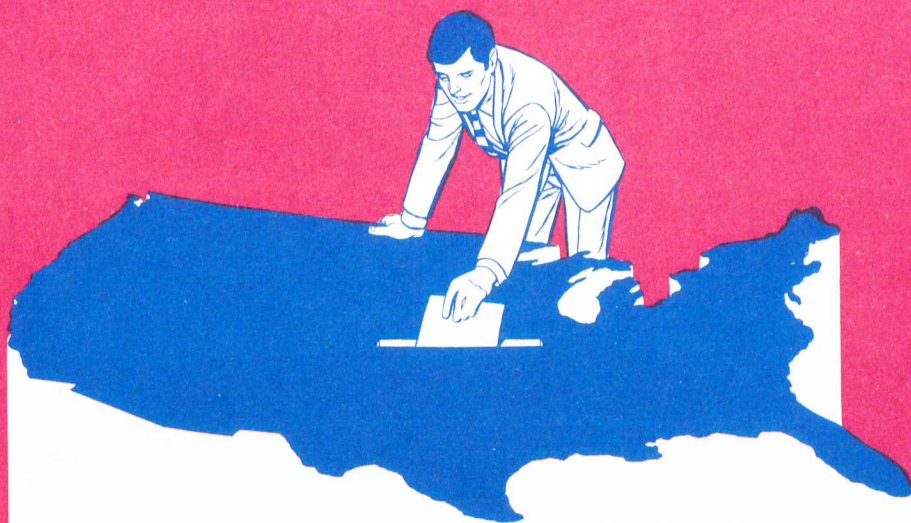


Volume 46, Number 10, October 1976

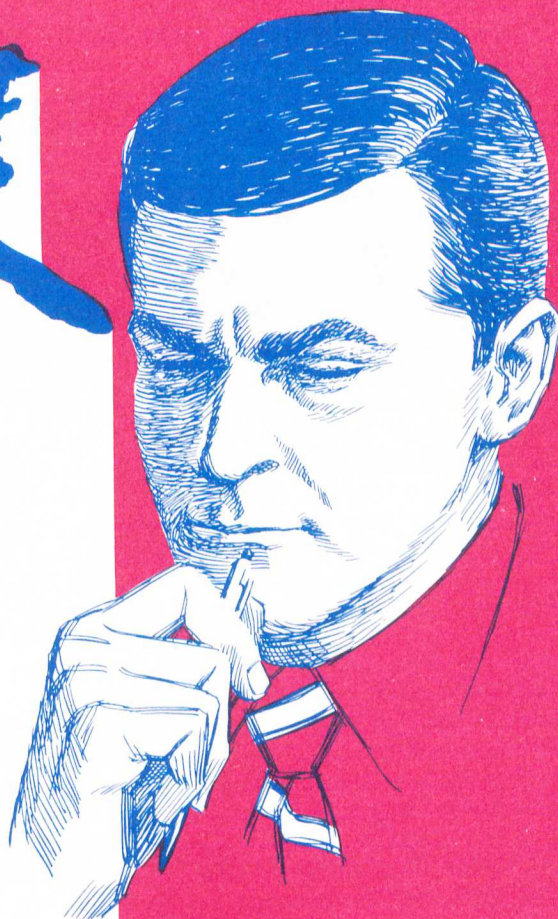
Free Will Baptist

GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"



**From the
Pews to the Polls**
(see page 3)



Sunday School Attendance Averages 1975-76

CHURCH	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Bethel, Festus	84	97	86	88	90	94	109	94	90	100	99	107
Calvary Fellowship	69	67										
Copper Mines	82	73	70	75	84	71	83					
Cuba					106	110	112	120	112	105	116	105
DeSoto	162	160	152	158	163	171	164	175	154	140	143	
Farmington	256	301	264	266	275	285	342	339	309	329		358
Fellowship, Flat River	307	310	307	325								
First Mission, Kansas City					49	40	34	24	25	28		19
Grant Ave.	108	108		109		116						
Hazel Creek	56	62	45	50	50	62	77	76	84			
Jones Chapel												101
Leadington	64	69	65	72	70	81	82					
Lebanon, First			155	147	149	162	181	165	156	164	143	137
Mountain Grove, First	278	289	287	267	266	267	274	282	251			
Myrtle				62	56	58	53	60	71			
Richwoods				35	30	30	31	34	30	31	30	
Salem			43	39	38	30	48	37	32			32
South Side	186	180	190	192	178	176	222	189	177	152	149	168
Thayer					163	159	179			167		181
Trinity	227	235	222	224			243	240	214	197	163	
Victory	183	175			165		213	200				
Willow Springs	95				100	115	112	113	126	116	133	118

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

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Clarence Burton, editor

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From the Pews to the Polls

by Congressman John B. Conlan

During this Bicentennial era America's Christians should be challenged by the dynamic example of their forefathers—God-directed men whose vision and perseverance gave birth to the most powerful and prosperous nation in history. Yet in 1976 that heritage is seriously threatened by growing economic, social and spiritual crises fueled by an age-old problem: "... They which lead you cause you to err, and destroy the way of your paths" (Isaiah 3:12).

The Christian community in America is an incredibly untapped source of positive influence and *can* restore this great land as "one nation under God." But as Christian statesman Edmund Burke said many years ago, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

Burke's axiom was painfully illustrated by the horrors which engulfed Germany in World War II. Martin Niemöller, a heroic German pastor who suffered 8 years of imprisonment for opposing Hitler's regime, later said: "We, that is the Church, have failed, for we knew the wrong and the right path, but we did not warn the people and allowed them to rush forward to their doom."

While American Christians have mounted massive evangelistic campaigns throughout the world, their neglect in many aspects of our national domestic life has allowed a practical atheism to advance in this society. The resulting spiritual vacuum has given godless forces a free ticket to powerful positions in mass media, entertainment, educational systems, and government, where their destructive influence is maximized.

Social and political programs can never deliver permanent peace of salvation; yet God Himself

ordained government "for the punishment of evil-doers, and for the praise of them that do well" (1 Peter 2:13, 14). No one could be better equipped for this awesome task than men and women of integrity, wisdom and courage, who are committed to God and sensitive to the deepest needs of their fellowman.

However, those who pursue such leadership must first cultivate the discernment to identify and counteract distorted philosophies now shaping the minds of so many Americans. As the Apostle Paul warned, even Christians often fall prey to devastating but subtle confusions to individuals and nations: "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Colossians 2:8).

Christians who unwittingly adopt secular humanist perspectives often dilute biblical truth to make it "palatable" to the world around them, thus contributing to social and political deterioration. God's laws do not imprison; they liberate. Nor do they stifle the intellect, but provide a concrete source of truth and wisdom. Those who boldly apply biblical principles to every aspect of life and steadfastly oppose the distortion of truth will be as "salt"—purifiers and preservatives in a society desperate for their influence.

The economic, domestic, social and political disorders now rampant in America have developed primarily through neglect and rejection of biblical principles. For instance, Christians are challenged to help meet the needs of widows, orphans, the sick or others who for some reason *cannot* work. However, the Apostle Paul stated clearly that those who *will not* work shall not eat. Yet diligent ambitious citizens are coerced by government to cough up about 4½ months of their paychecks each year just to pay their taxes, which are then extravagantly pumped into mismanaged welfare, food stamps for strikers, and other scandal-ridden programs and bureaucracies. Such inequitable income-redistributing policies often encourage indolence and unemployment and sap citizens of the initiative to produce at top efficiency, even bankrupting our largest city.

Soaring crime rates are also the result of the

About the writer: John B. Conlan is a congressman from Arizona. He was one of the principal speakers at the National Association in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

humanistic view that it is man's "unequal economic environment," not his nature, that corrupts him. Thus criminals are coddled, and law-abiding citizens are repeatedly victimized by warped concepts of compassion and justice. As in Isaiah 3, a nation which rejects God's laws soon yields judicial, military and political leadership to those who may have great knowledge, but lack true wisdom—the ability to apply knowledge creatively and productively. The inevitable result is internal demoralization, civil strife and a climate ripe for corruption from within and without.

On the educational scene humanists peddle a secular religion which declares that God is irrelevant and that personal faith has no place in this sophisticated, scientific age. Such educators have abandoned the teaching of basic learning skills to become social engineers—change agents who turn children against traditional Judeo-Christian values deeply cherished by most parents.

America may fatally undermine its own strength and security unless capable leaders man more positions of government leadership. When Jesus commanded His followers to "go into all the world" (Mark 16:15), He didn't limit them geographically or occupationally. The world includes the factory, home, office and school, as well as art, music, journalism, government and politics.

Throughout history God has moved His people into prime positions to influence domestic and international affairs. In Old Testament times Daniel, Joseph and Esther—all of whom were prisoners of war—even rose to major positions in alien governments. Their role wasn't to force society-at-large to adopt their religious convictions. But then as today men and women committed to truth, justice and compassion could better serve constituents of every racial, religious and ethnic background than leaders void of character and discernment.

As God-directed men and women move into every aspect of society, they inevitable become healing agents for entire communities and nations: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

God has never needed a majority to win battles, and Christians can certainly be used in a mighty way to reverse the trends of socialism and godlessness in America. American elections have often been won or lost by less than one vote per precinct. Twenty-five to 50 volunteers, who systematically use their telephones or distribute leaflets door to door, can elect almost any man or woman to the state legislature in any area. A candidate backed by 500-1,000 dedicated volunteers (out of 500,000 population in each congressional district) can generally step into the U.S. Congress.

The Christians' responsibility to influence America's Third Century through positive political action is outlined simply in 5 steps: 1) Pray; 2) Register to vote; 3) Study the issues of your community, nation and world from a biblical perspective; 4) Actively select and campaign for good candidates; 5) Vote.

Christians should pray that more God-directed men and women move into local and national government positions and that once there they consistently apply biblical principles in their leadership. Christians should also pray that godless leaders commit themselves and their leadership to God and that God will use concerned citizens throughout America to elect men and women of character and vision in 1976.

Many churches and other Christian groups are planning a Bicentennial "Citizenship Sunday" to have their entire fellowships registered to vote before the crucial 1976 elections. Such a voter registration drive may be the greatest contribution Christians can make to America in 1976 as they follow through with votes. For if the erosion of freedom in America continues, there some day will be no sharing of the Gospel at home and abroad.

Christians who sincerely want honorable leaders in America will do more than pray, register, study and campaign. They will vote. And with a little extra effort—forming telephone networks and car pools of informed citizens for a trek to the polls—such dedicated citizens can multiply their impact many times over. There could be no better way to celebrate the Bicentennial!

Said Edward Everett Hale, a notable American poet and one-time chaplain of the U.S. Senate:

"I am only one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can
do something.
What I can do, I should do.
And what I should do,
by the grace of God
I will do."

If American Christians do everything possible to shape national events this year, the "spirit of '76" will be God's Spirit, and America's renewed position of moral strength will in turn inspire the world to seek the Source of truth and liberty reigning in this land.

Used by permission CONTACT magazine adapted for GEM publication.



CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Jerry Norris Available for Conferences

Rev. Jerry Norris, Christian Education Consultant with David C. Cook Publishing Company, is available for both Sunday School Workers and Bus Workers Conferences. Brother Norris writes, "Since I have become affiliated with an independent religious publisher, some have felt that I have forsaken my denomination. Be assured that I am a Free Will Baptist. I am an ordained Free Will Baptist minister. I hold membership with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Berkeley, Missouri. I teach a class in Sunday school and CTS and I am on the Board of Christian Education. I say this to assure you that I am no threat to your ministry or to our denomination." He may be contacted at this address: 505 Larry Drive, Florissant, Missouri 63033.

Quarterly Meeting Organized

On August 13, 1976, the First Free Will Baptist Church in Sikeston, the First Free Will Baptist Church in East Prairie, and the Malden Mission met to organize the Bootheel District Quarterly Meeting. The meeting was held at the First Church in Sikeston, Missouri.

The officers elected were: Rev. Bill Adkisson, moderator; Rev. Harrison Brack, assistant moderator; and Rev. Denzil Durbin, clerk. Brother Adkisson stated, "By organizing this quarterly meeting it will save many miles of travel and promote a close bond of unity among the churches in that area."

AUGUST HAPPENINGS AT SOUTH SIDE

Youth Camp time may have come and gone but the memories always live on. The teens could have written separate reports but preferred to sum it all up this way.

"Camp was really fun. Nine of our group attended. The speaker was Jonathan Thigpen. His sermons really touched the kids. Someone went to the altar every night. When we weren't at church or classes, we were eating, playing softball or basketball, or doing many other things. We all had fun and hope more attend next year." (Taken from the *Youth Fountain*, the Christ Ambassador's publication)

Mrs. May Whatley, one of the sponsors, enjoyed this about Camp. "It was great seeing all the kids go to the altar."

One of those attending the last week of camp wrote this, "When I was at Youth Camp my favorite

thing was swimming. It was a good way to cool off during the hot day.

"I also enjoyed meeting the kids from other churches in Missouri. It was fun."—Jannette Ferguson.

One might think after the excitement of Camp, what's left? Some might feel it's best to rest the remainder of the summer, sitting idly by waiting for something to happen. We, at South Side, haven't been content to do this. We make something happen! You take our dedicated Sunday school superintendent, several workers, prayer, and a couple hours on a Saturday afternoon and presto! Two hundred and twenty folks gather for Sunday school the last Sunday in August. This Sunday the youth had charge of services and did their usual competent job. The morning message was fantastic and the evening was a real "eye-opener." The youth on Sunday evening presented an underground church service. It was indeed a time of pondering the question, "What if this actually happened?"

Answers to this perplexing question were found at an altar of prayer by several.

Sue Winchester, Church Reporter

Mrs. Vada Reeves Promoted To Glory

Mrs. Vada Reeves went to be with the Lord, August 23, 1976. Funeral services were held at a funeral chapel in Potosi, Missouri. Rev. Charles Miller delivered the memorial message.

Mrs. Reeves was a faithful Christian. She and her husband Rev. William Reeves served many years as caretakers of the Youth Camp.

Miracle At Malden

Reverend and Mrs. Bill Adkisson, state home missionaries in Malden, Missouri, write: "A miracle has happened at Malden, Missouri. A group of people withdrew fellowship from another denomination and began looking for a denomination that believed in godly living and one they could agree with relative to doctrine and practice. This group met four weeks in a home. One of the families had friends in the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri. This led the group to look for a Free Will Baptist work in that area. They contacted Rev. Denzil Durbin, pastor of the First Church in Sikeston. I contacted them on Sunday morning and visited the group on Sunday afternoon and Monday evening. The State Home Mission Board had scheduled a meeting in that area on Tuesday evening. The men from Malden met with the board on Tuesday evening. The Malden group attended the organizational service at Sikeston, Missouri, on Wednesday evening. On Saturday evening the group from Malden was organized into a mission. The following Sunday the first service was held as a mission. The Lord provided a building that will seat about 200 with classrooms in the basement. The cost of this building, including utilities, is thirty dollars a month. All of these events took place within the period of one week. Many more things

could be said concerning the work but I will close by saying the attendance has reached fifty-two and the weekly offering one hundred eighty-five dollars. Pray for us. Gary is a sophomore at Free Will Baptist Bible College and Kirk is in the eighth grade. Eddie is married and living at East Prairie, Missouri."



Farmington Sunday School Member 300 Club

In December, 1975, the pastor, Sunday school superintendent and the staff of the First Free Will Baptist Sunday School at Farmington, Missouri, voted to make an all out effort to average over 300 during the months of March, April, and May of 1976. Three hundred had been reached only once in the history of the church.

The people responded and averaged 329 for the three designated months. Now, in August, the Sunday school has averaged over 300 for the sixth consecutive month.

The National Sunday School Department entered the Farmington Church in the "300 Club." Shown in the picture is Pastor McAllister presenting Superintendent Clay with a plaque commemorating the accomplishment. On that Sunday, August 8, the Sunday school register showed an attendance of 337 with over 400 for the morning worship. That Sunday nine were baptized, eight united with the church, and four made altar decisions for Christ.

New Parsonage For First Church in Flat River

Reverend and Mrs. Ken Goff have moved into the new church parsonage 208 Cypress, Flat River, Missouri.

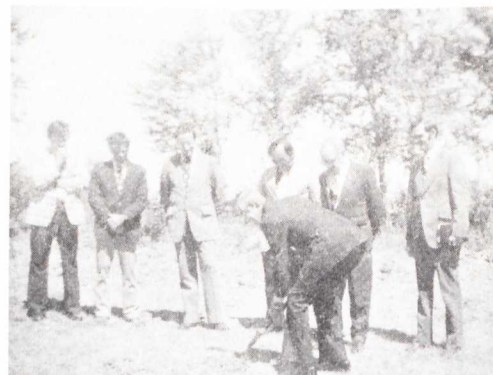
Church reporter, Brenda Hohn writes, "We are rejoicing at the First Church for the blessing of the Lord. We are thankful for the new parsonage and for the attendance through the summer months. We are rejoicing for the souls that are being saved at the regular church services and the privilege of broadcasting the evening worship every Sunday evening. Remember to pray for the church that we will always be faithful in serving Him."

Jones Chapel Reports Successful Revival For Pastor

Betty Flaxbeard, church reporter, states that the pastor, Rev. Billy Joe Gentry, held a successful

revival crusade at the New Bethel Church near Anderson, Missouri. There were twenty-seven professions of faith.

The church enjoyed having Reverend and Mrs. Roy Thomas and son Mark on Sunday morning, September 5.



O'Fallon Church Begins Second Phase of Building Program

The First Free Will Baptist Church of O'Fallon voted unanimously on July 25, 1976, to begin its second phase building program. The plans include enlarging the auditorium to seat four hundred, a baptistry, additional classroom space, and a church office. The overall addition will be forty feet by seventy feet. The church has also purchased property directly across from the church to be used for parking.

Five years ago, in October, the church held a dedication for its first building. The attendance was approximately forty in Sunday school. At present the Sunday school is averaging one hundred twenty-five with one hundred fifty in the morning worship.

On August 29, 1976, the church held a groundbreaking service for the second phase. Construction is now under way.

The church is planning special services, Old-Fashioned Day, on October 24. This will mark five years since the dedication of the first building. Rev. Donal Lombard is pastor of the church.

Included in the picture are, Pastor Lombard (with the shovel) and the Church Advisory Board.

Wonderful Blessings At The Thayer Church

A recent report from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Thayer states the Lord is blessing with a good attendance and wonderful services. The high Sunday school attendance was on August 29 with 204, and the August average was 181. Brother and Sister Curtis Barton recently united with the church, and they have been working with a youth choir of about twenty-eight young people.

The CFC Youth Group has started a project to buy a new piano to be used in the lower level. This group held a banquet recently to honor the present and past sponsors.

The church has several singing groups to be thankful for—The Faith Trio, The Revelations, and

The Gospel Generations. These groups have been a special blessing to the church.

Rev. Glen Hood is the pastor.



Ordination Service At Liberty Quarterly Meeting

A very impressive ordination service was held at the Liberty Quarterly Meeting when it convened with the Buffalo Free Will Baptist Church on September 4, 1976. Rev. Tommy Boaz, Jr., was ordained as a minister of the gospel.

Rev. Henry Long gave an impressive charge and Rev. Murray Southwell led the ordained in an impressive prayer service.

Tommy and his wife Barbara are shown in the picture.

Change of Address!

Please notify the *Gem* office when you anticipate and have a change of address. When the *Gem* magazine is returned it costs the *Gem* office 25¢ and the subscriber may miss that issue of the *Gem*.

The Bulletin Board: Pastoral Changes

Rev. Kent Tallent from Hazel Creek Church to First Free Will Baptist Church in Columbia

Rev. Don Davis to Carterville Free Will Baptist Church

Rev. James Davis to First Free Will Baptist Church in Monett

Quarterly Meeting Dates—October and November

Cave Springs—Saturday, October 2

Madison County—Friday evening and Saturday, October 8, 9

St. Louis District—Saturday, October 23

St. Francois—Friday evening and Saturday, October 22, 23

Harmony—Friday evening and Saturday, October 29, 30

MISSOURI BIBLE INSTITUTE

Missouri Bible Institute is happy to announce a completely new program of Bible Studies and Christian Services teaching and training. This program began in September of 1976.

We are now offering a two-year Bible Certificate from Missouri Bible Institute. The Certificate will be awarded to those who complete the program of studies offered by the Institute.

We are prepared to offer a solid, permanent Institute program in each area of our state which will express an interest in it. The program of studies is a quality program with only qualified persons teaching.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

1. There will be three semesters annually: Fall, Winter, and Spring.
2. Each semester will be 12 weeks in length.
3. At least three courses will be offered each semester. The classes will be one hour in length.
4. A definite two-year program will be established in any area of the state where strong interest is expressed. By strong interest we mean a minimum number of students enrolling to make the program possible. Only twelve students per class is enough.
5. The COST is only \$10.00 per semester hour. There will be a ONE time registration fee of \$10.00.

6. Exact dates for the 1976-77 Institute year are:
Fall Semester: Week of Sept. 5-week of Nov. 21
Winter Semester: Week of Nov. 28-week of Feb. 20
Spring Semester: Week of March 1-week of May 8.

NOTE: The various Institutes will determine the specific day of the week to meet for classes.

PROGRAM OF STUDY FIRST YEAR

Fall Semester:

- Old Testament Survey (1)
- Personal Evangelism (1)
- Teaching Methods (1)

Winter Semester:

- Old Testament Survey (2)
- Personal Evangelism (2)
- Teaching Methods (2)

Spring Semester:

- Old Testament Survey (3)
- Music
- Personal Evangelism (practical training)(elective)
- Biblical Ethics (electives)

SECOND YEAR

Fall Semester:

- New Testament Survey (1)
- Bible Doctrine (1)

Winter Semester:

- New Testament Survey (2)
- Bible Doctrine (2)

Spring Semester:

- New Testament Survey (3)
- Bible Doctrine (3)

Electives to be offered throughout the second year are: Cults; Free Will Baptist History; Bible Basis for Missions; Church Administration, and others as the needs are made known.

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). Your state Christian Education Board desires to be a part of helping the people in our churches fulfil this holy command.

Institutes will be held at the following locations:
First Free Will Baptist Church, West Plains
First Free Will Baptist Church, Farmington
Fourth Free Will Baptist Church, St. Louis
Verdella Free Will Baptist Church, Liberal

NOTE: This is carried again in preparation for the Winter Semester: Week of November 28—week of February 20.

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS:
August 1976

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,032.02
16.25% Promotional Department	1,651.01
4.00% General Fund	406.40
5.50% Youth Camp	558.81
2.50% Gem	254.00
1.75% Sunday School & CTS	177.80
2.00% Missouri Bible Institute	203.21
52% Seven State Departments	5,283.25
7.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	711.22
13.00% Foreign Missions	1,320.81
9.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	914.41
7.00% Executive Department	711.21
6.50% National Home Missions	660.41
2.50% CTS	254.00
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	254.00
.25% Laymen's Board	25.40
.25% Theological Commission	25.40
41% National Association	4,165.64
Total Disbursements	\$10,160.11

We give thanks to the Lord for another fine month!

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS
August 1976

South Side	\$332.89
O'Fallon	76.00
Myrtle	67.52
New Rock Springs	85.00
Malden	75.86
Joplin Church—Indian Creek Assoc.	89.55
New Prospect	3.90
Willow Springs	160.06
West Plains	318.45
Gateway	52.00
Cape Girardeau	129.10
Mine La Motte	32.00
Pleasant Ridge	22.00
Number One	29.46
Bethel	183.87
Belton (2 Mo.)	300.00
Berkeley	333.53
Salem	20.00
Hartville	29.14
Flat River, First	963.14
Grant Ave.	291.89
Monett	234.48
Lebanon, First	255.00
Mt. Vernon	19.58

Granby	50.37
Merl's Chapel (2 Mo.)	106.24
Macedonia—Indian Creek Assoc.	105.00
Grace	457.92
Byrd	17.73
Hannon	162.00
Macedonia SS—Liberty Assoc.	9.85
West Plains	242.25
Community (Divine Trinity)	34.51
Mill Creek	45.22
Olivet	175.00
Verdella	92.19
Cuba	48.94
Oak Hill—Union	175.04
Hopewell	120.80
Purdy	57.36
Waynesville	74.23
Rock Chapel	22.38
Thayer	137.86
First Mission, K.C.	57.16
Hurryville	93.53
DeSoto	460.00
Marshfield	95.82
Buffalo	178.43
Carterville	24.63
Copper Mines	105.00
Fredericktown, First	566.04
Cabool	108.30
Black Oak	10.00
Twin Oaks	250.00
Leadington	140.54
Happy Home	42.40
Berean	80.00
Freeman Chapel	81.25
New Home	38.00
Fourth	300.00
Liberty	143.00
Oskaloosa	33.17
Myrtle	86.94
Purdy	107.00
Sedalia Mission	57.04
Cape Girardeau	167.55
First, El Dorado Springs	5.00
South Side	370.62
Alton	75.00
Parkview	50.00
Fellowship, Flat River	50.00
Faith	123.38
New Prospect	21.00
Total Cooperative Receipts	\$10,160.11

Please make all checks payable to Missouri State Association and mail to Missouri State Association, P.O. 991, Lebanon, Mo. 65536

Foreign Missions designated for August 1976

South Side	\$405.42
C. Tallent	\$24.00
Joe Haas	181.42
Bill Fulcher	20.00
L. Palmer	170.00
J. Pinkerton	10.00
West Plains	\$120.00
General Fund	\$100.00
H. Filkins	20.00
Gateway	\$25.00
H. Filkins	\$25.00
Merl's Chapel	\$69.71
S. Wilkinson	\$69.71
Olivet	\$80.00
B. Poole	\$20.00
M. Willey	20.00
J. Pinkerton	10.00
L. Sparks	5.00
H. Filkins	5.00
Lynn Miley	20.00
Thayer	\$30.00
D. Bishop	\$30.00
Walnut Grove	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00

Fredericktown, First	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
Black Oak	\$31.82
Jerry Pinkerton	\$31.82

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS DESIGNATED GIVING August 1976

South Side	\$24.00
J. Dunn	\$10.00
V. Maness	14.00
Olivet	\$30.00
V. Maness	25.00
L. Powell	5.00
Fredericktown, First	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS DESIGNATED GIVING August 1976

Thayer	\$68.22
Poplar Bluff	\$34.00
T. Owens	12.00
General Fund	22.22
Hazel Creek	\$10.00
General Fund	\$10.00
New Home	\$10.00
T. Owens	\$10.00

YOUTH CAMP DESIGNATED GIVING August 1976

Olivet	\$10.00
Thayer	\$10.00

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE DESIGNATED GIVING August 1976

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE DESIGNATED GIVING August 1976

Fredericktown, First	\$100.00
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MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING AUGUST 5 through SEPTEMBER 5, 1976

South Side	\$20.00
Salem	20.00
West Plains	140.00
Columbia	5.00
Cape Girardeau	28.99
Mountain Grove	2.50
Thayer	124.22
Richwoods	7.00
New Home	20.00
Purdy	6.00
Kingsway	25.00
Poplar Springs	5.00
Berkeley	25.00
St. Francois Co. Qtly. Mtg.	70.00
Myrtle	59.00
Rock Chapel	20.00
Olivet	450.00
Oak Hill	50.00
DeSoto	100.00
Hannon	334.00
South Fremont	142.00
Grace	50.00
Fourth	47.64
Houston	61.00
The Jones Family	114.41
Fellowship	25.00
Berean	20.00
Sedalia	39.00
Neosho	10.00
Hazel Creek	10.00
Cooperative Receipts	2,032.02
Total	\$4,062.78

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

On The National Front

Pastors and Workers Conference At Kinston, North Carolina

A pastors and workers conference is being held again this year at the Bethel Church in Kinston, North Carolina. The dates are November 22, 23, 24.

Some of the speakers are: Dr. B. R. Lakin, Evangelist Bobby Jackson, Dr. Tom Malone, Sr., Rev. Gordon Sebastin, Dr. Jim Vineyard, and Rev. Bob Shockey.

Promotional Director, Ronald Creech, states, "This promises to be an even greater conference than last year."

Stack the Racks

What is it?

"Stack the Racks" is the 1976-77 National Free Will Baptist Youth Project, co-sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Church Training Service (CTS) Department and Free Will Baptist Bible College.

The drive is an effort to raise money for new books to be added to the Welch Library of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. L. C. Johnson, president of the college, says, "Three essentials for a strong academic program are: (1) a strong faculty, (2) adequate physical facilities, and (3) a good library."

Free Will Baptist Bible College has a strong, highly-qualified faculty. The college's Development Campaign, in operation for over 10 years, has built a modern, well-equipped campus.

But the Welch Library, though well staffed and adequately housed, needs more books. It now holds over 23,000 volumes and has a capacity of about 43,000 books. Current projections indicate, however, that 10,000 new books should be added to the library in the next few years.

Tens of thousands of new books are published every year. Knowledge doubles at a fantastic rate. In light of this explosion of learning, an adequate library can only remain adequate by growing, offering new books every year to students. That costs money—lots of money! Books average \$10 per copy. To add 10,000 new books to the Welch Library will cost Free Will Baptist Bible College \$100,000! This is why your participation in the Stack the Racks project is so important!

These new books will be used by the hundreds of young people who study at Free Will Baptist Bible College. They are the Free Will Baptist preachers, missionaries, Christian teachers, youth workers and leaders of tomorrow. Someday you may be one of

those who will profit from this project!

What a kick-off it would be in the Bible College's drive to get 10,000 library books if the young people in CTS groups across the nation can Stack the Racks!

Time Limit

The project, launched at the 1976 National Youth Conference in Tulsa, will conclude at the 1977 National Youth Conference in Detroit, next July.

Special Awards

CTS groups will be honored as they reach each of three award levels.

The Bronze Award certificate will be sent to every CTS that raises \$50 for books in the drive.

When a CTS progresses to the \$100-level, the college will send a Silver Award certificate, in recognition of this achievement.

The top honor, a Gold Award certificate, will only go to those CTS's that reach a total of \$250 raised for the Stack the Racks project.

Funds

As your funds for the project build, we suggest that you hold them until either you reach one of the award levels (\$50, \$100, \$250), or your group has done all that it can on the project.

Send the funds you raise to:

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

Please mark your funds clearly for the Stack the Racks project. Be sure that the name of your church and CTS accompanies the funds. If your funds reach one of the award levels, enclose the name of the person to whom the award should be sent (pastor, CTS director, teacher, etc.).

Goal

The goal for the Stack the Racks project is \$10,000. With some 850 CTS groups across the denomination who can help, this goal is well within reach.

How To Do It

We suggest that all funds raised in the Stack the Racks drive be raised by methods that would foster spiritual growth in the individual CTS member's own life. It is very important that we ask God's blessings upon any project we undertake. Therefore, we need to be sure our methods are acceptable to Him.

Here are some suggested ways of raising funds in your CTS group:

1. SERVICE WEEK—During this week, the individual will, through some extra service to neighbors,

friends, or family, earn an offering for the Stack the Racks project. He will bring his offering to the CTS meeting at the close of the week.

2. SACRIFICE WEEK—During this week, participants will do without their favorite soft drink, milk shake, or a restaurant meal when on a date with their boyfriend or girlfriend. Or, a CTS member may choose to sell to a friend something he values highly. Proceeds will go to Stack the Racks.

3. DOUBLE-GIFT WEEK—This plan would ask each CTS member to double his usual offering. The extra portion (half the offering) would be given to Stack the Racks.

4. SOLICITATION WEEK (OR MONTH)—Individual members of your CTS solicit other individuals (Parents relatives, friends) to match what they give to Stack the Racks.

These are only a few suggestions. With the help of your pastor, other CTS officers, and friends, you will be able to come up with still better ideas that will foster spiritual growth in the lives of every CTS member.

Final Word

Keep in touch! Even if you aren't ready to send in your offerings, tell us what you are doing. If you discover a plan that works, inform us so that we can pass it on to others. We will contact CTS groups and individuals all through the year and suggest new fund-raising ideas that come in to us.

Thanks for your help! With you behind us, we're sure to Stack the Racks!

MEMORIAL GIFT PLAN NOW AVAILABLE

Your Board of Retirement & Insurance now has a most satisfactory way of honoring those who have gone to be with the Lord. Our Living Memorial Plan is an excellent way to honor the memory of the departed as well as aiding our ministry.

Memorial gifts may be given in any amount. After the gift is received, the donor is sent a receipt with a letter of thanks telling about the latest progress of our ministry. The family of the bereaved is sent a beautiful memorial card, without mentioning the amount given. The gift, but not the amount, is recorded in our Book of Remembrance which is kept permanently in our office.

The donor is never embarrassed about the size of his gift—for the amount of the gift is confidential. Another advantage is that each gift is tax-deductible.

Clip and save the coupon below until it is needed or write us for some Memorial Gift forms.

A LIVING MEMORIAL

Amount \$ _____

Given by _____

Address _____

In memory of _____

Send cards to _____

Address _____

Please print

Mail to Board of Retirement, National Association of Free Will Baptists, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202

Woman's Page



Shirley Bowden, editor

REFLECTIONS OF RETREAT

This year the theme of our retreat was taken from Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." There would be no way to tell about all that was said or done during the two days spent at the Youth Camp, so a few highlights will be reflected. Mrs. Sandra Payne, missionary to the Ivory Coast, Africa, was the guest speaker. She spoke of the spirit of longsuffering, the spirit of joy, and the spirit of faith. We were all challenged as she showed us from the Scripture how we could have



Sandra Payne and Carol Pinkerton

Co-Laborers at Retreat



the fruit of the Spirit if we allow God to work in our hearts and lives in every situation. At one of the devotion times, Rose Mertz, from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Lebanon, spoke on the spirit of peace, while later in the retreat Karen Southwell brought the devotion on the spirit of gentleness. Mrs. Southwell is from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Waynesville. We were also pleased to have with us this year, Carol Pinkerton, missionary to the Ivory Coast. She and her family are living in Farmington, Missouri, while on furlough. Mrs. Pinkerton brought words of greeting and told of the work she and her family are doing in the Ivory Coast.

Concluding a statewide project, Tuesday, Francis Bowman presented clothing valued at over \$2,000 to Hazel Hutsell, representing the Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee. Miss Hutsell also brought words of greeting and told of some of the new children who have recently come to live at the Home.

A candlelight service on Monday night included a moving skit by the Fellowship Auxiliary entitled "My Country 'Tis of Thee." The South Side Auxiliary then presented a puppet show entitled "Yankee Peddler."

This year there was a total registration of 118 women, including 104 auxiliary members, 2 missionaries, and 12 visitors. Those of you who missed the retreat this year really missed a blessing.

SPECIAL THANKS

Hellen McAllister and I would like to thank the following women who participated in the retreat: Sandra Payne, Carol Pinkerton, Hazel Hutsell, Francis Bowman, Rose Mertz, Karen Southwell, Fellowship Auxiliary, South Side Auxiliary, and the ones who provided the special music: Kay Wilbanks, Betty Dale, Kay Brown, and Sandra Pointer, and, of course, all the women who came to retreat.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Hannas Handy Helpers (State Project)

O'Fallon Auxiliary	\$15.00
Parkview Ladies Mission	25.00
Indian Creek District	45.00
Myrtle Auxiliary	50.00
Cuba Auxiliary	11.64
Total as of September 6	\$146.64

Missouri State Home Missions Loan Fund

Mtn. Grove Auxiliary	\$5.70
South Side Auxiliary	5.30
Myrtle Auxiliary	25.00
Grace Auxiliary	8.53
Total as of September 8	\$44.53

National Home Missions Loan Fund

Mtn. Grove Auxiliary	\$5.70
South Side Auxiliary	5.30
Myrtle Auxiliary	25.00
Grace Auxiliary	8.53
Total as of September 8	\$44.53

GEM
REV RONALD CREECH
BOX 277 E DURHAM STA
DURHAM NC 27703

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Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Clarence Burton



Sometime ago I was meditating on two verses of Scripture, Psalm 37:4, 5: "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." What wonderful promises! What a strength and comfort to know that as we delight ourselves in the Lord that He is able and will give us the desires of our heart. Yes, it is wonderful to know that He is able to keep every promise.

The Lord blessed throughout the month of August. Cooperative giving was very fine, the Youth Camp closed another wonderful year, and a new quarterly meeting was organized.

On the first Sunday in August I was with the Eastern Gate Church in Springfield. Reverend and Mrs. Bill Swearingin are having a fine ministry. The church is looking forward to relocating on its new property. On the following Saturday I met with the Mission Association. Reverend and Mrs. Max Courtney and the New Life Church served as host to this association. This is a relatively new church but everything was well taken care of. It was an interesting and enjoyable association. Rev. Howard Bowers served well as moderator.

The following Sunday, August 8, it was a pleasure being with Reverend and Mrs. Gene Terry and the Kingsway Church in Springfield. This church recently moved into a beautiful new auditorium and it is moving forward for the Lord. We will be hearing more from this church in the future. That evening it was enjoyable to be with Reverend and Mrs. Wayne Wagner and the South Fremont Church. This church is planning to enlarge its facilities.

Something different took place on Friday evening, August 13. The Sikeston Church, The East Prairie Church, and the Malden Mission met to organize a new Quarterly Meeting—The Bootheel District Quarterly Meeting. This will alleviate several miles of travel for quarterly meetings and give a closer bond of fellowship for folks in that area.

The following Sunday it was a privilege to be with Reverend and Mrs. Howard Bowers and the Rock Chapel Church. This is a growing church in a fine community. They are winning souls to Christ. The church is supporting cooperative and designated giving. That evening I was with Reverend and Mrs. Jim Ragsdale and the Union Grove Church. This is a very friendly church. I enjoyed being with them and appreciate the support they give to the Cooperative Plan.

On Sunday, August 22, it was a privilege to fill the pulpit for my pastor. He was in revival services in Alabama. We enjoy a warm fellowship with the First Church in Lebanon. The people have been a source of strength to us and of course give full support to our state and national work.

The month closed with services at the Salem Church. It is always a pleasure to be with Reverend and Mrs. Dan Martin and the friendly folks at the church. The Lord blessed with fine services. This church has been a consistent supporter of state and national ministries.

August was a good month. The Lord blessed with many blessings for which we are grateful. As you will note the total cooperative giving for this month was \$10,160.11. We need \$10,000 every month to meet the yearly budget of \$120,000. We are a little behind at this point, which I suppose is normal inasmuch as the offerings are usually a little less during the summer months. But we should compensate for this, beginning with this month and the months to follow. As we work and give together, we will meet the yearly budget. This is what the unified plan of support is all about—doing things together. May the Lord bless every individual and church that supports this ministry in prayer and giving.

Please make checks payable to Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists and mail to P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536.