



*Her children arise up,  
and call her blessed;  
her husband also, and  
he praiseth her.*

*Proverbs 31:28*

Volume 47, Number 5, May 1977

**Free Will Baptist**

**GEM**

**"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"**



# Let's Attend The Missouri State Association

by editor, Clarence Burton

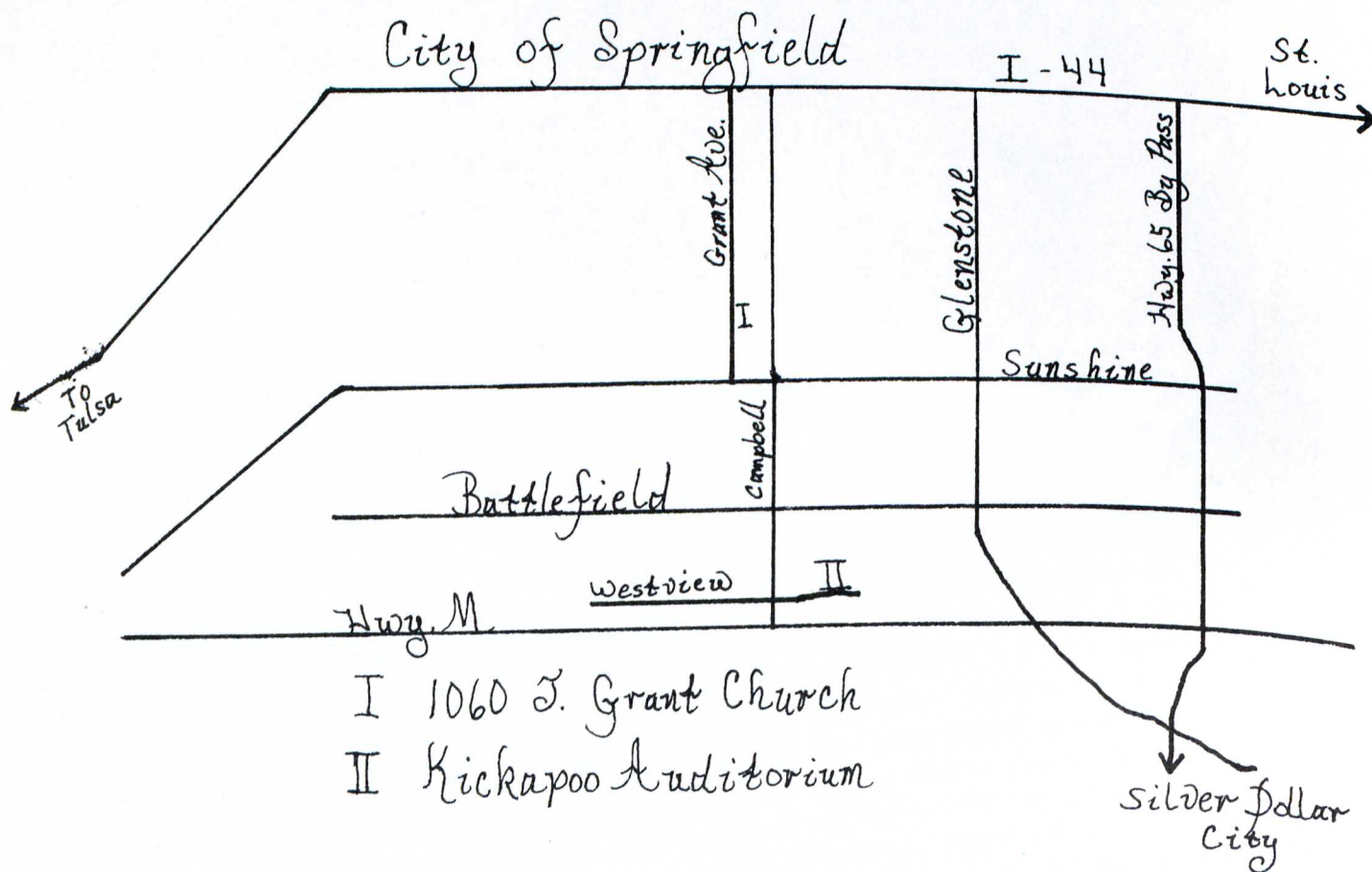
The Lord has blessed us with some wonderful services and fellowship at our Missouri State Associations. What a wonderful time to meet together, in the name of the Lord, for a time of feasting on His Word, fellowshiping with His people, and taking care of necessary business for His cause. I believe the Lord will give us all the blessings we anticipate and even more as we meet in June of this year.

The accommodations will be very adequate. Rev. Ted Wilbanks and the people of the Grant Avenue Church invite us to use the facilities of their beautiful church for the services that will be held during the day and the Sunday school, CTS, and Monday evening services. Arrangements have been made to use the spacious seven hundred seat

Kickapoo High School Auditorium for the Tuesday and Wednesday evening services. There will be adequate parking and seating in both auditoriums. Springfield is very accessible and it is not very difficult to go from one place to another. Someone has said that it is an ideal convention city.

May I encourage every pastor and family to attend. It would be well for the church to pay for the pastor's expense or at least part of it. He will receive much benefit from the meetings and will be able to pass this on to the church he serves. I should like to also encourage the lay people to attend. Only the Lord knows the spiritual uplift and strength that will be received as a result of the association.

Let's plan now to attend the Missouri State Association this year.



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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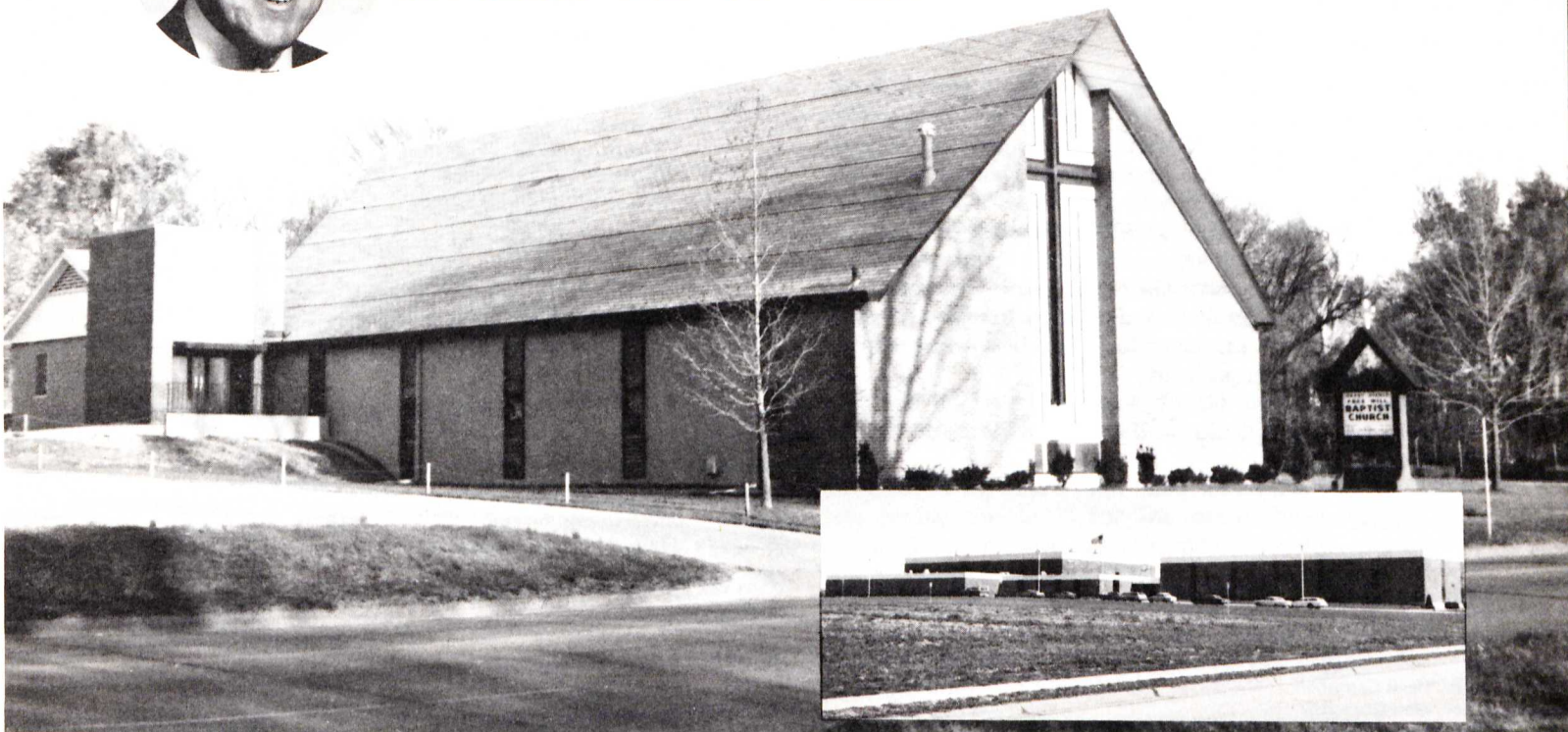
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"Welcome to Springfield and the Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church. Let us trust the Lord for a wonderful Missouri State Association."



## PROGRAM OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION

Theme: "That My House May Be Filled" (Luke 14:23)

Tuesday Evening, June 7, 1977

7:30 p.m. Worship in Song	Rev. Ted Wilbanks
Convening of Session	Rev. Tom Owens, Clerk
Welcome	Rev. Ted Wilbanks
Response	
8:00 p.m. Moderator's Message	Rev. William Evans
Special Music	Jones Family
8:15 p.m. Keynote Message	Rev. Stanley Jones
Luke 14:16 "Evangelize—that my house may be filled"	
Report of Committee on Committees	
Benediction	

Wednesday Morning, June 8, 1977

9:00 a.m. Congregational Singing	
Devotional	Rev. Jim Mertz
9:15 a.m. Credential Committee's Report	
Seating of Corresponding Messengers	
General Board Report	
Statistician's Report	
10:45 a.m. Recess	
Exhibits	
11:00 a.m. Worship Hour	Rev. O. D. Matthews, Presiding
Congregational Singing	
Special Music	(Arranged by Host Church)
Message	Rev. Lawrence Thompson
"Enlist—that my house may be filled"	
(Luke 14:21; Isaiah 54:1-3)	
12:00 p.m. Lunch	
1:30 p.m. Congregational Singing	
Devotional	Rev. Bob Dickey
1:45 p.m. Report of National Offices Representatives	

Report of State Treasurer and Promotional Secretary  
Report of State Home Missions Board  
Report of Sunday School and CTS Boards  
Report of Youth Camp Board

4:00 p.m. Adjournment

\*Corresponding Messengers will be recognized as time allows

Wednesday Evening, June 8, 1977

7:30 p.m. Worship Service	Rev. Ronnie Graham, Presiding
Congregational Singing	
Special Music	(Arranged by Host Church)
8:00 p.m. Message	Rev. Bobby Poole
"Expand—that my house might be filled"	
(Luke 14:22, 23; Luke 24:47)	
Benediction	

Thursday, June 9, 1977

9:00 a.m. Congregational Singing	Rev. Ted Wilbanks
Devotional	Rev. Bob Sherry
9:15 a.m. Business Session	
Report of Resolutions Committee	
Report of Obituary Committee	
Report of Placement Committee	
Report of Nominating Committee	
10:45 a.m. Recess	
11:00 a.m. Worship Service	Rev. Earl Ames, Presiding
Music	Congregational Singing
Special Music	(Arranged by Host Church)
Message	Rev. Don Lombard
"Establish—that my house may be filled"	
(Luke 14:17; Psalm 90:17)	
12:00 p.m. Lunch	
1:30 p.m. Remaining Business and Final Adjournment	
General Board Meeting Following Session	



# A Word From The Moderator

by Rev. Bill Evans

June is state meeting month. That means it is review time—What have we Missouri Free Will Baptists done for our Lord this year? It is also preview time—What will we do in the years to come?

We have put our hand to the plow. At our state meeting we assay the results. We briefly glance backward to this year, seeing how well we have turned the soil, sown the seed, and reaped the harvest. Then we look ahead. With our eyes on the end of the row, we lay plans for becoming more effective laborers next year.

Come join us at Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield and have a part in these important days.

## State Officers:

Rev. William Evans  
Rev. Tom Owens

Moderator  
Clerk

## General Board Members

Rev. Cecil Campbell  
Rev. Max Courtney\*  
Rev. Len Gardner  
Charlie Hoover  
Rev. Russel Johnson  
Rev. Glen Jones  
Rev. Vernon Maggart  
Rev. James McAllister\*  
Rev. James Mertz  
Fletcher Riley

## Chairman of Boards

Rev. Lynn Wood  
Rev. Andy Lay\*  
Rev. Dale Smith  
Rev. Cliff Bowman\*

Youth Camp Board  
Christian Education Board  
Sunday School and CTS Board  
Home Missions Board

\*Indicates Executive Board Member

Rev. Clarence Burton  
Rev. Edwin Bowden

State Promotional Secretary—*Gem* Editor  
Bookstore Manager

## Monday, June 6

2:00 p.m. General Board Meeting (Visitors Welcome)  
3:00 p.m. Woman's Auxiliary Executive Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Worship Service—Sunday School and CTS Board in Charge  
Rev. Bill Jones Speaker—New Life Singers, Special Music

## MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1977

THEME: "BE THOU AN EXAMPLE"

"But be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12b).

Music Director ..... Mary Fortney  
Organist ..... Jo Ann Thomas  
Pianist ..... Lou Fox

9:30 a.m. Opening Hymn ..... Congregation  
Welcome ..... Braxine Evans  
Response ..... Hope VanWinkle  
Theme Song ..... "Jesus Calls Us"  
Panel Discussion ..... "Be Thou An Example In Church"  
The Sunday School Teacher ..... Shirley Bowden  
The Nursery Worker ..... Tommie Sharry  
The Children's Church Worker ..... Kay Tallent  
The Auxiliary Woman ..... Jo Ann Wood  
Discussion Leader ..... Brenda Evans

Seating of Delegates ..... Sandy Smith, Presiding

Appointment of Committees

10:30 a.m. Recess

11:00 a.m. Worship Service ..... Helen McAllister, Presiding  
Congregation Sings  
State Woman's Auxiliary Choir ..... "Footsteps of Jesus"  
Special Music ..... Betty Dale  
Message ..... Rev. Jerry Pinkerton  
Offering For Missions

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:45 p.m. Congregation Sings  
Devotion ..... Sandy Ritter,  
"Be Thou An Example In Your Community"  
Special Music ..... Grant Avenue Trio  
Business Session  
Installation of Officers ..... Betty Reeves, Janet Bailey  
Adjournment

5:00 p.m. Auxiliary Banquet ..... Kickapoo Senior High Cafeteria  
Speaker ..... Carol Pinkerton  
Special Music ..... Sandy Pointer, Kay Brown

## Special Sunday School and CTS Service on Monday Evening

On Monday evening, June 6, the Missouri State Sunday School and CTS Board will feature the New Life Singers and Dr. Bill Jones from Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College. This service will be held at the Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri. Inasmuch as this will be a youth emphasis service, the young people throughout the state of Missouri are urged to attend.

**National Association  
Of  
Free Will Baptists  
July 17-21 Detroit, Michigan**



## **CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS**



### **Kirkville Church Wins Plaque**

The First Free Will Baptist Sunday school in Kirkville won an attendance plaque from the Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Sunday school in the Spring Enlargement Campaign. Shown in the picture is Fletcher Riley, superintendent at Hazel Creek, presenting the plaque to Ernest Thompson, superintendent at Kirkville.

Rev. Glynn Campbell is pastor of the Kirkville Church, and Rev. Terry Wood is pastor of the Hazel Creek Church.



### **Missionary Service At Freeman Chapel**

On Sunday, March 13, the Jerry Pinkerton Family held a special missionary service at the Freeman Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. Prior to this service the church had been made aware that the Pinkertons wanted to take a motorcycle back to the mission field inasmuch as gasoline is priced at \$1.90 per gallon. The purchase of the motorcycle and the cost of getting it to the Ivory Coast would be around \$1,000.

Pastor Vernon Maggart writes, "The people of Freeman Chapel wanted to have a direct part in getting the gospel to those who have never heard. Therefore, they planned a love offering for this Sunday and the amount received was \$1,333.30. The people met the challenge and more!" The church gives regular support to the Pinkertons by sending one-half of the offering received on the first Sunday of each month.

Following a delicious dinner, Sister Pinkerton spoke and Brother Pinkerton gave a slide presentation of their ministry in the Ivory Coast. Pastor Maggart urges that everyone remember in prayer the Pinkertons as they return to the mission field.

Editor's note: This service must have been of special significance inasmuch as Mrs. Pinkerton and Mrs. Maggart are sisters.

### **Remodeling At Walnut Grove**

The church recently paneled the auditorium, put padding on the pews, and installed carpet and a cabinet in the lower level. The pastor donated a refrigerator that was placed in the kitchen area. The padding of the church pews was donated by wonderful friends of the church, writes the church reporter. The pastor of the church is Rev. Charles Gowers.

### **Report From Parkview**

Church reporter Mrs. Cleo Leonard writes, "How we praise the Lord for the many blessings He has poured out on the church. Since our last report we have had twelve conversions and rededications, three baptisms, and three people to join the church. Our revival is scheduled for April 29, 30, and May 1. Reverend Mark Vandivort will be the evangelist."

### **Award Presented To Mrs. Ethel Thompson**

Sister Ethel Thompson was given a plaque for thirty-two years of service as clerk of the Northeast Yearly Conference. Rev. Kent Tallent, moderator of the conference, stated, "Sister Thompson has done her work well and has been faithful in fulfilling her responsibility as clerk of the association. She deserves this award and commendation." Sister Thompson is a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kirkville.

### **MUSIC WORKSHOP AT FARMINGTON**

Ted Wilbanks conducted a Music Seminar and Choir Clinic March 14-18 at the First FWB Church of Farmington. Two hours each evening were spent in reviewing the fundamentals of music, studying church music, and rehearsing with the choir.

"Farmington Church has a wonderful choir and music program under the inspiring leadership of John Smith," says Brother Wilbanks.

The seminar was very well attended and on Friday evening the choir and Brother Wilbanks presented a sacred music program. The choir sang several selections they had learned during the week. Ted Wilbanks, his wife Kaye, and their children also presented a program of gospel songs.

According to Pastor Jim McAllister the week was a help and blessing to their church and recommends that other churches could profit by a music seminar with Brother Wilbanks.



## PASTORS' CONFERENCE SET

Pastor Andy Lay, chairman of the Christian Board of Education, writes:

An unusual Pastors' Conference is being planned by the State Board of Christian Education for September 19-21, 1977, at the State Youth Camp near Niangua.

It will be unusual in several respects. First, it will be unusual in its subject matter: Christian Counseling. I do not recall ever hearing of a Free Will Baptist seminar on counseling before. Yet, it is one of the greatest areas of ministry for pastors and their wives. It is often an area of frustration, and that is precisely why the Board of Christian Education selected the subject. We believe the seminar will help significantly.

Secondly, the coming Pastors' Conference will be unusual in program personnel. Dr. John Broger will be the principal speaker. Again, if he has ever spoken at a Free Will Baptist meeting, I am not

aware of it. Three of the members of the Board of Christian Education met him at last year's National Association of Evangelicals meeting in Washington, D. C. He works in the Pentagon, but as a Christian layman has a tremendous witness for Christ. He is well qualified to speak on the selected subject, having practiced and taught Nouthetic Counseling as taught by Dr. Jay Adams, a popular Christian writer.

We believe the Pastors' Conference will also be unusual in its format. It will be geared to learning and applying practical knowledge and skills. Pastors and their wives will not just take some sermon outlines home with them, but some valuable new and challenging ideas that will no doubt revolutionize the ministries of some of our pastors.

The cost of the seminar (including room, board, lectures, insurance, and some literature) will be \$20 for each pastor or \$30 for a pastor and his wife. Churches should plan to send their pastors, if at all possible.

Plan now to attend.

## Promotional Secretary's Corner

*by Clarence Burton*

The month of March has ended. This ends the Missouri State Association year of 1976-77. Surely we can say and will say with the Psalmist, "The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad" (Psalm 126:3). The goal that was adopted for cooperative giving, \$120,000, has been reached and exceeded. Inasmuch as this was quite an increase from the previous year, there was some reservation about meeting the budget. We thank God that it has been accomplished. With deep appreciation we would like to say thanks to every church that has supported this ministry. This never could have been accomplished without concerned pastors and churches willing to give beyond the need of the local church. The beautiful thing about cooperative giving is that every phase of the Lord's work in our denomination benefits from it. My prayer is that every church in our state association will participate in this fair and proportionate program. May I say that as every pastor desires to see every member of the congregation he serves involved in the support of the ministry of the local church, even so do I have the desire to see every church involved in the support of the ministry of the state and national work.

March is a beautiful time of the year. It is the time when the grass covers the earth with a beautiful green cushion; the trees begin budding; the water in the springs and brooks run freely. What a beautiful time for a walk in the woods or a stroll in the park!

I had the privilege of visiting with some wonderful people this month. As always, I was shown much kind hospitality and Christian friendship. I am so grateful for this. May the Lord bless each one for his deeds of kindness.

Inasmuch as I have another short article in this issue, I will list my visits without comment.

Saturday, March 5—	Liberty Quarterly Meeting Rev. Dan Talbort, moderator
Sunday, March 6—	Christian Workers Church of America Rev. Leslie Dirk, pastor
Sunday, March 6—	Columbia Church Rev. Kent Tallent, pastor
Sunday, March 13—	Harmony Church-Mission (Without pastor)
Sunday, March 20—	Beacon Church (Without pastor)
Thursday and Friday March 24, 25—	Northeast Yearly Association Rev. Kent Tallent, moderator
Friday evening-Sunday evening March 25-27—	Revival Services at Waynesville Church Rev. Murray Southwell, pastor
Monday, March 28—	Youth Camp Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 29—	Springfield (Met with ministers in preparation for State Association.)

Again, let us thank God for a fine year and another fine month. May the Lord bless each one for his faithfulness and may He continue to bless our state and national work.

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



# A Thank You Letter From Heaven

The reason for this little "Heavengram" was in response to the article in *Contact* which Dean Dan Lyons, National Chairman of Americans Against Abortion, authored. In the article he described some of the inhuman methods used in this murder of innocents. One of the methods is called suction curettage in which a powerful vacuum tube with a sharp-edged tip is inserted into the womb. The tiny and innocent victim is then sucked out in shreds.

## A THANK YOU LETTER FROM HEAVEN

Dear Mother,

Just a note to let you know that although the journey was painful, I made it here all in one piece. Thank you for the love and concern you displayed in regard to the means of travel. Let me tell you about my trip . . .

Everything was perfect at first. The weather was a warm 98 degrees. The water my ship was sailing on was calm and peaceful. Since it was evening, I couldn't see the approaching storm cloud. All of a sudden, I heard this big wind. Then my entire body was sucked out of my cabin through the jaws of this killer shark.

With the help of this beautiful being, I escaped back to this paradise I had originally come from. Thank you for your love?

Your son,

*E. M. Bryo*  
E. M. Bryo

P.S. Oh yes, just to reward your love and concern. The Great I Am said *you* must burn. I asked Him why and He said with a tear, "Since she didn't repent, she can't come here."

We have the right to life, liberty, and happiness. It's when one breaks our laws that certain rights have been taken away. These tiny human beings are not guilty of breaking any laws. Instead of protecting the right to exist of these victims of sin, laziness, and ignorance, they're treated like a criminal and given capital punishment. We must remember that we were once as they.

Dan Lyons has two very educational tracts to inform people about this atrocity. He states: "If you are interested in helping prevent this wholesale slaughter of the innocent, please write to me."

Dan Lyons  
Americans Against Abortion  
Box 977  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102

In the book of Jeremiah 1:5 we can read, "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee: and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." Before God even allowed Jeremiah's mother to house his body, God knew his soul. To me, that verse settles the question of when life begins. God had a soul prepared for that life in the womb. The moment a new life is conceived, everything necessary for the development of our human species is there.

You may have heard before: "Let the just be the umbrella for the unjust." Who knows, perhaps the reason God has allowed some couples to be barren is for the sake of the unwanted baby in the womb.

Editor's Note: Mary Ann Owens is the wife of a Missionary-Pastor. She is a strong proponent against abortion as her article indicates. Last year she was given an award from the WNAC for an article entered in an Essay Contest.



## MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS GIVING MARCH 5 through MARCH 31, 1977

West Plains	\$ 140.00
Sedalia	70.94
Victory	82.00
South Side	10.00
Grace	34.00
Hannon	125.00
Olivet	225.00
Myrtle	95.66
DeSoto	100.00
Rock Chapel	75.00
Grace	33.00
The Jones Family	123.39
Houston	35.46
Oak Hill	25.00
South Fremont	110.00
Columbia	20.00
Fourth	19.82
Martha Baker	10.00
Union Light	24.00
Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary	963.58
Total	\$2,321.85

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

## COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS March 1977

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$3,144.37
16.25% Promotional Department	2,554.80
4.00% General Fund	628.87
5.50% Youth Camp	864.70
2.50% Gem	393.04
1.75% Sunday School & CTS	275.14
2.00% MBI	314.44
52% Seven State Departments	8,175.36
7.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	1,100.54
13.00% Foreign Missions	2,043.85
9.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	1,414.97
7.00% Executive Department	1,100.53
6.50% National Home Missions	1,021.92
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	393.04
2.50% CTS	393.04
.25% Laymen's Board	39.30
.25% Theological Commission	39.30
41% Eight National Departments	6,445.95
Total Disbursements	\$15,721.85

Let us thank the Lord for a very fine month. Every phase of the Lord's work benefits from cooperative giving.

## COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS March 1977

South Side	\$ 262.85
Grant Avenue	346.42
Community	38.75
Low Ground	25.00
Mt. Pisgah	50.00
Fredericktown, First	208.54
Bailey Chapel	27.00
Macedonia	14.00
Berkeley	407.34
Grace	568.38
Hurryville (Jan., Feb.)	188.74
West Plains, First	342.00
Sedalia, First	52.50
Hartville	37.16
Byrd	14.29
Kansas City, First	64.25
Alton	53.00
Waynesville, First	94.00
Olivet	175.00

Merl's Chapel	51.98
Joplin	134.22
New Prospect	11.00
Number One	31.90
Beacon	242.85
Hopewell	134.95
Pleasant Ridge	24.00
Poplar Bluff Mission	25.70
Myrtle	63.77
Freeman Chapel	72.03
Oak Hill-St. Clair	209.74
Calvary, Conway	370.00
Gateway	54.00
Belton	160.00
Berean	48.00
DeSoto	450.00
Mill Creek	55.02
Hannon	125.00
Farmington	2,296.89
Buffalo	91.96
Mountain Grove, First	684.69
Houston	87.44
Coppermines	140.00
Verdella	132.41
Rock Chapel	33.16
Thayer	118.62
Leadington	161.82
Marshfield	90.21
Happy Home	38.59
O'Fallon	460.28
Cartersville	20.95
Twin Oaks	250.00
Union	60.00
Black Oak	10.00
El Dorado, First	5.00
Mine La Motte	20.00
Desloge	50.00
Fourth	265.00
Waynesville, First	116.45
New Rock Springs	68.00
South Side	281.25
Byrd	10.42
Myrtle	85.40
Willow Springs	167.74
New Rock Springs	40.00
Cope	19.95
Gateway	48.00
Sedalia, First	53.91
Fellowship	50.00
Malden, Mission	78.00
Beacon	239.26
Columbia	445.40
Grant Avenue	337.63
Central	400.00
West Plains, First	247.25
Alton	47.82
Cape Girardeau	152.00
DeSoto	420.00
Oak Hill-St. Clair	211.91
Union Light	39.50
Bethel	332.00
Monett	251.47
Number One	29.91
Hickory Grove	37.75
Fredericktown	213.20
Mountain Grove, First	363.69
Lebanon, First	262.00
Granby	76.54
Old Bethel	20.00
Trinity	325.00
Total Cooperative Receipts	\$15,721.85

## MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING March 1977

### FOREIGN MISSIONS

Kirksville	\$109.83
Pinkerton	\$88.58



H. Filkins .....	20.00	
L. Sparks .....	1.25	
South Side .....		\$199.00
Palmer's .....	\$170.00	
J. Pinkerton .....	10.00	
B. Fulcher .....	5.00	
C. Tallent .....	14.00	
West Plains .....		\$120.00
General Fund .....	\$100.00	
H. Filkins .....	20.00	
Walnut Grove .....		\$10.00
Lynn Miley .....	\$10.00	
Olivet .....		\$80.00
B. Poole .....	\$20.00	
Mabel Willey .....	20.00	
J. Pinkerton .....	20.00	
H. Filkins .....	5.00	
J. McLain .....	5.00	
Lynn Miley .....	5.00	
Merl's Chapel .....		\$44.00
C. Hanna .....	\$44.00	
Thayer .....		\$52.80
J. Pinkerton .....	\$46.80	
D. Bishop .....	6.00	
Eastern Gate .....		\$120.00
J. Pinkerton .....	\$100.00	
A. Mayhew .....	20.00	
Gateway .....		\$50.00
H. Filkins .....	\$50.00	
Mountain Grove, First .....		\$622.70
General Fund .....	\$535.00	
J. Pinkerton .....	5.00	
D. Teague .....	22.70	
T. Willey .....	60.00	
Bethel .....		\$34.08
J. Pinkerton .....	\$34.08	
Black Oak .....		\$29.65
Laverne Miley .....	\$29.65	
Hickory Grove .....		\$15.47
Steve Lytle .....	\$15.47	
Lebanon, First .....		\$190.00
C. Morgan .....	\$95.00	
J. Pinkerton .....	95.00	
Total .....		\$1,677.53

#### MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Thayer .....		\$37.00
Poplar Bluff .....	\$32.00	
General Fund .....	3.00	
T. Owens .....	2.00	
Bethel .....		\$44.00
Perpetual Loan Fund .....	\$30.00	
D. Smith (Rolla) .....	14.00	
Monett .....		\$5.00
Dale Smith .....	\$5.00	
Mountain Grove, First .....		\$2.50
General Fund .....	\$2.50	
Total .....		\$88.50

#### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

South Side .....		\$30.00
Bob Francis .....	\$30.00	
Olivet .....		\$30.00
Leland Horton .....	\$30.00	
Rock Chapel .....		\$34.00
M. Vandivort .....	\$34.00	
Mountain Grove, First .....		\$725.50
M. Vandivort .....	\$618.00	
Vergel Maness .....	25.00	
Leland Horton .....	75.00	
L. Powell .....	5.00	
General Fund .....	2.50	
Total .....		\$819.50

#### HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

Fredericktown .....		\$50.00
Broadhurst Fund .....	\$50.00	
Mountain Grove, First .....		\$1,335.52
Broadhurst Fund .....	\$1,160.00 (Already sent)	

General Fund .....	175.52
Total .....	\$1,385.52

#### MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Olivet .....	\$10.00
Oskaloosa .....	10.00
Thayer .....	10.00
Fourth .....	10.00
Mountain Grove, First .....	20.00
Total .....	\$60.00



## Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

It is extremely easy for the preacher to develop a habit of constantly demeaning and complaining about the denomination and other preachers in his area. He may do this because he is failing in his pastoral or evangelistic ministry and needs to blame someone, or because others are getting more lucrative offers of churches and positions while he has been ignored, or because he feels that some denominational leaders are antagonistic toward him; or he may believe he is the only one with *all* the answers.

The preacher should either remain loyal to his denominational vows or terminate his relationship with it if he in good conscience cannot keep his covenant. In many circles today, the favorite past-time is to blame all the social and religious problems on the denominational programs.

The denomination has a right to expect cooperation without a compromise of our personal convictions. Free Will Baptists should demand high standards and principles with regard to morals, virtues, purity, respect and confidence, prayer, and Christian living from its preachers. The denomination should demand a high degree of efficiency in the minister's preaching of the Word, his pastoral work, and his manner of conducting services in the church program. The pastor has a duty to learn all about his denomination and cooperate with its program so long as this does not infringe on his personal convictions. Just consider all that Free Will Baptists have done for you.

Professional jealousy among preachers provokes envy, strife, gossip, and many times war between the "brethren." We preachers want our church people to love one another. This is a must if we are to have successful churches. How can we expect them to do so if they see hate, greed, envy, strife, and disharmony among the clergy? Let's pray that God will give us love for one another. No one preacher can convert all the world. No one evangelist can do the whole job. We need each other. We need to defend each other. God help us to enjoy the sweet fellowship of the brethren.



## NAE CONVENTION MEETS

The National Association of Evangelicals met February 22-24 at the Arlington Park Hilton Hotel in Chicago, Illinois. The NAE is composed of more than thirty-two thousand local churches from sixty-five denominations. Through its various ministries it touches many areas of concern: missions, religious broadcasting, Christian schools, world relief, chaplaincy, evangelism, child welfare, higher education stewardship, and others.

The convention adopted two outstanding recommendations—a paper on “God’s Word—Our Infallible Guide” and one entitled “A Call To Repentance.” A part of the paper on “A Call To Repentance” is being used in this article. (Space will not permit the entire article.) As this is being read it should stir our hearts and motivate us to a great dedication to the cause of Christ.

## DRAFT

### A CALL TO REPENTANCE

Many in America are asking, “Is God trying to say something to us?” It may be that, if we would give Him our attention, we would hear His clear voice calling us away from evil and to righteousness. And perhaps the shift of weather patterns that has brought droughts to the west, dust bowl conditions to the plains, and paralyzing cold to two-thirds of the nation is part of God’s effort to get our attention.

It is time to listen. American morality has declined at an appalling rate in recent years. Standards have been swept away by a flood of personal freedom without responsibility. Actions are not based on what is right but on what one can get by with. Dishonesty is prevalent in business, labor, and government.

Pornography poisons the minds and perverts the actions of millions, including many of pre-high school age. Television programming presents a warped picture of American life with the portrayal of immorality, indecency, drinking, and violence. Alcoholism has become a national shame. Youth often learn to drink before they are twelve; many in high school are alcoholics. Alcohol is involved in over half of the deaths of young people in automobile accidents.

All too often those who are concerned about moral problems are like the blind leading the blind. They try to solve these problems by humanistic methods and they fail. It is time for America to repent and return to righteousness based upon the Word of God. Realizing this, and knowing that renewal must begin with those who know God, we:

- (1) Pledge ourselves to prayer for personal renewal. We will confess our sins, ask God’s forgiveness, and commit ourselves completely to Him.

- (2) Call upon the churches of America to gather their people together for prayer for renewal, through the confession of sin and commitment to moral righteousness.

- (3) Ask President Carter to issue a call to prayer

throughout our nation, based on God’s promise, “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).

## BILLY GRAHAM SAYS PRESS DISTORTED HIS STAND ON USE OF ALCOHOL

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—Evangelist Billy Graham states that the report of an interview he did with a southern newspaper concerning his stand on the use of alcohol contained only a partial transcript of his views, and subsequent press reports across the country conveyed some deductions that were not intended. “It was accurate as far as it went,” he stated.

According to Forrest Boyd, director of communications for Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, at no time did Mr. Graham state that he thought it was all right for then President-elect Jimmy Carter to drink an occasional highball. He did not even mention highballs.

In a message prepared for a future Hour of Decision broadcast and circulated to the news media, Mr. Graham takes a strong stand against the use of alcohol and expresses pleasure that Mr. Carter has said that no hard drinks will be served at the White House during his administration.

“I am duty bound to stand with the Bible on the question of drunkenness. Any sin that can keep a man out of the kingdom of God must be earnestly denounced by the preacher of the Gospel,” Mr. Graham stated.

“The Bible puts drunkenness in the same category with other vicious sins. Listen, ‘Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners shall inherit the kingdom of God’ (1 Corinthians 6:10).

“The evil strikes at the very heart of American idealism. It gives our enemies choice material for propaganda, is a waster of time, money and energy, and is eating at the very foundation of our home life.

“One of the greatest social problems in America is alcoholism. One hundred million people in the United States over 15 years of age drink and eleven million of these are alcoholics. Statistics show that 450,000 alcoholics are added to the total each year; 52 percent of the new alcoholics are women.

“According to the Department of H.E.W., for every alcoholic, 4 other persons are affected by their behavior.

“In one year we are spending in the United States \$35 billion for alcohol, \$500 million for advertising, and losing \$25 billion in lost work time, health and welfare services, and property damage.

“But we must admit, in all honesty, that teetotalism as we know it today was found only in certain individuals in the Scriptures, especially those who had taken the Nazarite vow, like John the Baptist. The alcoholic beverages of the middle east



in that period were very much weaker than modern drink. Biblical scholars such as Alfred Edersheim tell us that the wine of biblical times was mixed with water.

"The Bible does teach, as Paul admonished Timothy, that alcohol can be used for medicinal purposes. Many modern medicines have alcohol in them.

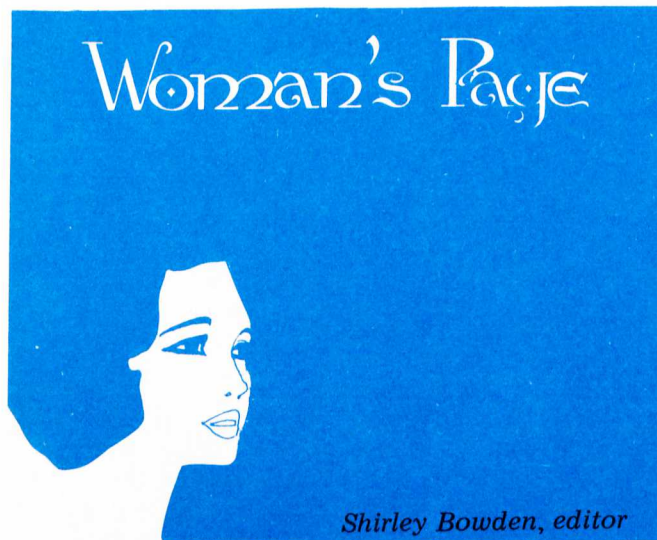
"While the argument for total abstinence is hard to prove from the Bible—yet another scriptural admonition comes into force. The Apostle Paul devoted most of the 14th chapter of Romans to this subject. He went so far as to say that 'It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth' (Romans 14:21). But He also made it clear that we have a free conscience before the Lord and are not to judge the one who feels it is wrong to eat and drink . . . Nor are we to judge the one who does . . . so long as he does it unto the Lord . . . does not hurt the testimony of Christ—and does not cause a brother to stumble.

"However, it is my judgment that because of the devastating problem that alcohol has become in America, it is better for Christians to be teetotalers except for medicinal purposes.

"The Bible is not silent about any force which threatens the souls of men. It lashes out against any and all of Satan's tricks and devices, and it is very clear in its denunciation of drunkenness."

The Reverend George Lee, in a guest editorial in the February issue of *Contact Magazine*, also stressed that the Bible denounces drunkenness and warns against consumption of alcoholic beverages. The editorial took exception to Mr. Graham's position on alcohol *as first interpreted by press reports*, particularly as related to social drinking. Mr. Lee asserts that alcohol should not be tolerated in any degree by the Christian.

Editor's note: Inasmuch as there has been some controversy regarding a press report concerning Evangelist Billy Graham's position on the use of alcohol, it seemed proper to carry this article which appeared in the March issue of *Contact*.



## REMEMBER MOTHERS

This is dedicated to all mothers not only for Mother's Day but the entire year.

### "MOTHER'S LOVE"

Her love is like an island  
In life's ocean, vast and wide,  
A peaceful, quiet shelter  
From the wind, and rain, and tide.

'Tis bound on the north by Hope,  
By Patience on the west,  
By tender Counsel on the south,  
And on the east by Rest.

Above it like a beacon light  
Shine faith, and truth, and prayer;  
And through the changing scenes of life,  
I find a haven there.

—Author Unknown



## PLAN TO ATTEND THE STATE MEETING

June 6-9 will be the Missouri State Meeting in Springfield, Missouri. Tuesday, June 7, the Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at the Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield. This year the theme will be "Be Thou An Example." There will be panel discussions, special music, and special speakers: Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Pinkerton. An auxiliary banquet will climax the Auxiliary Convention with Mrs. Carol Pinkerton as the speaker. The cost for the banquet will remain the same as last year, \$3.00. There will also be a WNAC Booth where auxiliary material can be purchased. So mark your calenders for June 7, 1977.

## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR MAY

\*The Howard Filkins Family and the school in Africa.

\*The Earnie Deeds Family as they prepare for furlough.

\*Arilla Wode, missionary appointee to the Ivory Coast, West Africa.

\*The Carlisle Hannas in India.

## NOTE OF APPRECIATION

As May comes to a close, we would like to thank Mrs. Jean Francis for all the contributions she has given the State Woman's Auxiliary work in Missouri. She and her husband and family will be leaving the first of June for Minneapolis, Minnesota, where they will begin a new work as home missionaries to that state. Be sure and add this family to your prayer list. We will miss Bob, Jean, and the children, but we know they are going where God is leading.



# MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION WOMAN'S AUX. STATE CONV. YOUTH CAMP

NOTE THESE SPECIAL DATES AND PLACES:

**Missouri State Competitive Activities**

Date: May 7

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Grace Church, Arnold, Missouri

**Workday Youth Camp—May 14**

**Missouri State Association, Youth Service, and Woman's Auxiliary**

Date: June 6-9

Place: Springfield, Missouri

Day Services: Grant Avenue Church

Evening Services: Kickapoo Auditorium

**Missouri State Youth Camp**

Date: Elementary Week—June 12-17

Intermediates—June 19-24

Senior—June 26-July 1

Note: The elementary week is first rather than last.

**National Association of Free Will Baptists**

Date: July 17-21

Place: Detroit, Michigan

**Pastor's and Layman's Conference**

Date: September 19-21

Place: Missouri State Youth Camp

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