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Volume 46, Number 11, November 1976

Free Will Baptist

GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"

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Clarence Burton, editor

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THANKSGIVING AND MISSIONS



by editor, Clarence Burton

November is National Home Missions Month! Inasmuch as this is Thanksgiving Month, it surely is a wonderful time to express our thanks to God by giving a Thanksgiving offering to National Home Missions. Sunday, November 21, has been designated as National Home Missions Sunday.

As we give our thanks offering, let us thank God for the privilege of sharing the good news that Jesus saves. Then, let us thank Him for every missionary and every mission endeavor.

What a tremendous task the missionary faces as he goes into an area that oftentimes is without a fundamental gospel witness. Without a compassion from within that compels the missionary to say, "Here am I, send me," the work of spreading the

gospel and building churches for Jesus Christ would never be accomplished. Let us thank God that He has called missionaries from our denomination to be witnesses for Him in carrying the gospel that will give help to the helpless and hope to the hopeless.

This question must be answered: "And how shall they preach except they be sent?" The obvious answer is: They must be sent. The local churches must do the sending. What a privilege and a thrill to extend the outreach of the local church throughout the United States and other national home missions areas. Will we do it? Will we send them?

Let's read letters from two of our national home missionaries and share with them as well as all of our missionaries their joys and burdens.

Greetings! The Lord's work is going well in Delaware. A bond program is underway to build, and the building fund account has enough in it to make possible the initial work of digging a basement and laying blocks. May God grant that by January 1, 1977, the building will be completed. The church is growing and the ones saved in the past year are beginning to settle and grow. Please pray for our health. Thanks to the Missouri State Association for its support in prayers and in finance. Without these the work here would never have been done.

Sincerely,
Missionary Maness Family

FIRST STEPS IN FLAGSTAFF

by J. Mark Vandivort

I watched the bus go down the street and around the curve out of sight. My ears strained to hear the drone of the diesel engine. Ralph Ambrose, from Columbia, was on the bus headed for Phoenix to catch a plane back to Missouri. He had taken time and expense to help us drive the U-haul truck and our family car to Flagstaff, Arizona. Ralph represented our final parting contact with dear ones in Missouri. We were in a new city, a new state, to begin a new church for our beloved Lord Jesus who left His home to be with us (Philippians 2).

It was early in the morning as I stood on the corner of Santa Fe and Beaver Streets. The sun was beginning to lighten in the east. (Its rays were already flooding the countryside in Missouri. My Mother and Dad had probably already eaten breakfast, read the daily Bible readings, and prayed.) A few tears trickled down my cheeks. I felt very much alone!

Look up and listen. I looked toward the sky, toward the great outreach of space and time that only God fully knows and understands. God's voice spoke strongly and reassuring but gently (to my spiritual senses), "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5). No longer did I feel alone.

God has given my family and me faith to believe that there are people in this city He would have us to bring to the Savior (John 1:41, 42). We share this witness with other brothers and sisters in Christ who are already here. There is a challenge before us as a great percentage of this city do not attend a Bible preaching church.

As I pen these words, it is 2:30 in the morning. In Missouri the farmers and other early risers are getting up to begin the day. Some students are up studying for tests. The nurses over at the hospitals are making the rounds. Some troubled patients have not yet fallen asleep.

As I think of relatives and friends in our home state and dear ones in the city of Columbia where we spent eight years living and preaching the Word, we shall always remember living there, attending school there, and our daughter Deborah Joy being born there. Finally, God gave us many faithful co-workers in establishing a Free Will Baptist church there.

Our prayers will always be with them that the continuing witness of the church will reach into all parts of the city and into all the world. There are people to see, visit with, pray with, and, if God opens the door, teach them of Jesus Christ from the Bible and lead them to accept Him as Lord and Savior. There are fellow Christians to visit with and pray with. Some need encouragement. There are organizational points to develop and administer. More classrooms need to be developed and filled. There are bus routes to plan, people to bring in, and visitors to follow up. Missionaries are needing support. More towns and communities are needing a Free Will Baptist church (we feel that way in Arizona where we have only six churches).

We feel a wonderful sense of peace in our hearts knowing that we left behind faithful brothers and sisters to accomplish more and greater things because of their love for our Savior.

We appreciate the prayers of Missouri people as we:

1. Become established in the city of Flagstaff as a family. Pray for our needs to be met.
2. Do itinerate among the southwest churches during the next few months.
3. Consider a Child Evangelism Bible Club in our community.
4. Begin home Bible studies.
5. Seek God's guidance and provision for a place to have services and people who would be interested in attending.

Our address:
3535 N. Manor
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Homecoming And Old-Fashioned Day at Richwoods

The special Homecoming and Old-Fashioned Day was well attended at the Richwoods Church. The Sunday school attendance showed a total attendance of fifty-two and the afternoon preaching and singing service was enjoyed by a full auditorium.

Mrs. Dianna Voyles, church reporter, writes, "If everyone enjoyed the service as I did, I know they received a blessing."

Rev. Larry Bryant was the guest minister inasmuch as Rev. Leroy Dedman was unable to attend. Special singing was provided by the Mills Family from Potosi and the Blair Family from Pacific, Missouri. Singing groups from the host church sang also.

Pastor On The Rooftop In Kirksville

Pastor Glen Campbell challenged the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kirksville to raise eight hundred ninety dollars for an air-conditioning system on a given Sunday, October 3. If the church raised the needed amount, the pastor was to climb on the roof of the church and sing "Amazing Grace." The church exceeded the goal by totaling an amount of one thousand two dollars and twenty-two cents. The Kirksville Daily Express carried a picture of Brother Campbell standing on the roof, singing to his congregation.

The church is growing with the Lord giving a steady increase in Sunday school.

New Bell Tower At First Church in Flat River

Church reporter Brenda Hohn writes: "What a beautiful sight! The new bell tower and church bulletin board is another church project the Lord has blessed with. We thank Him for His many blessings."

The church is continuing to see souls saved and the Sunday school has an average of one hundred fifty-three.

A new type visitation program has just been started with a husband-wife visitation team. The Lord is blessing this new endeavor.

Rev. Ken Goff is the pastor.

Sister Goldie Smith Promoted To Glory

Sister Goldie Smith, a lifelong resident of

Madison County, departed this life on Thursday morning, September 30, 1976, following a short illness.

Sister Smith was converted as a small girl, and after her husband's conversion in the early '40s she rededicated her life to the Lord. She gave thirty-five years of faithful service to the Lord at the First Free Will Baptist Church at Fredericktown.

Services were held at the Wilson Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Joe B. Braddy officiating.

Revival Time At Olivet

Church reporter Daisy Harper writes: Revival services were held at the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church October 10-16 with Rev. Clarence Burton as the evangelist. The gospel was presented in an impressive way that moved the hearts of those present and souls were saved. A young mother came forward at one of the services. Following her decision at the altar, she asked the pastor to baptize her that night. The work of the Holy Spirit was evident in every service. A contest, which ran two weeks before and during the revival, called Harvest Time was very rewarding and successful. This helped in decisions that were made every night of the revival. The words of the Psalmist state, "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth" (Psalm 119:103). Thank God for Bible believing, Bible teaching, Bible preaching men of God, that still proclaim, "Thus saith the Lord."

Embarking On A New Venture

Not long ago after a special service at the South Side Free Will Baptist Church, Charolette Tallent left for missionary internship school in Michigan. She will be preparing for full-time missionary service in France. Pray that as God leads her on this new venture she will follow Him in the paths He has chosen for her.

Another new venture at the church has been a new converts class. The class is being taught by Rev. Roy Pearson. It is an excellent means of follow-up on new Christians. Rev. Robert Francis is the pastor.

Sue Winchester, Church Reporter

Successful Church Evangelism Conference

The Church Evangelism Conference held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington was a wonderful conference, blessed of the Lord and beneficial to everyone. Approximately five hundred people from nine states attended the meeting.

These are some of the remarks concerning the conference: "It was the best I have ever attended," "What a spiritual uplift," "I have gained so much. I want to apply it and see how it works," "I hope we have another one next year."

The preaching services and the seminars were food for the soul and information for the mind. Surely every pastor, pastor's wife, and the lay

workers were given information as to what to do and how to do it. No doubt many churches will see visible results of the influence of the conference.

Everyone who attended would surely like to say a great big thank you to the host pastor, the host church, and to each one who helped in making the meeting a time of spiritual refreshing.

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS September 1976

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,180.51
16.25% Promotional Department	1,771.66
4.00% General Fund	436.10
5.50% Youth Camp	599.64
2.50% Gem	272.56
1.75% Sunday School & CTS	190.79
2.00% MBI	218.05
Seven State Departments Total	5,669.31
7.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	763.17
13.00% Foreign Missions	1,417.33
9.00% Free Will Baptist College	981.23
7.00% Executive Department	763.17
6.50% National Home Missions	708.66
2.50% CTS	272.56
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	272.56
.25% Laymen's Board	27.26
.25% Theological Commission	27.26
Eight National Departments Total	4,470.03
Total Disbursements	\$10,902.53

We are grateful to the Lord for another wonderful month!

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS September 1976

Grant Avenue	\$347.91
Willow Springs	183.46
Monett	271.37
Houston	155.75
Independence—Berean	117.00
Beacon	100.00
Malden	84.98
Grace	553.00
Northeast Association	25.50
Hannon	172.00
Byrd	16.00
Freeman Chapel	104.02
Bailey Chapel	35.00
Hartville	44.37
Columbia (July-August)	251.69
Berkeley	434.17
First Mission, Kansas City	70.83
West Plains	313.80
Number One	40.30
Union	60.00
Pleasant Grove (Cope)	64.06
DeSoto	450.00
Indian Creek Assoc.—Joplin Church	128.92
Pleasant Ridge	25.00
Mine La Motte	16.00
Walnut Grove	170.75
Salem	20.00
New Harmony Sunday school	7.45
Evangel	140.06
Olivet	175.00
Calvary, Conway	430.00
Hurryville	104.20

Buffalo	116.70
Bethel, Festus	220.25
Verdella	147.71
Rock Chapel	31.65
New Rock Springs	60.00
Macedonia Sunday school	9.75
Thayer	109.78
Merl's Chapel	37.24
Mill Creek	63.84
Marshfield	80.98
Copper Mines	90.00
Happy Home	48.44
Carterville	29.69
Leadington	222.42
Cabool	103.22
Hopewell	97.00
Lebanon, First	281.00
Farmington	1,255.60
Parkview	50.00
Old Bethel	30.00
Mountain Grove, First	456.81
Mountain Grove, First	392.20
Central	270.00
Waynesville	169.00
Pleasant Grove, (Cope)	22.40
Beacon	100.00
Fellowship	50.00
Oak Hill—Union Mission	314.69
Waynesville	30.00
Cuba	61.27
Trinity, Bridgeton	325.00
Myrtle	71.60
Black Oak	10.00
Fourth	386.00
Union Light	45.70
Total Cooperative Receipts	\$10,902.53

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING September 1976

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Clark and Clobell Deeds	\$15.00
Earnie Deeds	\$15.00
West Plains Church	\$175.45
General Fund	\$165.45
Howard Filkins	10.00
Walnut Grove Church	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
New Harmony Church	\$49.48
Dr. L. Miley	\$24.74
Jim McLain	24.74
Olivet Church	\$80.00
Bobby Poole	\$20.00
J. Pinkerton	10.00
Mabel Willey	20.00
H. Filkins	5.00
J. Haas	5.00
Lynn Miley	20.00
Merl's Chapel Church	\$18.00
Sam Wilkinson	\$18.00
Thayer Church	\$34.15
Dale Bishop	\$24.15
General Fund	10.00
South Side Church	\$131.00
C. Tallent	\$131.00
Black Oak Church	\$25.00
J. McLain	\$25.00
Mountain Grove, First Church	\$517.20
General Fund	\$323.50
J. Pinkerton	15.00
Tom Willey	120.00
D. Teague	13.70
Lynn Miley	25.00
H. Filkins	20.00
Total	\$1,055.28

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Olivet Church	\$30.00
V. Maness	\$25.00
L. Powell	5.00
Merl's Chapel Church	\$32.00
Bob Carr	\$32.00
Mountain Grove Church	\$174.25
Larry Powell	\$15.00
Charlie Harris	100.00
V. Maness	10.00
General Fund	14.25
L. Horton	35.00
Total	\$236.25

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Thayer Church	\$63.50
Poplar Bluff	\$47.00
General Fund	4.50
T. Owens	12.00
Mountain Grove, First Church	\$14.25
Total	\$77.75

CHILDREN'S HOME, GREENVILLE, TENNESSEE

Mountain Grove, First Church	\$20.00
Total	\$20.00

HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Mountain Grove First Church	\$386.00
Total	\$386.00

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Mountain Grove, First Church	\$5.00
Total	\$5.00

MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Olivet Church	\$10.00
Thayer Church	\$10.00
Mountain Grove, First Church	\$20.00
Total	\$40.00

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING SEPTEMBER 5 THROUGH OCTOBER 5, 1976

Farmington	\$180.00
Columbia	5.00
Purdy	6.00
Victory	180.00
Berkeley	25.00
South Fremont	142.00
Poplar Springs	5.00
West Plains	140.00
Olivet	225.00
Cape Girardeau	11.08
Myrtle	67.68
DeSoto	100.00
Rock Chapel	20.00
Union Light	24.00
Fourth	44.73
Central	40.00
Fellowship	23.00
Thayer	63.50
Mountain Grove	14.25
Cooperative Receipts	2,180.51
Total	\$3,496.75

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

On The National Front

A LETTER FROM THE LYNN MILEYS

October 1, 1976

Dear Missouri State Association,

It has been ten years to the month from the time that we began preparing to go as missionaries to the time that we finally arrived in the Ivory Coast. Ten years of waiting, hoping, studying, planning, and dreaming have been fulfilled!

Right now we are working with the church at Doropo. Since the church does not have a pastor now, our responsibilities have been mainly to help the different speakers prepare for the Sunday services.

We have begun studying Lobi and have already found it to be harder than French. Not only are some of the sounds impossible to pronounce but the language is also tonal. Since I think I must be tone deaf, that is presenting something of a problem.

Some of you may have heard that, shortly after our arrival here, we had an automobile accident. Other than Michelle breaking her collarbone, no one was seriously hurt. But it was obviously nothing less than the grace of God that prevented the wreck from being fatal. Our car sustained almost \$2,000 worth of damage. Rather than allowing this to be an emotional and spiritual defeat, we have been rejoicing in the way the Lord protected us.

We want to thank you for your financial faithfulness over the past year, but we thank you especially for your prayers. We have been reminded very vividly how vital those prayers are.

Love in Christ,
Lynn, Ramona, Michelle, Jonathan

A LOOK AT CONVENTION CITY '77

(Executive Secretary Rufus Coffey reports on his investigation into alledged gang violence in Detroit.)

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Recent news reports of disturbances by hoodlums in downtown Detroit have raised several questions about the city being the proper place to hold our 1977 national convention. After reading these reports, I contacted city officials and went to Detroit to personally investigate the situation.

Michigan's State moderator, clerk, convention steering committee members, and I seriously weighed the possibility of changing convention sites if we could not receive a firm commitment from Detroit officials that our people will be safe during our July, 1977, convention.

We investigated the situation extensively—the past summer disturbance and current protection provided by police. The main trouble in August was primarily related to a rock concert that was staged during a time when Detroit was plagued by political and financial difficulties. While the police force was greatly reduced, gangland youths created major disturbances. The news media intensified the eruption by exaggerating the facts in an effort to create startling and dramatic news stories.

Following the investigation with the police department, deputy mayor, other city officials, and local businessmen, I met with 29 ministers and other key church leaders in the Detroit area. The situation was discussed from various angles. We agreed that problems in Detroit are not significantly worse than in any other major city. This group overwhelmingly endorsed a motion to proceed with convention plans just as other major evangelical groups are doing.

We will take every precaution necessary to ensure the welfare of our people. All youth activities will be scheduled in one hotel. Also, we have been assured of adequate police protection. I agree with Jim Nason's observation following our interviews with various businessmen: "Our young people will probably be safer here than in most cities where we hold our conventions."

Let's pray for a great 1977 convention which meets July 17-21 in Detroit!

Over 400 people representing nine states gathered in Farmington, Missouri September 27-29, 1976 for an Evangelism Conference in the First Free Will Baptist Church, Rev. Jim McAllister, pastor. Special speakers Rev. Connie Cariker, Mr. Trymon Messer, Rev. Jim McAllister, Rev. Jim Walker, Rev. Robert Shockey, Rev. and Mrs. Roy Thomas, and Rev. Wesley Bigelow challenged those attending with methods and motives for soul winning and church growth.

Rev. and Mrs. Norlin Jones have been employed as new joint project workers to Daytona Beach, Florida. Rev. Jones has over 20 years pastoral experience and went to Jackson, Tennessee, as a National Home Missionary in 1967 where he built a self supporting church and remained as its pastor until September, 1976, when he was employed to go to Daytona Beach.

November is *National Home Missions Month* and November 21 is *National Home Missions Sunday*. The National Home Missions Board asks that every church and individual remember this special day with an offering for National Home Missions. The board, staff, and missionaries are believing God at this special Thanksgiving season to meet every need through these offerings. The 31 missionary families are dependent on Free Will Baptist people to respond to their earnest prayer for support.

Rev. Roy Thomas, Associate Director

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Adds External Studies Course

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College has added six courses to its Modular Education Program, according to Thomas Marberry, director of External Studies at Hillsdale. New Courses include *Life of Christ Mini Course*, *Acts*, *Great Women of the Bible*, *New Testament Men*, *Bible Characters: Adam to Boaz*, and *Bible Characters: Samuel to Malachi*.

"These are basic Bible courses designed for the student who has not had any college training in Bible which can be very helpful to anyone who wishes to understand his Bible better. They should be most helpful to Sunday school teachers, CTS leaders, and other concerned Christians," Marberry said.

Students may work on these courses at their own pace but must complete each course within six months of the time it is begun.

"Cost for each course is \$25.00. This includes all workbooks and other needed materials except a Bible. First-time students taking a course for credit are also charged a matriculation fee of \$10.00," Marberry added.

Offered on a non-credit basis or for one semester hour of credit from Hillsdale, the courses, when taken for credit, may be applied toward a degree from Hillsdale.

If you would like to take advantage of this outstanding program of home Bible study, or if you would like more information, please write:

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
Department of External Studies
Box 6343
Moore, OK 73160

25 YEAR CHALLENGE FREE FILMSTRIP READY

A 142 frame, 35 MM color filmstrip with audio cassette has been prepared by the Free Will Baptist Sunday School Department.

This free-loan filmstrip depicts the history of Free Will Baptist Sunday schools and sets forth a twenty-five year challenge to increase our Sunday school enrolment from 200,000 to 1,000,000 by the year A.D. 2000.

It is proposed that this be accomplished by doubling our enrolment by 1980 and each decade thereafter. Research reveals a definite correlation between enrolment and average attendance.

A copy of this free-loan filmstrip with audio cassette may be obtained by writing to:
Filmstrip Secretary
Free Will Baptist Sunday School Department
P.O. Box 17306—114 Bush Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37217



Most of the Missouri students attending Free Will Baptist Bible College assembled for this picture. They are:

Row 1

Janice Miller, Desoto First, Desoto, MO
Sue Vancil, Fourth, St. Louis, MO

Row 2

John England, Pleasant Hill, Thayer, MO
Donald Moss, Jr., Desoto First, Desoto, MO
Richard Greenup, Columbia First, Columbia, MO
Gary Adkisson, Malden First, Malden, MO

Row 3

Mark Tallent, South Side, St. Louis, MO
David McGowan, Willow Springs, Mt. Grove, MO
Mike Willhite, Fourth, St. Louis, MO
Jerry Hefner, Grant Avenue, Springfield, MO

Row 4

Alvin Hook, Beacon, Lee's Summit, MO
Vernon Long, Bethel, Festus, MO
Ken Dodson, Hurryville, Elvins, MO

BIBLE COLLEGE ENROLLS 543, ENLARGES FACULTY-STAFF

Free Will Baptist Bible College enrolled 543 students from 27 states and three foreign countries in late August to kick off the school's 35th year. To better serve students, four have been added to the faculty/staff. Two other teachers have terminated their service with the college.

The enrolment is up slightly from last year's. A large increase was seen among single dormitory students, but was partially offset by a decrease in the number of married and single town students.

The new college workers are Reverend and Mrs. Robert Crawford, Mrs. Lillian Huffman, and Mrs. Barbara Riddle.

Rev. Crawford, who spent more than 40 years as a Free Will Baptist pastor and served as executive secretary of the denomination, has joined Public Relations Director Paul Ketteman's staff. He will make contact with key people in the denomination on behalf of the college.

Mrs. Crawford, now serving as dean of women for the school, has extensive experience as a teacher and a nurse and served as president of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention.

Mrs. Huffman has joined the school's teacher education faculty. She has been a teacher for 18 years in both public and Christian schools. In 1974 she was named as one of the Outstanding Elementary Teachers in America.

Mrs. Riddle will direct the college's physical education program for women. She has attended colleges and taught in public school systems in Tennessee.

The following students from Missouri enrolled at Free Will Baptist Bible College this fall:

Gary Dale Adkisson, Malden
Kenneth Bailey, Viburnum
Susan Jane Combs, Courl
Kenneth Wayne Dodson, Elvins
John England, Thayer
Richard Lee Greenup, Columbia
Alvin Glenn Hook, Lee's Summit
Cynthia Gaye Hook, Lee's Summit
Vernon Eugene Long, Festus
Dave McGowan, Mountain Grove
Janice Miller, Desoto
Donnie Moss, Desoto
Mark Tallent, St. Louis
Jeffrey Allen Turnbough, Urburnum
Jacqueline Sue Vancil, St. Louis
Michael Lee Willhite, St. Louis

Bible College Teacher Receives Doctorate

Mary Ruth Wisheart, chairman of Free Will Baptist Bible College's English Department, received her Ph.D. degree from George Peabody College for Teachers on August 14 in Nashville. She majored in English and minored in Spanish. Her dissertation, "William Dean Howells and Six Spanish Novelists," combined her major and minor areas of study.

Dr. Wisheart is a native of Myrtle, Missouri, and has taught at Free Will Baptist Bible College since 1956. She graduated from the school in 1955 and was named Outstanding Student by the faculty. At Peabody College she earned another B.A. in 1959 and her M.A. in 1960.

She is active in campus programs, served for several years as advisor to the yearbook staff, and is an active member of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

BIBLE COLLEGE APPROVED FOR TEACHER TRAINING

Free Will Baptist Bible College was approved on August 6 by the Tennessee state board of education to prepare teachers for the Elementary grades, according to Dr. Charles Thigpen, Dean. This means that students who graduate with the Elementary Education major are eligible to receive Teachers' Professional Certificate Endorsement, Grades 1-9, from the Tennessee State Department of Education.

Eight students who graduated in the spring with the Elementary Education major are now eligible for state certification.

Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Clarence Burton

September was a wonderful month! Things have settled down from the busy summer months. (Even though every month is a busy month.) During September, the attendance for Sunday school, CTS, and other church functions get back to normal again. But as we look back over the summer months we can thank God for many blessings, many wonderful experiences, and many wonderful memories.

On Saturday, September 4, I attended the Liberty Quarterly Meeting at the Buffalo Church. Rev. and Mrs. John Andrews and the Buffalo Church did a fine job in hosting the meeting. The quarterly meeting shared with Brother Andrews his sorrow in the death of his brother. The Lord is always a source of strength and comfort in time of sorrow. It is so wonderful to cast all our burdens on Him knowing that He cares for us. Rev. Wayne Wagner and Rev. Dan Talbort served well as moderators. Rev. Jack Day delivered a challenging message at the morning worship.

The following Sunday I was with the Black Oak Church. It was a pleasure being with these fine folks. Rev. and Mrs. Jack Day were in Tennessee for a special service. The Black Oak Church supports cooperative and designated giving.

On Sunday, September 12, I was with Rev. and Mrs. Fred Harris and the Purdy Church. This is a friendly group of people that is totally involved in cooperative and designated giving. Brother Harris has a pastor-missionary heart and his people are following him. That Sunday evening I was with Rev. and Mrs. Andy Lay and the Evangel Church. The people are very warm and enthusiastic. This church is totally involved in cooperative and designated giving.

The following Sunday it was a joy to be with Rev. and Mrs. Don Davis and the Carterville Church. I certainly enjoyed the cordial hospitality of these folks. Everyone enjoyed a basket dinner and fine Christian fellowship. We welcome back to Missouri Rev. and Mrs. Davis. The Carterville Church is one of the consistent supporters of cooperative and designated giving.

On the last Sunday in September I was with Rev. and Mrs. Ted Wilbanks and the Grant Avenue Church. What an enthusiastic group of people! Vivian and I enjoyed a fellowship dinner on Saturday evening as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Evans. (What a fine Christian family!) It was a joy to fill the pulpit on Sunday morning. Brother Wilbanks has led the church through a remodeling program that gives the church very adequate accommodations. The attendance is increasing and spirit of

enthusiasm is evident in the church. This church is a strong supporter of cooperative and designated giving.

The month of September was completed with the Church Evangelism Conference at the First Church in Farmington. The pastor, Rev. Jim McAllister, and the church had prepared very well for the conference and it surely was a time of spiritual refreshing. (An article relative to this appears in this issue of the *Gem*.)

As one may observe from the cooperative receipts, the Lord has blessed in September. We need a few more months with the receipts totaling over \$10,000 each month. By doing this we can reach our budget of \$120,000 for the year. The Lord is blessing this ministry for which we are so thankful. We pray that He shall continue to bless every pastor and church that shares in this work of promoting the gospel of Christ.

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

MY RENDEZVOUS WITH GOD

I have a rendezvous with God
Just when—I do not know
But when He's ready He will call,
So I'm prepared to go.
Should it be day—or dark of night
When I do cease to roam,
I'll join Him there—at Heaven's gate
To make His Heaven my home.

—Ruth Capps

Gleanings From the Field

When is revival needed? When there is a want of brotherly love.
When is revival needed? When there are dissensions, evil speakings, and jealousies among members of the church.
When is revival needed? When there is a worldly spirit in the church.
When is revival needed? When members fall into gross sins.
When is revival needed? When sinners are careless about Hell.

—Trinity Newsletter

When a person is truly saved; when he falls in love with the Lord Jesus it is only natural that he loves the house of God, the people of God, and the work of God.

—Grace Church Bulletin

Abraham Lincoln said, "The liquor industry has many defenders but no defense."

—DeSoto Newsletter

Woman's Page



Shirley Bowden, editor

A TABLE BEFORE ME



by Geraldine Plummer

As we near the Thanksgiving season, we begin to think of preparing a feast for our family and friends that we can be proud to serve them. My desire this Thanksgiving season is to accept the Lord's invitation to come and dine at His table. This invitation speaks of a feast of spiritual dimensions unknown. Can you imagine placing your feet beneath a table filled with treasures of immeasurable goodness prepared by the Lord himself? It sounds exciting, doesn't it? Yet, this is possible for us as a child of the Heavenly Father.

Let's start with a "one a day" vitamin. In Proverbs 3:13, "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding." In this Book of Proverbs of vitamins, we find taught such instruction for life as purity, faithfulness, self control, honesty, and direction for living in fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 3:5, 6, says "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." At this table we will find being served to the Christians, that let the Heavenly Father direct their lives, the fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22, 23: "Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." Then as the Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:18 has so aptly said, "I have all, and abound: I am full, having received . . . a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God."

My heart's desire would be to see the Christians of this nation come to the Lord's table and heed Isaiah 55:6, "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found." God does encourage us to pursue Him by coming to Him in prayer and by admitting our limitations. Such dependence upon Him takes the responsibility from us and places it on God. As we

come in faith, let us try thanksgiving and praise for what He has already done and what He is going to do for us in the future.

David the psalmist wrote in Psalm 37:5, "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." We seemingly want to direct God instead of letting God do the directing.

Just to let the Father do what He will,
Just to know that He is true and be still.
Just to trust Him this is all.
Then the day will surely be
Peaceful, what so'er befall
Bright, and blessed, calm and free.

(Mrs. Plummer is a member of the Berkeley Woman's Auxiliary in Berkeley, Missouri.)

MISSION DISTRICT NEWS

On October 18 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Lebanon, Missouri, the Mission District Woman's Auxiliary met with Carol Pinkerton as the special guest speaker. Sixty-five were present as Mrs. Pinkerton, dressed in a long dress made of material from Africa, presented a slide presentation of the work she and her husband, Jerry, are doing in Nassian, Ivory Coast, West Africa.

The District presented \$184.34 to be added to the Pinkerton account.

Visiting the meeting was our state vice-president, Helen McAllister.

WORDS FROM OUR STATE PRESIDENT Sandy Smith

"And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this" (Acts 2:12). Beware of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do. Expect the unexpected things. Each time you pray, worship God first, think of what you know He can do or has done, then expect far greater things. EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED. Children long for special treats such as a trip to the zoo or to Six Flags. When the parents finally say yes that they will go on Saturday, the children say, "Are you sure?" "Promise?" How often we act like children in doubting that the gifts of God are real. Trust gives the people the courage to act. Amazement and doubt together are a stalemate. As we grow in our knowledge of how God works in our lives and in our auxiliaries, we should let our faith grow also. God's promises are sure. His grace is amazing and should never be limited or doubted. Christ was victorious over temptations, physical abuse, and even victorious over death. The only victory He cannot win is the victory over the limitations we place on Him by our doubt and incompleteness of trust.

Women, we have stiffer goals to meet this year than ever before. Let's not limit ourselves and certainly let's not limit our missionaries by falling short. Brother Hanna touched my heart when he said, "I don't expect to go back to India as a defeated missionary. If I do, it will be your

responsibility too. I don't expect to go for you, but to go out with you." If your heart was challenged by Carlisle Hanna as mine was, I'm sure you have already made plans for increased giving to our Foreign Missions project this year. The goal that was set by the state convention on June 8, 1976, was \$3,000 to be used by the Hannas for the following items needed on the field of India: a refrigerator, bed, 4 Moped cycles, an accordion, a bathtub, and a hot water heater. Not only are the Hannas the only Free Will Baptist missionaries in India but they are also the last to be allowed to enter the country unless a major change occurs. Attitudes there are becoming more and more PRO-RUSSIAN/COMMUNISTIC, under the leadership of Mrs. Ghandi. What can two missionaries in one country do? Two plus God is a majority unless we limit them by neglect of prayer and giving.

The Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary is one of the strongest in our country according to the Digest of Reports handed out at the WNAC in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on July 13. Missouri ranked second in comparison to the other states in the areas of giving to the Co-Laborer Fund, Foreign Missions, and Home Missions. We ranked first in the other Missions projects, fifth in giving to Bible Colleges, and eighth in giving to WNAC Emphasis. We ranked sixth among the states having the most auxiliary members. We are among the top ten in all areas. "To God Be The Glory!"

I'm proud to be a part of the Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary, and it is my belief that this year will be one of praise and thanksgiving.

CORRECTION

In the August issue of the *Gem*, an article entitled "Campbells Make Holy Land Tour" was inadvertently listed as being by Reverend Clarence Campbell. In reality it was by Reverend Cecil Campbell.

APPLICATIONS FOR YOUTH CAMP CARETAKER

The Missouri State Youth Camp Board is still accepting applications for those who would like to serve as caretaker at the youth camp. Anyone interested should send their application to Reverend Charles Miller, Box 207, Desoto, Missouri 63020.

Is It Worth While?

It was the first night
Of the very last week
At the old camp ground,
The preacher began to speak.

His message was told
So they could understand,
The boys and girls not so old
Were told not to build on the sand.

They listened as salvation
Was made plain,
How Jesus our Saviour
For our sins was slain.

At the end of a pew
I saw a wee lass crying,
I asked her, If Jesus she knew?
And with a look up at me
I'll remember till dying.

Oh! yes ma'm, said she,
But I can tell
My grandpa and grandma
Are lost and going to Hell.

My friends, what a load
For a little one to bear,
Seldom is seen in our
Churches anywhere.

When little ones in Christ
Must weep
Over grandparents unsaved
Surely someone's been asleep.

Asleep in the past
If the elderly ones are lost
Think of the lambs that were rescued
Don't think of the cost.

When Jesus comes back
Can most of us say?
Lord Jesus, I did my best
At Niangua that day.

Virginia Dean
camp nurse