




Volume 47, Number 6, June 1977


**Free Will Baptist**

**GEM**

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



**YOUTH  
CAMP**





# *To Free Will Baptist Women*

by Mrs. Walter Eaton

In the society in which we live today, the need is greater than ever before for Christian homes and parents. There is also a need for Christians to be involved in the community, education, and the government. If you seek God's will for your life, I am sure that He will show you what He would have you to do for Him. I have felt impressed to share with you what I feel God has done in my life.

I am the mother of four children, one son and three daughters. My prayer has always been that the Lord would guide and help me to rear my children in such a way that they would grow up to love and serve the Lord. Without God's help this is an insurmountable task.

When my youngest daughter was in school, I went back to college and graduated the same year that my son graduated from high school. I had a B.S. in education and there were seventy-five applicants for every job. The week before school started in 1971, I was offered a job in our local high school. My son was enrolled in Missouri Southern State College. Before the first semester was completed, he came home one day and said, "I am in the wrong school." He went to visit Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College and enrolled there for the next semester. The Lord was dealing with his life; and, very soon after going to Hillsdale, he acknowledged his call to the ministry. God had provided a way that we could

afford to send our son to Hillsdale. We know that our colleges are not federally funded and are expensive, but God does provide a way. Timothy is now in Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and is pastoring a small Free Will Baptist church. God saw fit to use him in His service.

Since I have been teaching teenagers, God has opened up many ways in which I could witness to them. One of the classes that I teach is "Marriage and Family." What an opportunity that I have to teach values, morals, and the sanctity of marriage. In another class, I can present God's creation of the universe and man. Any day I may be asked for advice on drugs, premarital sex, and alcohol. We know that the ideal situation would be Christian schools. Since this is not possible for all, God wants Christian teachers. We cannot withdraw from this world and reach people for Christ.

Each year about 300 teenagers pass through my classes. I pray that I have never neglected my own children. I feel that by being able to give to others that I have more to give to them. God may not ask you to go out into public work, perhaps your job is in the home, but whatever you do, do it in the name of the Lord. I feel God has led me into this path.

(Mrs. Eaton is a member of the First Joplin Free Will Baptist Church, Joplin, MO.)

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.

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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. This magazine is published monthly.

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



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO COMMEMORATE DENOMINATION'S SPIRITUAL ROOTS

NASHVILLE, TENN.—For 250 years Free Will Baptists have been a spiritual force in America. This milestone in religious history will be commemorated during the denomination's 41st annual convention in Detroit, Michigan, July 17-21. The Michigan State Association of Free Will Baptists will host this 1977 conclave in Cobo Hall.

The special proclamation heralding the heritage and spiritual contributions of Free Will Baptists for the past 250 years will be part of the keynote service Monday night, July 18. The denomination's spiritual roots in America date back to 1727 when in Chowan County, North Carolina, Paul Palmer launched a new movement that came to be identified as the Free Will Baptist movement.

The National Association of Free Will Baptists remains the largest body of Arminian Baptists to date. The constituency consists of 227,434 members in 2,419 churches in 39 states and Mexico. Denominational offices are maintained in Nashville, Tennessee.

## SPEAKERS NAMED

The 1977 convention theme, "Triumphant in Christ," will be developed in five messages beginning with the pre-convention Sunday morning service, continuing during the association's evening sessions and concluding Thursday morning. The speakers are Pastor Dennis Wiggs, First Free Will Baptist Church, Beaufort, North Carolina; Rev. Joseph Ange, director of religious activities, Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee; Pastor Frank Davenport, Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina; Pastor Fred Warner, First Free Will Baptist Church, Russellville, Arkansas; and Pastor Trymon Messor, First Free Will Baptist Church, Salina, Kansas.

## PRECONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Sunday, July 17, will provide an array of pre-convention activities beginning with the Sunday school hour at 10:00 a.m. and morning worship at 11:00

a.m. These sessions will be in the Detroit-Cadillac Hotel. At 2:00 p.m. that afternoon registration begins for the National Association, the National Youth Conference, and the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention. The latter two organizations have their annual meetings in conjunction with the National Association.

At 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, the first of three rehearsal periods for the mass adult choir, which will be singing in two of the main worship sessions, will be held. Other practice sessions are at 4:00 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Blaine Hughes, convention music coordinator, states the choir will be composed of pastors, choir directors and members, former Bible college choir members (FWBBC, Hillsdale, and CCC), and members of Free Will Baptist Music Ministries.

## SEMINAR SESSIONS

A major thrust of the seminar sessions this year is Sunday school growth. This emphasis is quite appropriate since Sunday School Director Roger Reeds has challenged the denomination to increase Sunday school attendance from the current 200,000 to one million by 2000 A.D. This 25-year challenge was issued during the national meeting last year.

Each seminar dealing with Sunday school growth will stress practical suggestions for implementing growth through mobilizing and motivating workers and developing a program of action.

Other topics to be discussed in seminar sessions include developing a church choir, reaching youth, getting the church in the news, personal Bible study, family relationships, roles of the pastor and his wife, conflicts in the home, church budget, current theological issues, missions education, and preparing for and promoting revival.

A complete list of seminars and times of presentation along with a complete program of the national meeting will be carried in the June issue of *Contact* magazine. Housing reservations are included in both the April and May issues of the denominational magazine.



## NYC HIGHLIGHTS

The Reverend Billy Bevan, pastor of Tupelo Free Will Baptist Church, Tupelo, Mississippi, will be the guest speaker for the keynote service for the 1977 National Youth Conference Sunday night, July 17. Mr. Bevan, who will speak on the theme, "Jesus Christ . . . Lord of All," has been a strong supporter of the CTS program in each of his pastorates. Tupelo's CTS was recently inducted as a member in the Century Club, sponsored by the Church Training Service Department. Membership in this organization is limited to a CTS which has achieved an average attendance of 100 or more for a literature quarter. The Free Will Baptist Bible College alumnus will continue to develop the theme in inspirational sessions throughout NYC '77.

All activities of the National Youth Conference are in the Detroit-Cadillac Hotel except the Sunday night keynote service which will be in Cobo Hall. Competitive activities officially begin at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, with the Music and Arts Festival commencing at 9:30 a.m. the following day.

All those attending NYC must register and receive the official conference badge, which will serve as an admittance pass to all the NYC activities except the evening service. Preregistration for young people ages 6-24, adults 25 and up, and sponsors is only \$3.50 per person. After July 1 a late fee is added

which brings the registration fee to \$4. Any adult who wishes to view only the competitive activities and the Music and Arts Festival may do so by purchasing a spectator pass for only \$1. The family plan for preregistration is again available at a discount rate. Further details concerning the plan may be obtained by writing NYC '77.

## WNAC PREVIEW

Mrs. Elizabeth MacDonald, mother and grandmother who has shared the reality of Christ in a woman's world at many women's meeting throughout the United States and Canada, will be the special speaker for the Fellowship Dinner annually sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary National Convention. The event will be Monday, July 18, in Cobo Hall's cafeteria.

"Love's Commitment" is the theme for the 42nd WNAC session. The business and worship session on July 19 will be in the main arena of Cobo Hall. Major addresses during the one-day annual conclave will be brought by Home Missionary Larry Powell, McAllen, Texas, and Mrs. Sandra Payne, missionary nurse to Ivory Coast, West Africa.

The Howard Johnson Downtown Motor Hotel, which is serving as WNAC headquarters, will be the site of committee meetings on Monday.



## Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

"Preach the word" (2 Timothy 4:2), so said the Apostle Paul. Our Lord said the same thing, and so said the ordaining council as they laid hands on me. "Preach the word." Everybody claims they preach the Word. The Calvinist, preaching unconditional eternal security; the modern charismatic, preaching an "unknown tongue" as the sign of the indwelling Holy Spirit; even the Mormon, preaching his doctrine of "the galaxy of Gods, and preexistent spirits" claims to preach the Word. It must get awfully confusing to the person sitting in the pew, and especially to the unconverted.

The **WORD** is the Scriptures. The Scriptures (the Bible), God's Word, written by holy men of God, inspired by God, is eternal, infallible, and powerful. St. Paul said the Scripture is profitable for doctrine. The very doctrine of God is found in the Bible.

God's doctrine on sin, atonement, justification, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the second coming, and a host of other important subjects are all found in the Bible. The problem in preaching today is not found in the Word. The problem is found in our interpreting the Word.

The Word is to be preached. The reason is, "That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" 2 Timothy 3:17. The only way people can be in right relationship with God is by the power of the Word of God.

Paul said the man of God can be thoroughly furnished by hearing the Word of God preached. The Word is profitable for teaching, convicting, setting right, and discipling. Warren Wiersbe said, "It enables the *child* of God to become a *Man* of God, matured in the things of the Lord." The word "perfect" means fully matured, and the phrase, "thoroughly furnished," means fully equipped. This Word of God, studied, preached, and lived will take this child of verse 15 and make a mature man of him. It will take the new convert, recently saved from servitude to sin, and make a mature saint of God of him.

Notice, Paul said, "Preach the word," not preach *from* the Word, or *about* the Word. Dr. William Evans said, "Preaching is the proclamation of the good news of salvation through man to men. It's two constituent elements are a man and a message." The discussion of politics, authors, current events, social problems, and any other subject other than the Bible is not preaching. "Preach the Word."



## **CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS**



**Mount Vernon Mission Organized**

The Executive Board of the Indian Creek Association of Free Will Baptists met with the Mount Vernon Mission on March 12, 1977, for the purpose of organizing the mission into a Free Will Baptist church.

Rev. Fred Harris, pastor of the Purdy Church, delivered the message using "Brotherly Love" as his subject. His text was Revelation 3:7.

Rev. N. R. Smith, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Joplin, presided at the meeting and called for those presenting themselves as charter members. They were: Rev. James McCully, Louise McCully, Brenda McCully, Steve McCully, Scott McCully, Jerry Long, Marilyn Long, Robert Long, Tim Long, Jess Bray, Linda Bray, Jim Simmons, and Jo Simmons.

Rev. Billy Joe Gentry, pastor of the Jones Chapel Church, presented the Bible, and Rev. Lester Nutting presented the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant. It was moved and adopted that the church be named the First Free Will Baptist Church of Mount Vernon.

Rev. James McCully was elected as pastor of the church. Brother Jim Simmons was recommended to be examined by the executive committee of the Indian Creek Association to serve as a deacon in the church. It was adopted by the church that Brother Jerry Long and Brother Jess Bray be placed on a trial basis as deacons for one year. Louise McCully was elected to serve as secretary and treasurer.

The following trustees were elected: Jim Simmons, Jerry Long, Jess Bray, and James McCully.

The following members of the executive board of the Indian Creek Association were present: Walter Eaton, Billy Joe Gentry, James McCully, Lester Nutting, and N. R. Smith.

### **First Church at Flat River Continues to Grow**

Brenda Hohn, church reporter for the First Free Will Baptist Church, writes: We are awaiting our spring revival and gospel singing. The Lord is truly blessing the work of the church. The Sunday school attendance is in the 160's and we are expecting

continued growth. Remember our labor in prayer that we might always be faithful to Him.

She includes an interesting acrostic of the word faith: F-forsaking A-all I T-trust H-Him.



**Special Day at Hazel Creek  
Free Will Baptist Church**

Sunday, March 27, 1977, was a special day for the pastor, his wife, and the people of the Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church. The pastor, Rev. Terry Wood, was to be ordained that afternoon.

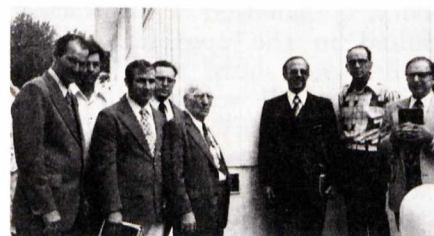
At the beginning of the morning worship the Sunday school superintendent presented the pastor and his wife with corsages appropriate for the special day. Rev. Lynn Wood, father of Rev. Terry Wood, was given the privilege of bringing the morning message.

The ordination service began at two o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. Glen Campbell was in charge of the service and gave the charge with Rev. Lynn Wood delivering the ordination message.

Out of town visitors attending the service were: Mr. and Mrs. John Wood, Terry Wood's grandparents, and his grandmother, Mrs. Alma Barber. It was noted that Terry has quite a heritage. There is over one hundred and fifty years of continuous preaching by the Wood family. His great-grandfather, Rev. W. V. Wood, is a retired Free Will Baptist minister living in Straford, Oklahoma. Also, his grandfather, the late Rev. Leroy Barber, was a minister. Inasmuch as Terry was reared in a Free Will Baptist parsonage, it is evident that he has enjoyed a long heritage of Free Will Baptist preachers.

Mrs. Jo Ann Wood, mother of the young minister, writes, "To say we enjoyed that weekend would be an understatement. What a blessing and thrill to experience such a wonderful occasion." She also stated that her husband Lynn said, "To bring the ordination message for your son is the greatest honor a father could have."

Shown in the photo is Rev. Glenn Campbell presenting a Bible from the Northeast Association.



**Cornerstone Plaque Layed at Belton**

On Sunday, May 8, 1977, the Belton Free Will Baptist Church placed a plaque on the corner of the



building giving the date the church was erected and the date it was commemorating as having made the last payment.

This history was given concerning the church. In 1964 the church was organized under the leadership of Rev. Junior Ussery. The present sanctuary was erected in April, 1965, under the direction of Rev. Jack McAllister. Other pastors serving the church are: Rev. Charles Black, Rev. Dennis Bowman, and Rev. Lewie Jeffries. The present pastor is Rev. Bill Christenson.

The special service, held immediately following the morning worship, was opened with the pastor giving a brief history of the church and making appropriate comments. He was followed with Scripture reading by Brother Marion Allmond and Brother Bud Thatcher.

The Belton Church is to be commended for its work of faith, labor of love, and hope of patience. It is evident that the pastor is working, praying, and endeavoring to lead the church under the direction of the Holy Spirit of God.



Trustee Board with pastor and oldest member Myrtle Pinkston



Deacon Board with pastor and promotional secretary

### Educational Building Dedicated at Aulsbury Chapel

On Sunday, May 1, 1977, the Aulsbury Chapel Free Will Baptist Church held a dedication service for a beautiful educational building. The new building complements the present building with six spacious rooms on the upper level, a large area on the lower level accommodating more classrooms, and a fellowship hall. The rooms are fully carpeted with beautiful paneling on the walls.

The afternoon was begun with congregational singing followed by Rev. Earl Ames, pastor, giving a brief history of the church. This account is taken from minutes of May, 1889. "On the fourth Sabbath in May, 1889, the Rev. John Wood and Rev. W. B. Aulsbury commenced a protracted meeting which resulted in the conversion of a goodly number of precious souls. After careful examination and consultation, it was deemed necessary to organize a church. Then on the ninth of June the group assembled at the Sunk Spring schoolhouse and organized into a church. The following officers were elected: Brother W. T. Newby, church clerk; Brothers T. J. Buckner and Thomas Pinkston, deacons; and Valentine Rosener, treasurer. Then it was adopted that the name would be Aulsbury Chapel."

On March 28, 1890, the church decided to build a

church building. The lowest bid was \$93.50 which was given by T. H. Shelly and N. K. Cunningham. On October 6, 1890, a foundation was laid on ground donated by William C. Newby. It was 50 x 34 x 14.

On July 11, 1955, the church voted to build an addition, including a basement, to be used as Sunday school rooms.

Currently, the building accommodates 10 Sunday school rooms, a nursery, an office, a library, a large basement, and an auditorium that will seat approximately one hundred and fifty.

Rev. Clarence Burton, Missouri state promotional secretary, delivered the dedicatory message. Brother David Pinkston led in a testimony service, and special music was given by Cheryl Johnson and Marilyn House. Rev. Burton stated, "It is evident the people have a desire to work. This zeal and the sweet spirit of unity reflects proper leadership of a good pastor."



### Report from the Jones Family Evangelistic Team

Evangelist Stanley Jones writes: "The Lord is blessing our ministry and we are thankful we can help and be of service to the Lord. Recently the Jones Family Evangelistic Team voted to send ten percent of our total offerings to the cooperative plan of support. We want to share in a total ministry for the Lord. We are glad we can help all fields of service."

The Jones Family is available for revival services. Pastors and churches give fine testimonies of this evangelistic team. The Lord has used them to win many people to Christ and to strengthen the local church.

They may be contacted at this address and phone number: The Jones Evangelistic Team, Box 304, Hartville, Missouri. Phone 1-417-741-7198.

### A Labor of Love at Olivet

Daisy Harper, church reporter, writes: Nine years ago the Lord sent a preacher and his wife to Marshall, Missouri. This mission point had only five people. It probably looked like an impossible task for anyone to build a church. But, through a dedicated preacher and his family, a burden for the work, and a strong trust in the Lord, the impossible became the possible. The first Sunday there were about twenty-five people. Most of these were friends of the five people. This was a start. The work began to grow. The Lord sent a lady; then a few more Sundays and a few more families. The Lord was blessing in a great way. The Bible states in Proverbs 13:11, "Wealth gotten by vanity shall be dimin-



ished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase." The Lord was blessing the labor of the preacher and his family.

In one year the church had assumed all the financial obligations from the Missouri State Home Missions Board. It began contributing ten percent to the cooperative program and giving designated amounts to Home Missions and the Youth Camp. The attendance climbed to an average of seventy in Sunday school, above one hundred in the morning worship, and seventy-five at the midweek prayer meeting service. The church received ninety-seven new members.

With the increase in attendance, the church needed more space. So, the pastor's family moved out of the church building into a parsonage, located not far from the church. The church kept on growing, and in 1974 another expansion program was begun and completed.

The Lord was not only using this dedicated preacher and his family in Marshall, they were being used to help through the Home Missions Board and other ways to raise money for the Lord's work.

The pastor now has a serious illness, cancer. But this is not slowing down his labor for the Lord. He and his wife still go eighteen to twenty hours a day, visiting the sick and trying to lead the lost to Christ. It seems that, when he is feeling the weakest, he has determination to do more.

Yes, we thank God daily for the Bowmans. We are thankful the Lord sent them to serve as pastor and family for the church family at Olivet. There is a verse of Scripture that must be of special interest to Brother Bowman. "And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (1 Peter 5:4).

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## Promotional Secretary's Corner

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*by Clarence Burton*

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I love the springtime! April is one of the spring months. The temperature may be varied but, when there is a cold "snap," it doesn't last long. Warm air is shortly on the way. Is the Lord more precious in the spring? No, but it does make you fully aware that there is a God when the leaves cover the trees, the flowers bloom, and everything seems to come alive. It is so wonderful to know the Lord as Savior and constant companion. Every day we can say with the Psalmist that the Lord hath made this day; we will be glad and rejoice in it.

Sometime ago I was reading about John D. Rockefeller, Sr., and the large contributions he has given to the Lord's work. He has given millions. But someone may say, "If I had millions, I would give millions." Would we? Are we faithful in giving to the Lord that which belongs to Him—the tithe and

offering? Mr. Rockefeller stated, "If I had not given the tithe of the first week's salary I received, \$1.50, I probably would not have been faithful in tithing on my first million." The Lord expects us to be faithful as an individual in our giving to His work, and He also expects the local church to be faithful in fulfilling the Great Commission. May the Lord bless every church that is sharing in cooperative and designated giving!

My visits began with the Cave Springs Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, April 2. I always enjoy being with these folks. Brothers Dale Skiles and David Honeycutt did some fine preaching, and Brother Clark Stephens always serves well as moderator.

I began a revival with Brother Glen Campbell and the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kirksville on Sunday, April 3. It is always a joy to be with Glen, Lottie, Ricky, and the folks at Kirksville. On Friday, April 14, I met with the Missouri Board of Christian Education at the Trinity Church. This seemed to be a very productive meeting and it is indicative that the board is functioning well. I was with Brother Billy Joe Gentry and the Jones Chapel Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday morning, April 17. This church recently adopted the Cooperative Plan. The folks are very friendly, and they have a zeal for the Lord.

Brother Bud Arnold and the Hartville Church invited me to begin revival services with them on Sunday evening, April 17. I have known Bud and Doris for a number of years, and the fellowship with them gets sweeter as the days go by. The love of this family is reflected in the attitude and love of the church. They are wonderful people. It was a privilege to be in fellowship with Evangelist Stanley Jones and his wife Glenda. Brother Jones is the assistant pastor. He was away both weekends in revival but was there for the weeknight services.

On the last Sunday in April, I was with the New Life Church on Sunday morning. Brother Max Courtney, the pastor, was in revival services in Tennessee. We enjoyed fellowship with Ruth and the folks at the church. It is always a joy to preach at the New Life Church. That Sunday evening I had the privilege of being with Brother N. R. Smith and the First Free Will Baptist Church in Joplin. I was with them the previous year at the same date. This church is growing in many ways, and these folks always make me feel welcome. Following the service, I was invited to share refreshments at the Smith home. Catherine has a special sandwich mix and it is good.

Then, on Saturday, April 30, I met with the Harmony Quarterly Meeting at the Kingsway Church. Brother Bennett delivered a fine message and Brother Wilbanks is quite capable as moderator.

Thank God for the kindness and hospitality of the people of Missouri. May the Lord bless everyone.

Please continue to remember this ministry in prayer. We are always grateful to the Lord for His blessings. Let us pray that He shall continue to bless and bless.

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





## On The National Front

### NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

*Bobby and Geneva Poole write:* The Lord has been good to us. We have seen souls saved and lives rededicated on deputation for which we give the Lord all the glory. We are also encouraged with our account, and we want to express our deepest appreciation to each of you who has given to our account and prayed for us. The financial need is still great, but we know the Lord will supply. By faith we are going to make reservations for our return trip during the second week of July.

We are determined by God's grace to build a biblical, soul winning church in Ribeirao Preto. We have set some definite goals for our next term of service. Pray with us. May God continue to bless you.

*Archie and Sarah Mayhew write:* We are sending thanks again for your prayers and financial support of our ministry in the Ivory Coast. We praise the Lord for opening doors for the preaching of His Word. Pray that more villages will be open for the gospel. We are looking for a greater harvest of souls this term because of the seed sown in the past. Sometimes we forget that one does not sow and harvest the same day. Continue to remember us in prayer.

*Lonnie and Anita Sparks write:* After a lot of rain the past few months, Spain is sunny again, and we are enjoying it. Also, we rejoice in the goodness of the Lord and His blessings on the work here. Services were begun here about five months ago. Our largest attendance in our regular Sunday morning service has been 34. In Spain it is very hard to win people to the Lord, but we have marveled at the way the Lord has opened doors and is doing the work himself. Please pray for the salvation of the lost who attend our services, for our literature distribution, and for new contacts. Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support.

*Sam and June Wilkinson write:* This morning I read John 4:35 again and was challenged afresh with the vast harvest field of souls and of your and my responsibility to help reap these souls for Christ. My heart feels the suffering and the hopelessness of these people, especially now that we are about ready to get everything in order to return to Brazil for our fourth term. If all goes well, we will return this summer in June. There are two Brazilians and one missionary. So, it is necessary that we return before Missionary Ken Eagleton returns to the states in the late summer.

Now we ask you to pray that God would lay on the hearts of our people and churches to help meet

this need we have. This is the only way we can return. If you will send us, we will go as your collaborators into the harvest fields of Brazil.

*Clint and Lynette Morgan write:* February was an extremely cold month in the Tarheel state. The gas shortage caused some alterations but no cancellations. Our meetings ranged from the all time favorite Sweetheart Banquet to the three-week Coastal Association Annual Missionary Conference. It was three weeks of travel and work but, as usual, the blessings outweighed the burdens. Praises to the one and true living God for all His blessings. We request your prayers as we continue our schedule of services. We will continue to pray for you, our friends in the Lord, and hope to hear from you soon. We appreciate so much the letters we have received and do hope to hear from more of you.

### \*DRESS GUIDELINES FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Whereas,

The National Association has referred to the Executive Committee the responsibility of drawing up a set of dress standards for all delegates attending the National Association and contestants participating in the competitive events at the National Youth Conference; and

Whereas,

Certain cultural patterns and styles have divided sincere Christians as to the proper mode of dress; and

Whereas,

Believers from different backgrounds and localities often differ in their personal preferences as well as their interpretations of the Scriptures related to dress; and

Whereas,

Free Will Baptists have traditionally taken a conservative position when differences of opinion have occurred; and

Whereas,

God's people ought to be distinguished from a pagan society by the character and quality of their life-styles in order to maintain their testimonies; and

Whereas,

Christian liberty dictates a spirit of humility whereby we conform in brotherly love to standards that do not offend fellow believers; and

Whereas,

The need exists to adopt some mutually agreed standards to avoid unnecessary contentions and judgmental attitudes; therefore,

Be it resolved:

1. That we express our concern and disapproval of contemporary trends toward a unisex life-style in dress and personal appearance, and that we reject shabby dress attire, immodest garments, and hippy life-styles as reflecting inappropriate ideals for a Christian.
2. That we affirm that biblical principles of modesty, propriety, and femininity for Christian women. Likewise, Christian men should exhibit modesty, propriety, and masculinity in



- their personal dress and grooming.
3. That we recognize the home and the local church as the primary place to teach biblical principles pertaining to dress and Christian standards. Therefore, we urge parents, pastors, Sunday school teachers, Church Training Service workers and Christian workers to instruct believers in the proper mode of dress and personal grooming.
  4. That we require all participants in the National Youth Conference competitive activities to apply the following uniform regulations to prevent conflict of attitudes:
    - A. The boys shall groom their hair so as to follow natural hairlines without covering the ears or extending to the eyes or collar. Sideburns shall not extend below the ears. Suits or slacks are to be worn. Tank tops or tee shirts are unacceptable.
    - B. The girls shall wear dresses which shall extend to the knee or longer. Dresses must not be low cut or revealing in style or materials. Hair styles for girls should not be in accord with male fashions. Slacks or pantsuits are unacceptable.
  5. That we admonish believers to guard against judgmental or critical attitudes that are unchristian because the Scriptures exhort us to demonstrate a spirit of love and deference with those with whom we may disagree, Romans

14:1; 1 Corinthians 11:16.

6. That we commend all of the young people and delegates in attendance at the National Association who have consistently exemplified the ideals and traditions that we can all appreciate.

\*Proposed by the Executive Committee of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

The Ambassador Bible Bookstore, owned by the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists, has purchased many copies of older Free Will Baptist books and works which are available for sell to collectors. A list of the books and prices are available only by request and a stamped-addressed envelope.

The store also offers a FREE SEARCH SERVICE for these older books and any out of print selections desired. The service is limited mainly to religious and theological books.

Anyone with Free Will Baptist books or materials who desire to sell may also advise by writing.

This is a first in offering such a service to Free Will Baptist people according to Alton Loveless, Promotional Secretary and Director of the new service.

Write to: *The Ambassador*, P.O. Box 07759, Columbus, Ohio 43207.

## MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING April 1977

### FOREIGN MISSIONS

Olivet .....	\$150.00
Bobby Poole .....	\$90.00
Jerry Pinkerton .....	20.00
Howard Filkins .....	5.00
Lonnie Sparks .....	5.00
Lynn Miley .....	10.00
Mabel Willey .....	10.00
Jim McClain .....	10.00
New Harmony Sunday School .....	\$37.90
LaVerne Miley .....	\$18.95
Jim McClain .....	18.95
Merl's Chapel .....	\$31.50
Webb Account .....	\$31.50
Walnut Grove .....	\$10.00
Lynn Miley .....	\$10.00
Thayer .....	\$50.00
Jerry Pinkerton .....	\$37.00
Dale Bishop .....	11.00
Howard Filkins .....	2.00
West Plains .....	\$60.00
Howard Filkins .....	\$10.00
General Fund .....	50.00
Gateway .....	\$25.00
Howard Filkins .....	\$25.00
South Side .....	\$139.00
Charolette Tallent .....	\$39.00
Bill Fulcher .....	10.00
Jerry Pinkerton .....	5.00
Lonnie Palmer .....	85.00
Total .....	\$503.40

### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Olivet .....	\$30.00
Leland Horton .....	\$30.00
Thayer .....	\$69.55
Mark Vandivort .....	\$69.55
Norman and Phyllis Virtue (Rock Chapel) .....	\$10.00
Mark Vandivort .....	\$10.00
South Side .....	\$5.00
Vergel Maness .....	\$5.00
Total .....	\$114.55

### MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Olivet .....	\$10.00
Thayer .....	\$10.00
Total .....	\$20.00

### MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Thayer .....	\$36.00
Poplar Bluff .....	\$29.00
Tom Owens .....	2.00
General Fund .....	5.00
John Schebaum .....	\$50.00
Rolla Mission .....	\$50.00
Total .....	\$86.00

### HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

Lebanon .....	\$292.50
Total .....	9



## COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

April 1977

Grace	\$ 597.04
Houston	101.36
Belton	192.00
Pleasant Ridge	21.00
Olivet	175.00
Poplar Bluff	7.00
Verdella	100.75
Mill Creek	43.25
Community	35.05
Faith	156.30
Bailey Chapel	26.00
Hurricane	100.00
New Harmony SS	5.78
Mt. Pisgah	45.00
Berkeley	445.42
Purdy	53.14
Richwoods	119.54
Shiloh	26.49
First Mission, Kansas City	52.10
Marshfield	105.06
Kingsway	49.11
Pleasant Home	110.63
Hartville	43.48
Macedonia SS	13.09
Hannon	140.00
Viburnum	30.00
Berean	83.00
Joplin	143.22
Mt. Vernon	64.52
New Prospect	11.30
Merl's Chapel	43.54
Thayer	125.44
Aulsbury Chapel	256.19
Happy Home	57.98
Copper Mines	95.00
New Life	65.25
Pleasant Hill	15.00
New Home, Falcon	47.53
Buffalo	119.13
Rock Chapel	25.19
Oskaloosa	32.06
Poplar Bluff	7.10
Poplar Bluff	4.30
Shiloh	24.00
Pleasant Grove (Cope)	21.32
Leadington	176.63
The Jones Family	161.54
Waynesville	65.00
Waynesville	29.00
El Dorado Springs, First	5.00
Flat River, First	1,106.15
Waynesville	25.00
Gateway	50.00
DeSoto	455.00
West Plains, First	286.00
Kingsway	47.91
Myrtle	91.51
Monett, First	256.37
Poplar Bluff	8.00
Cape Girardeau	121.42
Faith	154.25
Belton	222.00
South Side	266.30
Fourth	328.00
Lebanon, First	270.00
Willow Springs	167.30
Alton	65.73
Macedonia SS	10.00
Mountain Valley	165.85
Parkview	50.00
Poplar Bluff	3.70
New Rock Springs	45.00
Oak Hill, Union	213.53
Fellowship	50.00
Freeman Chapel	73.85
Grant Avenue	349.84
Number One	32.25
Bailey Chapel	30.00

Hopewell	139.38
Sedalia Mission	58.20
Mt. Pisgah	35.00
Central	200.00
Fredericktown, First	224.00
Total Cooperative Receipts	\$10,073.39

## COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

April 1977

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,014.68
16.25% Promotional Department	1,636.92
4.00% General Fund	402.93
5.50% Youth Camp	554.04
2.50% Gem	251.83
1.75% Sunday School & CTS	176.29
2.00% MBI	201.47
52% Seven State Departments	5,238.16
7.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	705.15
13.00% Foreign Missions	1,309.54
9.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	906.61
7.00% Executive Department	705.14
6.50% National Home Missions	654.77
2.50% CTS	251.83
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	251.83
.25% Laymen's Board	25.18
.25% Theological Commission	25.18
41% National Association of FWB	4,130.08
Total Disbursements	\$10,073.39

As we begin the new association year, let us thank the Lord for another fine month. Let us also claim the promise that He shall supply all our needs this year.

## MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS GIVING APRIL 5 THROUGH MAY 5, 1977

Berean	\$ 25.00
Victory	40.00
Fellowship	46.00
Cape Girardeau	7.40
Berkeley	38.00
Thayer	73.00
Bethel	14.00
Monett	5.00
Mountain Grove	2.50
Grace	93.00
Houston	48.00
South Fremont	85.00
DeSoto	100.00
Olivet	225.00
Hannon	140.00
Oak Hill	193.00
West Plains	70.00
Sedalia	35.46
South Side	5.00
Fourth	25.89
Flat River	50.68
John Schebaum	50.00
Cooperative Receipts—March	3,144.37
Cooperative Receipts—April	2,014.68
Total	\$6,530.98

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



# Woman's Page



*Shirley Bowden, editor*

## DIET, DIET, DIET

*by Wanda Huett*

Yo ladies! Isn't that all we think of lately? We are living in a "think thin" society. We who are pleasingly plump have come to feel embarrassed, ashamed, and the need to crawl in a hole somewhere.

I have spent the last ten years trying every diet and going on diet pills. You guessed it! I'm still pleasingly plump. How many of you are guilty of the same thing?

I have wasted so much time sitting around feeling sorry for myself, feeling depressed, neglecting housework, and many other things that needed to be done, all because of a few extra pounds. Well, I've made up my mind. This is it! No, I'm not going on a crash diet and get back to the one hundred pounds I once was. With a lot of prayer and God's help, losing weight is not going to be the most important thing in my life anymore. Really, that's what it's been lately. Maybe I'm the only one who has been that way, but I just thought there might be someone, somewhere who has been doing the same thing. I thought maybe if I shared my feelings with you, it might help both of us.

You know, I think our main problem is that we don't like ourselves. That's the first thing we'll have to overcome. Easy? No, I don't think so. I've never liked myself very well anyway, but I'm sure going to try and think better of myself from now on.

I'm sure the extra pounds we have makes no difference to those around us. My wonderful husband has put on a few pounds over the years, and I sure don't love him any less for it. If that's the way I feel toward him, isn't it just possible that's the way he feels toward me?

I just had a funny thought. Wouldn't it be something if God let us be physically what we are spiritually? Can you imagine all the skinny people running around? We'd be proud of our extra pounds then!

Let's remember that God looks on our heart, not on our outward appearance. It's what we do to please the Lord that really counts. When I think of all the time I wasted counting calories instead of counting my blessings, I am truly ashamed.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not giving up the "battle of the bulge," but it's not going to be the most

important thing in my life anymore. I want to reach out and touch all that I can and show them how much I love the Lord. Just maybe that way I can win both battles.

(Mrs. Wanda Huett is a member of the Grace Free Will Baptist Church in Arnold, MO.)

## NEW GOALS

The new year of the Woman's Auxiliary has begun. This year we will be setting new goals. Let's all do what we can to meet these goals. Last year we set goals that were more than what we had ever set before. Our goal for the Hanna's Handy Helpers was \$3,000. We raised \$2,390.49. Though we missed the goal, we went over what had been given the year before. The National Home Missions total was \$1,305.98. The State Home Missions total was \$1,122.76. We should stop and thank God for these totals. Because of the women in the state of Missouri, the gospel will be sent to foreign soil and to our native soil.

## TEAR STAINS

As I entered God's house one Sunday morning,  
I was seeking His will for the day,  
I slowly walked to the altar, meditating and asking,  
"Dear Lord, what would you have me say,  
For a message I am preparing  
To bring to my flock today?"

The new day was just dawning,  
As I knelt at the altar to pray,  
The bright sun was rising in the east,  
And through the window its rays did brighten my day.

Then there I saw tear stains on that altar,  
That touched and humbled my heart,  
And I said, "Thank you, God, for the many  
That have here found the forgiveness they sought."

Now there are many expressions through tears, we know,

As I pondered these thoughts in my mind,  
If here they came seeking, Dear Lord,  
I pray that peace they did find.  
Some tears have fallen from repenting hearts,  
While others a burden did have,  
Perhaps a lost friend or loving companion,  
Tears from a broken heart were left here.

Then there are also tears of gladness  
Found on this altar too,  
Where all are rejoicing in the Lord,  
Because some lost soul has been made new.  
We pray the altar will always stay  
Where we, His children, can bow in unity,  
And seek His will for each day,  
Until we can be with Him for all eternity.

Bernice Richardson

(Mrs. Bernice Richardson, a member of the Aulsbury Chapel Church, was impressed to write this poem following a message delivered by the pastor Rev. Earl Ames.)



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

COMP

In 1727, the first Free Will Baptist Church in America was organized

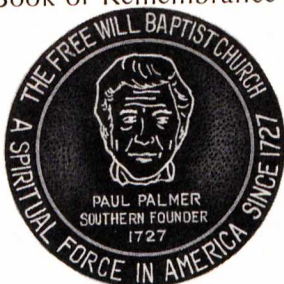
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