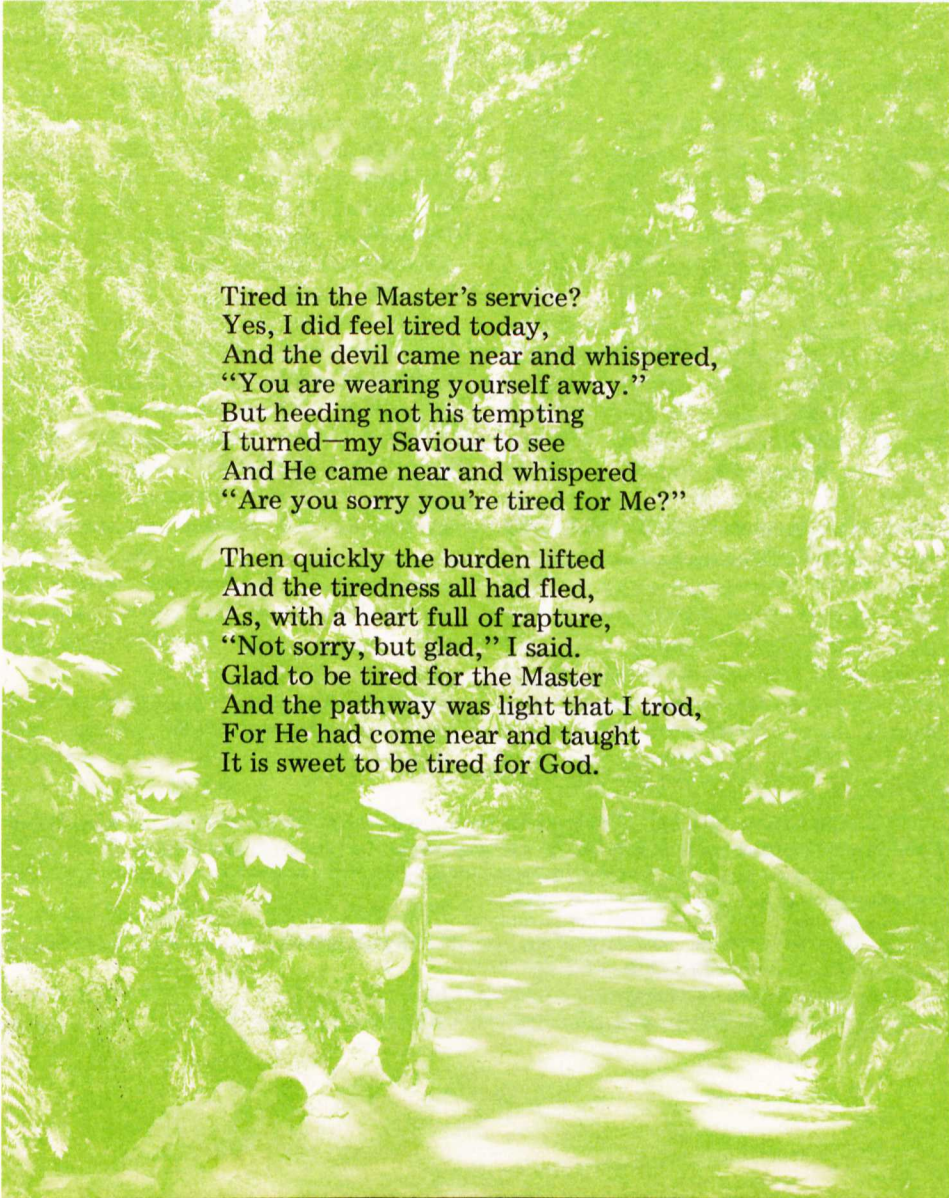


Free Will Baptist

GEM

August 1974
Volume 44
Number 8



Tired in the Master's service?
Yes, I did feel tired today,
And the devil came near and whispered,
"You are wearing yourself away."
But heeding not his tempting
I turned—my Saviour to see
And He came near and whispered
"Are you sorry you're tired for Me?"

Then quickly the burden lifted
And the tiredness all had fled,
As, with a heart full of rapture,
"Not sorry, but glad," I said.
Glad to be tired for the Master
And the pathway was light that I trod,
For He had come near and taught
It is sweet to be tired for God.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1973-74

Church	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Aurora	26	19	26									
Beacon, Raytown	71	96	79	78	77	81	81	78	89	84		
Berkeley, First	289	316	323	342	347	348	330	309				
Bethel, Festus	96	79										
Copper Mines	86	95	87	80	74	76	68	74	73	91	81	82
Cuba		78	72	82	72	71	72	70	67	92	74	72
Desoto	143	158	150	156	161	149	155	145	149	159	170	147
Divine Trinity,									51			
Evangel, Webb City						44	46	45	41	49	32	33
Farmington	131	129	132	142	134	138	135	115	131	145	144	152
Fellowship, Flat River	277	298	384	432		391	330	324	362	405		
Flat River, First	150	149										
Fourth, St. Louis	125	123	133	147	132	141	164	146	174	164	144	152
Grace, Arnold,	189	220	202	240	238	232	226	200	230	272		226
Jefferson City	34	43	51		56							
Jones Chapel	86	91	101	90	85	91	71	91	90			
Joplin, First	102	101	95	94	95							
King's Way, Springfield	68	56	70	79	90	90	80	85	99	92	97	95
Kirksville	101	95	99	101	105							
Leadington	60	59	43	46	50	47	49	35	47	56		
Lebanon, First	134	119	191		125		128	144	127	128		
Mine LaMotte	43	43	37	43	44	46	44	40		75	62	55
Monett, First	209	200	196	240	208	195						
Mountain Grove, First	248	265	267	283	265	276	253	277	275			
Myrtle	52	54		47	46	49	44	44				
O'Fallon	50	60	65	82	78	62	70	65	85	81		
Parkview, Desloge	83	87	96	100	100	98	78	75	81	85	84	
Richwoods	36	30	31	30	26	33	22	27	27	38	28	
Salem	37	49	43	45	40	44	34	35			40	40
South Fremont, Spfd	72	77	83	76		80	80					
Southside, St. Louis	132	130	130	126	140	127	126	127	141	143		
Springfield, First	176	174	196	208								
Thayer	173	152	152	156	144	157	156	151	154	168	161	145
Trinity, Bridgeton	159	157	184	174	179	192	189	182	202	225		184
Twin Oaks	59	56	59	57	55	58	52	56	64			
Victory, Avondale	138	160	164	233	210	188	189	188	179	218	171	177
Willow Springs	94	95	98	100	96	93	83	90	95	104	107	101

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

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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Is It For Real?

By Alton Loveless

Is your pastor one of nearly 30% of American pastors who have had increased indebtedness in the last 5 years?

Does it bring pleasure to you as a layman that your pastor's wife may be added to the already 50% of pastors' wives who work?

Do you think it right that your minister loses an average of nearly \$1100 yearly in order to maintain his job which you helped hire him to do?

The willingness of dedicated men to live with an unsatisfactory situation is what this article is about. Free Will Baptist ministers are well aware that their families need more income, that other professionals are paid far better, and that their own salary levels do not adequately reflect the work required of them. However, sacrificial service is what most ministers I know choose to give, whatever their pay. Yet the system within which they serve often works at cross-purposes.

To become an adequate provider, a man must often move to a part of the system which needs his service even less but is willing to pay more. In such a case, the low-paying congregation he leaves behind sometimes has their best leadership skimmed off, leaving them less able to grow stronger. I contend that this is not a "motivational" problem of the minister but a structural problem of the church as an occupational system.

Have you heard these comments? "Every year since I left Bible College I ended up just a little more in debt. This did not change until I left the pastorate." Or, "Service in the church cost me heavily. When my wife and I analyzed my financial future closely, we figured the education of our children might be jeopardized. We didn't see how it could be done on a minister's salary."

Because the ministry is regarded as a "calling" most men will "stick it out" regardless of their financial circumstances. Should responsible laymen exploit this situation? Not and be fair. Not within the tenets of our faith. We are truly our brother's keeper.

Do you want your pastor to continue in this underpaid condition? Are you satisfied with the

community having to compensate by offering ministerial discounts, free memberships in organizations, invitations to lunch and dinners without having to pick up the check, and honorariums for funerals and weddings? As a pastor these benefits are dehumanizing and run contrary to cultural feeling that compensation is essentially a symbol of one's worth and achievement.

LET'S COMPARE

Spot checks across the country reveal that the average salary of Free Will Baptist pastors is only \$3,080 per year, or about \$59.00 per week. This median is taken from 231 full-time and part-time pastors. Denominations of similar size or situations outpay our median greatly.

For example, Pentecostal Free Will Baptists, headquarters in Dunn, N.C., have a median salary of \$5,338.45. The Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee, require their church congregations to pay their pastors according to church size. If the church has 50 or fewer members, they pay \$116.35 plus \$24.68 expense allotment weekly, graduating to the maximum of \$163.35 plus \$58.08 allotment for churches of 550 or more. Even the Salvation Army Captain who heads the local church program is paid \$92.50 plus home and expenses and is considered one of the lowest paid ministers in America for what he does. Recent studies for Southern Baptists in North Carolina showed their annual base salary for pastors in churches of 100-300 memberships at \$5,784.66 with additional fringes of house allowances or parsonages, utilities, insurance, retirement, car expenses, etc., being furnished by the church. This median came from churches that average only \$17,500 in the annual church budget. Presbyterians have given steady salary increases since 1967 showing a 37% rise in 1972 to a median of \$11,404.

Even with some groups giving increases, the standard pay increase (amidst the fastest rising inflation period in years) has only been rising between 3.4 and 4.7 per cent per year. The Christian

Church (Disciples of Christ) report that their ministers received an average salary of \$8,405 in 1972, compared with the \$10,289 for the average American family. Even with parsonage allowances included, the Disciples' Pension fund added, the denomination's ministers' average annual salary has increased only 4.7 per cent per year since 1963.

Over that same ten-year period, a study showed the Christian Church ministers' average rise in income placed them in the 44th position among occupational groups, second from the bottom and just ahead of dance instructors, with athletes and veterinarians heading the list.

LET'S LOOK AT OUR OWN

Our ministers are dedicated and committed servants of Christ and His Church. They are not overly concerned with finances. They seldom feel free to ask for an increase. The minister depends upon the Christian spirit and fairness of the church. Ask yourself "How well do we pay our minister? How long has it been since we reviewed his needs?"

Since most ministers pledge voluntarily and generously, they should not be forced to make involuntary contributions by delayed salary increases. Most ministers will not complain about this, but they feel the injustice.

Perhaps you are asking, "What is a fair salary? What does a man of equal qualifications make along with fringe benefits in secular jobs?" Many things must be considered in setting a salary equal to his needs. Among the first is the cost of living in your area. Consider also the cost from which he comes because this is where many of his debts were born. Try to average these.

An often overlooked approach is to consider paying the pastor the average of your congregation. You might take a secret poll and average the amount from your board. It will surprise you that most of your membership makes from two to five times more than a church is normally willing to pay the pastor. In love you should be willing to do the same.

It is not a fact that your pastor makes as much because you furnish him a home, etc., unless you have made ample provisions elsewhere to assure him of equal compensation from same. (This you will see later.)

No businessman would consider his employees' expense account, insurance or other "fringes" as part of his income. Personal income is one thing; fringe benefits and business expenses are in another category. The business executive considers the expense account standard while the ministry is the only profession in America where the expenses from which one operates come from the base salary. According to a recent survey taken by Ministers Life Insurance Co., such an expense created a net loss of \$1,018 from the already suffering annual salary.

The minister's chief loss is the business use of his car. Computed at 10¢ per mile his loss averaged

\$838 (The U. S. Department of Transportation, April '72, reported it costs 13.6¢ per mile to operate a standard size vehicle. So again he loses. The Ministers Life survey also revealed 57% were making current payments on car debts averaging \$1,453. Almost three-fourths of all full-time ministers reported a total debt averaging \$2,623, with nearly 21% more holding mortgages on real estate, another debt of \$21,340.

The following suggestions could be a review procedure. Keep in mind that if you get the best from your pastor, you will have to provide resources that will enable him to devote his full time and energy to the work of the church.

In considering his salary, do not count on his receiving fees for weddings, baptisms, and funerals as part of his income. (These fees averaged only \$166 among the highest paid pastors in the U.S.)

Also bear in mind that, if the minister is recently ordained, he will need to furnish his home and may have to repay college debts. Ask him about it. Find out the real situation before trouble develops.

In these days, allow for inflation. At a 3% yearly inflation, he will need \$1,159 in five years to pay what \$1,000 buys today. However, inflation has risen nearly 35% in 7 years, meaning if his salary hasn't risen the same, he is making less than then. Most companies have at least a *cost of living increase*. The church should at least provide such and consider incentive increases every 6 months or yearly.

After establishing a base salary, you should strongly consider the following additional compensations:

1. *Moving Expenses*. Don't create an additional expense for the pastor by not assuming this responsibility. Seldom does a secular business not pay this expense for his new employee.
2. *Housing Provision*.
 - a. Parsonage provision should be regarded as part of the minister's compensation and is helpful to him because it is not a taxable income. However, he will have to figure rental value toward establishing his Social Security and pay accordingly. A parsonage should never keep the congregation from paying an adequate base salary.
 - b. Housing Allowance. If you do not have a parsonage but provide such an allowance, it is so stated as an allowance and thus non-taxable, but merely added to the cash salary. The allowance should be adequate to cover taxes, repairs, utilities, insurance and amortization.
3. *Utilities*. In providing this supplement to the minister's salary, there is a tax advantage to specifying this separately rather than adding it to his base salary. In some situations this may reduce the base from which his pension is calculated but the gain at present outweighs the pension loss.

4. *Social Security.* Ministers who pay Social Security cannot lawfully get it paid by the church, but they may *reimburse* him should they elect to do so. This then becomes a part of his salary and, therefore, taxable.
5. *Hospital and Medical Care.* Business and industry assume all or most of the hospital costs and medical care plans for their employees. Churches should not do less for their minister and family.
6. *Life Insurance.* For the protection of your pastor's wife's future, provide a plan that will give her funds to live on in case of his death. Permanent life insurance can be more than aid in case of death. It can be a means of regularly saving in case of fast need. It builds cash values and policy loans are cheaper than most loaning institutions. It does not offer the bank's ready access to money but neither does the bank offer death benefits in excess of the deposits as does insurance. Some churches also are buying high amounts of term insurance on their pastor, making the church and pastor's wife co-beneficiaries. This is done in case of the untimely death of their pastor to keep the church from financial problems while they seek to secure a new pastor. Such a plan aids both the wife and the church.
7. *Disability Insurance.* For your protection and that of your pastor, it is wise to secure such insurance. It will be a tremendous benefit to your minister should he become unable to perform his job. Thirteen per cent of Minister's Life members stated they would have to resign in case of disability, because no provision has been made for such a calamity. According to Minister's Life, 15 of every 100 suffer disability 6 months or more during their working years—a far greater risk than pre-mature death. If disability occurs, the pastor should have an income on which to live, along with Social Security.
8. *Automobile Reimbursement.* The cost of operating an automobile is increasing considerably. The 13.6¢ figure of 1972 will not operate a car today with higher gas prices. An amount equal to 14¢ should be reimbursed for every mile traveled for the church. Or, as others are realizing, the purchase of a church-owned car or leasing can be alternates. Auto expense is not a reportable tax for the pastor when rebated to him by the church but should be so noted in your records and budgeted.
9. *Continuing Education.* Surveys show the pastor who is continuing in educational studies is among the better paid and stays longer in each pastorate. This should create a desire on your part to include an education allowance in your next budget. A more informed pastor means a more informed congregation.
10. *Retirement Program.* To guarantee your pastor an adequate retirement income, you should set aside money toward his retirement. A minister has access to a tax shelter, not available to

laymen, which you may elect to use along with your pastor's permission, of course. The Internal Revenue Code allows your church to reduce a pastor's taxable income (up to one-sixth for each year of service) and pay that money into an approved retirement plan. This may be done in place of or in addition to your normal pension plan. It is not taxed as current income, allowing your pastor to pay on a lower income while the other amount is set aside for his retirement. This money is taxed only after he begins collecting it as retirement income. Most people are in a lower income bracket then, and under existing tax laws they are entitled to extra exemptions for being over 65. Additional information relative to life insurance or retirement programs is available from the Board of Retirement & Insurance, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee.

11. *Miscellany:* Books, journals, clothing allowances, and special education for exceptional children in pastor's homes are among many extras to make his ministry happier while ministering to you.

Remember, your pastor cannot do his best in preaching, teaching, directing, counseling, and visiting if his mind is clouded by financial doubt and insecurity. Consider the suggestions given herein and, where appropriate, act accordingly. God wills for His children to enjoy prosperity—not live in poverty. Are you paying your pastor a comfortable salary? Invite the concerned men of your church to candidly discuss his financial needs this week—and then activate the suggestions I have presented to you.

Suggested Pastoral Budget

Salary	\$7,800
Automobile allowance	1,200
Housing utilities	2,400
Book allowance	100
Continuing education	100
(college extension classes, seminars, workshops, etc.)	
Hospitality allowance	200
(entertaining evangelists, missionaries, etc.)	
Denominational pension program	780
(10% of salary)	
Major medical insurance	500
Convention-conference expense	450
Yearly compensation	\$13,430

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About the Writer: Mr. Loveless is presently the Promotional Secretary of the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists. He formerly pastored the First FWB Church of Joplin, MO.

CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

BURTON TO NATIONAL S. S. BOARD

Rev. Clarence Burton, pastor of the Berkeley FWB Church, was elected to the National Sunday School Board by the National Association convening in Wichita, Kansas, last month. Of the 28 national board members elected at this year's National Association, Burton was the only Missourian.

A LAKE AT THE YOUTH CAMP

In a June meeting the State Youth Camp Board decided to let a contract for building a lake on the Youth Camp property this fall. The cost of the construction of the dam is being raised by the sale of timber on the youth camp property.

The lake will be located on the south side of the 24 acre youth camp site, behind the row of girls' cabins. Plans for its use are primarily in the areas of fishing and boating. The planned four acre lake surface will be surrounded by a fence and will be well supervised for campers' safety.

The Youth Camp Board report that they have need of a small tractor with a brush-hog and a blade. If any FWB in the state has knowledge of the whereabouts of such a machine that could be purchased reasonably, or perhaps donated to the camp, they should get in contact with a member of the camp board: Rev. Bud Arnold, Rev. Lynn Wood, Rev. Clarence Burton, Rev. Dennis Bowman, or Rev. Ken Goff.

SASSER ATTENDED NAE CONVENTION

Millard Sasser, pastor of the Fourth FWB Church in St. Louis, attended the annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals in Boston, Massachusetts, this spring. Fourth Church is to be commended for sending her pastor to this convention, since Missouri State Association of FWB is a member of the NAE. This gives a vote to a representative from each church in our state.

Rev. Sasser reported good fellowship, soul-stirring messages, and many blessings in attending the convention. May we have more churches and pastors follow Fourth Church's example next year.

The position paper adopted by the NAE convention, and provided us by Brother Sasser follows.

NAE POSITION PAPER

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is Lord of history, and is at work in history! We, His disciples, are called to be workers together with Him (1 Cor. 3:9).

We must accept and fulfill this responsibility in spite of

... moral problems—the moral decadence all too evident on a home front plagued by issues prompted by situation ethics, and leading to corruption on national, local and personal levels.

... theological problems—the rise of certain movements in Christendom which are defining “salvation today” in sub-biblical terms and are interpreting it to mean a restructuring of society by human means rather than by Christ's transforming power;

... national problems—the energy crunch, questions of ecology, the economic crisis, racial and group tensions, the increase of crime, a spirit of anarchy;

... international problems—the trying quest for peace and for detente, the horrors of continuing bloodshed and strife, the fear of wondering who will be the next victim of kidnapping or banditry.

Jesus said, “The night cometh, when no man can work.” There is no time to waste. We dare not engage in meaningless activity, or be paralyzed by fear and feelings of inadequacy. These days of great need are also days of great opportunity as we realize that we must be “workers together with God.”

Acknowledging, therefore, our responsibility, we declare ourselves as follows:

WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE MESSAGE WE PREACH

We believe that God is working out His purpose in the movements of history, calling out a people for His name. This conviction is based on our recognition of the far-reaching effects of the redemption which is ours through the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross. It points to the day when, at Christ's second coming, all shall acknowledge the truth that “God has highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth” (Phil. 2:11 NASB). Our message includes acknowledgment of the personality, purpose and power of Satan and his ceaseless opposition to the propagation of the Gospel and growth of the Church. It discerns the rise of false teachers—those who deny the truth and are among the apostate—who deaden the consciences of many either by alleging a universalism which holds that all men will ultimately be saved, or by advocating a syncretism that brings all religions together as equally correct ways to God and divine truth.

In light of the Bible's word on the coming judgment and the eternal damnation of the unrepentant sinner, we are committed to, and must earnestly proclaim God's clear message found only in the Bible and pray that many more will join us in this task. The words of Christ are still relevant two millenniums later: “The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few. You pray, therefore, the Lord

of the harvest to send forth the laborers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2).

Such a commission comes at a time when we have unprecedented tools for proclamation and evangelism.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE TASK OF WORLD EVANGELIZATION

To say that God is working out His purpose through Jesus Christ is to remind us that the risen Christ said to His disciples, "As my father has sent me, so send I you" (John 20:21). He also commanded, "Go . . . and teach (disciple) all nations" (Matthew 28:20). The call of any hour is to evangelize and disciple those yet unreached.

Perhaps the greatest danger facing evangelicals today is the dissipation of an evangelistic and missionary passion, an insensitivity to a world that really is lost without Christ. The secular spirit of the age and its by-products—temporality and materialism—have invaded evangelical churches and homes. Parents are reluctant to give their children to God for mission ministries in the world. The attitude of many evangelicals is: "Here am I, Lord . . . send my neighbor."

Thus we must remember that evangelizing and discipling is at the heart of our task. Every believer is to be a responsible, reproducing Christian. Evangelism for evangelicals does not stop with the proclamation of the Gospel, nor with public professions of faith in the Gospel, nor even with relating converts to the church through baptism and teaching. The evangelistic goal is fulfilled when new Christians become reproducing disciples reaching others who, in turn, reach still others in a continuous process of evangelism/church growth.

Such a goal cannot be accomplished through human effort alone. Our most elaborate plans will fail apart from total dependence on the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of men. Only God's Spirit can draw sinners to Christ and give them a desire to reach others. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit saith the Lord of hosts" (Zech. 4:6).

WE ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH EVANGELICALS WORLDWIDE

This demands cooperation in dimensions not heretofore attained. We recognize that each believer is linked to every other believer in the delicate function of the Body of Christ. The Church is worldwide. This commitment links evangelicals related to the NAE with evangelicals in every part of the world. We are united in our common commitment to Christ and to the fulfillment of the evangelistic mandate which He gave to the Church. Gladly we will cooperate with those of "like precious faith."

But we call for discernment lest there be compromise with unbelief and apostasy. There are many who profess allegiance to Christ that have either

failed to see the necessity of basing their faith on the person and work of Christ as revealed in the infallible Word of God or have openly denied that such a faith is essential to becoming a Christian. While such people need to be brought to a saving knowledge of Christ, we cannot identify with them in cooperative efforts lest our involvement compromise the message we preach and confuse those seeking for the truth and spiritual reality.

We call, therefore, for our leaders to seek out leaders in other nations with whom we can move together in a great worldwide evangelistic thrust. We pray for two significant international events in Switzerland this summer—the International Congress on World Evangelization (ICOWE) and the Third General Assembly of the World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF). We pledge our prayer and cooperation to make these two events starting points for new dimensions of outreach as "workers together with God."

We believe these commitments—to the Biblical message we preach, to the task of world evangelization and to working with evangelicals worldwide—provide sure guidelines to assist us in fulfilling our God given task.

With conviction and with joy we affirm the covenant of the Wheaton Declaration (1966).

WE

the delegates here assembled in adoration of the Triune God, with full confidence in Holy Scripture, in submission to the Lord Jesus Christ, and looking for His coming again,

DO COVENANT TOGETHER

for God's eternal glory, and in response to the Holy Spirit, and with renewed dedication, and in our oneness in Christ as the people of God,

TO SEEK

under the leadership of our Head, with full assurance of His power and presence,

THE MOBILIZATION OF THE CHURCH

its people, its prayers, and resources,

FOR THE EVANGELIZATION OF THE WORLD IN THIS GENERATION

so, help us God!

AMEN.

FRANKLIN AVAILABLE

Rev. James A. Franklin, who pastored many years in the State of Missouri, has resigned his regular pastoral duties in Cushing, Oklahoma, because of ill health, but is available for revivals, and temporary pulpit supply. He may be contacted at 1515 East Oak Street, Cushing, Oklahoma 74023.

REV. KENT TALLENT TO HAZEL CREEK

Rev. Kent Tallent has accepted the call of Hazel Creek FWB Church near Kirksville. He will begin his pastoral duties there in September. Rev. Tallent was raised in the St. Louis, Missouri, area, attended Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, and has been employed by the Sunday School Department for the past few months.

REV. N. R. SMITH TO JOPLIN

Rev. N. R. Smith will begin his pastoral duties at the First FWB Church in Joplin in mid-August. Rev. Smith comes to Joplin from Nashville, Tennessee, where he has been a department manager for the Sunday School Department. He has previously served as manager of Randall Bookstore in Nashville, Promotional Secretary for Oklahoma Free Will Baptists, and pastor of FWB churches in Oklahoma and Tennessee.

GOD IN ACTION

by Mary Ann Owens

Even before we came to Licking, God was at work leading and guiding our footsteps. Upon returning from a ministers' retreat, Tom "laid out the fleece" to learn if it was God's will to build a church for Him at Licking. He prayed, "Lord, if it is your will that we build a church for you here, let me see some enthusiasm in the people I am to contact." The first lady he talked to told him that if he hadn't come along, she was going to write the State Home Mission Board of FWB and ask them to send a FWB minister to Licking. The others were favorable too.

The Lord being with us, we went ahead full force to Licking. Armed with the sword of the Lord, we were ready to battle the field of a mission work. The Lord has opened doors for us left and right. Our first services were held in our home in which eleven people were present. That was a year and nine months ago. Today we have an average of 45 in Sunday school and an average of 60 for worship service. Our offerings average around \$200 weekly. The church has put Tom on full-time. We will organize officially into a church July 28.

An example of God in action is the way in which He gave us our new 60' x 32' building. God gave the perpetual loan fund idea to a dear, sweet person, who shared her thoughts with those who could do something about them. The fruit of a person's soul being receptive to the Holy Spirit's promptings was the birth of New Life FWB Church in Licking, Missouri.

We would like to thank all those who have been so generous in their prayers and offerings. May the Lord bless you all.

BLACK OAK ENJOYING GOD'S BLESSINGS

by Mildred Sayman

Black Oak FWB Church near Marshfield, pastored

by Rev. Jack Day, has been richly blessed of God and we are very grateful.

Our Bible school was held June 3-7. We had an average attendance of 41 pupils. On the last night five of our youth came forward and accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. A weiner roast on Saturday night and a program on Sunday evening were enjoyed by parents and friends.

On June 30 Pastor Day baptized six. During the past month we have had four unite with our church.

We are thankful for Pastor Day and his wife and desire your prayers that we may continue to grow and reach those who need a Savior.

TWIN OAKS CHURCH ON THE MOVE

Mrs. Madeline McFarland, reporter for the Twin Oaks Church, writes that Rev. Truman Huffman was recently re-elected as pastor of Twin Oaks by a 100% vote. She writes, "Twin Oaks has grown and prospered through the leadership of the Lord and through the love and dedication of Rev. Huffman as an ensample to His flock."

The fifth Sunday meeting at Twin Oaks was conducted by the youth with Brother Raymond Michael in charge. Thirty-three persons were in attendance. Team captains were Gary Lee and Wayne Spain.

Rev. David McCutcheon, a young preacher from the Union Light Church, recently conducted services at Twin Oaks. His message was a great challenge to Christians, according to the church reporter.

Twin Oaks requests the prayers of GEM readers.

50TH ANNIVERSARY AT UNION CHURCH

Union FWB Church of Success, Missouri, is planning to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the church Sunday, August 18, 1974. Everyone is invited to enjoy the day with them. An afternoon program is planned to include all former pastors of the church. A basket lunch will be served at the noon hour.

Rev. Bill Price is the pastor.

COLUMBIA CHURCH GROWING

by Rev. J. Mark Vandivort

Brother Bill Evans was with us for a revival June 24-30. He preached clear Bible messages. One lady was saved and there were some rededications. Our church was greatly strengthened by the revival.

Mrs. Eunice Edwards was with us Sunday evening, June 23, to install our Woman's Auxiliary officers. During the revival our ladies' auxiliary conducted daily prayer meetings in the members' homes.

Several men of our church participated in prayer at the church at 5:30 a.m. each morning. Some of our men have decided to continue the daily early morning prayer meetings. For about a year we have seen the results of an early Sunday morning prayer meeting at which time the pastor, Sunday school

teachers, and other special requests are prayed for.

In response to a prayer concern for Mrs. Linda (Smith) Underwood and other special requests we started a first Monday prayer meeting in January. People of all ages are encouraged to meet at the church at 8:00 p.m. to exchange prayer requests and pray by name for every person who attends or visits our church. These meetings usually last over two hours until the prayer burdens are lifted.

From the beginning of our church over 50% of our Sunday morning attendance have attended the various Wednesday evening prayer and Bible study activities. We believe our church will never go out of existence as long as two or three families meet together to pray. The first service of our church was a prayer meeting. Prayer has been the means of our survival.

SUCCESSFUL VBS AT WILLOW SPRINGS

The Willow Springs FWB Church clerk, Mrs. Dora Fry, writes, "Our church had a good vacation Bible school, with an enrolment of 70. Four of the children gave their hearts to the Lord for which we are very thankful."

STATE ASSOCIATION AUGUST 19-22

Hundreds of Free Will Baptists from across the state will converge on Flat River, Missouri, the third week of this month for the annual state convention. First FWB Church of Flat River will host the meeting. Pastor Ken Goff reports that all things are in readiness and he and his church extend a hearty welcome to all Free Will Baptists in the state.

State Moderator, Rev. Jim McAllister, urges every FWB Church in the state to be represented at the association. Ordained ministers are standing delegates and each church is entitled to one lay delegate, plus one more delegate for each 50 members or major fraction thereof.

Preaching for the convention promises to be some of the best ever. Speakers scheduled to carry out the association theme, "I Must Work . . . While It Is Day," are: Rev. A. B. Brown, Rev. Harvey Hill, Rev. Max Courtney, and Rev. Rolla Smith. A more detailed program of the State Association was printed in last month's GEM.

Churches are urged to send at least their pastors to the association. A first hand view of the state work is needed by every pastor so that he may properly lead his congregation into the support of the state ministries.

See you in Flat River!

MISSOURI BIBLE INSTITUTES SOON TO BEGIN

August 29 will be the enrolment date for the four Missouri Bible institutes. Each school will meet from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. each Thursday until Christmas, except Thanksgiving Day.

This fall institutes will be held at the Grace FWB Church in Arnold, Independence FWB Mission for the Kansas City area, First FWB Church of Joplin, and First FWB Church of Mountain Grove. Courses in Bible Survey, Bible Doctrine, Music Directing, Methods of Teaching, and Evangelism will be taught at each location.

All courses are accredited by Hillsdale FWB College in Moore, Oklahoma; all instructors are academically qualified with degrees in their area of instruction.

Courses may be taken with or without college credit. To audit the courses (not take it for college credit) the cost will be \$5.00 for registration, plus \$10.00 per semester hour. To take the courses for college credit the registration fee will be \$10.00 and the cost per semester hour will be \$20.00. Each course will be a two semester hour course, and each student may take one or two courses each semester. A choice of four courses will be offered at each institute.

For further information on the school in your area contact the director nearest you: Rev. Clarence Burton, Rev. Chesley (Bud) Hill, Rev. Andy Lay, or Rev. Cliff Bowman.

CHURCH WORKERS' SEMINAR SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER

Mr. Keith Kenemer, director of Sunday School Revivals Incorporated, and Rev. Bill Jones, president of Hillsdale FWB College in Moore, Oklahoma, will be the speakers for the Church Workers' Seminar to be held at the State Youth Camp near Niangua October 7-9. The seminar is sponsored by the State College Commission in cooperation with the Youth Camp Board. Pastors and laymen are urged to attend.

The cost will be \$6.00 for food and insurance and \$10.00 or \$20.00 for the seminar, depending upon whether or not college credit is desired.

MISSOURI CHURCHES HELP BUY TRUCK FOR ALASKA

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Dean Huskey of Strawberry, Arkansas, have spearheaded a drive among Free Will Baptist churches to provide a pick-up truck for the Bob Carr Family who are ministering in the state of Alaska. Missouri churches who contributed were Byrd, South Fremont, Clifton, and Thayer. The camper for the pick-up was donated by Mr. Jack Mulford of the South Fremont Church in Springfield.

The truck will be driven to Alaska the last week of August by the Huskeys, Richard Pointer, of Springfield, and Bill Campbell, formerly of Joplin, now from Denver, Colorado.

Mrs. Huskey writes, "We wish more lay people could visit mission fields and get a burden to help send those the Lord has called to go."

JUNE, 1974 COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

Calvary, Conway	\$ 104.00
Fordland	25.00
Gateway	15.00
Beacon	226.25
First F.W.B. Mission, K.C.	107.00
Macedonia, Liberty Assn.	6.00
Buffalo	43.50
Number One	36.50
Willow Springs	116.67
Faith (May)	148.85
Hickory Grove (May)	13.50
Aurora	42.93
Garfield (May)	22.59
Carterville	23.55
Pleasant Ridge	25.30
Hurricane	80.00
Olivett, Marshall	130.00
Byrd	10.00
De Soto, First	226.00
Grace (May)	383.38
Hannon	141.80
Belton	79.00
Salem	20.00
New Prospect Sunday School	
annual offering	170.00
Verdella	53.83
Black Oak (3 months)	30.00
Independence	49.00
Houston	101.00
Freeman Chapel (Apr., May)	104.29
Leadington (May)	118.77
Lebanon, First (Jan.-May)	1,255.00
Marshfield (Feb.-May)	162.64
Thayer	88.37
Rock Chapel	16.72
Merl's Chapel (May)	46.35
Columbia	130.00
Copper Mines	100.00
Gospel Light, (Bonne Terre)	8.01
Monett, First (May)	241.24
Central, K.C. (June)	150.00
Purdy, First	50.00
Happy Home	21.35
Cabool	117.87
Fourth	255.74
Farmington, First	236.57
New Rock Springs	44.00
Willow Springs (June)	88.88

Olivett (June)	130.00
O'Bethel	16.00
Bethel of Festus	40.00
South Side (June)	287.00
Aurora (June)	24.00
Gateway	18.00
Grace (June)	571.70
South Side (bal. June)	40.00
Fellowship (June)	50.00
Parkview, Desloge (June)	50.00
Divine Trinity, Potosi	44.00
Union Light	49.53
Faith, St. Louis Dist. (June)	205.60
Victory (Mar.)	410.99
Evangel Free Will Baptist	
Church (adopted June)	42.58
Grant Ave. (June)	364.90
Union, (Gladden)	60.00
Pleasant Grove (Cope)	22.53
Martinstown (annual offering)	45.00
A Cooperative friend	11.72
Total June 1974	8,150.00

JUNE COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENT

20.00% Mo. Missions	630.00
15.00% Mo. Promotional Dept.	1,222.50
05.50% Mo. Youth Camp	448.25
04.00% Mo. General Fund	326.00
04.00% Mo. State College Comm.	326.00
02.50% Mo. Gem	203.75
01.00% Mo. C.T.S. & S.S.	81.50
52% seven Mo. Depts.	4,238.00
07.00% 7% Hillsdale College	570.50
41% eight Nat'l. Depts.	3,341.50
13.00% Foreign Missions	1,059.50
09.00% F.W.B. Bible College	733.50
07.00% National Executive Dept.	570.50
06.50% Nat'l Home Missions	529.75
03.00% Nat'l. C.T.S. Dept.	244.50
02.00% Board of Retirement & Ins.	163.00
00.25% Layman's Board	20.37
00.25% Theological	
Liberalism Commission	20.38
100% Total Disbursed	8,150.00

Promotional Secretary and Treasurer;
Harry Beatty

One church adopted the Cooperative Plan in June. Some sent twice within the month. We received \$8150.00. 12 months receipts \$84,875.60 Thank you in behalf of Missouri State Association.

Woman's Page

NEWS FROM THE FOREIGN FIELD

Missionary Joan Filkins (Dormitory house parent in Africa) writes:

"We really appreciate the regular support from our auxiliaries and were thrilled to see the gifts for our 'Snack Fund' listed on our account last month. Now we can have some extra goodies for those hungry boys. If you've raised a teenage boy, then multiply that by sixteen and you can imagine the food consumed. May God bless you for sharing in this ministry."

IT'S COMING AGAIN . . . The Missouri State Association and you won't want to miss it. This year Co-Laborers will meet in Flat River on August 20 to share in the blessings from last year and be challenged together for the coming year. The fellowship is always GRRreat, so plan now to attend. If you don't come, you'll miss one of the most blessed times of your life . . . "A MISSIONARY ARM HAS MANY HANDS," is the exciting theme of the 1974 WNAC Emphasis Month Program. August is suggested as WNAC Month but any time convenient to your auxiliary will be fine. Your local auxiliary can receive a complimentary program packet for this which includes visual aids, a program guide, and coin cards by writing WNAC, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

Promotional Secretary's Corner

By Rev. Harry Beatty

Liberty Quarterly Meeting assembled with Little Vine FWB Church near Grove Springs, Missouri on Saturday, June 1. Nineteen churches were represented with delegates. Rev. Lawrence Newton delivered the sermon at 11:00 a. m. and Milan Ruble delivered the 2:00 p.m. message. Four incoming pastors were officially received into their fellowship. They were W. Bennett, M. Southwell, Milan Ruble, and Nathan Ruble. Their presbytery ordained three new ministers: James, McFarland, and Wright. I gave Missouri cooperative program and placed some Bibles for our Lebanon Bible Store.

Evangelist Biggers preached a one week revival in Fordland Church. I visited on Saturday night, June 1, along with eight other visiting ministers. I was privileged to bring the Sunday morning sermon. Six juniors were saved in junior church assembly. They set a new Sunday school attendance record of 80. Pastor Ruble assumed full pastoral charge here early this year.

That same Sunday night I visited Gray Summits Church. They report some have been saved and baptized recently too.

I supplied one service for Pastor A. B. Brown on Sunday morning, June 23. We enjoyed a good service. Their new brick sanctuary and educational facility are almost completed. It is located one block from highway 61 in Festus. They are in fine shape to take care of their growing church.

Sunday evening I filled Gateway pulpit for Pastor McFarland who went with the youth to our youth camp. Please remember Gateway Church in prayer.

I attended the final services of the three week youth camp session June 27, 28. Many souls were saved and scores of lives were rededicated to the Lord. All the teachers and workers did a fine job and Brother Lynn Miley did an exceptionally good job preaching the Word.

Laclede County Quarterly Meeting assembled with Sunnyview Church on Saturday, June 29. Pastor Henson gave the introductory sermon. Rev. Chesley Hill preached at 11:00 a.m. I gave the promotional report. They licensed one new minister.

Niangua Annual Association convened with Hopewell Church on Saturday evening, June 29. I delivered the introductory sermon and gave commendations to cooperative participating churches. Rev. Covington delivered the Sunday morning sermon and one new minister preached for the communion service. Each of their churches were represented.

Sunday evening I visited Pastor Pingleton and Cuba Church. I delivered the message and gave commendations and thanks to the church for their cooperative giving.

Commendations and thanks are due 92 participating churches who gave \$84,875.60 over the past 12 months to the cooperative ministries. Thus, we closed the year only \$125.00 under our projected goal of \$85,000.00. Praise the Lord!

IT'S WHAT YOU DO WHEN YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO THAT REVEALS WHAT YOU ARE

PARDON OUR GOOF!

It was erroneously reported in the July issue of the GEM that the Cape Girardeau Mission had assumed Pastor Bill Adkisson's salary. The Cape Girardeau work and Pastor Adkisson are still supported by the State Home Mission Board.

DESIGNATED GIVING THROUGH THE STATE OFFICE

Aurora Church	
Six mission accounts	\$194.61
Olivett Church of Marshall	
Seven mission accounts	85.00
Hickory Grove Church	
One mission account	12.47
Merl's Chapel Church	
One mission account	34.50
Refund to Promotional Department by Rev. Harry Beatty	
for long distant phone calls	17.00
Total	343.58

Missouri State Home Mission Giving: June 5 through July 5, 1974

Fredricktown, First	40.00
W.N.A.C.	105.07
Myrtle	135.01
Rock Chapel	20.00
Olivet	600.00
Hannon	70.90
Cabool	60.00
Mine LaMotte	20.00
Salem	20.00
South Fremont	100.50
Thayer	7.00
Grace	25.00
New Home	60.00
Merl's Chapel	25.00
Independence	13.20
Hartville	5.00
Willow Springs	11.00
Central	20.00
Monett, First	14.00
Thayer Bible school	121.21
Byrd	105.00
Low Ground	5.00
New Rock Springs	15.00
Victory	224.66
Fellowship	28.00
Parkview	15.00
Fourth	46.68
DeSoto, First	25.00
Union Light	33.00
South Side	6.00
Houston	20.00
Lebanon, First	251.00
Aurora	31.00
Cooperative Receipts	1,379.00
Total	3,657.23

Secretary-Treasurer

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

A REMINDER...

Attend the Missouri State Association
August 19-22, 1974
First FWB Church, Flat River
Theme: "I Must Work . . . While It Is Day"

Enroll in the Missouri Bible Institute in your area.
Grace Church, Arnold
Independence Church, Independence
First Church, Joplin
First Church, Mountain Grove

Courses for College Credit:
—Bible Survey
—Bible Doctrine
—Evangelism
—Methods of Teaching
—Music Directing

Enrollment: 7:00 p.m. August 29