

Church in St. Louis, before he entered the field of full-time evangelistic work. He has two daughters, three grandchildren, and a wife named Eunice.

REV. ELMER TURNBOUGH

Brother Turnbough has been in the ministry for 20 years. During that time he has served pastorates at Fourth Church in St. Louis; Parkview Church in Desloge; Bear Point Church in Sesser, Illinois; First Church in Moline, Illinois; Trinity Church in Nashville, Tennessee; and presently is the pastor of the FWB Church at Viburnum, Missouri. He is acquainted with the problems of mission works since two of his previous pastorates were missions when he started, but under his leadership became full-time pastorates. A native Missourian, he has held every organizational office within our denomination from the local church to state moderator. His wife's name is Gladys; he has three children all of which are enrolled in Free Will Baptist Bible College.



Reports from the field



Adkisson



Sharry



Giunta



Bowman

FROM COLUMBIA

(J. Mark Vandivort, Mission-Pastor)

Our attendance averaged 30 to 40 during the winter months. Eight persons followed the Lord in baptism on Sunday, March 11. The mission is in a building program, but due to heavy rains which began in October, the concrete contractor has been unable to complete the foundation as yet.

Pastor Vandivort continues to carry on a vital hospital ministry at the three state hospitals in Columbia, visiting Free Will Baptists from across the state when he knows they are patients in Columbia. "Many times when I have mentioned the name of some Free Will Baptist I know in the patient's home town area, I would hear, 'If you are a friend of their's, you are a friend of mine.' By this I am reminded of how important that we 'walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,' " says Brother Mark.

The folks in our mission church in Columbia request our prayers and encouragement.

FROM CAPE GIRARDEAU

(Bill Adkisson, Mission-Pastor)

The Adkissons began their work in Cape Girardeau on the first Sunday in 1973. One first time decision has been made at the church since their beginning, and several decisions have been witnessed in the hospital.

"God has given us some real good families to work with us here," Pastor Adkisson writes. "There have been seven new families attending regularly, a lady whose husband is in the service, a 22 year old man who has been a great asset on visitation, and a lady whose husband we hope to see coming soon."

The folks at Cape Girardeau are operating a bus ministry which has been bringing in some children. They have had as many as 12 in the Junior Class, because several are going out visiting for the Bus Ministry. A recent revival meeting with Evangelist Johnny Land stirred hearts and challenged the church, according to Pastor Adkisson.

GEM readers are asked to pray for the work in Cape Girardeau.

FROM AURORA

(Robert Sharry, Mission-Pastor)

The Robert Sharry's have been in Aurora for one year. The attendance has gone from a monthly average in Sunday school of 20 to a high of 66. The

record attendance for the year was 105 on October 29, 1972. There have been 24 decisions, about half of these first time decisions. The folks at Aurora have debt free property and an adequate building which they painted and redecorated during the past year.

Offerings are averaging about \$400 per month, plus more than \$300 given over the year to missions. The Aurora Mission's first birthday was celebrated March 25 with all day services.

FROM JEFFERSON CITY

(Frank Giunta, Mission-Pastor)

The Sunday school of the Jefferson City Mission averaged 52 for the year 1972. Several entire families have been enlisted recently, and a number of other good prospects are attending.

The Giuntas ask us to pray about the need of more Sunday school teachers and class room space. They are using the Master Teacher program, where two classes meet in one room at separate tables. The same lesson is taught to both groups, but book work is done on different levels at their tables with an assistant helping. (They also need the assistants.)

"We want to thank each one who has had a part in supporting our mission work here," Pastor Giunta writes. "We still have need of both prayer and financial assistance, and hope that you will continue to remember us. The Lord has only begun the work here."

FROM INDEPENDENCE

(Dennis Bowman, Mission-Pastor)

The Bowmans write: "We thank God for the privilege of serving Him and our state of Missouri here in Independence. About this time last year we came to Independence with only a few names of prospects who might be interested in a Free Will Baptist church here. We found some of them truly interested, but most of the others were only well wishers. God has prospered His work, and we now have a fine group of people meeting at every service."

Six Sunday school classes are reported. Financially, the Independence Mission has assumed a large part of their own support, but still need assistance through the State Home Mission Board. Several souls have made professions of faith during the last year, and many have been grounded in the Word. They express a need for a larger building, and request prayer for this matter. Pray that the Lord will permit them to lead many souls to Christ.

CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS

STATE ASSOCIATION THEME ADOPTED

The Executive Committee of the General Board of the Missouri State Association met at the State Book Store in Lebanon recently to plan the 1973 State Association program. The Theme, "Facing the Crises of the Church," was adopted by the committee. Speakers and other program personnel will be announced later after they are confirmed by the State Association Clerk, Rev. Russell B. Spurgeon.

The 1973 State Association will be hosted by the First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett August 14-16. Rev. James McAllister, 107 Sycamore, Monett, Missouri 65708, is the host pastor.

In other Executive Committee business, Mr. Howard Filkins' resignation from the State General Board was received with thanks for the years of service on the General Board. The Filkins will be leaving the state of Missouri in May of this year to become the dormitory parents for the missionary children in the Ivory Coast, West Africa. Brother Filkins had served as the Northeast Missouri Association's representative on the General Board for almost a decade.

RECENT PASTORAL CHANGES KNOWN AT THE GEM OFFICE

Rev. Jimmy Bundy from Fredericktown First Church to Beacon Church in Raytown.

Rev. Howard Hensley from Leadington First Church to Funston, Georgia.

Rev. Wayne Waggoner from Tulsa, Oklahoma to South Fremont Church, Springfield.

MANY ACTIVITIES AT BELTON CHURCH

The Belton Free Will Baptist Church reports a Sunday school attendance increase from 49 average in 1971 to an average of 87 in 1972. Two red, white, and blue buses have helped put new life and enthusiasm in the Belton Church as many individuals have been enlisted to carry out the additional responsibilities brought about by a bus ministry. A third bus will soon be added to the Belton fleet.

Belton's Junior Church is led by different members of the church, each member volunteering

for a month at a time. Mrs. Juanita Christenson, the pastor's wife, is the church's Youth Director and a Junior Sunday School Class teacher.

78 years young, Bob Stevens works in his church by printing the weekly church bulletin, according to Mrs. Clara Carlton, the church reporter.

Recent church activities at Belton included a candlelight installation service for the officers of the Woman's Auxiliary, a surprise birthday party for their pastor, Rev. C. T. Christenson, celebrating Brother Christenson's first anniversary as pastor of the church, a revival meeting with Brother Johnny Land as the evangelist, and District Woman's Auxiliary meeting.

"There are many things to keep us busy, working for the Lord. The challenges are great, and it is always fun to see what is around the next corner. Lord willing, we shall be able to take care of it. We ask your prayers that we are able to continue to grow and work for our Lord," writes Mrs. Carlton.

REVIVAL AT MARSHFIELD

Rev. Bill Ragsdale and Rev. Raymond Askren served as the evangelists in a recent revival meeting held at the Marshfield FWB Church. Cottage prayer meetings were held the week preceding the revival meeting, and they brought results as the meeting was well attended. Souls were at the altar, and the church was revived according to the church reporter.

Assisting the Marshfield Church with special music during the revival meeting was the Shumate Family from Lebanon and the Faith Singers from Marshfield.

Rev. Robert Chapman is the pastor of the church.

FEBRUARY COOPERATIVE INCOME \$5,621

The State Cooperative Fund received \$5,621.14 from 54 churches in the month of February. This figure compares with \$4,900.00 in February, 1972, and brings the total Coop income for the fiscal year to \$50,327 compared with \$42,312 at the same time last year. \$46,664 was needed by the end of February, 1973 to be on schedule to meet the 1972-73 Coop budget of \$70,000.

A GROWING JUNIOR DEPARTMENT AT SOUTHSIDE

"We are thankful for the way God has blessed in our Junior Department the last six months. We have watched our attendance double from an average of 31 to an average of almost 80." So writes Mrs. Jean Francis in *The Beacon*, a church paper of the Southside FWB Church in St. Louis.

A church bus has been utilized at Southside to bring many of the new children to Sunday school. "We hope to have 100 in the Junior Department by Easter Sunday," writes Mrs. Francis. "This is not impossible if we will all work together."

Southside's Sunday school attendance averaged 144 in February. Rev. Bob Francis is the pastor.

MERL'S CHAPEL SUNDAY SCHOOL DOUBLES

The Sunday school attendance of the Merl's Chapel FWB Church near Cassville, Missouri has doubled since January, 1973, according to the church reporter, Mrs. Charlotte McClure. Two new Sunday school classrooms have been painted by the Woman's Auxiliary and utilized recently. Mrs. Edith Jeffreys is the pastor.

1973 NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE IN MACON, GEORGIA

The National CTS Department announced that the theme for the 1973 National Youth Conference will be "Discipleship: Experiencing Jesus Christ." The conference is an annual event held in conjunction with the National Association to be held this year at Macon, Ga.

Mike Crain, founder and director of Karate for Christ, will be the keynote speaker for the Sunday night's massive service on July 8, 1973. Many other outstanding events are planned for the conference, and FWB youth from across the denomination are encouraged to make plans to attend.

This year's banquet tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis, due to very limited space. Banquet tickets cost \$4.00 and may be ordered from the CTS Department, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Registration for the Youth Conference is also \$4.00 at the conference. Pre-registration is \$3.50.

PASTOR AND SUPERINTENDENT GET PIE IN THE FACE

Miss Jackie Faye and Miss Marvella Weston had the unusual privilege (?) of throwing a pie in the faces of their pastor and Sunday school superintendent at the close of a recent Sunday school campaign. The Sunday school of the Joplin First Church held an attendance campaign after purchasing their first church bus in January. If a total of 130 new people rode the bus in the first four weeks of the contest, the child who brought the most visitors during the campaign got to throw a pie in the face of the Sunday school superintendent, Mr. Bob Howard. If a total of 150 new people rode the bus during the four week contest, the pastor, Rev. Andy Lay, also was to get a pie in his face thrown by the child who brought the second most visitors. As the campaign



closed, a total of 171 new people had ridden the bus during the first four weeks of its operation, so one preacher and one Sunday school superintendent enjoyed (?) a whole pie all to themselves, as the accompanying photo reveals.

The Joplin Church had an all time high Sunday school attendance average in February of 119.

MEMBERS OF GRACE CHURCH TOUR HOLY LAND

Pastor Glenn Rehkop and Mr. and Mrs. John Long, all of the Grace FWB Church in Arnold, Missouri, toured the Holy Land with scores of other Free Will Baptists from across the nation, for 10 days beginning March 19.

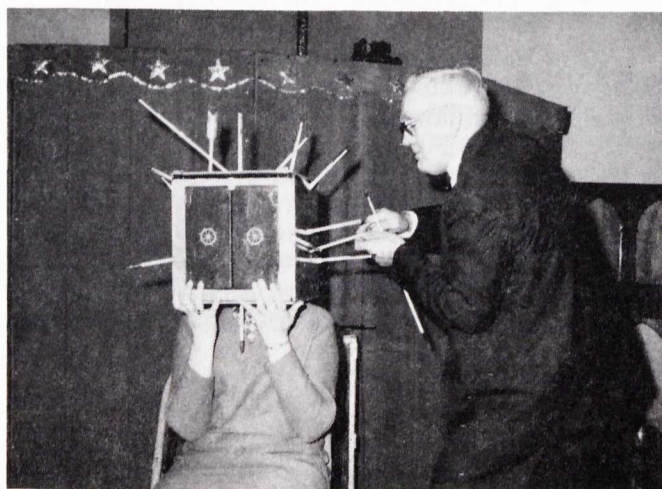
The tour, hosted by Rev. Raymond Riggs of Detroit, Michigan, was sponsored by Wholesale Tours, International, of New York.

WELCOME TO CHURCH PLAN, GRAY SUMMIT

The newest member of our GEM family of subscribers is the Gray Summit FWB Church of Pacific, Missouri. Gray Summit recently joined the Church Plan with 14 new subscribers.

GOSPEL MAGIC

The accompanying photograph pictures a tense moment for the congregation of the First FWB



Church of Joplin who are watching as the "magician," Rev. Kenneth Turner, from Monett, Missouri, thrusts an arrow through the box enclosing the head of Mrs. Bonnie Faye, a member of the Joplin congregation.

Brother Turner, an ordained FWB minister, has practiced gospel magic for many years, and gets many good spiritual points across through the medium of magic. He may be contacted at 206 Euclid, Monett, Missouri, 65708, phone 417-235-3704.

Mrs. Faye survived the ordeal without injury.

FILKINS' PLANS PROCEED ON SCHEDULE

The Howard Filkins' family, who are going as our missionaries to the Ivory Coast in May, report that plans for their departure are on schedule. Of the items listed in the February issue of the GEM that they needed to take with them to Africa, the Filkins' now report that enough quilts and blankets and pillows have been provided. An ice cream freezer has also been secured.

Prayer is requested concerning the matter of their FHA farm loan, which requires them to live on the property. Pray that a solution will be found to this dilemma.

MONETT CHURCH CELEBRATES 41ST BIRTHDAY

The First FWB Church in Monett, Missouri, celebrated their 41st birthday on February 25. Forty-one years ago this month Rev. O. T. Allred



organized the Monett Church. God blessed the church through the years and now the church averages over 200 in Sunday school, has a fleet of three buses, owns property valued at over \$180,000.00, and supports every phase of our

denominational work. Last month missions giving was over \$450.00 in addition to Youth Camp support, Coop fund support, and Hillsdale College support. More than 200 people have made decisions for Christ in the past two and one-half years, and a new one-hundred thousand dollar, 500-seat auditorium has been constructed. For all this God receives the glory.

A former pastor, Dr. James Davis, of Franklin, Tennessee, was guest speaker for the occasion. The present pastor, Rev. Jim McAllister, and three former pastors, Rev. O. T. Allred, Rev. W. K. Weston, and Rev. James Davis, joined the more than 260 worshipers who attended the Sunday morning service.

TWIN OAKS CHURCH GROWING

Souls being saved, altar rededications, and consistent attendance growth in all departments are reported at the Twin Oaks FWB Church in Fredericktown, Missouri, according to reporter, Madeline McFarland. Pastor Truman Huffman and the church are encouraging the people to read and search the Scriptures that they may know God's Will for their lives.

One young man, Leon Miller, has announced his call to preach and is being used of God in the ministry. The Twin Oaks Church requests the prayers of GEM readers.

THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF RETIREMENT AND INSURANCE ASKS . . .

Is your pastor one of the 234 participants in the retirement plan of the National Association? Is your church sending regular contributions to his retirement account? Does he have life insurance? Is it enough? Each church must face up to its obligation to the pastor in providing retirement and insurance protection for him and his family. As it costs more and more to live, so will it be in retirement.

A question often asked is: "What happens to the retirement money when a church changes pastors?" The money contributed for each pastor is combined with deposits from other churches he has pastored and held in trust for him or his beneficiary until retirement, disability, or death. The church should continue deposits for their new pastor and the former pastor's new congregation should continue deposits for him.

Regular deposits are encouraged (weekly or monthly) but may be made at any time. The retirement plan does not take the place of life insurance. Both are needed. Send for details today. Remember to include your pastor's birthdate. Write to: Department of Retirement and Insurance, National Association of Free Will Baptists, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

REV. THOMAS H. DIXON GOES TO BE WITH THE LORD

Reverend Thomas H. Dixon, 85, a prominent Free Will Baptist preacher and church organizer, died February 14, 1973, in the Muskogee (Oklahoma) General Hospital after a long illness. Funeral services were held in Checotah Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Ralph Staten of Knoxville, Tennessee officiating. Burial was in Greenlawn Cemetery with grandsons serving as pallbearers. Free Will Baptist pastors served as honorary pallbearers.

The family requested memorials to the Rev. Thomas H. Dixon Scholarship Fund at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Moore, Oklahoma rather than flowers.

During his long tenure as pastor Reverend Dixon established several Free Will Baptist churches. He organized the Hitchita FWB Church in 1932 and served as pastor until 1937. In 1939 he organized the First FWB Church at Hilltop and was its pastor at the time of his death.

Born June 21, 1887 in Hector, Arkansas, Reverend Dixon moved to Oklahoma in 1931. He pastored several churches in both Arkansas and Oklahoma and served as state moderator for both states.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Jane of the home; six sons, Chester, Virgil, Truman, and Leon, all of Checotah; O. T., pastor at Norman; J. R. of Haskell; five daughters, Mrs. Ollie Kindall of Hitchita; Mrs. Artie LeMasters of Checotah; Mrs. Edith Heczkiewicz of Woonsocket, Rhode Island; Mrs. Esther Joe Graham of Clarksville, Arkansas; and Mrs. LoDema Vaughn of Muskogee; 21 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. A daughter Fern Caskey passed away two years ago.

BIBLE CONFERENCE AT CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

"Back to the Bible" is the theme for a Bible Conference scheduled for April 15-20 at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Claremore, Oklahoma. Speakers include: Rev. Jerry Rhoades, Rev. Bob Ketchum, Rev. Rupert Pixley, Rev. Ted Wilbanks, Rev. Lonnie DeVault, all of Oklahoma, and Rev. James McAllister and Rev. Ken Doggett of Missouri, and Mr. Trymon Messer of Kansas.

Rev. Frank Johnson is the pastor of the church. He invites everyone who can to attend. He may be contacted at 408 South Normal, Claremore, Oklahoma 74017. Phone 918-341-6330.

MEET A BOOKSTORE EMPLOYEE

Mrs. Donna Norris is one of the employees at our bookstore in Lebanon, Missouri. Donna attended the First FWB Church in Springfield for 16 years before moving to Lebanon in 1969. Her husband,



Doug, is a store manager at Consumers. They have two children and attend the First FWB Church in Lebanon.

HILLSDALE EXTENSION HELD AT HANNON

The Central Western Missouri Association sponsored a Hillsdale Extension School for one week last month. Rev. Bill Jones, President of Hillsdale College in Moore, Oklahoma, and Dr. Charles Hampton, registrar from the school, taught two classes, "James," and "Choral Conducting." Twenty-eight persons enrolled in the Extension School which lasted three hours each night for five nights.

Rev. Bob Dickey coordinated the school. Rev. Dennis Mays was the host pastor.

STATE YOUTH COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES MAY 19 AT ROCK CHAPEL

Free Will Baptist youth in the state planning to enter Bible Bowl, Bible Tic-Tac-Toe, Sword Drill, or Declamation competition are reminded that this year's contests will be held on May 19 at the Rock Chapel FWB Church near Mountain Grove, Missouri. Each church may enter as many contestants in each event as they wish, according to Sunday School-CTS Board member, Eddie Altis. Registration forms will soon be mailed out to each church in the state, Altis announced.

Participants are reminded that national rules will apply, including the rules about dress. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. on the 19th. Competition will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Winners of the state competition will represent Missouri at the National Youth Conference in Macon, Georgia, July 9-12.

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE AT JOPLIN

Lay-pastor Trymon Messer from Salina, Kan-

sas, conducted a three day Evangelism Conference at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Joplin last month. Brother Messer not only provides instruction in "how to" witness and win souls to the Lord, but equips and sends out laymen of the church in teams during the conference for practical experience in the art of soul-winning.

Eight professions of faith were witnessed by the Joplin Church as a direct result of the conference. "Brother Messer does an outstanding job of instructing and challenging layman in soul-winning, since he himself is a layman," said Pastor Andy Lay. "I heartily commend him to any of our churches desiring such a conference."

WILLIS RESIGNS

On February 27, Rev. Homer E. Willis gave his

resignation as General Director for the Department of Home Missions. The Board in a called session accepted the resignation to be effective on May 31. However, the Board requested him to stay through June 30, and he agreed to do so.

Mr. Willis came to the Department on September 1, 1956, and has served as Director since that time. He will continue to live in Nashville and continue his ministry in evangelism and related work.

\$2,862.65 FOR HOME MISSIONS

Missouri's contributions to National Home Missions for February was unusually good. A total of \$2,862.65 was contributed by 43 individuals and churches in Missouri. The largest church contribution came from the First Church of Monett: \$260.53.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1972-73

CHURCH	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Copper Mines	92	102	87	100	87	113	90	92	81	84	77	
Cuba	76	103	102	93	95	95	87	93	82	84	93	91
Desoto	142	133	125	125	123	129	127	144	136	145	157	178
Farmington	145	132	129	113	118	121	137	150	136	146	125	
Fellowship	171	187	275	266	303	332	379	334	311		328	370
Fredericktown	191	194	163	152	157	156	161	169	168	157		
Flat River, First	151	135	123	130	131	138	140	141	124	130	146	
Fourth, St. Louis	148	151	126	123	115	114	124	135	140	136	135	
Grace, Arnold								227	206	175		223
Joplin, First	82	77	65	62	67	72	80	75	68	64	74	119
King's Way, Springfield						50	55	59	56	55	60	65
Leadenton	125	114	112	105	105	100	98	110	100	97	76	51
Lebanon First	186	153	163	164	136	142	162	167	143	149	153	156
Mine LaMotte	58	56	43	40	59	44	32	42	36	31	36	43
Monett First	215	210	192	186	182	204	232	219	211	203	196	209
Mountain Grove, First											246	284
Myrtle	56	61	57	58				51	48	56		
Parkview, Desloge	94	100	92	87	84	98	95	93	93	94	96	98
Salem	42	41	39	35		32	33		35	39	39	46
Southside, St. Louis	110	98	102	113	102	118	150	153	138	149	133	144
Thayer	146	148	134	130	143	149	154	148	144	151	116	157
Trinity, Bridgeton	227	197	204	181	162	178	180	191	180	186	172	171
Twin Oaks, Fredericktown	44	54	44	47	48	55	46	48	51	50	53	55
Victory, Avondale	130	136	120	126	110	145	173	212	152	184	173	171
Willow Springs	103	125	99	99	103	95	100	109	86	84	77	88

Promotional Secretary's Corner



by Rev. Harry Beatty

SUNDAY, February 4, I supplied the pulpit for Pastor Bundy in our Fredericktown Church. We enjoyed two good services with them. Fredericktown Church has consistently supported every phase of our state and national work for many years. I was privileged to deliver the sermon in our Leadington Church on Sunday morning, February 11. They are without a pastor. Brethren, pray the Lord will direct a pastor to this church.

In response to an invitation from Parkview Church and Pastor Richard Brown, I delivered the Sunday evening sermon there on February 11 following their Church Training Service. The attendance was good, considering the fact that several of their members are elderly people and unable to attend in severe winter weather. Pastor Brown is enjoying his pastoral work here in Missouri.

Rev. Christensen, pastor of our church at Belton, delivered the sermon to Greater Kansas City Quarterly Meeting on Friday evening, February 16, at the Victory Church. Each of their churches represented. Their reports indicate souls were saved in the past quarter. I was given time on the program for our Missouri promotional work. Church pledges and cash offerings were received for Missionary Larry Powell's services in the area.

Rev. Matthews gave a farewell word of commendation and appreciation as he prepared to

depart to his new pastorate in Alabama. Rev. Dale Jones was elected to fill Brother Matthews' unexpired term on the State General Board.

On Sunday morning, February 18, I worshiped with the Victory Church and shared the Cooperative Program's progress with them. Pastor Thompson delivered the Gospel sermon. Some were saved in both the Junior Church and the Adult Church.

The same Sunday evening I delivered the message in our Columbia Church. Some new families have joined with Pastor Vandivort recently. The interest is good. The foundation for their new sanctuary is laid. They are waiting for a break in the weather to proceed with the building. Hopefully this provision will help the church in every way. They gave an offering in behalf of forthcoming Missionary Powell's service.

The Teen Challenge group from the city of St. Louis presented a film of their ministry at the FWB monthly Youth Rally held with the Fourth Church in Maplewood Sunday evening, February 25. The same Sunday evening I delivered the sermon in our Berkeley First Church for the concluding of the Old Fashioned Day candlelight service. The Master's Melody Quartet were the special guest singers for both Church Training Service and the worship service. Berkeley Church is one of the outstanding churches in our state, supporting every phase of the Lord's Work.

Guided Steps

Child of my love, fear not the unknown
morrow,
Dread not the new demand life makes
of thee;
Thy ignorance doth hold no cause for
sorrow,
Since what thou knowest not is known
to Me.

One step thou seest, then go forward
boldly,
One step is far enough for faith to see;
Take that, and thy next duty shall be
told thee,
For step by step the Lord is leading
thee.

YOUTH CAMP REPORT

Rock Chapel	\$10.00
Bethel	10.00
Verdella	10.00
Calvary	4.00
Rev. P. Askren (phone calls)	.65
New Home	15.03
Hannon	17.00
Myrtle	16.40
New Rock Springs	11.12
Purdy	10.00
Total Receipts	\$110.20
Accounts payable for the month	\$845.89
Balance on hand	\$2,813.35

Rev. Frank Giunta, Treasurer
Youth Camp Board
1212 East High
Jefferson City, MO 65101



FEBRUARY, 1973
COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

Happy Home	20.36
New Rock Springs	33.12
First FWB, West Plains	110.00
Hurricane	62.75
Southside	162.00
Fourth	249.77
Kirkville	90.00
Garfield	17.30
Olivett	130.00
Victory	256.12
Beacon	155.14
Willow Springs	99.97
Mine LaMotte	15.00
Salem	20.00
Pleasant Ridge	22.00
Faith	103.07
Verdella	49.02
Hannon	99.64
Aurora	36.35
New Home	60.55
Granby	15.99
Grant Avenue	206.46
Grace	290.10
Merl's Chapel	62.16
Royal Oaks	41.86
Belton	93.00
Gray Summits	30.35
Berkeley	336.58
Freeman Chapel	57.65
Leaington	109.58
Waynesville First	110.00
Farmington First	191.54
Monett First	203.20
Copper Mines	70.00
Carterville	17.50
Rock Chapel	18.41
Bethel, Festus	40.00
Thayer	69.12
Mt. Valley	112.80
Purdy First	12.00
Houston	91.00
Fourth	234.90
Mine LaMotte	15.00
Victory	284.06
Parkview (Desloge)	50.00
Fellowship	50.00
Garfield	22.59
New Rock Springs	35.00
Willow Springs	87.58
Grant Avenue	252.06
First, West Plains	110.68
Faith	132.81
Southside	175.00
Twin Oaks	200.00
	<u>\$5,621.14</u>



DISBURSEMENTS:

18.75%	Missouri Missions	\$1,053.96
15.00%	Promotional Dept.	843.17
04.00%	General Fund	224.85
05.50%	Youth Camp	309.16
05.00%	Gem	281.06
01.00%	Mo. S.S. & C.T.S.	56.21
02.50%	Lebanon Bible Store	140.53
52.25%	Seven Missouri Depts.	2,908.94
04.00%	Hillsdale College	224.85
13.00%	Foreign Missions	730.75
10.00%	FWBBC	562.11
09.00%	Executive Dept.	505.90
07.50%	Nat'l Home Missions	421.59
02.50%	Nat'l CTS Dept.	140.53
01.50%	R.E.A.P.	84.32
00.50%	Theological Com.	28.10
00.25%	Laymens Board	14.05
43.75%	Eight Nat'l Depts.	2,487.35
100.00%	Total amount disbursed	<u>\$5,621.14</u>

Fifty-four cooperated in February. This is extra good. Thanks. Total amount received for eight months \$50,326.67. Thus we are ahead of schedule \$3,660.00.



IN GOD'S HOUSE

Here within God's house we welcome
Visitors who have entered here,
Hoping, trusting, wishing, praying
You will feel the Saviour near.
And if there are burdens weighing
On your heart, so hard to bear,
You will find the loads are lightened
In our worship, praise, and prayer.

Reverently now let us enter
This God's house where prayer is made,
Where the fears that haunt us daily
In this world will surely fade.
Quietly we wait and listen
For God's voice within our heart—
Then, refreshed and duly strengthened—
Thankfully let us depart.

—Author unknown





MY RISEN LORD

I never walk the sandy shore
But that I think of Galilee
And how the One who stilled the waves
Can calm the storms of life for me.

I never gaze upon a crowd
Without a sense of brotherhood,
A thankful gladness that He had
Compassion on the multitude.

I never seek my garden's peace
And loveliness and ecstasy
Without a poignant thought of Him
Who suffered in Gethsemane.

I never see a lonely hill
But that I think of Calvary—
Three crosses dark against the sky,
On one the Lord who died for me!

I never weep beside a grave
In hopeless anguish for my dead;
I see my blessed, risen Lord,
And so my heart is comforted!

—Martha Snell Nicholson



Woman's Page

*You
Are
Invited*

to attend:
SOMETHING SPECIAL
May 7-8, 1973
at
State Youth Camp
for
ONLY \$5.00
(which covers all meals
and insurance)

SOMETHING SPECIAL . . .

SPECIAL GUEST: Mrs. Brenda Spruill; National Auxiliary Field Worker

SPECIAL "mini" SESSIONS: Mission Study led by Joann Wood, Mission Prayer by Sandy Smith, and Mission Action by Brenda Spruill

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS: "The Beatitudes" by Mrs. Opal Jeffries, "Fishers of Men" by Barbara Harwell

SPECIAL "Sip N Sing": After Monday night service learn some new choruses

SPECIAL MUSIC: From Lebanon, the Gospel-Ettes

SPECIAL HELPS: Learn new songs, new ideas, new visual aids to use, and meet new and old friends

EXTRA SPECIAL: Fun time for all. Be sure to bring a skit and help Sister Bowman during this time. If you have a hidden talent, bring it.

'SPECIALLY FOR YOU . . . Don't miss this time of fun, fellowship, and spiritual blessing. Come and bring a car load with you this year.

SUCCESS IS HAVING A FRIEND . . .

A lady answered her door bell one day and found a small boy there. "I'm selling pencils," he said, "to raise \$1,000,000 for the children's hospital."

"That's fine," said the lady, "but are you doing this all by yourself?"

"Oh, no," answered the little tot, "Another boy is helping me."

DON'T FORGET OUR STATE PROJECT OF ONLY \$1500 FOR THE MICRO-BUS FOR THE MCLAINS.

BIRTHDAYS . . . May 6, Bill Fulcher: Apartado 6931, Panama 5, R de Panama . . . NEWS . . . The Belton Ladies Auxiliary recently had their installation service of officers and is planning a great year for the Lord. Last year they completed nearly 20 projects and plan to do even more this year . . . EASTER WEEK OF PRAYER OFFERING, remember to give as God has given to you . . . BE PREPARED . . . Only one more month until reports are due. Let's get them in on time this year. Treasures to Hazel Hutsell, 534 West North, Mtn. Grove, MO 65711, Sectetary to Joann Wood, P.O. Box 464, Mtn. Grove, MO 65711.

Overheard during Sunday school prayer time from a little boy, "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it, I'm having a real good time as it is."

A plaque upon my bedroom wall . . . Bears three small words you may recall . . . I cannot say the words are new . . . But, o, they are stedfast and true . . . The plaque itself is very old . . . But it is worth it's weight in gold . . . Out of the darkness of the night . . . It seems to shed a ray of light . . . I love it for the peace it brings . . . It simply says, "Prayer Changes Things."

Laura Baker Haynes

Let's have 100% participation of Missouri Churches in Call-A-Thon 1973.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

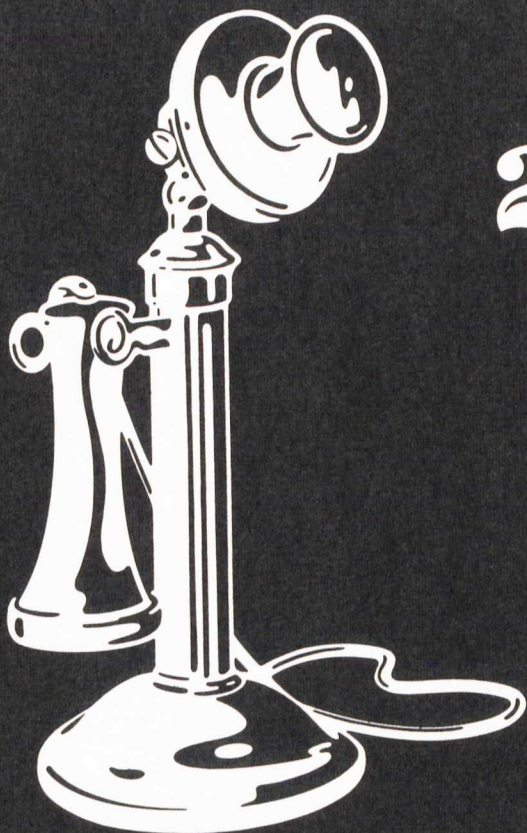
FOREIGN MISSIONS FOREIGN MISSIONS

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Call-a-Thon

Sunday

April 15, 1973



Call (615)
244-3470

Give your **SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING**
to **FOREIGN MISSIONS**.

Participate by telephoning
the **Department of Foreign Missions**
to give your total.

Please call between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m.
in your time zone.

Send to:
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P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

