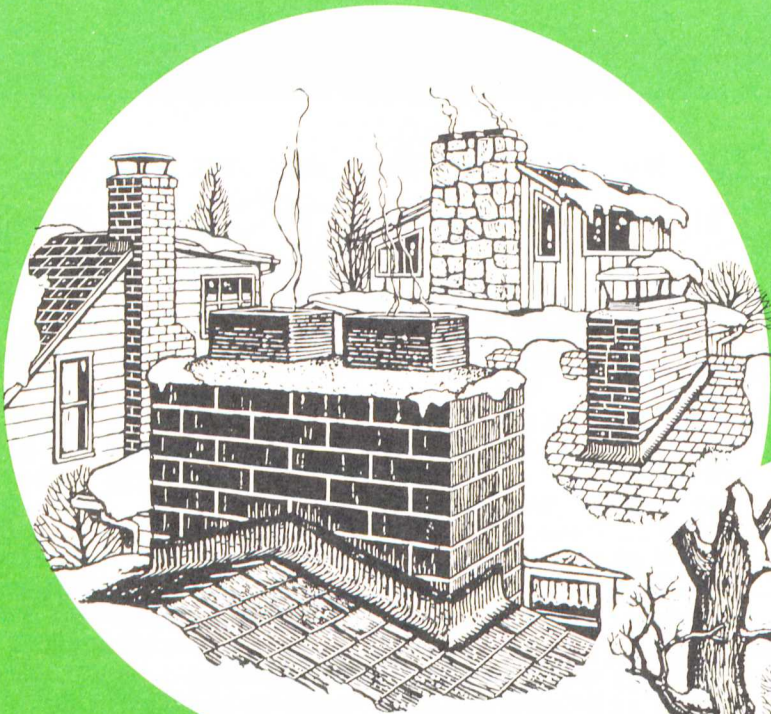


F.W.B.B.C. Library



Volume 47, Number 1, January 1977

Free Will Baptist

GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"

Sunday School Attendance Averages 1975-76

CHURCH	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Bethel	88	90	94	109	94	90	100	99	107	106		114
Byrd												37
Copper Mines	75	84	71	83	83	81	83	85	95	84	73	74
Cuba		106	110	112	120	112	105	116	105			
DeSoto	158	163	171	164	175	154	140	143	152	145	165	161
Farmington	266	275	285	342	339	309	329		358	366	402	338
Fellowship	325											
First Mission, Kansas City		49	40	34	24	25	28		19	23	30	32
Fourth		144	152	215	150	135	164	108	135	148	172	158
Grant Avenue		109		116			113	121	103	127	134	
Hazel Creek	50	50	62	77	76	84						
Jones Chapel									101			
Leadington	72	70	81	82								
Lebanon, First	147	149	162	181	165	156	164	143	137	152	152	154
Mt. Grove, First	267	266	267	274	282	251						
Myrtle	62	56	58	53	60	71						
Richwoods	35	30	30	31	34	30	31	30	33	35	32	41
Salem	39	38	30	48	37	32			32			
South Side	192	178	176	222	189	177	152	149	168			
Thayer		163	159	179			167		181			
Trinity	224			243	240	214	197	163				
Victory		165		213	200							
Willow Springs		100	115	112	113	126	116	133	118	115	120	117

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

Publication and Business Office: 303 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536

Clarence Burton, 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 Shirley Bowden, 303 West Commercial, Lebanon, MO 65536.

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 Lebanon, MO and at additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to the Free Will Baptist GEM, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, MO 65536.

On Being Spiritual

by Millard Sasser

There seems to be a problem which is prevalent among some Christians. The specific problem to which I refer is that of understanding and enjoying Biblical spirituality. It seems that many folk think that being spiritual, or having the "spirit," is the same as having a certain kind of emotional experience and a display of emotions. Also, many think of spirituality as having certain kinds of experiences. People who have this idea of spirituality are also often hard to satisfy in their Christian life. They think of a church service where there is no great emotional outbursts as being "dead," "unspiritual," or "cut and dried"; perhaps some other such title may be given the service. It is also usually someone else's fault, not theirs. Another thing to notice about these kinds of persons is that they are often the ones who cannot seem to find a consistent way of life. They may well be on top of the world on a given Sunday morning, but by Wednesday night they are not committed enough to Christ and His church to join with the rest of the body of Christ in prayer meeting. They want to be spiritual but will not commit themselves to service in the local church.

Thus the question arises; What is Biblical spirituality? And how can one become that kind of spiritual person? It must be pointed out that only Biblical spirituality is true spirituality.

First, spirituality that is godly is a "plan of life." Romans 8:1 tells us: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Note, that one who is "in Christ"—that is—one who has been born again, is no longer under the condemnation of the wrath of God. If one has Christ he also has the Holy Spirit. At this point Romans 8:9 and 10 records, "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." The Spirit of God produces life as a result of righteousness in one's life. He also produces that righteousness. True Biblical spirituality is first a "plan of life"—a plan of right living before God.

Secondly, spirituality is a "walk of life."

Returning to Romans 8:1 we note that it is for those who "walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." A church congregation may be emotional and also be spiritual. We must clearly understand that salvation does deeply affect our emotions. We must also be acutely aware of the fact that one's spirituality is never measured by his emotions. One's spirituality is not measured by the noise he makes (or the lack of noise). The one true measure of one's spiritual condition is that of his day-by-day life before God in the world. In John 19:15 we have the record of the crowd who shouted to Pilate about Jesus, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him." No person (saved or lost) in his right mind would say that this crowd was spiritual; however, they were surely emotional. Now to be completely fair we readily thank God for Philippians 4:4 where we are commanded to: "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice." The point to remember here is that one person's rejoicing may take on a different form than another's. True rejoicing comes as a result of a true day-by-day experience of walking with Jesus.

Thirdly, being spiritual means "commitment to Jesus Christ." If you will read Romans 8:5-13 you will find that one becomes spiritual by—and only by—committing himself to Jesus Christ. One may travel the world over; he may jump from one church to another; he may have every kind of experience (good and bad) the flesh can possibly have. However, unless he commits himself—turns his life over to—sells himself out to Jesus Christ as LORD for his life, all he will have had is an experience. He will never, under those circumstances, be satisfied with his Christian life. Having the Spirit of God is not a particular experience; it is a daily dying to self and living in Christ. Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." There we find the formula for being spiritual.

Finally, to be spiritual is to be obedient to God through obeying His Holy Word. To try to be spiritual without doing what God says in His Word is like trying to learn to swim without getting in the

water. It is impossible! If one harbors ill will, is not faithful to his church, will not tithe, does not regularly study God's Word, uses bad language, tells half-truths, is not honest in his dealings with others, along with other such things about which the Bible speaks, that person is not spiritual and cannot be spiritual as long as he continues in them. Again, to say that one is spiritual but that he has no responsibility to involve himself in a constructive way in the ministry of his local church is to misunderstand the concept of being a spiritual person. If one has been born again, he is a member of the Body of Christ. If he does not work in the Body of Christ where God has given him a gift to work, he will, in fact, hinder the work of Christ. Can a person be spiritual and at the same time hinder God's work? There are those who have been given the gift of teaching that have given up their position of teaching to "wait on God" and find out what He "wants them to do." That is not spiritual; that is childish. God always wants us to use the gifts He has given us.

It makes no difference the kind of experiences one may have; unless he is obeying the Word of God he is not spiritual. Space does not permit the full

quotation of the following Scripture references, however, each of them shows the necessity of doing what the Bible teaches. Look them up and study them (Galatians 5:17-26; 2 Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 10:25; Romans 8:1-17).

Some may ask, "What is this? Is it an effort to discredit and destroy warm, fervent services in our churches? Is it an effort to do away with emotional displays in the church?" No; a thousand times, No! But it is an earnest plea to children of God everywhere that we allow God to work himself out in each life according to His specific way. May we never be guilty of judging those who may not react to the working of God's Spirit in their lives as we react to His working in our own lives. However, let us determine that our living and doctrine is Biblical. Then we shall be Spirit controlled. There is not one shortcut to spirituality.

About the writer: Rev. Millard Sasser is the pastor of the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri. He is actively involved in state and national work. At present he is serving on the Missouri Christian Board of Education and was recently appointed to the Graduate Studies Committee.

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

November, 1976

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,209.31
16.25% Promotional Department	1,795.06
4.00% General Fund	441.86
5.50% Youth Camp	607.56
2.50% <i>Gem</i>	276.16
1.75% Sunday School & CTS	193.32
2.00% MBI	220.94
52% Seven State Departments	5,744.21
7.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	773.27
13.00% Foreign Missions	1,436.06
9.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	994.20
7.00% Executive Department	773.25
6.50% National Home Missions	718.03
2.50% CTS	276.16
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	276.16
.25% Laymen's Board	27.61
.25% Theological Commission	27.61
41% Eight National Departments	4,529.08
Total Disbursements	\$11,046.56

We are grateful to the Lord for another wonderful month!

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

November 1976

South Side	\$432.30
Byrd	25.62
DeSoto	550.00
Olivet, Marshall	175.00
Faith, Lemay	178.83
Cape Girardeau	228.66
Grant Avenue	427.08
Malden	80.03
Kansas City, First	64.21
Willow Springs	193.49
Alton	107.00
Number One	51.33
Beacon	100.00
Fredericktown, First	276.92
Hartville	43.52
Hannon	170.00
Gateway	67.00
New Prospect, Shell Knob	15.73
Merl's Chapel	31.52
Kirksville, First	30.00
Bethel, Festus	237.00
Faith, Lemay	113.35

Verdella	120.10
New Rock Springs	50.00
Buffalo	81.22
Marshfield	111.57
Macedonia Sunday school	17.00
Flat River, First	1,113.03
Grace	631.46
Freeman Chapel	88.47
Purdy, First	82.00
Oskaloosa	35.13
Mine La Motte	22.31
Sedalia, Mission	59.88
Pleasant Ridge	27.50
Hopewell—(Aug.-Sept.-Oct.)	279.69
Hurryville	96.30
Berkeley	458.95
Viburnum	131.95
Walnut Grove	117.93
West Plains, First	292.00
Bailey Chapel	38.00
New Harmony Sunday school	11.23
Cooper Mines	90.00
Cabool	133.62
Berean, Independence	117.00
Liberty	140.00
Mill Creek	68.76
Rock Chapel	28.79
Indian Creek Assn.—Joplin Church	127.92
Mt. Grove, First	462.81
Carterville	25.82
O'Fallon, First	113.88
Leadington	184.88
Thayer	133.91
Conway	360.00
Cuba	48.28
El Dorado Springs, First	5.00
Lebanon, First	320.00
Twin Oaks	250.00
Monett, First	262.50
Waynesville, First	81.50
Faith	18.00
Gateway	50.00
Pleasant Grove (Cope)	24.69
Parkview, Desloge	50.00
Fourth	434.89
Fellowship	50.00
Total Cooperative Receipts	\$11,046.56

We are grateful to the Lord for another wonderful month!

CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Missouri State Sunday School Contest

The Missouri State Sunday School and CTS Board has announced a statewide Sunday school contest. The board is trying to enlist all the churches in the state to participate. Sunday school contests are an excellent means of getting the people in our churches motivated to do a great work for the Lord. Usually such an effort is rewarded with an increased number in attendance and the addition of souls to the kingdom as well as to the local church. Also, churches that are busy evangelizing and reaching the lost will feel the spirit of God strong in the regular services of the church and realize the blessings of the Lord on individual lives. It is for these reasons that the board is conducting this contest.

In times past some of the churches have not entered the national contest because they did not feel capable of competing successfully with other churches throughout the denomination. The purpose of this campaign is to win souls to Christ.

Plaques will be awarded to those churches achieving the greatest number in each division. Recognition will be given to those churches that reach the greatest number of converts. Every church has a reason to participate.

Information concerning the contest has been

distributed at the Sunday school rallies. Also, a letter will be sent to each church with adequate information.

Anyone having questions or desiring additional information should contact the secretary of the board, Rev. Kent Tallent, 1807 Grindstone Road, Columbia, Missouri 65201. The campaign is titled "Soldiers of the Cross."

Pastors' Conference September 19-21, 1977

AN AUTHENTIC TIME

"Authentic" is defined in *Webster's New World Dictionary* as: "authoritative; trustworthy; reliable . . . genuine, real." That is exactly the way the CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD thinks about the PASTORS' CONFERENCE it is planning for SEPTEMBER 19 through 21, 1977.

Every Free Will Baptist pastor most likely knows something of the feeling of frustration and despair when he has been called on by someone in need of counsel. We completely believe that the Bible not only tells us the way of salvation but also that it provides the necessary directions to meet every problem a Christian may face in his Christian life. However, we sometimes find ourselves at a loss when it comes to taking the Bible and sitting down with that person in need of our help and showing him from it what the Bible says about anger, hatred, family problems, financial difficulties, drunkenness, depression, despair, and the seemingly endless list of problems that our people face. It is often even harder for us to be able to show them that God, in His Word, does indeed offer a way of laying those



Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

The Apostle Paul said, "Whereunto I am ordained a preacher" (1 Timothy 2:7). That word "ordain" means "to appoint or invest with ministerial functions." Paul states in 1 Timothy 1:12, "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry." He tells us in verse 13 that he obtained mercy, and in verse 14, "The grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus." So God's mercy and grace caused his calling into the ministry, not his experiences or abilities.

In 2 Corinthians 5:19-21 the minister is said to be an ambassador for Christ; in 1 Corinthians 4:1 he is said to be chosen, called, and sent by Christ; in Jude verse 3 he is a defender of the faith and in 1 Corinthians 3:9 the pastor is a collaborator with God.

The pastor should aim at distinct goals of building congregations that consist of born again, testifying, praising, witnessing, spirit-filled, Bible-studying, missionary-minded, stewards of time, talent, and treasure, and pure saints that are sanctified and cleansed with the washing of water by the word (Ephesians 5:26).

The earnest pastor should bear in mind that he, as God's undershepherd, must one day give an account of his stewardship. How he leads, preaches, counsels, and lives with his congregation will greatly determine the results in all the previous mentioned aims. If he is a faithful servant, then by God's grace, "When the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (1 Peter 5:4). And that, brethren, is the greatest aim of any servant of God.

Editor's Note: Rev. Jim McAllister has been asked to write a series of articles for the *Gem*. These will be in each issue and will be especially meaningful for the pastor. Inasmuch as the Lord has blessed his ministry with a fine, aggressive church, it is anticipated that these articles will be helpful and looked forward to each month.

things off and taking up victory over them. Well PASTORS, that's what this Pastors' Retreat is all about—answers and help for you as you help your flock.

Dr. John Broger who is from the Office of Information for the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C. and who is being used by the Lord in a particular way in that city to give Bible answers to folks in trouble will be our conference speaker. Dr. Broger is an active Christian in a local church in Washington, D.C. He also holds regular counseling classes for pastors and lay-persons across America.

Let us encourage every Free Will Baptist Church in Missouri (and elsewhere) to send their pastors to this conference. It will only cost \$20.00 for a pastor and just \$30.00 if he brings his wife. That registration includes food, lodging, and one book recommended for the conference. Every church will be benefited hundreds of times over for that \$30.00 investment.

Though the conference is sponsored especially for Free Will Baptists in Missouri we are encouraging pastors and laymen from anywhere to join with us for this AUTHENTIC TIME.

The conference is being planned for Free Will Baptist Youth Camp Grounds near Niangua, Missouri.

Millard C. Sasser, Board member

Seminar on Church Ministry for Older Adults

A seminar on "Developing a Local Church Ministry for Older Adults" will be held at the Sand Springs Resort, Bennett Springs, Missouri. The date is Monday and Tuesday, February 21 and 22. This is being sponsored by the Board of Retirement and Insurance.

The seminar speakers include two well-known and informed men in the field of aging. They are Melvin Shrout and Earl Kranges.

Registration will begin at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday. The cost is only \$35.00 which includes two nights lodging, five meals, and registration fee.

Please fill out form below and mail to Board of Retirement, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

() Yes I will attend this seminar.

Name _____

Address _____

Rev. Dale Smith Expresses Appreciation

"I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who helped with the Sonlight Missionary Conference held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Mountain Grove," are the words of Missionary Dale Smith. This conference is sponsored by the Mission Association. Rev. Roy Thomas, associate director of the National Home Missions and Church Extension Board, was one of the

speakers. The conference raised over \$1,500 in a cash offering plus some monthly support that was applied to the Rolla Missions Project. Rev. Smith has stated that regular weekly services began the first week in January.

Dale and Judy request the prayerful support of every Christian that the Lord will bless in this endeavor at Rolla.

State Competitive Activities Date Set

The Sunday School and CTS Board has announced that Saturday, May 7, 1977, is the date set for the Missouri state competitive activities. The place is Grace Free Will Baptist Church, 2258 Tenbrook Road, Arnold, Missouri. The starting time will be at 9:30 a.m. The deadline for entries will be April 15. *Entries will not be accepted on the day of competition as in the past.* For additional information any member of the board may be contacted.

Five Classrooms Added on at the Hannon Church

Pastor Gary Elders reports that the Hannon Church recently completed five new classrooms. This will give additional Sunday school room space and allow more space in the auditorium. It is hoped that some new classes will begin as a result of the additional rooms. The Sunday school broke its record four times last year with a high attendance of 124. The average attendance is 90.

Pastor Offers Assistance in Columbia Area

Pastor Kent Tallent, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Columbia, Missouri, continues to offer ministerial assistance to college students and hospital patients in the Columbia area. He may be contacted at this address: 1807 Grindstone Road, 65201. Telephone 1-314-449-7041

MOVING TO A NEW ADDRESS??

We are STUCK with a 25¢ charge from the post office should you change your mailing address and fail to let us know. Help us keep our quarters for pressing production needs by notifying us at least 4 weeks in advance if you are going to move. Please furnish your old and new addresses. Also, if your magazine is wrongly addressed in any way, let us hear from you and not the post office.

Change Of Address For _____
(name of subscriber)

Old Address: Please attach label from latest issue you have received. It is helpful to have label as computer file information is included.

New address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please clip this form and mail to Gem Magazine, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536.

Church Completes Study Course

The First Free Will Baptist Church at Fredericktown recently completed a study course in Christian growth. Material used for the course was published by the National Home Missions Department. Those who enrolled were strengthened and received a blessing. Nine certificates were issued for satisfactory completion. The church plans another course in Free Will Baptist doctrine after the holidays. The courses are being taught by the pastor, Joe B. Braddy. We would like to encourage other churches to offer these, and similar courses, to their people. Christian education should be among the top priorities of every Free Will Baptist Church.

Young People Active at Hartville

The young people of the Hartville Church raised \$340.00 that will be applied toward the purchase of a new bus. This was accomplished by a Halloween Haunted Barn project. The barn was made available by Dwight Henderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bledsoe are the youth sponsors. Rev. Bud Arnold is the pastor.

Cooper Mines Gives Report on Home Missionary from Church

The Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church has established the practice of donating the fifth Sunday offering to some worthy cause over a period of a few years. The fifth Sunday offering in October, an amount of \$302.90, has been forwarded to the Rev. Mark Vandivort family, who are presently in the process of establishing a Free Will Baptist Home Mission Church in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Mrs. Vandivort is the former Louise Underwood, who was once a rural school teacher in Madison County, Missouri. She was a member of the Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church. She was married to the Rev. Mark Vandivort in December of 1959.

Rev. Vandivort had a degree in agriculture from Missouri University before they were both enrolled at the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, for training in the Home Mission field. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Vandivort of Cabool, Missouri.

Their first assignment was to reestablish a Free Will Baptist Church at Twin Mountain, New Hampshire, and they spent a few years there before Rev. Vandivort received an appointment with the Home Mission Department at Nashville, Tennessee.

For the past eight years, they have been in Columbia, Missouri, where they established a Free Will Baptist Home Mission Church, which is now self-supporting. Rev. and Mrs. Vandivort left their post in Columbia in September of 1976 to begin their itinerant work in Flagstaff, Arizona. They are the parents of five children; Andy 14, Phillip 13, Steve 10, Bethany 8, and Deborah 5. Their mailing address is 3535 North Manor, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001.

Mrs. Bessie Underwood of Route 3; Frederick-

town, Missouri, is the mother of Mrs. Vandivort. She is a member of Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church, as well as three other daughters and one son and their families.

The Rev. O. D. Matthews is the pastor of the Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church.

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING NOVEMBER 5 THROUGH DECEMBER 5, 1976

Hannon	\$170.00
DeSoto	200.00
New Home	30.00
Thayer	205.00
Hazel Creek	10.00
Neosho	10.00
South Side	10.00
Fourth	67.55
Berean	20.00
Sedalia	74.20
Flat River, First	51.37
Grace	211.00
South Fremont	360.50
Myrtle	68.87
Rock Chapel	20.00
West Plains	70.00
Berkeley	50.00
Kingsway	25.00
Oak Hill	25.00
N.E. Mo. Association	102.03
Hartville	49.14
Mt. Pisgah	100.00
New Life	75.00
Pleasant Home	110.00
Houston	60.00
Sonlight Missionary Conference	703.06
Twin Oak	20.00
Cape Girardeau	16.90
Farmington	92.00
Fellowship	23.00
Olivet	225.00
Merl's Chapel	28.00
Lebanon	10.00
Julius Deaton	5.00
Lynda Ward	3.00
Oscar Moreland	10.00
Cooperative Receipts	2,209.31
Total	\$5,519.93

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

Things worth remembering:

The value of time,
The success of perseverance,
The pleasure of working,
The dignity of simplicity,
The worth of character,
The improvement of talent,
The influence of example,
The obligation of duty,
The wisdom of economy,
The virtue of patience,
The joy of originating,
The power of kindness.

ANONYMOUS

CHRISTIAN WORKER'S CONFERENCE

to be held at
The First Free Will Baptist Church
320 North Main Street
Fredericktown, Missouri

Sponsored by
The Free Will Baptist
National Home Missions Board
and
Southeast Missouri District Association
of Free Will Baptists
January 20-22
Theme: True Discipleship—Church Enlargement
Program

Thursday Evening:

6:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 p.m. Introduction and Welcome
Rev. Clarence Burton
Presiding Rev. Truman Huffman
Congregational Singing Roger Durbin
Special Music The Durbin Family
Message Rev. Jim McAllister
8:00 p.m.
Presiding Rev. Lloyd Smith
Congregational Singing Roger Durbin
Offering
Special Music The Durbin Family
Message Rev. Bob Shockey

Friday Morning:

8:00 a.m. Registration
8:30 a.m. Women's Seminar
"Woman's Role in the Home, Church, and Community"
Mrs. Roy Thomas, Speaker
8:30 a.m. Men's Seminar
"Man's Role in the Church, Home, and Community"
Rev. Roy Thomas, Speaker
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Call to Worship
Presiding Rev. Ronnie Graham

Congregational Singing Roger Durbin
Special Music
Message Rev. Clarence Burton
12:00 Lunch

Friday Afternoon:

1:30 p.m. Seminars
"Teaching Techniques" Rev. Joe Braddy
"Personal Soul Winning" Rev. Bob Shockey

Friday Evening:

6:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 p.m. Call to Worship
Presiding Rev. O. D. Matthews
Congregational Singing Roger Durbin
Choir Special
Special Music The Huffman Family
Message Rev. Glenn Rehkop
8:00 p.m. Call to Worship
Presiding Rev. Bud Statler
Congregational Singing Roger Durbin
Offering
Special Music The Huffman Family
Message Rev. Roy Thomas

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m. Registration
8:30 a.m. Women's Seminar
"Woman's Role in the Home, Church, and Community"
Mrs. Roy Thomas, Speaker
8:30 a.m. Men's Seminar
"Conserving Growth"
Wesley Bigelow, Speaker
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Call to Worship
Presiding Rev. Ed Baine
Congregational Singing Roger Durbin
Offering
Special Music
Message Rev. Bob Shockey
12:00 Conference Adjourned

Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Clarence Burton

November is the month that usually gives the first real indication of winter. It was no exception this year—snow and ice. We did not have a lot but enough to let us know that winter was on the way. But as the Psalmist states, "He giveth snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes."

Sometime ago I was reading a devotional thought that blessed me and gave to me an insight about a Scripture that I had not especially noticed before. This relates to the father whose son was possessed with a demon. The father said to Jesus, "If thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us." The "if" was put on Christ, "if thou canst." Now, let's note what Christ did. Christ said, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible." Christ put the "if" on the father. The "if" is never on Jesus; it is on you and me. How wonderful to know that the one who loved us and gave himself for us is able to do all things and bring to pass that which He knows

is best. There is no "if" in His power.

The Lord blessed throughout the month of November. The cooperative giving, as you may note from the report, is very fine. We have met our projected budget for the first eight months—there are only four months to go. If the giving-trend continues for the next four months as it has for the past three or four, we will reach the goal of \$120,000 by March 31. We thank God for meeting this need through concerned pastors and churches. We are trusting the Lord that our budget will be met, for there are those who are depending on this support to continue in their labor for the Lord. The designated giving is very fine also. Inasmuch as giving usually reflects love and commitment for a cause, surely this reflects a love and commitment of the Missouri State Association to the cause of Christ.

Because of need for space I will give the places I have visited without comment.

Monday, November 1—General Board Meeting
Friday, November 5—Greater Kansas City Quarterly Meeting
Saturday, Sunday, November 6, 7—Verdella Church
Thursday, November 11—First Quarterly Meeting
Saturday, November 13—Indian Creek Quarterly Meeting
Sunday, November 15—Sedalia Mission

Friday, November 19—Niangua Quarterly Meeting
Monday, Tuesday, November 22, 23—Sunday
School Board Meeting, Nashville

May I again express my personal appreciation for the kindness and hospitality shown to Vivian and me. May the Lord bless each one for every act of kindness.

We pray the Lord will bless every pastor, his family, and church family. Let us pray the Lord will continue to bless with souls being saved and each one of us developing into the measure of stature of the fullness of Christ.

Continue to remember this ministry in prayer. Please make all checks payable to and mail to Missouri State Association, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536.

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING November 1976

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Bethel FWB Church	\$20.00
Perpetual Loan Fund	\$20.00
Thayer FWB Church	\$52.00
Tom Owens	\$12.00
Poplar Bluff	35.00
General Fund	5.00
Lebanon, First FWB Church	\$10.00
Tom Owens	\$10.00
New Home FWB Church	\$10.00
Tom Owens	\$10.00
Total	\$92.00

MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Olivet FWB Church	\$10.00
Thayer FWB Church	\$10.00
Total	\$20.00

HILLSDALE COLLEGE

First Church, Mountain Grove	\$143.00
Total	\$143.00

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Merl's Chapel FWB Church	\$16.00
Carlisle Hanna	\$16.00
Gateway FWB Church	\$50.00
Howard Filkins	\$50.00
Houston FWB Church	\$127.00
Jerry Pinkerton	\$127.00
Kirksville, First FWB Church	\$59.00
Howard Filkins	\$10.00
Jerry Pinkerton	49.00
South Side FWB Church	\$137.00
Charolette Tallent	\$47.00
Jerry Pinkerton	5.00
Lonnie Palmer	85.00
Olivet FWB Church	\$80.00
Bobby Poole	\$20.00
Jerry Pinkerton	20.00
Eddie Payne	5.00
Mabel Willey	20.00
Lynn Miley	5.00
Lonnie Sparks	5.00
Howard Filkins	5.00
First FWB Church, Springfield	\$174.96
Archie Mayhew	\$174.96
New Harmony FWB Sunday school	\$79.84
Dr. Miley	\$39.92
Jim McLain	39.92

West Plains, First FWB Church	\$220.00
General Fund	\$210.00
Howard Filkins	10.00
Walnut Grove FWB Church	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
Thayer FWB Church	\$38.25
Dale Bishop	\$33.25
Jerry Pinkerton	5.00
Mountain Grove, First FWB Church	\$282.70
Dennis Teague	\$6.70
Tom Willey	20.00
Jerry Pinkerton	5.00
General Fund	251.00
Lebanon, First FWB Church	\$306.00
Jerry Banks	\$5.00
Patsy Vanhook	5.00
Jerry Pinkerton	138.00
Clint Morgan	138.00
Lonnie Sparks	20.00
Total	\$1,580.75

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

South Side FWB Church	\$10.00
Vergel Maness	\$10.00
Olivet FWB Church	\$30.00
Leland Horton	\$30.00
First Church, Mountain Grove	\$45.00
Leland Horton	\$40.00
Vergel Maness	5.00
Total	\$85.00

GOD'S LOVE

God, in Creation, surveys all He's made
And pronounces it's good, but the glory soon fades.
For Satan brought sin and grief to mankind,
Deafened his ears and made his eyes blind.

God, in Mercy, perfected a plan
To redeem a lost world, to lift fallen man.
He sent forth His Son, His promise to fulfil.
The plan would be complete on Calvary's hill.

Jesus, in Agony, hanged on the tree,
Paying the sin debt for you and for me.
And then in new life, He comes from the tomb
Dispelling all doubts, fear of death and gloom.

God, in Wisdom, knows what is best
For each of His children, to work or to rest,
To suffer sorrow, pain or grief.
Anxiously, He waits to give them relief.

God, in Glory, sits on His throne
Watching closely for each of His own.
Listening intently for each child's call
Ready to help, whenever they fall.

Jesus, in Heaven, is waiting anew
To return to earth, to meet those few
Whose robes, in His blood, have been washed white.
Those whose lamps are burning bright.

God, the Father and Jesus, the Son, sit on the throne
Surrounded by those, who have at last come home.
Rejoicing and singing praises alway.
This is the beginning of eternity's day.

—Betty Reeves, Fellowship Church



On The National Front

CTS EMPHASIS ON YOUTH WEEK FOR 1977

In a recent news release the CTS Department urged each church to make plans for Youth Week in 1977. The theme is "Declaring the Faith." It was noted that quite a few churches observed Youth Week the last week of January or the first week of February. Some churches extend the activities over an entire month. Material especially prepared for this emphasis can be ordered from the CTS Department.

PASTORS' AND WORKERS' CONFERENCE TAPES AVAILABLE

Ronald Creech, promotional director in North Carolina, has announced that cassette tapes of the Pastors' and Workers' Conference in Kinston are available. Principal speakers were: Dr. Tom Malone, Evangelist Bobby Jackson, Dr. Jim Vineyard, Dr. B. R. Lakin, Rev. Gordon Sebastin, Rev. Bob Shockey, Rev. Roy Thomas, Evangelist Calvin Evans, and Rev. Ronald Creech. The tapes may be ordered from—North Carolina Association of Free Will Baptists, Box 11277, E. Durham, NC 27703.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE MISSIONARIES

The following missionaries have sent Christmas greetings to the Missouri State Association and all the *Gem* readers: The Fulchers in Panama; the Pinkertons in Ivory Coast (presently in the U.S.); the Filkins in Ivory Coast; the Laverne Mileys and Lynn Mileys in Ivory Coast; Charolette Tallent in France; the McLains in Japan; Mabel Willey in Panama; the Aycocks, the Wilkinsons, the Pooles, and the Deeds in Brazil; and the Joe Haas family in France.

To these we say thanks! We pray for these and each one of our missionaries, home and foreign, the Lord's choice and richest blessings throughout the year.

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS BOARD APPROVES FIVE MISSIONARY FAMILIES

The National Home Missions Board met in the conference room of the National Offices Building, Nashville, Tennessee, November 15-17, 1976. Five new missionary families were approved.

Missionary *Buddy Drake*, Enid, Oklahoma,

reports that since moving into their newly constructed church plant their attendance has doubled.

Leland Horton broke all records in the Free Will Baptist Church in Des Moines, Iowa, when 107 were present October 31.

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Mobile, Alabama, was organized November 6 and the new church building was dedicated November 7. The church will become self-supporting January 1. Missionary *Ken Walker* is to be commended for the good church he has built in this city.

A NEWS EXTRA FROM HILLSDALE

MOORE, OK—An Extra Sunday . . .

An Extra Offering . . .

An Extra Blessing . . .

And all at one time! *January's fifth Sunday provides a special opportunity for Free Will Baptists in Missouri . . . an opportunity to share in the raising of \$60,000—which will be matched by \$60,000 from the Broadhurst Foundation—for building dormitory housing on the Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College campus.*

It is a unique opportunity, in that your money will be worth twice its value to Hillsdale . . . if \$60,000 is raised. The Broadhurst Foundation will match the initial \$60,000 raised by Free Will Baptists with another \$60,000. But we must raise the entire \$60,000 by April 1, 1977, in order to receive any of the foundation money.

With a fifth Sunday—one more day for offerings than your church usually has in a month—you can designate your offering to Hillsdale's dormitory housing project and leave your church with the amount of offering you normally have each month. You will also leave your church with a tremendous blessing from knowing you have shared in the training of Christian young men and women who are the future of Free Will Baptists.

Plans for the dormitory housing call for two buildings that will house six to eight apartment-type units and will in the beginning house approximately 48 single men and women. Following completion of a proposed large dormitory, the apartments will house married students.

Gifts are needed in time for all the money to be in the bank before April 1, 1977, in order to receive the Broadhurst Grant and complete the housing by August 1, 1977—in time for the fall semester.

Pray, asking God to direct your decision. Then reap the blessings by giving your extra offering to Hillsdale.

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

Woman's Page



Shirley Bowden, editor

RESOLUTIONS

Have you ever made a New Year's resolution on January 1, and by January 2 or so you had not kept it? So many times this happens. We become involved with other things and before long, the resolution is forgotten.

This year let's resolve to meet the goals set. Let's pray daily for our foreign and home missionaries. Many times we miss out on the blessings of answered prayer, because we are too busy to even pray the prayer. Let's pray that God will enable us to give to missions. Perhaps we do not have the money to give, but God has promised to supply all our needs according to His riches in glory. HE WILL MAKE A WAY. Our gift may not be large, but let's remember what He did with the two small fishes and barley loaves. Let's also resolve to pray for each other. This year, let's keep our resolutions.

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOME IN GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE

Mrs. Francis Bowman received a letter from the Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee, thanking the women across the state for the clothing sent in September. Mrs. Raper stated that it was like Christmas around the home when Miss Hazel Hutsell and her parents brought the clothing to the home. Each child was outfitted with the clothing. The children sent their thanks also. Remember the workers, the staff, and the children in your prayers.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

* Pray for the Howard Filkins as they work with the missionary children in the academy in the Ivory Coast.

* Pray for the Jerry Pinkerton family as they

prepare to go back to the Ivory Coast.

* Pray for the Jerry Banks in Japan, for the Clint Morgans on itinerant, for the Earnie Deeds in Brazil.

* Pray for the Hanna's in India.

LOCAL AUXILIARY NEWS

The O'Fallon Church organized a Woman's Auxiliary in January of 1976 with approximately 20 in regular attendance and 28 members. The auxiliary has adopted many projects this past year which have included the Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee; the Missionary Provision Closet in Nashville, Tennessee; the Mentally Handicapped Home; the Perpetual Loan Fund in our state of Missouri; started a church library; and gave \$200.00 to the state project "Hanna's Handy Helpers" and the National and State Loan Fund. New flags were also purchased for the new church sanctuary. Mrs. Carol Lombard also writes, "We praise the Lord for what He has done through the women for their faithfulness. The main emphasis has been on missions, using this as the main goal, and trusting that each individual will know better how to give, pray, and go for our Lord's work."

The Hartville Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary held their first meeting December 2, 1976, with Doris Arnold, president, presiding. The new auxiliary began with eight women and ten others joining that night. The first project was collecting plastic medicine bottles for Dr. LaVerne Miley. The devotion was brought by Jean Coy and Pat Saylor. Refreshments were served following the meeting.

(Note: Let's remember these newly organized auxiliaries in prayer.)

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

"Hanna's Handy Helpers" (State Project)

Balance brought forward November 1	\$408.94
Joplin	50.00
Bethel (West Plains)	15.00
Bethel (Festus)	2.20
Grace	7.60
Farmington	29.00
Balance as of December 1, 1976	\$512.74

National Home Missions Loan Fund	
December 1, 1976	\$233.88

Missouri State Home Missions Loan Fund	
December 1, 1976	\$233.88



CHRISTIAN WORKER'S CONFERENCE

January 20-22

**First Free Will Baptist Church
Fredericktown, Missouri**

(SEE PAGE 8)