

Free Will Baptist

GEM

Volume 45, Number 1, January 1975

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"



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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Published monthly by the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists
Headquarters: 303 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536

Publication and Business Office: 13 Tanglewood, Carl Junction, MO 64834

Andy W. Lay, editor.

Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information, to the above address.

Woman's Auxiliary news may be mailed to Mrs. Kathy Lay, 13 Tanglewood, Carl Junction, MO 64834.

The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists or of the editor.

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 15th of the month preceding the issue month.

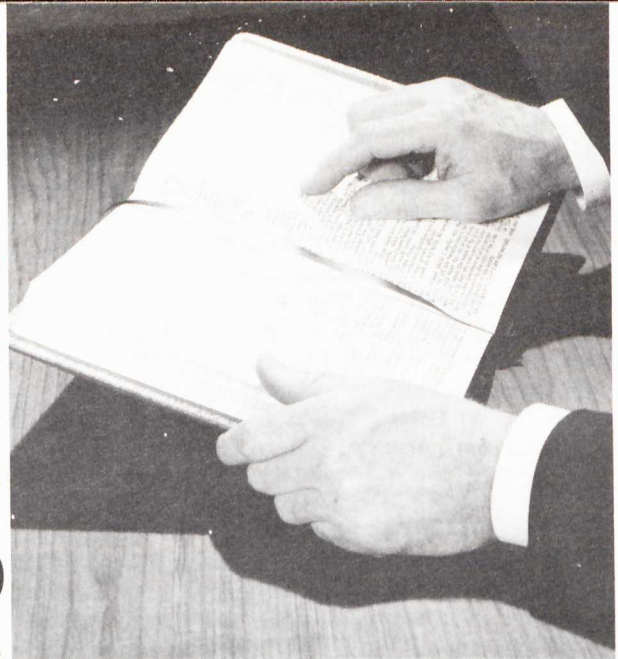
Subscription Rates: Single subscription, \$2.50 per year cash in advance. Church plan, \$2.00 per year consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church.

Second Class Postage paid at Carl Junction, MO and at additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to the Free Will Baptist GEM, 13 Tanglewood, Carl Junction, MO 64834.

The Authority of the WORD

by Edwin Bowden



Free Will Baptists believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and is infallible (error free). A third truth that should follow is: **THE WORD OF GOD IS THE *SOLE* AUTHORITY FOR THE CHRISTIAN AND THE CHURCH.**

Why should the Bible be placed as the sole authority for the Christian? The previous statement should not be taken as contradictory to the fact that God is the ultimate authority of everything (Romans 13:1). Actually the authority of the Scriptures is an extension of this truth. The Bible derives its authority from God. The Bible usually describes its contents as "The Word of God." It has authority because it is the very Word of God. It is not simply a book that contains some of the Words of God. The Bible is the Word of God (II Timothy 3:16). Perhaps, if this term were used more frequently, the impact of the Bible would be greater.

The Bible is God's revelation to the world. It is through this medium that He has chosen to communicate to mankind. Since the Bible is the Word of God, it carries divine authority. When the will of God is desired, the Bible is the place to look.

Some would say that this position is "Bibliolatry" (putting Scripture in place of Jesus). While this might be a hypothetical possibility, it is most unlikely. To illustrate this point, where does one find knowledge of Jesus? John 17:8 shows that a basic part of the work of Christ was to bring God's Word—His final and complete WORD to man. What can man know about Jesus apart from the Scriptures? The knowledge of Jesus and His redemptive work would be sketchy without the Bible. Not only does the Bible record the acts and teachings of Jesus, but gives the proper interpretation for correct understanding. Without the Scriptures, each indi-

vidual would have to determine in some way which gospel was the true record. This would yield a multitude of gospels.

Jesus shows that the Scriptures were authoritative in His life as well. Many times the gospels tell that He did things "in fulfillment of Scripture." He resisted temptation with the Scriptures. Old Testament passages were often the basis of His teachings.

The Bible tells what God said concerning salvation. It is through the Word that the WORD is revealed (John 20:31). Every Christian had to accept the authority of the Scriptures in order to be saved (Romans 10:17). Could they place their faith in Jesus if they did not trust their source of information?

The authority of the Bible ends at salvation for too many Christians. This is the leading cause of spiritual immaturity. Our Arminian theology should make Free Will Baptists aware of this. The Epistle to the Hebrews shows that those who must be warned about the dangers of apostasy, were those who "have tasted the good word of God" (6:5) and still are "unskillful in the word of righteousness" (5:13). These are called "babes." The tragedy is that they are still "babes" when they "ought to be teachers" (5:12). (How many times has the pastor or Sunday school superintendent faced this problem!) The way that is prescribed to become skillful in the Word is "by reason of use" (5:14).

The Word of God not only reveals the means of salvation but also the way of Christian living. When the Christian is faced with a decision in his Christian life, the answer is to be found in the Christian's guide book—the Bible (II Timothy 3:16, 17). Nothing else is to be substituted.

Tradition is often used as an authority for the Christian. The Church can feel safe and secure in

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knowing that its interpretation of Scripture is infallible. The Church fathers wrestled with the Scriptures and determined the “true” doctrine. Therefore, this argument would conclude, the proper subject of study today would be the doctrinal statements of the Church, rather than the Word itself (the Church’s Word about God’s Word). This produces a spiritual deadness in that only God’s Word is capable of the life and power of God (Hebrews 4:12). Only God’s Word can penetrate directly to man’s needs (4:13).

In the past century, reason has been used as the authority. In this “scientific age” everything must be logical and precise. Where God’s Word does not fit into man’s pattern of thinking, he rationalizes that this portion of the Scriptures means something other than its clear and apparent meaning. Church history reveals a wide range of thought that has been defended on the basis of the Scripture. Paul knew the errors that were possible and warns against the misuse of reason “lest the cross be made of none effect” (1 Corinthians 1:17).

God’s ways do not always conform to man’s ways. By contrast, God instructs Christians to transform their thinking from conformity to the world to His way of thinking (Romans 12:2). We are to follow the logic of Christ (Philippians 2:5). “Common sense” dictates that the first cannot be last (Mark 9:35) and that little things cannot be the greatest (1 Corinthians 1:27). Christ showed that reason was inadequate. “Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent” (Matthew 11:25).

This generation has placed experience as the ultimate authority. This is the current philosophy found in literature and music. The “drug culture” is totally experience oriented. Many have adapted this philosophy to Christianity, since it is experience oriented also. A Christian cannot be saved apart from a salvation experience—but it is not the experience itself that saves. The experience is valid only if it is the redeeming work of Christ. It is Christ alone that saves.

Experiences may come from many different sources: Satan, drugs, or man’s own sub-conscious thought. Therefore, all experience must be judged by the Word. The Holy Spirit does not guide in directions different from God’s Word. God is consistent and does not guide into both truth and error. Paul showed that those claiming supernatural experience in Corinth had nothing to boast about. The experiences that they exalted were a matter of false pride, and love was a far better experience to enjoy.

Tradition, reason, and experience have taken many different forms through church history. Many hold to these as their authority without realizing it. While liberals have said that there are no absolutes (in the Scriptures), others have placed their own ideas as absolutes. “Middle-class standards,” “American ideals,” or “pastors’ opinions” have often replaced the Word of God as the authority of the Church. This should never be allowed to happen. Paul gives the gravest warning to those who “preach another gospel” (Galatians 1:8). The source of these positions must be examined to see if they are indeed scriptural.

The pastors and Sunday school teachers can only

speak authoritatively in that they speak the Word of God. They cannot claim some special revelation. The authority of the Old Testament prophets was in the fact that they spoke “the Word of God.” It is said of the authority of Jesus, “Never man spake like this man” (John 7:46). Pastors and teachers should always take the time to expound the Word and give the Biblical reason for their position. It is not enough to say, “I believe this.” In expounding the Word, they can uphold the place of the Scriptures and show its authority in the Christian life. If the pastor and teachers do not show the highest regard for the authority of the Scriptures, the person in the pew will not either.

One word of caution should be given here. One can misuse the authority of the Scriptures by merely using “proof-texts” to show that a verse may be construed to back his own thoughts. This happens when a mind is made up before coming to the Scripture. The Christian should approach the study of the Scriptures with an open receptive mind to the message of the Word of God. God has promised that the Holy Spirit is given to illuminate the message for those who search His Word.

How does the Word achieve the place of sole authority in the Christian’s life? First Peter 2:2 tells the new Christian the importance of the Scriptures. “As newborn babes, *desire* the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby.” The Scriptures are often likened unto food. The most familiar is found in Deuteronomy 8:3 (quoted by Jesus in Matthew 4:4). “Man doth not live by bread only, but by every *word* that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.” This and other passages seem to indicate that as much attention should be devoted to the study of the Scriptures as to one’s diet. A Christian cannot grow and endure without the spiritual food provided in the Bible. The Word gives both sustenance and direction. (How does our spiritual “weight” compare with our physical weight?)

One of the reasons that the study of the Scriptures has been so neglected is that it is *work*. Our present society seeks to avoid this four-letter word at all cost! Paul commended the Bereans (Acts 17:11) because they searched the Scriptures daily to verify the gospel preached to them. Too many today are content to be “spoon-fed” without even looking at what they are eating. Bible study is primarily a personal matter. It is commanded in all parts of the Bible—but most clearly in 11 Timothy 2:15: “*Study* to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, *rightly dividing the word of truth.*”

The consequence of not studying is serious. Jesus told those of His day “Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God.” (Matthew 22:29) One cannot expect to be victorious in his Christian life and ignore the Bible. It is the Word of God and cannot be ignored. For those who study and follow it, they can sing with the prophet Jeremiah “Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts” (15:16). And God has pronounced him “Blessed” (Revelation 1:3).

On The National Front

FROM THE PINKERTON'S IN IVORY COAST

Excerpts from a recent letter follow:

"Work here seems to be on the upswing. I am waiting for some filmstrips from the office before starting into new villages. They just won't show up for preaching. However, it is not unusual for the whole village to come out for a film. In the meantime it is language study. We are making progress, but nobody mistakes us for members of the tribe yet.

"Please pray with us about Tim's next surgery. There is a plastic surgeon coming out here from the States and it is possible that he could do the facial surgery during his visit on the field. We'll find out more hopefully when we go to get the boys."

FROM NATIONAL CTS DEPARTMENT

Quite a few churches observe Youth Week sometime during the latter part of January and/or the first part of February. As a service, we have prepared a six-page guide for persons who are responsible for planning and conducting Youth Week. Youth Week can be a rich and meaningful experience for both youth and the church. Some churches extend the activities over a whole month. The guide deals with six steps in preparation, eleven possible duties of youth week officers, and a suggested schedule for the week. Simply send a stamped self-addressed return envelope to your National CTS Office. There is no charge for the guide.

"OPERATION PARTNERSHIP" LAUNCHED

A campaign to retire the indebtedness on the Free Will Baptist Office Building has been launched. Dr. J. D. O'Donnell has been named campaign coordinator. He will serve part-time while continuing full responsibilities as Editorial Manager at the Free Will Baptist Sunday School Department.

A goal of \$150,000 has been set to erase the indebtedness by July, 1976, when the National Association convenes in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Plans for raising the funds will center around the enlistment of 3,000 people to make a gift of \$50 (or \$5 for 10 months) to this cause.

FWBBC SUPPORT FROM MISSOURI

Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, reports that they received \$1,666.50

from Missouri individuals and churches in November. \$1,118.00 of that amount was for the general fund, and \$503.50 was for the building fund. Top giving church for the month was the O'Fallon Church, where Don Lombard is the pastor. The O'Fallon Church gave \$121.50 to the Library Wing Project.

SPRING ENLARGEMENT CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCED

"OUTREACH TO THE UNREACHED"

This is the third in a cycle series of enlargement campaigns written and prepared by and for Free Will Baptists. OUTREACH TO THE UNREACHED is an enlargement campaign designed to inform, inspire and stimulate an active lay participation. The materials are simply written, colorful, relatively inexpensive, and easy to use. The campaign will organize competition on the basis of average Sunday school attendance during the Fall Quarter, 1974 (September, October, November) as follows:

Division A	over 500	average
Division B	400-500	average
Division C	300-399	average
Division D	200-299	average
Division E	150-199	average
Division F	100-149	average
Division G	50-99	average
Division H	under 49	average

This enlargement campaign will begin on Sunday, March 2, 1975 and continue through Easter Sunday, March 30, 1975. Sunday schools which experience the greatest percentage of gain over the thirteen weeks average attendance for September, October, November, 1974, will be declared winners and recognized with appropriate awards denoting first and second place. **THE PRESENT SIZE OF YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL DOES NOT PREVENT YOU FROM BEING ELIGIBLE TO WIN IN YOUR DIVISION.** Campaign materials are available from the Sunday School Department. *Each entry blank must be accompanied by an order for enlargement campaign materials of at least \$10.00.* Please order your materials early.

THE DEADLINE FOR ENTERING THE CAMPAIGN IS FEBRUARY 28, 1975.

DESIGNATED MONEY SENT THROUGH STATE OFFICE NOVEMBER, 1974

Merl's Chapel Church	
Three accounts	\$85.23
Hickory Grove Sunday School	
One account	23.41
Olivet FWB Church	
Eight accounts	90.00
First FWB Church West Plains	
One account	50.00
Fredericktown, First FWB	
One account	25.00
First FWB Church of Kansas City	
Two accounts	44.15
Total received and disbursed	\$317.79

CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

FARMINGTON WINS SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTEST

The Sunday school of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Farmington won first place in the "F" division of the Fall Enlargement Campaign sponsored by the National Sunday School Department. The Farmington Sunday school grew from their April to June average of 129 to the contest average of 222, an increase of 72%.

The contest was entered by Free Will Baptist Sunday schools from twenty-six different states and one foreign country. Farmington was the only Missouri winner.

Pastor Jim McAllister reports that the Farmington church is now involved in a building program to give the church additional Sunday school classroom space. A three-story unit is planned. Construction has begun on the first floor which will house two departmental assembly areas and eight classrooms.

CENTRAL CHURCH HAS SUCCESSFUL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

The Central FWB Church in Kansas City conducted a missionary conference recently with Missionary Lynn Miley and Director of Missionary Deputation, Henry Van Kluyve. The conference netted faith promises for the Miley account of more than \$400 per month. The cash offering plus the faith promises for one year will total over \$5,000 for missions this year.

Rev. William Evans is the pastor of Central Church.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *This must be the top giving Missouri church to foreign missions. Can anyone top this?*

CABOOL CHURCH BUILDS NEW CHURCH PLANT

The First FWB Church of Cabool is nearly finished with their building program. They are constructing a completely new church plant, including an auditorium and classrooms. The new building is being built on the existing church site. As soon as it is completed the old building will be torn down to provide more parking area.

Rev. Max Courtney is the pastor.

BEATTY, McALLISTER, AND LAY ATTEND PROMOTIONAL MEETING

State promotional secretary, Rev. Harry Beatty,

state moderator, Rev. James McAllister, and GEM editor, Rev. Andy Lay all attended the annual promotional meeting at the Hillmont Camp near Nashville, Tennessee last month. The four day long meeting included seminars of mutual interest to state and national leaders.

Rev. Olan Hendrix highlighted the seminar sessions with a day long training session centering around the subject of communication.

1975 STATE ASSOCIATION TO BE AT WEST PLAINS

The 1975 Missouri State Association will be held at West Plains on August 18-21. It was originally voted by the State Association to hold the 1975 session at Thayer, but due to the overflow crowd at the 1974 session and the subsequent resolution to provide an auditorium with a minimum seating capacity of 500 for the evening services at future state meetings, the General Board in session in November voted unanimously to change the 1975 meeting site to West Plains.

The day services of the Association will be held with the First FWB Church, where Rev. Dale Skiles is pastor. The evening services will be held at the West Plains Holiday Inn.

Pastors and associational officers are urged to help get the word of this change out to every FWB in the state so that there is no confusion about the 1975 meeting place.

YOUTH CAMP LAKE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

By the time this GEM reaches you, the lake at our state youth camp should be completed all except for the water, that is. The bulldozers were working in the beautiful fall weather in this Ozark retreat which is sacred to hundreds of Free Will Baptists who have made eternal decisions in the camps that have been held there annually since 1946.

The lake, which is being constructed south of the girls' cabins, will add much to the youth camp experience of the more than 1,000 campers who use the camp facilities each summer. It will be used for fishing and boating and, of course, will be closely supervised.

Free Will Baptists in the state can be proud of their forward looking camp board: Rev. Floyd Arnold, chairman; Rev. Clarence Burton, Rev. Lynn Wood, Rev. Ken Goff, and Rev. Dennis Bowman.

Churches are urged to put the Youth Camp in their budget for regular support. The need for additional funds was increased when a wind storm blew the swimming pool fence away last fall. The fence will have to be replaced. Other modifications to the pool are also planned before summer camp, as funds are available.

EVANGEL CHURCH SETS FIRST ANNIVERSARY RECORD

The Evangel FWB Church of Webb City set an

attendance record in their first year anniversary service on December 8. The morning service was attended by 108 persons, with 12 in the afternoon anniversary activities, which included a gospel music concert by the Nutting Trio. Four persons made decisions in the day's services. Two of them were first time decisions.

Evangel Church has scheduled a January revival meeting with Rev. James McAllister, a March missionary conference with Lynn Miley and Henry Van Kluyve, and a July Bible conference with Rev. Leroy Forlines.

Rev. Andy Lay is pastor of Evangel Church.

PASTORAL CHANGES

Two northeast Missouri churches have new pastors: Rev. Archie Cooper, formerly pastor of the Hazel Creek Church, is now pastoring Lowground Church. He also pastors New Harmony Church half-time.

Rev. Eddie Pierce is the new pastor of the Martinstown FWB Church. He is an alumnus of Hillsdale FWB College. This is his first pastorate.

NEW WORK BEGUN IN NEOSHO

A new Free Will Baptist work has recently begun in Neosho, Missouri. Rev. Derl Hicks is the pastor of the mission. The congregation known as the New Hope Free Will Baptist Church is presently meeting in the Seventh Day Adventist Church building located at College and Spring Streets. They averaged 28 persons in morning service attendance last month.

VICTORY CHURCH SEETING RECORDS

The Victory FWB Church of Kansas City has set several records lately. They recently had an \$881.21 missions offering in a regular service without any special thrust. Their total income for the first 48 weeks of 1974 was \$48, 076.32. They have had 122 first time decisions, 108 dedications, and 31 united with the church.

Victory Church will soon occupy their new church building presently under construction. Rev. Lawrence Thompson is the pastor.

STATE CTS COMPETITION SCHEDULED

The State Sunday School-CTS Board in a recent meeting set the dates for the State CTS competitive activities as May 3. The location will be the Rock Chapel FWB Church near Mountain Grove.

The competition will be broken down into five categories to conform with the national rules for CTS competition. The five categories are: Memorization (for grades 1-3); Sword Drill (grades 4-6); Tic Tac Toe (grades 7-9); Bible Bowl (grades 10-12); and Music and Arts (for all grades). The declamation is now included in the music and arts division.

Further details may be obtained from the Nation-

al CTS Department, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. There will be an entry fee assessed by the State CTS Board. Deadline for entering is April 5, 1975.

The State Sunday School-CTS Board also announced that they will once again sponsor a Sunday School Superintendent of the Year and a Sunday School Teacher of the Year contest for Missouri FWB Sunday schools. Nominations for these honors are to be mailed to the State Book Store, P. O. Box 991, Lebanon, MO. 65536, by July 1, 1975. Further details about this contest may be obtained by contacting a member of the State Board: Rev. Bud Hill; Rev. Millard Sasser; Rev. Tom Owens; Rev. Charles Miller; Mr. Richard Pointer.

VERGEL MANESS BOOKING MEETINGS FOR 1975

Rev. Vergel Maness has been conducting weekend revival meetings and youth rallies for the past several months with his ventriloquy doll, "Mr. Chips." Brother Maness has announced that he plans to enter into this work fulltime as opportunities avail themselves. He is now booking meetings for 1975. Anyone wishing to contact him may do so at Rt. 1, Box 351 M, Imperial, Missouri 63052. Phone 296-5216.

OLD FASHIONED DAY AT BERKELEY

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Berkeley observed Old Fashioned Day on Sunday, November 17. Several were dressed in an old fashioned way. Typical of this is the family pictured in the accompanying photograph, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Banes, Regina and Steve. The noon meal was enjoyed in the fellowship hall.

The auditorium was lighted for the evening service with lamps and kerosene lanterns. The people enjoyed the testimonies and special singing. Many expressed the fact that it was a wonderful day in the Lord.

Pastor Clarence Burton stated, "The people of the Berkeley Church enjoyed being together and worshipping in a oneness of spirit. The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad."



Evangelism-Missions Conference

The Missouri State Home Missions Board and the National Home Missions Board are cooperating in the planning of an area Evangelism-Missions Conference. Evangelist Bobby Jackson and Pastor Ken Doggett will be the principal speakers.

The conference will be held at the First FWB Church of Berkeley, Missouri, located at 8900 Springdale Avenue on January 13-15. Rev. Clarence Burton is the host pastor.

The program is as follows:

January 13

- 10:30 a.m. Call to Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Evangelist Bobby Jackson
- 1:30 p.m. Pastor Ken Doggett
- 2:30 p.m. Evangelist Bobby Jackson
- 7:30 p.m. Evangelist Bobby Jackson

January 14

- 9:30 a.m. Pastor Ken Doggett
- 10:30 a.m. Evangelist Bobby Jackson
- 1:30 p.m. Pastor Ken Doggett
- 7:30 p.m. Evangelist Bobby Jackson

January 15

- 9:30 a.m. Pastor Ken Doggett
- 10:30 a.m. Evangelist Bobby Jackson
- 12:00 Noon Dismissal

Evangelist Bobby Jackson has been a fulltime evangelist for Free Will Baptists for more than 20 years. His ministry has been blessed by an unusual number of souls finding Christ and churches experiencing real revival.

Pastor Ken Doggett is an alumnus of Free Will Baptist Bible College and has pastored for more than 15 years. He is presently the pastor of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Flat River, Missouri, which has the largest FWB Sunday school in the state.

November Cooperative Receipts:

Garfield (Oct.)	\$22.68
Macedonia	10.00
First Mission, K.C.	105.00
Independence, K.C.	66.00
Salem	20.00
New Rock Springs	26.45
Willow Springs FWB	106.15
Trinity, St. Louis Dist.	260.00
Grace (Oct.)	442.65
Evangel (Oct.)	77.89
Hickory Grove (Oct.)	12.42
Merl's Chapel (Sept.-Oct.)	94.46
Number One FWB	21.48
Pleasant Ridge	21.00
O'Fallon (Oct.)	72.63
Hurryville	82.25
Richwoods	129.96
Faith	216.53
Royal Oaks	30.00
Olivett	130.00
Hannon	115.00
Carterville	27.32
Rock Chapel	16.13
Farmington, First	337.29
Byrd FWB	13.50
First FWB, West Plains (Oct.)	182.70
Fordland	25.00
De Soto, First	300.00
Berkeley (Nov.)	300.00
Cuba (Oct.)	40.48
Thayer	87.54
Belton	124.00
Monett, First	152.82
Purdy, First	54.47
Copper Mines	85.00
Happy Home	17.84
Central, K.C. (Nov.)	120.00
Viburnum (Oct.)	98.83
Leadington (Oct.)	138.52
Fredericktown, First-offering	25.00
Evangel (Nov.)	115.11
Pleasant Grove	17.61
Union Grove Church	100.00
Cabool	130.66

Columbia (Oct.)	86.00
Divine Trinity, Potosi	33.00
Fourth (Nov.)	277.63
Aurora	36.37
Buffalo	48.32
Grant Avenue (Nov.)	240.58
South Side (Nov.)	210.50
Grace (Nov.)	385.04
Fellowship (Nov.)	50.00
Independence (Nov.)	60.00
Beacon (Nov.)	227.79
Willow Springs (Nov.)	65.41
Number One FWB	32.12
First FWB Mission, K.C.	104.00
Sixty contributions	\$6429.13

November Disbursements:

20.00% Missouri missions	\$1285.83
15.00% Missouri Promotional Dept.	964.37
05.50% Missouri Youth Camp	353.60
04.00% Missouri General Fund	257.17
04.00% Missouri College Commission	257.17
02.50% Missouri Gem	160.73
01.00% Missouri C.T.S. & S.S.	64.29
52% seven Missouri Depts.	3,343.16
07.00% 7% Hillsdale College	450.04
41% eight Nat'l. Depts.	2,635.93
Total	\$6429.13
13.00% Foreign Missions	835.79
09.00% F.W.B. Bible College	578.62
07.00% National Executive Dept.	450.04
06.50% Nat'l. Home Missions	417.89
03.00% Nat'l. C.T.S. Dept.	192.87
02.00% Board of Retirement and Insurance	128.58
00.25% Laymans Board	16.07
00.25% Theological Liberalism Commission	16.07
100% Total disbursed	\$6429.13

Promotional Secretary and Treasurer
Harry Beatty:

Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Rev. Harry Beatty



On Friday, November 1, Central FWB Church hosted the Greater Kansas City District Quarterly Meeting. Eight churches were represented by letter and delegates. A brief business session was held and time given for our Missouri Promotional Secretary's report. Some brethren purchased Bibles from our Missouri Book Store stand. The principal feature of the evening was a 70 minute film entitled, "The Enemy."

On Sunday morning, November 3, Pastor Bundy and Beacon Church invited Brother Beatty as guest speaker. We shared a good service there. Some new families have been added to Beacon Church congregation recently.

On the same Sunday evening, I delivered the message in the Columbia Church. Some have been saved through their hospital ministry recently. They also have other new people in their congregation too. Pastor Vandivort reports new record attendance in Sunday morning services. They have completed their new church building and they are in fine shape to take care of all the people they can win to the Lord.

On Thursday, November 7, Hartville Church hosted Mission Quarterly Meeting. Twenty-two churches represented by delegates and letters. Ministers preaching during this one-day service were William Austin, Gary Fry, Tom Owens, Stanley Jones, and R. E. Helsley. National Home Missionary Fred McCoy gave a challenge for missions. The cash offering received during the convention was designated to McCoy's account. I gave our Missouri Promotional program and placed some FWB Treatises. Pastor Jones and Hartville Church did a fine job serving the noon meal in their church annex.

On Thursday evening I journeyed with Evangelist Max Courtney to a revival meeting he was preaching in a rural church in Mountain Grove area. There was good interest manifested among the unsaved there.

Indian Creek Quarterly Meeting assembled on Saturday, November 9, with the Granby Church. Six of their nine churches sent delegates; therefore, attendance was light. The interest and services were real good. Joplin's pastor, N. R. Smith, delivered the 11:00 a.m. sermon. Rev. Allred was delegated to preach the 2:00 p.m. message. I gave Missouri Cooperative challenge and some folk purchased Bibles from our Missouri Bible stand.

Pastor Fred Harris and Purdy Church invited me to preach on Sunday morning, November 10. We enjoyed a good service. A score of souls have been

saved in the past three months in their regular church services. Their church supports the cooperative plan monthly. Currently they are helping launch a new work in Shell Knob in the Table Rock Lake area.

On Sunday night I visited our Cuba Church. Rev. M. Tucker preached for Pastor Pingleton's service while he was away Sunday night on an errand for the Lord in Kansas.

In the vacancy of the pastorate of Fredericktown, First Church I was privileged to deliver both morning and evening sermons on Sunday, November 17. The presence of the Lord was manifest in both services. They gave an offering to the cooperative fund, which they have supported consistently from its inception in the Missouri State Association.

On Sunday afternoon, November 24, I attended Trinity Free Will Baptist Church's special choral program entitled, "Alleluia," presented by their 28-voice choir directed by Brother Bob Tendale of their church. Two souls were saved in the altar service that followed and several people came forward to recommit their lives to the Lord. This was a fine program presented to an overflow crowd.

On the same Sunday evening I delivered the gospel sermon in Overland Church. The Revelators Quartet of Granite City were special guest singers. We enjoyed a real good service. Pastor Asher reports they have reached a special designated Christmas pledge offering and hope to double the amount by Christmas time.

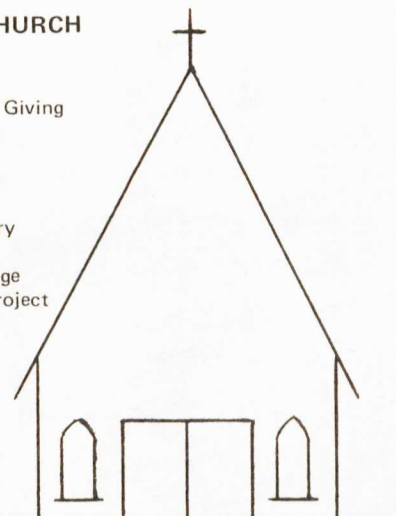
On Tuesday, November 26, the entire Missouri General Board assembled in their semi-annual meeting in Lebanon. They received reports of standing boards and commissions and implemented further plans to help carry out the proposed programs.

Thanks to every church that shared in the November special offerings and contributions to National Home Missions. Missouri's suggested Foreign Missions quota is \$88,000. We are behind schedule, but we can still reach our goal with proper response in December. Churches, pastors, brethren, let's rally to this challenge.

Thanks for 60 November cooperative fund contributions. We received \$6,429.13, thus we are under the projected schedule this month.

BE A FIVE STAR CHURCH

- *Support Missouri State Cooperative Plan of Giving
- *Support Missouri State Youth Camp
- *Support Missouri State Home Missions
- *Support FWBBC Library Wing Project
- *Support Hillsdale College Debt Elimination Project



Woman's Page



Let's start the new year out right, ladies, by going over and beyond our goal for our State Project: "Sending the Miley's across the miles..." Ramona Miley wrote: "We do appreciate all you have done for us. We have really thanked the Lord for concerned women such as in your auxiliaries.... We just love the prayer quilt and will soon have all the names memorized, because Michelle points them out each night for me to read. There are a few things we still could use and, since I was asked to send them to you... Here they are:

JONATHAN:

Play shirts size 5 and 6
Play shorts size 5 and 6
Cotton socks sizes 7-8-9
Cotton P.J. size 4-5-6-6x

MICHELLE:

Play shirts and shorts sizes 5-6-6x
Panties size 5-6
Summer P.J. size 5-6
(both children need 4 pairs of each size)



LYNN:

Underwear briefs size 34
Solid color socks

RAMONA:

Cullottes for everyday sizes 23" waist 35½" hips
Material of cotton, dacron seersucker to make clothes as we need them

Here are some other needed items: Electric knife, Club aluminum cookware, avocado green bathroom set with shower curtain, purple bath room set, sturdy luggage for the whole family, "Cornelle" Lucingware dishes (as many as possible. Mrs. Miley says company comes often and in LARGE crowds), full size "fancy" purple bedspread, toys to take for future Christmas presents, etc. (Michelle will be from 4-7 and Jonathan 2-5). Foods: Jello, canned chicken, hams (meat that needs no refrigeration), Tang, popcorn, large cans of Crisco, Dream Whip, canned fruit (cherries, cranberry sauce), large cans of baking powder, packaged gravy mixes, puddings, frostings, powdered sugar, and brown sugar. Books for children and Christian ladies books for pleasure reading, family games such as Monopoly (already have Scrabble) and HEAVY towels. Material deteriorates fast in Africa. Okay ladies, let's get busy right at the first of the year and see what we can do to this list. Be a cheerful giver and help the Lord's servants as they go to tell others about Him.

NOTES 'N NEWS... Praise the Lord, Sister Beatty has been at it again. Another new auxiliary has been organized. On November 12, 1974, New Life Church of Licking, Mo. organized their auxiliary and held an installation service with Sister Beatty presiding on the 13th. Their officers are: Mary Ann Owens, president; Laura Hoylman, vice president; Mary Barker, secretary; Melvalee Watson, treasurer; Lois Ice, mission study; Beverly Blankenship, prayer mission; and Brenda Vandivort, mission action. Pray for this new auxiliary as they begin the new year together for the Lord and missions.

By Melinda Cortez

no time for you today



Now I'm a busy woman, housewife, and mother. My days are hectic from morning 'till night, and I just don't see any relief in sight. I'm also a Christian, I hasten to say, and I have to find time to read my Bible and pray. But some days there is so much to do, I still haven't prayed when my day is through. This is what my story is all about, when for Jesus, there's been no time out. "Christian Mother and Wife, before you start your routine, don't you think you should take some time for me?"

"Oh, I'm sorry Jesus, there's just too much to do. But don't you worry, I will before the morning is through."

"Christian lady, it's half past ten, I know you are busy but I'll remind you again." "Jesus, can't you see, there's much to do. Soon I'll find time, hopefully before noon." "Oh, Christian Mother, it is after noon. Could you spare me some time pretty soon?" "Let me get the children fed and down for their nap. Then I'll have some time out. No, I'm sorry, while they're in bed, I just have to wash my head."

"Christian Wife, it's getting close to the end of your day. You've still not taken time to read your Bible and pray."

"Jesus, it's nearly six. My husband's coming and there's supper to fix. It's my most busy time of the day. There's not time now to read and pray."

"I'm sorry to bother you again and again, but it's getting late and bedtime is at ten." "Now, Jesus, there's a special coming on TV, that I've been waiting a week to see. There's dishes to do and baby to bathe. I just couldn't stop and take time to pray." "Well, Christian Lady, the clock says ten, and here you are asleep again. I had a blessing for you today, if only you'd had time to read your Bible and pray. I wanted to lighten your heavy load, but each time I came you sent me away. You say tomorrow I'll read my Bible and pray' I hope that you do, for I have a blessing still waiting for you."

Missouri State Home Mission Giving: Nov. 5 through Dec. 5, 1974

Willow Springs	19.00
Cuba	12.75
Fourth	97.26
Olivet	200.00
Anonymous	30.00
Hartville, First	5.00
Myrtle	18.00
South Fremont	107.00
West Plains, First	70.00
Grace	25.00
Aurora	17.00
Rock Chapel	20.00
Hannon	116.50
Mine LaMotte	10.00
Fredericktown, First	20.00
Columbia	20.00
Low Ground	5.00
New Home	30.00
DeSoto, First	30.00
Houston	79.28
Central	40.00
Independence	10.00
Fellowship	25.00
South Side	1.00
Victory	200.50
J. Mark Vandivort	1.50
New Rock Springs	17.50
Salem	10.00
Cooperative Receipts	1,285.83
	2,523.12

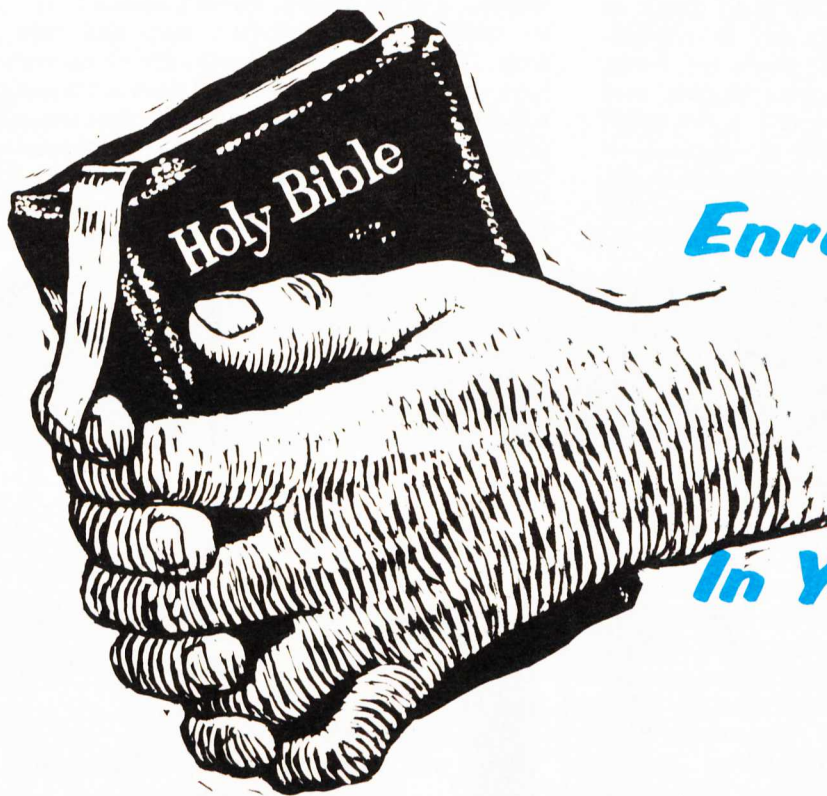
Secretary-Treasurer
Rev. Lawrence Thompson
3416 N. Bellefontaine
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

HIS UNFAILING PRESENCE

Another year I enter
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone!
But I have heard a whisper,
I know I shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?
I may not, must not know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

—Selected



***Enroll In The
Missouri
Bible
Institute
In Your Area***

Institutes are being held at Southside FWB Church in St. Louis
Independence Mission in Independence
First FWB Church in Joplin
First FWB Church in Mountain Grove

Take courses in Bible Survey, Bible Doctrine, Teaching Methods, Pauline Writings,
or Church Administration (depending upon the area).

Registration is January 21 in St. Louis and January 23 in all other locations.

All courses accredited through Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Moore, Oklahoma.