

Free Will Baptist

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Gem

1. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
2. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.
3. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
4. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
5. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
6. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
7. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.
8. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Psalm 121

EDITORIAL...

It seems appropriate to publish an article by Miss Mary Ruth Wisehart in this column this month. Miss Wisehart is a professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, but was raised a Free Will Baptist near Myrtle, Missouri. Her article is especially timely in view of the fact

that Missouri has recently launched the largest financial project in her history, with Free Will Baptist Bible College as the recipient of a projected goal of \$125,000 to pay for the recently constructed Library Wing. Thank you, Miss Wisehart, for your research and writing of this article.

Missouri's Contribution to FWBBC

by Mary Ruth Wisehart

In the early days of the National Association, Missouri was making a solid contribution to the establishment of a national Free Will Baptist college. The records suggest that Missouri contributed most in the area of publicity. The Missouri *Gem* was already reaching Free Will Baptists in various states, and that paper publicized the National Association of Free Will Baptist Bible College before and after it opened in 1942. Those early editors—B. F. Brown, John B. Rollins, C. B. Dees and Winford Davis—proclaimed

among Free Will Baptists from California to South Carolina that we needed a school, and we needed to support it. When property was acquired in 1941, the *Gem* featured the building and grounds on the front cover of the December issue, and three times within the year FWBBC was the *Gem*'s cover girl. Almost every month after 1935 the paper published some item about a national school, as well as messages, news items and articles by the students and faculty later.

Psalm 121

This cover is dedicated in memory of a fine Christian lady who, when she passed away this last June 4, had served the Lord 60 years. This was her favorite psalm. She believed it and lived it. She guided me to Jesus and was a constant source of spiritual strength. Thank you, Lord, for my Grandmother.

—Elaine Jay

Front cover designed by Mrs. Elaine Jay, Joplin, Missouri

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Missouri contributed her students also. Of the first nine students, three were Missourians: Marie Thomas and Damon and Sylvia Dodd. One of those students published the following testimony in the *Gem*: "We consider being at this wonderful Bible School an answer to many fervent prayers we have prayed. The classes are very inspirational and already we can see results of our having studied here." (Sylvia Dodd) In 1946 25% of the student body was Missourian. And FWBBC has never been without Missourians in the student body.

One Missouri student who continued to give to the Bible College was LaVerne D. Miley who taught Greek and Biology several years and was acting dean-registrar before he entered medical school in preparation for the mission field. Missouri has continued to contribute workers to the College.

Another Missourian especially interested in the College from its beginning was James F. Miller. He served on the Board of Trustees for many years, and in his later life, gave up pastoral work and served as a public relations worker for the school for several months. He was one of the speakers at the Missouri State Association in 1939 who spoke for education and then received an offering of \$132 "in the midst of much enthusiasm," according to the State Association Minutes.

In June, 1940, editor John Rollins dedicated an issue of the *Gem* to education. He described Missouri's method of raising funds. Field men were appointed, given receipt books and charts. He wrote, "They are to beat the brush and preach and lecture, and get folks signed on the dotted line—it's going to take COLD CASH."

Lee Roy Miller, an area worker in the interest of a national college, wrote an article in August, 1940, called "A Free Will Baptist School for 2¢ a Week." His idea was that if 5,000 Free Will Baptist in Missouri gave 2¢ a week for 52 weeks the state could easily raise \$5,000 by the National Association meeting in July, 1941.

Because of the *Gem* and State Association Minutes we know the names of many who dreamed and worked, prayed and gave for a Free Will Baptist National school. But there were many others who entered into the labor whose names are recorded only with God. Perhaps the story of Justin Gann can represent those others. In the *Gem*, 1941, the editor told of how Justin Gann gave a part of his garden to support the Lord's work. He grew pumpkins and sold seeds at 1¢ each for the educational program.

Just 20 years ago the Missouri State Association in session adopted a recommendation by the Educational Committee that every church send an offering to purchase books for the Bible College library. Now in 1973 Missouri is again concentrating on the Library at FWBBC. And the College still needs cold cash.

One of the early workers (C. M. Dauber) for educational funds in Missouri wrote in the *Gem* in 1940, "Can we afford a school? Let us answer it by asking another question. Can we afford not to have a school in this age in which we live?" Now that the dream is fulfilled, the prayer answered we can afford to make that FWB national college the best college Free Will Baptists can possibly make it by working together at it. We can only afford to make it the best training place in the world for those FWB young people we send out to carry the message of Christ into all the world.

The Crisis of The Ministry

by Rev. Robert A. Francis

Scripture: Ephesians 4:8-16

Text Verse: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers" (Ephesians 4:11).

THE DEFINITION of the word crisis is a crucial situation. The definition of the word ministry is the act of serving. So "The Crisis of the Ministry" would be a crucial situation in the act of serving.

Our subject assumes that there is a crisis of the ministry. Lest there be some who are not aware of it, let me bring a few things to your attention. Quite recently a distinguished public opinion research firm was assigned by a popular magazine read in thousands of American homes, to interview a number of ministerial students from eight leading theological schools including Yale Divinity School, Union Theological Seminary, and Augsburg College Seminary and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Nearly one-third were Methodist, 15 per cent were Baptist, 11 per cent were Episcopal, 10 per cent Presbyterian, 6 per cent Congregational, 6 per cent Lutheran and the remaining 22 per cent included Church of God, Church of the Brethren, Pentecostal and others who were uncommitted. 54 per cent did *not* believe that Jesus went back to heaven physically whole. 56 per cent did *not* believe in the Virgin Birth of Christ. 71 per cent did *not* believe in a real heaven or hell. 98 per cent did *not* believe in the immortality of man. 99 per cent did *not* believe

in the second coming of Christ. You are probably wondering how I equate these facts with a "Crisis of the Ministry." It seems quite clear to me that these men are *not* God called preachers, but rather men who look upon the ministry as a vocation or a profession. Is this the way we should fill our pulpits and mission stations? Of course the answer is no.

I am convinced that there is a crisis of the ministry in our own Free Will Baptist ranks. We can see it in the absence of men to fill pulpits, we see it when the need, yes the cry and demand for foreign missionaries is left without response, we hear about it when a minister's health breaks, we note it when we drive through the hundreds of large cities in our country where there are no Bible preaching, Bible believing Free Will Baptist Churches. We see it in the lack of a seminary and sometimes lose our men to other denominations because of it. We see it in too few Bible colleges and Christian liberal arts colleges.

Must we turn to those who look upon the ministry of a vocation or profession or *shall we continue* to seek men who are *God called* to fill our pulpits, staff our mission stations and colleges and dig out the new churches in our cities. Of course we are going to look to God-called men; but in this urgent hour, where are they and why can't we find them. I declare unto you that we have a crucial situation on our hands or a "*Crisis of the Ministry*."

May I suggest to you a few reasons for the crisis of the ministry and also share with you what I feel would be the solutions to overcome this crisis. Admittedly my remarks will probably deal with the pastoral ministry more than the other fields of ministry I have mentioned, for I am a pastor.

A crisis is caused when the pastor or minister is looked upon as one to do everything. Recently a young businessman stopped by my office and gave me the following entitled "WHAT DOES A PASTOR DO?" "The pastor teaches, though he must solicit his own classes. He heals, though without pills or knife. He is sometimes a lawyer, often a social worker, something of an editor, a bit of a philosopher entertainer, a salesman, a decorative piece for public functions, and he is supposed to be a scholar. He visits the sick, marries people, buries the dead, labors to console those who sorrow and to admonish those who sin, and tries to stay sweet when chided for not doing his duty. He plans programs, appoints committees when he can get them; spends considerable time in keeping people out of each other's hair; between times he prepares a sermon and preaches it on Sunday to those who don't happen to have any other engagement. Then on Monday he smiles when some jovial chap roars, what a job-one day a week!"

It is true that the modern minister must fill many roles. He must be a counselor, a teacher, an administrator, and in them all he must be a servant *to people and a servant of God*. The minister must have compassion on people. He must see the starving millions of India, he must see the forgotten inhabitants of this country's jails, he must see the pitiful

loneliness of the insane, but above and beyond this he *must see* the moral bankruptcy and spiritual tragedy of lost mankind as well. And our people need to understand the minister's role as a servant of the Word. They need a new awareness of preaching. They need to sense the redemptive potential in every worship service. Congregations need to make it possible for the pastor to major in preaching. They need to know that preaching demands time for preparation. A new respect for preaching by church members in the pew will lead to new power in preaching in the pulpit. We need a revival in preaching. We are living in a century of decline in the spiritual power of the pulpit. The serious preacher will not come to the hour of preaching happy when he has spent more time the previous week in administration than he has spent in sermon preparation. I am personally ashamed to bring an unprepared mind, a tired body, and a prayerless heart to the pulpit.

Dear friend, may I insert here that while your minister may be God-called he is also very much human. His body does become tired. His mind does become weary. He is sensitive to criticism and gossip. He bleeds. He is a husband and a father who usually spends far less time with his family than he should.

What is the solution to this crucial situation? Untie your minister's hands. Realize that while he is a servant, he can not possibly do everything. This will involve a new awareness on your part that "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that *he* will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37b, 38). Become mindful of the importance of the preached word. "And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: . . . And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:1-5a, 7).

Encourage your minister. Sometimes a soft word will do it. Sometimes a smile will do it. Sometimes you will have to hold up his hands as Aaron and Hur did for Moses. The story is familiar but let us note it again very briefly. (Exodus 17) Joshua and God's people at the direction of Moses, were engaged in battle with God's enemies the Amalekites. When Moses would hold up his hands, Israel prevailed and when he let down his hands Amalek prevailed. Moses got tired, so Aaron and Hur scooted a rock

under him to sit on and Aaron got on one side of Moses and Hur on the other side and they held his hands up until the sun went down and that particular battle was won. Dear friend, encourage your minister by holding up his hands when the battle gets hot and heavy.

Don't pity your minister; pray for him. You can help your pastor succeed. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman had an experience in his first pastorate in Philadelphia which ought to encourage other pastors and churches to establish the same kind of pastoral support. It is described in this clipping from an unknown source: "Dr. Wilbur Chapman in his first pastorate in Philadelphia was visited by a layman who frankly said to him: You are not a strong preacher. In the usual order of things you will fail here, but a little group of laymen have agreed to gather every Sunday morning and pray for you. Dr. Chapman added: I saw that group grow to one thousand men gathered weekly to pray for this preacher. Of course he had great success. Almost any pastor would succeed if a group of leaders would thus back him up."

We have a crucial situation or a crisis in the ministry when God's servant is denied the financial support needed to accomplish the task God has for him. In my first pastorate some of our members proudly said, "We keep our pastor poor, God keeps him humble." At least they were truthful. W. E. Grindstaff has observed that "the greatest obstacle to world-shaking revival among Christian people today lies in our attitude toward money." Our church members must change their attitudes from "It hurts me to give" to "It hurts me that I cannot give more." God has never failed to reward those who showed their love for Him by sharing their material blessings that others may share in the Gospel. Without tithers, we will not have churches, we will not have a missions' program, we will not have an educational program, and *it is possible* that we would not have the Gospel ourselves let alone have the means to spread it elsewhere. I am aware that our missionaries' salaries have increased, many of our pastors' salaries have gone up. I feel that our college teachers and staff members have had increases in salaries also; however, I am certain that a man with the amount of training and administrative ability that these people have could in the secular world make much more money. When we deprive God's servant of the financial support needed to get the job done, we force him to leave the college, the pulpit, or the mission station and we hinder the cause of Christ. A lack of financial support puts so much pressure on a minister that it causes one to be an ineffective servant for God, thereby creating a crisis.

I am not going to preach a message on tithing dear friend, but the solution to the crisis is tithing:

1. You can rob God (Malachi 3:8).
2. Jesus did teach tithing (Matthew 23:23).
3. You should invest in Heaven (Matthew 6:19-21).

4. And you ought to give more than thanks.

"For we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ" (Romans 14:10b).

Dear friend, don't hinder the work of Christ by your failure to tithe, thereby forcing a man out of the ministry and causing a crucial situation in the service of God.

Another reason for the crisis of the ministry is caused by the minister himself. Some have a mis-directed ministry. They work at the job but they channel all their energies in the wrong direction. We have a crucial situation when a minister is arrested for a draft board break in or when they lead a march for abortion. We have a crucial situation when a minister leaves his wife and forsakes his children to run away with the church secretary. We have a crucial situation when a minister has an unduly exalted opinion of himself. We have a crucial situation when a minister wants to get people told. We have a crucial situation when a minister will let anything become primary and his ministry become secondary. We have a crucial situation when a minister is not the head of his family. What is the solution? Make sure God has called you into the ministry and be willing to pay the cost. I still believe in a definite God-called ministry. I mean by this that God in a special way does call certain men to leave the normal pursuits of life to be set apart for some definite place of spiritual leadership. Our text bears this out. And he gave some, apostles; and some prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers (Ephesians 4:11). Make sure with Paul that God has "put you in the ministry" (1 Timothy 1:12). As you make sure that God has called you, be willing to pay the price. Paul said in I Corinthians 9:14 "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel." Paul gave his life in the ministry; are you willing to? "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence" (1 Corinthians 1:26-29).

Theodore Roosevelt said: "The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood . . . who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause . . . who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at worst . . . fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls to know neither victory nor defeat."

Rev. Robert Francis is the pastor of the Southside FWB Church in St. Louis. He preached this message at the Missouri State Association held in Monett in August. He wrote it out for publication at the Editor's request.

CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS

FELIX LIMA SPOKE AT MRYTLE CHURCH

Rev. Felix Lima brought the morning message at the Myrtle FWB Church recently. He brought a challenging message from John 4:4, according to the church reporter, Bernice Cantrell. Brother Lima, a native Cuban, is married to the former Lucy Wisehart, and presently ministers in McAllen, Texas.

BETHEL CHURCH IN FESTUS BEGINS CONSTRUCTION

The Bethel FWB Church in Festus, Missouri, had ground breaking services Sunday, July 22, for its new facilities. Pictured is the Building Committee as they move the shovel of dirt for the new building which will be located on old Highway 25, near Jefferson County Memorial Hospital. The new sanctuary will seat 250 people with a balcony potential of an additional 100. The educational unit will contain 14 classrooms, a kitchen, and a social hall which will also serve as a Junior Assembly Hall and a small gymnasium. The basement will also contain 14 classrooms.



Pictured above (l. to r.) are Pastor A. B. Brown, Dianne Naumann, Kenneth Smith, Ellis Smith, Vernon Long, and Jeweldean Adams. Betty Black is the Bethel Church reporter.

TRINITY SPONSORED WITNESSING BOOTH

The Trinity FWB Church of Bridgeton sponsored

a "Witnessing Booth" at the Bridgewood Merchants' Fair last month. Gospel tracts and Scripture portions were distributed and personal witness was shared with passersby.

MINISTER'S RETREAT AT YOUTH CAMP LAST MONTH

Rev. Ruedell Smith, pastor of the FWB Church of Purcell, Oklahoma, challenged the Missouri ministers attending the Annual Minister's Retreat last month, as he brought four messages on the subject of Stewardship.

The Annual Retreat, sponsored by the State Youth Camp Board, included times of fellowship and recreation as well as times of preaching, praying, testifying, and hearing the reports and plans by leaders of each area of our state work.

The horseshoe tournament was won by Bob Francis and Bob Sharry. The photograph below captured the winners' delight.

Next Year's retreat will be changed from fall to spring. Precise dates will be announced later.



Rev. Ruedell Smith addresses Minister's Retreat



Horseshoe champs: Bob Francis, and Bob Sharry

435 ENROLLED IN VBS AT BERKELEY

The First FWB Church of Berkeley held a reportedly successful Vacation Bible School in August. 435 pupils enrolled in the week long school. Co-directors, Gary Walls and Vivian Burton, rejoiced with the Berkeley Church in the 30 decisions for Christ made during the week. Rev. Jack McAllister is the Minister of Education and Youth. Rev. Clarence Burton is the Pastor.

INDEPENDENCE MISSION RENOVATES BUILDING

Mission pastor, Dennis Bowman, reports that the members of the Independence mission have been painting and renovating their building, inside and out. Their auditorium seats 120. They have six classrooms.

The work at Independence is reportedly progressing.

MISSION PASTOR'S WIFE SERIOUSLY INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Densel Durbin, wife of the mission pastor at Sikeston, Missouri, was seriously injured in an automobile accident in Sikeston the day after our State Association closed. At this writing Mrs. Durbin was improving at a Memphis, Tennessee hospital.

SOUTH FREMONT ON THE MOVE

Pastor Wayne Waggoner reports that the South Fremont FWB Church in Springfield has recently secured a loan of \$37,000 for construction of a new sanctuary to seat 175. Construction is scheduled to begin immediately.

Evangelist Van Dale Hudson conducted a revival meeting at South Fremont last month. There were several decisions for Christ made in the meeting.

STATE BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Rev. Wesley Bigelow, assistant pastor of the Monett FWB Church, is interested in knowing if there are other churches in the state that would be interested in organizing a State Basketball League for Free Will Baptist churches. If you have a team at your church and would like to see such a league started, contact Rev. Wesley Bigelow, 107 West Sycamore, Monett, Missouri 65708.

KNOWN PASTORAL CHANGES

Rev. Frank Johnson to Houston, Missouri.

Rev. Don Umfleet to Salem, Missouri.

JOHNSON AND PARAMORE ADDRESS PASTORS' RALLIES

Dr. L. C. Johnson and Evangelist Jack Paramore, both of Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, spoke at six Pastors' Rallies across the state last month in promotion of the Library Wing Project which Missouri State Association adopted in August. The rallies were held at Mountain Grove, West Plains, St. Louis, Springfield, Kansas City, and Farmington. Nearly \$100,000 was totaled across the state as the pastors indicated, unofficially, how much they felt their churches would raise for the project.

Mr. Paramore pointed out that if 25 Missouri churches would give \$1,000 per year for the next three years, and 25 Missouri churches would give \$500 per year for the next three years, and 25 churches would give \$1,000 total over the next three years to the project, the projected goal of \$125,000 could easily be met. Every church in the state, regardless of size or financial capability, is urged to do something for the Missouri Project at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

EDUCATIONAL WING UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT MOUNTAIN GROVE

Construction has begun on a 36' x 80' Educational Wing at the First FWB Church of Mountain Grove. The two story block and stone structure will contain 20 classrooms, a Junior Church Chapel, and Library. Equipped with central air conditioning the structure is being built for approximately \$55,000, \$40,000 of which will be secured by a loan. The men of the church are providing much of the labor themselves.

Upon completion of the building project, two of the existing educational buildings will be sold and moved to allow greater parking facilities.

Rev. Len Wood is the Pastor.

ONLY 11 MISSOURI PASTORS ENROLLED IN RETIREMENT PLAN

Rev. Herman Hersey, director of the National Board of Retirement and Insurance spoke at the Minister's Retreat at the Youth Camp last month and informed those present that only 11 FWB pastors from the State of Missouri are enrolled in the National Retirement Program. The National Retirement Board offers an excellent retirement program for pastors and other full time church workers. Churches are urged to match their pastor's personal contributions to his retirement account.

Is your pastor enrolled?

SOUTHSIDE SURPRISES PASTOR

The Southside FWB Church in St. Louis surprised their pastor, Rev. Bob Francis, with a birthday party after service recently. The church bought him a new suit for the occasion.

Pastor Francis reports good services at Southside and good response recently to the Church Visitation Program.

MEREMAC HEIGHTS GETS NEW NAME

The Meremac Heights FWB Church in Fenton, Missouri, has moved to a new location in Fenton and has changed its name to the Calvary Fellowship FWB Church. Rev. Dwayne Hanson is the pastor.

FAITH CHURCH IN LEMAY GETS SECOND BUS

Pastor Bud Arnold of the Faith FWB Church in Lemay reports that their church has recently purchased their second bus and anticipates continued good response to their bus ministry in their community. The Faith Church lost six families who relocated after the Mississippi flood last spring, but attendance is building up again, according to Pastor Arnold.

OVERLAND CHURCH WINS PLAQUE

The accompanying photo shows Pastor Harry Asher of the Overland FWB Church receiving a plaque from Rev. Roy Pearson in recognition of Overland's winning a 13 week Sunday school attendance contest.

Overland Church recently sent 50 hymn books to the new mission work being started in Colorado Springs, Colorado, by Rev. Lavelle Reeves and his family. Prayer is requested for the Colorado Springs work.



JONES CHAPEL HAS SPECIAL SERVICES

The Jones Chapel FWB Church near Stella, Missouri, recently had Missionary Leland Horton with them for services. Brother Horton is going to Des Moines, Iowa, under the sponsorship of the National Home Mission Board.

Jones Chapel reports an August attendance average of 91. Pastor Billy Joe Gentry recently concluded the second annual open air Crusade for Christ in the Anderson, Missouri area. 24 decisions for salvation and several rededications were reported by Mrs. Betty Flaxbeard.

NEW STOVES FOR STATE YOUTH CAMP

The State Health Department recently ordered our Youth Camp Board to install new Kitchen floors and stoves. A dear pastor's wife in our state has taken the personal project of raising money for the stoves. She writes, "For many years I have helped in the kitchen at youth camp. Perhaps some of you women know what it is to have a stove that is just plain no good. This is what we have at camp. The Youth Camp Board met and gave me permission to raise the money for the new stoves, which will be about \$1,200. What a small amount for people who love God!"

I prayed much about how to raise this money. When we pray in faith believing the Lord always answers. The answer was that each adult member of our churches across the State give one dollar. I can hardly believe we can give so little and be blessed so much. We want this money in by the first of November. Please sent it to: Mrs. Francis Bowman, 625 N. O'Dell, Marshall, Missouri 65340. May the Lord bless you 100 fold.

Yours for the Cause of Christ,
(Signed) Francis Bowman.

FOURTH CHURCH ACTIVE

Reporter Leamon Killian, of the Fourth FWB Church in St. Louis, reports that attendance at Fourth is going up after a summer slump. Fourth's two church buses have been effective in aiding attendance. Their Junior Church is growing, and they now have two departments for the morning worship.

Fourth Church has also purchased property adjacent to their present building for future expansion. The church continues to support every phase of FWB work through the cooperative plan. In addition, offerings are given each month for State Home Missions, in support of the First FWB Church in Kansas City, where Rev. Johnnie Land, a former pastor of Fourth, is ministering. Foreign mission-

aries, Bill Bulcher and Jerry Pinkerton also receive support from Fourth Church.

Rev. Roger Harwell was the evangelist for a fall revival last month in which two souls were saved.

GOOD REVIVAL WITH BOWMAN AT WILLOW SPRINGS

Rev. Cliff Bowman, of Marshall, Missouri, was the evangelist for a revival meeting at the Willow Springs FWB Church. Mrs. Dora Fry, reporter for the church, wrote, "The Lord blessed and souls were saved for which we thank the Lord!"

Rev. Bud Hill is the pastor.

SOULS SAVED AT DESOTO

Mrs. Sophia Ackerson writes from the Desoto FWB Church, "The Lord is blessing us real good with the saving of lost souls. Our services were wonderful, one rededicated and about five saved. Praise the Lord for everything. Continue to pray for Desoto."

Rev. Charles Miller is the pastor.

FIRST SENIOR ADULT RETREAT

The National Department of Retirement and Insurance is sponsoring what may be the first Senior Adult Retreat in our denomination's history. It will be held November 26-29, 1973 at the Hillmont Christian Retreat near White Bluff, Tennessee, where everything is under one roof and there are no stairs to climb.

Pastors are encouraged to bring a carload and attend. The retreat will begin with supper Monday night, 5:00 p.m. and will close with lunch on Thursday. The cost is only \$30.00 which includes registration fee, room and board and insurance.

The program will consist of devotions, Bible study, discussion groups, preaching, and plenty of free time for fellowship. Rev. Robert Crawford, pastor in Ashland City, Tennessee, will be the Bible teacher.

Hillmont is located near White Bluff, Tennessee, (approximately 20 miles west of Nashville on Highway 70). Turn in White Bluff on Highway 47 and follow signs to Hillmont.

Advance registration should be sent to Senior Adult Retreat, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

FULCHERS RETURN TO PANAMA

Missionaries Bill and Glenda Fulcher and family returned to their work in Panama on August 24. They still need regular monthly support for their account, \$1,600 for property to expand their work in Agua Buena, and \$3,000 for a bus for the

mission. Mrs. Fulcher is a native Missourian, so we in the State have a special obligation to their support.

Please consider these needs prayerfully.

HILLSDALE ENROLLS NINE MISSOURI STUDENTS

Hillsdale FWB College in Moore, Oklahoma enrolled a record number of full time students in August. Nine of them list home addresses in Missouri. Hillsdale's total enrollment for the fall semester is 124, with 97 full time students.

HORTON TO DES MOINES

Rev. Leland Horton and his family have begun itinerate work, preparatory to going as National Home missionaries to Des Moines, Iowa, to establish a Free Will Baptist church. Both Brother Horton and his wife Dollie were raised in the Mountain Grove area and have lived most of their lives in the State. They have pastored FWB churches at Oak Grove, Willow Springs, Kirksville, and Hartville. For the past five years the Hortons have pastored in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Brother Horton has done itinerate work in the State of Missouri for the past month. Any church desiring to have him come and share his burden for Des Moines or desiring to contribute to his account may write to Home Missions, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

Let us get behind our fellow Missourian in both financial and prayer support.



KARLA PHELPS DIES IN ACCIDENT

Karla Phelps, a member of the Mountain Grove FWB Church died following an automobile accident in July. Karla and her twin brother, Kirby, had been active in our State Youth Camp for several years.

Our sympathy to Karla's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Morton Phelps, and her friends and family.



Paramore encourages those who can attend the function to notify the Office of Development by October 26. He suggests that groups come in buses and car pools wherever possible.

If you can attend or need more information, write:

Free Will Baptist Bible College
OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

or phone: (615) 297-4676

CORRECT ADDRESS FOR STATE HOME MISSIONS

We have had two address changes in a row for the treasurer of our State Home Missions Board. All State Home Missions money should be sent to Rev. Dennis Bowman, 1932 Belmont Place, Independence, MO 64057.

FILKINS READY FOR SCHOOL

The Howard Filkins family write that they are now occupying the new dormitory building on the campus of the Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake, Ivory Coast. The dormitory was built by Missionary Howard Gage and will be occupied by the Filkins and about 20 teen-aged boys, all missionary children.

At press time the Filkins' crates had not yet been released from customs. The crates contained many materials needed to furnish the dormitory as well as the Filkins' apartment.

BIBLE COLLEGE MISSOURI DAY

Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee will observe Missouri Day on campus Friday, November 2. Missouri Free Will Baptists—both preachers and laymen—are invited to visit the school to share in the occasion. Missouri Day is sponsored by the school's Office of Development under the direction of Jack Paramore.

Housing for guests on Thursday night will be provided in one of the school's dormitories. College personnel are also inviting Missouri visitors to spend Thursday night in their homes.

Both breakfast and lunch will be provided for the guests.

Activities are still being planned and will include a tour of the campus, with special attention to the new Library Wing recently adopted as Missouri's state project. Classes will be open to the guests, as well as the daily chapel service.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOME IN GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE

At the Free Will Baptist Home for Children we provide a secure home for children who have been bruised or disturbed by the tragedies of life that have come their way. These children are not easily assimilated by the community in which they live. Caring for children without a home was once a natural action of close friends or neighbors. Today, however, there is a great gap separating us from others in our complex world. The Free Will Baptist Home is endeavoring to bridge this gap and fill this need.

There are many ways you can help the Home. PRAY that the Lord would supply the need for additional staff. We need a couple to serve as houseparents. SEND US COUPONS and STAMPS. Recently we purchased two clothes dryers with Betty Crocker coupons. MAKE REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS to the Home. Our need for support is growing. The return of the children to school, and the increase in food prices cause us to feel the pinch of the rising cost of living.

At the present time we have 37 children in the Home. We pledge our best in operating the Home for the glory of God. We prayerfully endeavor to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the children. Your gifts and letters of encouragement mean so much to us. We are grateful for the support from Missouri in the amount of \$203.62 in July, and for \$378.05 in August.

James Earl Raper, Superintendent
Free Will Baptist Home for Children
Route 10, Box 327
Greeneville, Tennessee 37743

AUGUST COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS 1973

Salem	\$ 20.00
Pleasant Grove (Cope)	38.56
New Rock Springs	43.80
Cabool	87.65
Central Kansas City	750.00
Beacon	244.80
Gray Summits	44.70
Desoto-Parkview	50.00
South Side	226.00
Garfield	25.16
Willow Springs	125.10
Independence	52.00
Victory	368.93
Fellowship	50.00
Mine La Motte	10.25
Faith	151.40
Number One FWB	26.59
Verdella	75.08
Hurryville	95.37
Cuba	152.21
Carterville	26.50
Merl's Chapel	62.80
Pleasant Ridge	39.70
First, West Plains	145.40
Hickory Grove	14.51
Aurora	26.95
Thayer	80.61
Belton	120.00
Purdy, First	37.00
Berkeley	473.95
Olivett	130.00
Monett, First	292.69
Hannon	160.00
Copper Mines	92.00
Marshfield	88.84
Gateway	17.22
Rock Chapel	23.10
Happy Home	29.00
Houston	107.00
Mt. Grove, First	344.54
Leadington	151.00
Farmington, First	262.25
DeSoto, First	268.00
Pleasant Home (Cope)	22.49
Hurryville	85.00
Fourth	282.65
South Side	196.53
Mine La Motte	13.60
Cabool	116.59
Hickory Grove	17.23
Gateway	15.58
Bethel of Festus	40.00
Parkview	50.00
Fellowship	50.00
Columbia	70.52
New Rock Springs	35.00
Carterville	14.15
Total August receipts	\$6,640.00
Anticipated refund from	
Book Store	146.60
	\$6,786.60

New Percentage allocation:

20.00% Mo. Mission	\$1,401.29
15.00% Mo. Promotional	995.99
04.00% General Fund	265.60
05.50% Youth Camp	365.20
02.50% GEM	19.41
01.00% Sunday School & CTS	66.41
04.00% College Comm.	500.16
52.00% Missouri	\$3,614.06

07.00% Hillsdale College	640.71
13.00% Foreign Missions	863.21
09.00% FWB Bible College	538.96
07.00% Executive Dept.	347.52
06.50% Nat'l Home Missions	372.96
03.00% C.T.S. Department	228.52
02.00% Retirement & Ins. Ed.	162.13
00.25% Theological Comm.	1.93
00.25% Layman's Board	16.60
48.00% OUTSIDE GIVING	\$3,172.54
100% Disbursements	\$6,706.60

Please note that this figure is \$146.60 more than the August Cooperative receipts from participating churches. Due to its progress and growth the Book Store no longer needs cooperative funds and was therefore left out of the 1973-74 allocations. The \$146.60 is the anticipated refund of cooperative receipts sent to the Book Store July 31, 1973.

Corrections are made in the disbursements for August 1973 to reflect the Cooperative Budget as adopted at the Missouri State Association. This required the reallocation of Cooperative funds retroactive to July 1, 1973. This was figured by combining the receipts for July and August 1973 and disbursing them according to the percentage allocations listed above.

DESIGNATED GIVING THROUGH STATE OFFICE

DESIGNATED FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS:

Aurora Church	\$63.99
Hickory Grove Sunday School	24.15
West Plains, First Church	70.70
Mtn. Grove, First Church	91.50
Missouri State Association	327.00
Pleasant Home Church	100.00

DESIGNATED FOR STATE MINUTES:

Mission Association	\$50.00
Cave Springs Association	41.00
Liberty Association	35.00
Laclede County Association	11.00
Niangua Association	10.00
Northwest Association	10.00
Harmony FWB Church	10.00

TOTAL DESIGNATED MONEY \$844.34

According to a resolution passed in the State Association, all money sent through the state office to any outside agency, such as Bible College, Hillsdale, Foreign Missions, or Home Missions, will be published in the GEM. If you would like a record to be kept in the state of your church's contributions to any of these departments, send them to Rev. Harry Beatty, 2244 Tenbrook, Arnold, MO 63010. Be sure to designate the amount you are sending to each department.

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS GIVING REPORT

Missourians gave a total of \$1,587.19 to National Home Missions during the month of August, 1973. The top giving church for the month was the First FWB Church of Mountain Grove, which gave \$409.95. Twenty-four other churches and individuals made contributions.

Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Rev. Harry Beatty

Pastor Dwayne Hanson assumed charge as pastor of Calvary Fellowship FWB Church early in July. The church is located on Highway No. 141, near Fenton, Missouri. I visited them Sunday evening, August 5. Their Sunday school is growing and they have new converts in their congregation, some of which have affiliated with the church. Their prospects are good in this location.

Macedonia FWB Church hosted Indian Creek annual meeting August 7-9. I attended Wednesday evening and gave the Missouri cooperative program. Rev. Tim Eaton delivered the evening sermon. Rev. Billy Gentry preached Thursday noon. Their business session concluded early afternoon. Thursday night I attended the Tabernacle Crusade revival near Anderson, Missouri conducted by Evangelist Gentry.

Two quartets from Jones Chapel Church accompanied Pastor Gentry to render the special singing. Six souls were saved. I was given time to bring greetings and explain Missouri's cooperative participation in the ministry of God's Word.

Southeast Missouri yearly meeting convened with Fredericktown Church August 10-11. Madison County youth rendered the special singing program under the direction of Rev. Durbin. Rev. Leon Miller delivered the sermon. Brother Beatty delivered the Saturday morning sermon and gave the cooperative program. All three Quarterly Meetings were well represented. The assembly made a special contribution to the accounts of missionaries Fulcher and McLain.

Monett Church did a fine job hosting our Missouri State Association August 20-23. Good gospel singing and preaching prevailed throughout the week. Mr. Heard, a layman from Columbia FWB Church, spoke for the youth service Monday evening. Ministers delivering messages were Lonnie Sparks and wife, Anita who spoke, Spurgeon, Wood, Fulcher, and Robert Francis. Many important items of business were passed. Our projected cooperative goal for this year is \$85,000.00.

Send all cooperative gifts to Rev. Harry Beatty, 2244 Tenbrook, Arnold, MO 63010.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1972-73

Church	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Aurora	42	64	66	62	51	47	62	52	30	26	19	26
Copper Mines	90	92	81	84	77	76	85	91	77			
Cuba	87	93	82	84	93	91	88	98	80	85		78
Desoto	127	144	136	145	157	178	189	189	159	159	143	158
Farmington	137	150	136	145	125		155	161	139	139		
Fellowship, Flat River	379	333	311	324	328	370	407	390	322	310		
Flat River, First	140	141	124	130	146	140	178	215	159	149	150	149
Fourth, St. Louis	124	135	140	136	134	145	154	143	112	110	125	123
Grace, Arnold		227	206	175		223	241	255	194	209	189	220
Jefferson City					38	39	43	40	36	31	34	43
Joplin, First	80	75	68	64	74	119	139	116	106	100	102	101
King's Way, Springfield	55	59	56	55	60	65	64	66	67	61	68	56
Kirksville					111	112	117	114	112	103	101	95
Leadington	98	110	100	97	76	51	59	63		62	60	59
Lebanon, First	162	167	143	149	153	156	160	166	144	143	134	
Mine LaMotte	32	42	36	31	36	43	42	51	46	55		
Monett First	223	219	211	203	196	209	219	207	198	219	209	200
Mountain Grove, First	264	266	255	240	246	284	263					
Myrtle		51	48	56	47	53	63	52	50	48	45	
O'Fallon					53	64	72	72	70			
Parkview, Desloge	95	93	93	94	96	98	90	106	97	83	83	87
Richwoods					23	28	34	35	40	34		
Salem	33		35	39	39	46	42	39	41	40	37	49
South Fremont, Spfld.	79	78	68	73	67	75	77	75	71		77	
Southside, St. Louis	150	153	138	149	133	144	156	154	144	130	132	130
Springfield, First					180	228	212	231	200			
Thayer	154	148	144	151	116	157	153	181	149	159	173	
Trinity, Bridgeton	180	191	180	186	172	171	194	200	160	153	159	157
Twin Oaks, Fredericktown	55	46	48	51	50	53	55	51	71			
Victory, Avondale	173	212	152	184	173	171	181	174	165	155	138	160
Willow Springs	100	109	86	84	77	88	94	94	95	91	94	95

Other churches are invited to send their Sunday school attendance averages for publication.

FROM THE PINKERTONS IN SWITZERLAND

We had just finished sending out our prayer letters announcing our soon expected departure from Switzerland. It was to take place in just six days. However, a small truck, which failed to slow down for a "yeild" sign, changed those carefully laid plans rather quickly. Our station wagon was hit at the middle door post, knocked sideways, and finally turned over, resting against a concrete wall. Everyone was conscious, except Tim, our youngest. His face and head were cut up badly. He was in surgery two and a half hours, receiving more than eighty stitches. Junior, our 11 year old, had a bad cut about three inches long on the side of his head, which required 15 stitches. It later became infected and he had to go back to surgery to have it opened and cleaned out. Howard, our oldest, had nine stitches on his arms and head. Carol had minor cuts and they kept her at the hospital for 24 hours observation. I received only a few minor cuts. Of course, the car was demolished. The driver and the passenger in the truck were not seriously injured.

Tim remained in a coma for three and a half days, and received over a quart of blood. We were very thankful that Dan Merkh came immediately to be with us during this time. As Tim began to come out of the coma, Brother Merkh was one of the first people he called by name. Further examinations and x-rays showed that Tim had no other injuries, except just a small crack in the skull in the area of the forehead. However, the hole in his cheek is going to require a series of grafts to be restored to normal. He is his old self again and has kept a very good attitude about what is facing him in the future.

It was not long until we began remaking our plans, but with a little different departure schedule. Howard and Junior left September 4 from Geneva, flying to Paris, changing airports, and then on to Abidjan that evening. We did not find out until yesterday (8th) that they had arrived safely and have already started school at Bouake. We do not know when Carol and Tim will be able to go since we do now know how long the operations will take. We will continue our French study until the Lord opens the doors for us to leave, which we are praying will be sometime before Christmas. Another car is on order for us, but with the dollar devaluation and the amount the insurance company is offering for the wrecked car, we will probably lose around \$2,000 on the purchase of the new car.

We are confident that the Lord has a purpose in all of this. Many miracles have happened during this time which have shown us again the power of our God. And the assurance of your prayers for us! How our hearts were blessed by your letters and the telegram from the State Association. I can assure you that God answered in a mighty way.

Prayer requests. 1. Pray for Tim as he faces these various operations and for the specialist who will be doing the surgery. 2. Pray for Howard and Junior in the Ivory Coast. We expected to be separated as a

family but being two continents apart was not in the plans. 3. Pray that we shall, as soon as the Lord permits, be able to be on our way to Ivory Coast.

MISSOURI STATE

HOME MISSION GIVING:

AUGUST 5 THRU SEPTEMBER 5, 1973

South Fremont	7.50
Wo. Aux. Belvoir, N. C.	7.43
Hannon	140.42
Willow Springs	16.00
Myrtle	9.16
West Plains, First	40.00
Olivet	150.00
New Home	60.00
Cuba	4.00
Grace	25.00
Fredricktown, First	40.00
Thayer	15.00
Alton	10.00
Madeline Loney	2.50
Mtn. Grove, First	8.50
DeSoto, First	25.00
Leadington	8.00
Rock Chapel	20.00
Central Western Assoc.	53.17
Fellowship	53.00
Verdella	25.45
Fourth	34.62
Parkview	15.00
Hartville	5.00
Victory	107.00
Mine LaMotte	10.00
Wanda Perryman	2.00
Kansas City, First	25.00
Viburnum	25.00
Salem	10.00
New Rock Springs	27.50
Low Ground	5.00
Aurora	5.99
Coop. Receipts—August	1,401.29
Total	2,393.53

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS AT BELTON

In May, 1973, the Belton FWB Church voted to annex to the present sanctuary with a basement structure of 48' x 80'. Additional classrooms and a Junior Church will occupy the space when completed.

The basement will also serve as the foundation for the new sanctuary that will be erected in the future. Much volunteer work has been put into this project for which we are very thankful.

We are very thankful for the dedication of our pastor, Rev. Bill Christensen, and for the many willing workers in our church. The Lord blessed us with a successful Vacation Bible School in August when a number of boys and girls were saved. An average of 105 attended each evening.

We are looking forward to our revival next month with Rev. Herbert Rogers. We desire your prayers that we will all be uplifted and that we will see many souls won to the Lord.

Woman's Page

Kathy Lay, Editor



NOTES AND NEWS

On the last page of this issue, you will find a clever way to help raise money for one of our yearly projects . . . a calendar which you can make for each auxiliary member. First you need to take squares of paper and cover each day so it cannot be seen ahead of time. Then at the end of the day, you take the colored paper off for that day and do whatever it says. This can be fun as well as beneficial. Change it around to fit the month you use it for so everyone will be surprised. And don't forget if you do use it, to send your offerings to Hazel Hutsell, our state treasurer Don't forget this year ladies to send your tithe to our state treasurer also, that's what helps keep our state work going . . . THIS YEAR . . . STATE PROJECT: Lonnie and Anita Sparks in Spain (16mm projector . . . goal \$1,000) . . . FEBRUARY EMPHASIS . . . State Home Missions Loan Fund (goal \$1,000) . . . RETREAT . . . September 15-16, 1974 (maybe it won't be so cold) . . . SOUTHSIDE AUXILIARY (St. Louis) reports an active auxiliary even through the "summer slump." They sent items for the provision closet, had special offerings for the Fulchers and McLains, and continued to support auxiliary through the WNAC Gift Plan.

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT . . .

Dear Co-Laborers,

As your new president, I have an urgent need—a need for prayer support. After being forewarned of the nominating committee's plans, it was my prayerful decision to not accept the office. So, when Kathy called me for my decision, I said, "No, not this year, unless no one else will take it." Well, you know the results, and here I am asking for your prayers and am certain you will be as helpful to me as you have been to Brenda Evans. Thank you for your vote of confidence. I feel honored but very humble. You pray for me and help me, and I'll trust the Lord and we can all enjoy a year of blessings in His service.

In Christ,
Sandy Smith
312 Center
Farmington, MO 63640

A NOTE FOR YOU . . .

Dear Sister Evans/Co-Laborers,

We want to express our appreciation to the Missouri Woman's Auxiliary for the privilege to have been your speakers at the State meeting. It was wonderful to fellowship with all of you short though it was.

We want to thank each one who gave. Your generosity overwhelms us . . . the \$1,000 towards the film projector, the honorarium, the clothes . . . you gave so very much.

Thank you once again from the depth of our hearts. May God bless and continue to use each one of you for His glory.

We remain yours in Christ,
Lonnie and Anita Sparks

DIVINELY UNPREMEDITATED

One afternoon, ladies for the congregation called on the young clergyman. He was very nervous. "Please come in and sit down" he told them cordially. They smiled and settled in. After an awkward pause, he renewed his effort "Now make yourselves right at home. I'm at home and I wish all of you were."

Copied

CHRIST WAITS

One should live in oneness with Christ
The deepest love, perfection in life

A goal to be sought day after day—
Through Christ, one can find the way
God has planned that He should be
The center of our lives, a golden key
A partner with whom we can walk this land,

Led by faith, held in His hand.
He has laid the steps to Heaven's gate
It's for our love that He does wait
Someday he'll come to carry us home
Pray you are ready, for He won't phone
He's said He'll come as a thief in the night
Pray by then you have seen the Light.

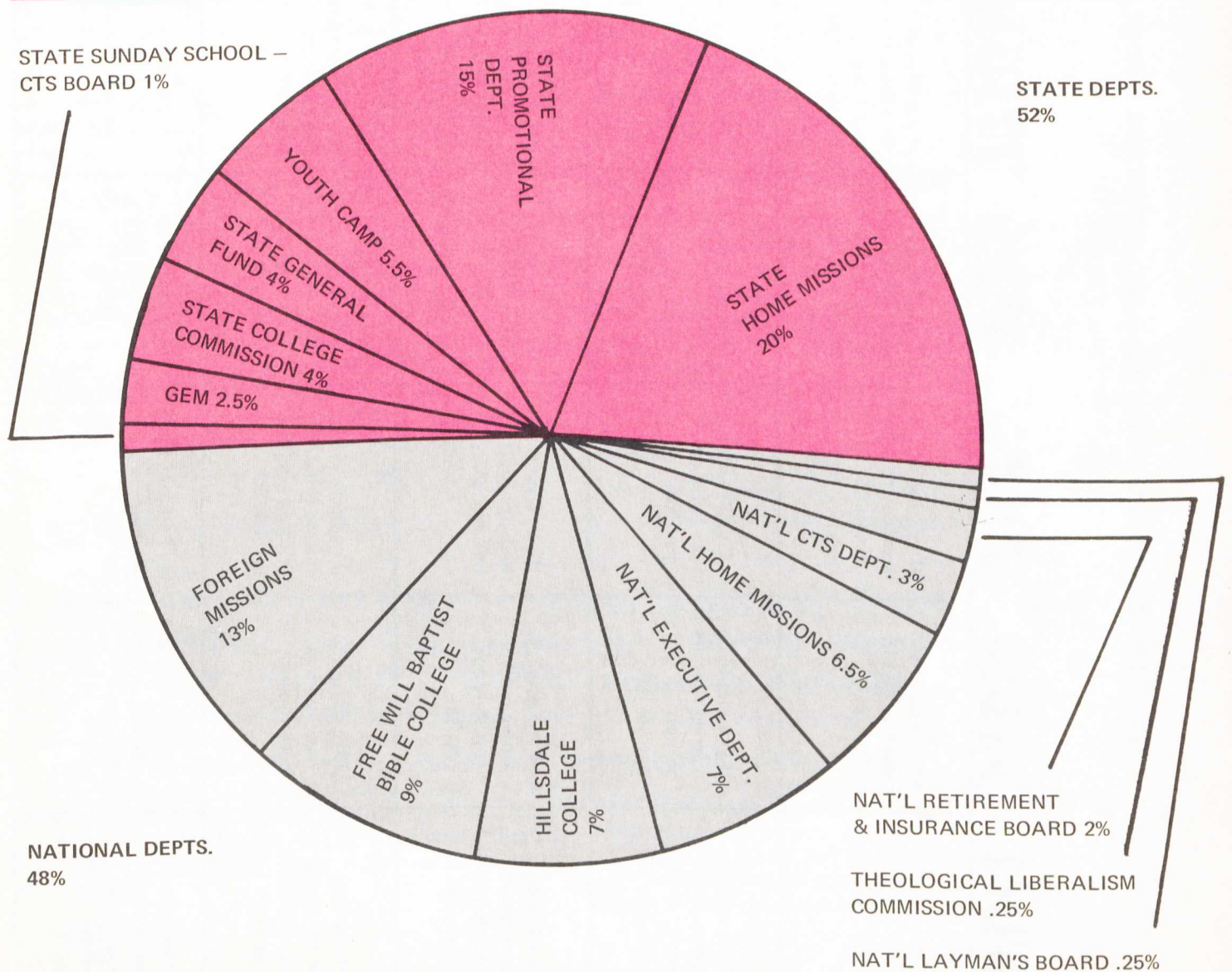
James R. Reppy

Note: James R. Reppy is a member of the Berkeley FWB Church, now in the U.S. Air Force.

1973-1974- STATE PROJECT . . . 16mm PROJECTOR FOR LONNIE & ANITA SPARKS

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	If you did the laundry, pay 5¢. If not, pay 10¢.	If you invited someone to Aux. take out 5¢. If not, pay 12¢.	If you had all your dishes done by 6 p.m., pay 5¢. If not, pay 10¢.	If you prayed for a State Home Missionary . . . Free. If not, pay 15¢.	If you bought your groceries today, pay 2¢. If not, pay 8¢.	If you washed windows, pay 3¢. If not, pay 7¢.
If you were at church on time . . . FREE. If not, pay 25¢.	If you prayed for a foreign missionary, pay 2¢. If not, pay 10¢.	If you vacuumed, pay 3¢. If not, pay 10¢.	If you went to church, pay 5¢. If not, pay 25¢.	Pay 2¢ for each person/animal in your house.	If you studied your S.S. or Aux. lesson . . . FREE. If not, pay 15¢.	If you changed your sheets, pay 5¢. If not, pay 10¢.
If you took someone to church, pay 5¢. If not, 15¢.	If you sent any letters today, pay 2¢. If not, pay 8¢.	If you washed your hair, pay 5¢. If not, pay 10¢.	FREE DAY	If you read a denominational paper . . . Good. If not, pay 5¢.	If you went out to eat, pay 10% of the bill. If not, pay 5¢.	If you had your devotions before noon, pay 2¢. If not, pay 10¢.
If you sang in the choir pay 5¢. If not, pay 10¢.	Pay 5¢ for each room in your house.	If you prayed for a Home Missionary FREE. If not PRAY and pay 15¢	Pay 1¢ for each inch around your waist.	If you dusted today pay 4¢. If not, pay 10¢.	If you watched T.V. for more than 2 hrs., pay 25¢. If not, pay 5¢.	FREE DAY
If you did something with your family, pay 5¢. If not pay 15¢.	If you prayed for your Pastor, pay 5¢. If not, pay 25¢.	If you baked today, pay 4¢. If not, pay 11¢.	If you drove your car today, pay 5¢.	If you ironed today, pay 2 ¢ for each article. If not, pay 10¢.	If you mopped today, pay 5¢. If not, pay 10¢.	If you sewed something today pay 5¢. If not, pay 15¢.

**YOUR MISSOURI STATE
COOPERATIVE DOLLAR
1973-74**



**SUPPORT EVERY DENOMINATIONAL AGENCY THROUGH COOP
1973-74 BUDGET \$85,000.**