



Autumn is here...

GEM

Volume 47, Number 10, October, 1977

Free Will Baptist

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"



Sunday School Attendance Averages 1976-77

CHURCH	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Bethel, Festus	106		114	110	92	116		111	103		89	88
Byrd			37		23	44						
Calvary, Conway	129	118	111	114	56	116	131	147	135	119	116	138
Coppermines	84	73	74									
Cuba		121	97	95	67	94	62	74				
DeSoto	145	165	161									
Farmington	366	402	338	348	314	360	393	386	369	362	368	
Kansas City, First	23	30	32		24	23	18	23	18	19	17	20
Fourth	148	172	138		139	146	154	149	155	143		
Grant Avenue	127	134		119	101	126						
Leadington	74	74	78	79	50	77						
Lebanon, First	152	152	154	134	91	139	148	142	132	126	112	142
Myrtle	60	80	46	65	43	52	60	69	60	54	58	52
Parkview										82		74
Richwoods	35	32	41	32	27	37	39	47	43	35	30	35
Trinity	219	222	218	220	206	215	224	231	201	192	170	201
Twin Oaks	101	103	95	98	73	95	105	109	92			
Willow Springs	115	120	117		88	125		113	108	119	115	116

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

Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information to the above address.

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MIDGETS & GIANTS!

"That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love" (Ephesians 4:14-16).

Paul, having set forth the purpose for which Christ gave gifted men to the church, now turns to the problems and procedures which are involved in growing up in Christ.

One problem is that of continuing spiritual infancy. Believers who do not grow up in Christ form for themselves and others many problems. Failing to grow up, they do not understand spiritual problems and lack spiritual perceptibility. Such individuals become victims for every religious peddler and are easily swept off their feet. They need grounding in the Word and must get settled in the faith and gain spiritual development if they are going to be used by God in the local church. But the problem today is that we have too many spiritual midgets and not enough spiritual giants in the church. I want to ask you two questions and I want you to answer these questions in your own heart: "Are you a spiritual midget?" or "Are you a spiritual giant?"

Paul now addresses himself to this problem. As he does, he sets forth certain warnings and admonitions, and he reveals three phases of the problem of Christian growth.

First of all let's look at the perils of true growth. Involved in these perils is false doctrine—those who are deceived, and those who do the deceiving. Paul often uses the word "children" when he is describing spiritual immaturity. He refers to the immature Christian as a child in 1 Corinthians 13:11 where he says, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when

I became a man I put away childish things."

Here he describes the childish characteristics of immature people. Take a young child of toddler age. He is a child who will speak as a child, act as a child, and understand as a child. These toddlers are not capable of participating in an adult conversation. So hence, we must speak to the child on his level.

It is sad to say that our churches are full of spiritual children. We have many Christians who have not become a man and put away childish things. These people are infants. Infants are those who cannot speak or understand. They are spiritual midgets who cannot understand the Word of God.

Such infants are unable to bear and understand the spiritual problems and matters of the church.

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 2:1-3, "And I brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling." Paul was a very educated man, but Paul came to the people at the city of Corinth not with excellency of speech but with the plain gospel message of Jesus Christ. My friend, this is what we need to do today. We need to make the gospel message so clear, so plain, and so understandable, that even a child can understand and accept the gospel call of Jesus Christ.

We need to look at the characteristics of children. The first one that comes to mind is instability. Children are unstable. They are never of the same mind: they move from one thing to another with rapidity. Children are "tossed about" or restless, like the waves of a sea.

This is the same situation that a lot of spiritual midgets are in. They go from one church to another or to whatever whim meets their need at any particular time. False teachers of religion are like the wind, moving unstable souls in every direction. The spiritually weak or the midget is the one the false teacher is after because he has not "put away childish things."

We need to look at the cleverness of false teachers. They are deceivers and deceitful. Second Corinthians 11:13, 14 says, "For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." These men parade under false colors. They are religious sheep in wolves clothing. They lie in wait, just waiting for the opportunity to leap out and grab a spiritual midget.

Secondly, let's look at the progress of true growth. The objective here is "speaking the truth in love." This really means *truthing*. We need to always speak the truth. When we do so, we are contending for the faith. This is one of our main problems today—too many living spiritual midgets talk like spiritual giants.

We must manifest in life the truth of Jesus Christ. Second Corinthians 3:2 says, "Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men." The only Bible that some sinners read is the Christian's life. Can people see in your daily life the love of Jesus Christ? Can they recognize that you are a child of the King?

The object of true growth is that we "may grow up in him in all things." Every area of our lives must be brought captive to the will of God. There can be no division between physical, mental, and spiritual. When we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, we must give Him our all. God doesn't want only your spiritual life. He wants also your physical and mental life as well. We must govern every area of our lives by looking to Christ for guidance and leadership.

The origin of true growth "is the head, even Christ." Christ is the head of the body. First Corinthians 11:3 says, "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." Christ is the head of our lives. When we are truly spiritual giants and in complete submission to the will of God, Jesus will be the head of our lives. Jesus is the source from whom we draw our daily strength to live for Him.

Thirdly, let's look at the promotion of true growth. Three requirements are necessary here. First of all, the compactness: "the whole body fitly joined together." A precise fit and union of all individual members is necessary. The elimination of all friction and division is absolutely necessary to carry on the work of God. In order for you to become a spiritual giant and leave the realm of a spiritual midget you must be willing to work in unison with all the members of the church. The church should be like that of a finely tuned engine.

We have the constituent elements: "the joints supplieth." The "joints" are individual bonds, or individual saints. Each one is of vital importance to the work of Christ. Every person in the church has a place. Every Christian has a part in the local church. To fail to fulfil your part is to cripple God's work. Each member is to be effective in his work and to work harmoniously.

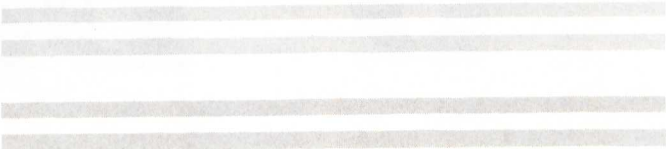
Thirdly, let's look at the consummation: "maketh increase" and "edifying itself in love." Daily growth comes through reading and studying the Word of

God. It also comes through a daily prayer life. Paul told Timothy to study to show himself approved. We are to read God's Word and pray daily to seek God's will for our lives. Holiness of conduct will build a Christlikeness of character.

Let us avoid the perils and make progress in true growth in Christ.

Are you a spiritual midget? Are you a spiritual giant? Those are the questions before you today. Only you can answer them.

About the writer: Rev. Kent Tallent is the pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Columbia, Missouri. He has been active in local, state and national work. He is presently serving as chairman of the Missouri State Sunday School and CTS Board.



**MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS GIVING
AUGUST 5 through SEPTEMBER 5, 1977**

Houston	\$ 86.73
Berkeley	25.00
Grace	52.00
DeSoto	100.00
Flat River, First	70.45
Cape Girardeau	9.41
Berean	16.00
Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary	80.50
Myrtle	53.55
Olivet	225.00
Rock Chapel	55.00
Fourth	35.38
Joplin	25.00
West Plains	70.00
South Fremont	160.00
South Side	5.00
Sedalia	50.98
Fellowship	15.00
Oak Hill	69.00
St. Fran. Co. Qtly. Mtg.	220.00
Monett	10.00
Bethel	11.17
Thayer	81.19
Lebanon	100.00
Mt. Vernon	100.00
Cooperative Receipts	2,203.56
Total	\$3,929.92

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

**COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS
August 1977**

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,203.56
16.25% Promotional Department	1,790.40
4.50% General Fund	495.80
5.25% Youth Camp	578.44
2.00% Gem	220.35
2.00% Sunday School & CTS	220.35
2.00% Christian Board of Education-MBI	220.35
52%	5,729.25
7.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	771.26

13.00% Foreign Missions	1,432.31
9.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	991.61
7.00% Executive Department	771.25
6.50% National Home Missions	716.16
2.50% CTS	275.44
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	275.44
.25% Laymen's Board	27.54
.25% Theological Commission	27.54
48%	4,517.29
Total Disbursements	\$11,017.80

Let us say with the Psalmist, "Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever."

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING August 1977

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Columbia	\$16.00
General Fund	\$ 6.00
Jerry Pinkerton	10.00
Kingsway	\$50.80
Joe Haas	\$50.80
South Side	\$35.00
Joe Haas	\$20.00
Bill Fulcher	5.00
Jerry Pinkerton	5.00
Charolette Tallent	5.00
West Plains, First	\$344.25
General Fund	\$334.25
Howard Filkins	10.00
Merl's Chapel	\$60.78
Sam Wilkinson	\$60.78
Kirksville	\$62.00
Jerry Pinkerton	\$43.00
Howard Filkins	19.00
Bethel, Festus	\$88.21
Jerry Pinkerton	\$28.00
Charolette Tallent	60.21
Walnut Grove	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
Gateway	\$50.00
Howard Filkins	\$50.00
New Harmony Sunday School	\$47.47
Dr. Laverne Miley	\$23.87
Jim McLain	23.87
Black Oak	\$78.45
Jim McLain	\$46.00
Archie Mayhew	32.45
Thayer	\$27.00
Jerry Pinkerton	\$22.00
Howard Filkins	5.00
Olivet	\$92.00
Bobby Poole	\$57.00
Jerry Pinkerton	10.00
Lynn Miley	10.00
Howard Filkins	5.00
Lonnie Sparks	5.00
Jim McLain	5.00
Lebanon, First	\$132.00
Jerry Pinkerton	\$66.00
Clint Morgan	66.00
Mountain Grove, First	\$150.00
Dennis Teague	\$ 30.00
General Fund	120.00
Mt. Vernon Mission	\$100.00
Clint Morgan	\$100.00
Total	\$1,344.23

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Columbia	\$20.00
Mark Vandivort	\$20.00
South Side	\$129.00
Bob Francis	\$129.00
Clark and Clobell Deeds	\$17.00
Mark Vandivort	\$17.00
Bethel, Festus	\$30.00
Bob Francis	\$20.00

Vergel Maness	5.00
Dale Smith	5.00
Granby	\$60.00
Leland Horton	\$60.00
Macedonia, Niangua	\$100.00
Bob Francis	\$100.00
Thayer	\$4.00
Mark Vandivort	\$4.00
Olivet	\$50.00
Leland Horton	\$25.00
Mark Vandivort	25.00
Mountain Grove, First	\$601.22
Leland Horton	\$20.00
Mark Vandivort	581.22
Total	\$1,011.22

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Monett	\$10.00
General Fund	\$10.00
Bethel, Festus	\$31.17
Perpetual Loan Fund	\$20.00
General Fund	11.17
Thayer	\$81.19
Tom Owens	\$21.00
General Fund	34.19
Poplar Bluff	26.00
Lebanon, First	\$100.00
Dale Smith	\$100.00
Mt. Vernon	\$100.00
Dale Smith	\$100.00
Total	\$332.36

MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Parkview	\$ 20.00
Thayer	10.00
Olivet	10.00
Mountain Grove, First	50.00
Fourth	10.00
Total	\$100.00

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

Mountain Grove, First	\$30.00
Total	\$30.00

Dr. Picirilli to Conduct Seminars

The Christian Board of Education has announced that Dr. Robert Picirilli, professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College, will conduct four seminars in Missouri next month. His subject will be "The New Charismatics."

The seminars will be held at Joplin on November 10, Kansas City on November 11, Desloge on November 12 and St. Louis on Sunday afternoon, November 13. (Local pastors may be contacted relative to the location of the seminar.)

The two hour seminars are being sponsored by the Missouri State Christian Board of Education to help deal with the charismatic problems that affect all our communities.



The Norris family



Dr. and Mrs. Burcham



Rev. Ken Goffi family and family from First Church



Archie Parrish, Wesley Bigelow and family with children

Farmington Christian Academy

Officers of P.T.A.



Two teachers with one class group



Student class area



On August 26, 1977, history was made for Free Will Baptists in Missouri. The Farmington Christian Academy began its first day of school for the 1977-78 school year. The school is operated under the direction of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington, Missouri. According to records at the state office, the FCA is the first Christian Day School operated by a Free Will Baptist Church in Missouri.

Rev. James McAllister, pastor of the church, gives this report concerning the inception, the preplanning, and the first day of the academy.

Farmington Christian Academy was put in the mind of Archie Parrish by the Lord when his daughter "Angel" was born. Archie and Darlene, his wife, are public school teachers. They had been saved and were active in the Farmington Church. Their desire was that Angel would be able to go to a Christian school from kindergarten through college.

As the church grew and added facilities, this desire was kept alive, and one day they approached the pastor. He prayed over the matter and then authorized Brother Parrish to organize the information on Christian schools he had been accumulating.

After several months this information was presented to the church board. The board suggested that a representative from Accelerated Christian Education be contacted to speak to interested people in the Farmington Church. Mr. Ron Miller spoke to a full house of interested parents on a Wednesday evening. The board recommended that an association be made with A.C.E. and that a Christian education council consisting of Archie Parrish, Frank Eaton, Sandra Ritter, Dorothy Pinkston, and John Smith be elected on a rotating

basis. It was decided that school would begin in the fall of 1977.

These recommendations were presented to the church body in September of 1976 and they were accepted by a 100% vote. Plans were then made to lay the ground work for the opening of school. The pastor attended a week-long training school in Dallas, Texas. The first floor of the educational building was revamped to house the school grades K through 9 with grades 10, 11, 12 to be added in 1978. Brother Gene Wilfong was hired from Norfolk, Virginia. Gene had been teaching in the Gateway Christian School. He will become principal in 1978. The staff was sent to a special training school in St. Louis for A.C.E. training. All employees are qualified people with degrees. They have considerable experience in the teaching field and are dedicated to teaching children.

Finally, the big day arrived, August 26, 1977. There were 69 students present for the first day. Rev. Clarence Burton, promotional secretary for Missouri Free Will Baptists, was present to get pictures for the state paper and give the devotional thought at the morning chapel service.

Farmington Christian Academy is a ministry of the church. There are several children from outside the church: Free Will Baptists, Church of God, Nazarene, Catholic, Lutheran, Assembly of God, Southern Baptists, and Independent Baptists. These children pray together, study together, eat together, and play together.

We are grateful the Lord placed this dream in a man's heart and then made it possible for it to come to pass. May the Lord bless this institution for His glory.

The school staff

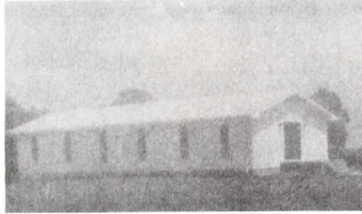


Student Body



CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

The Oak Hill Vineyard



Mary Ann Owens writes, "The Lord led us to the St. Clair and Union Missouri area and gave us a field white unto harvest. May the Lord bless everyone that has had a part in helping with this work. But you may ask, 'How have I helped?' You have helped hoe a row in this vineyard with your prayers and financial support for the Oak Hill Mission. Contributions that have been made to the Missouri State Home Missions, the Perpetual Loan Fund, and the Cooperative Fund have been a means of support for this work. May the Lord bless every prayer that has been prayed and every gift that has been given."

Mrs. Owens gives the following as a resume of the mission. "The first service was held in our home on December 7, 1975. There were eighteen people present. On Easter Sunday, April 18, 1976, we moved into our present building located on highway 47 between Union and St. Clair. The building will seat one hundred with seven Sunday school classrooms and a small office. This is situated on five acres of ground that will accommodate additional buildings and convenient parking.

The Sunday school average has grown from 14 in December, 1975, to 55 in July, 1977. The worship service now has an average attendance of 73. As a result of the labor at this mission 45 people have been saved, 32 have been baptized, and 25 have been rededicated. (Also, there has been one marriage, no funerals, and two births.) The high attendance for Vacation Bible School was 75.

The mission has recently accepted the obligation of the pastor's salary and anticipates adding an additional building that will seat approximately 280 in the auditorium with 25 Sunday school classrooms and an adequate fellowship hall."

The pastor of this church is Rev. Tom Owens.

Mrs. Jane Huddle Promoted to Glory

Funeral services for Mrs. Jane Huddle were held at the Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church with Reverend Russell Johnson and Reverend Dale Skiles officiating. She was survived by her husband Dale Huddle and nine children. Three daughters, Elsie Rogers, Sherie Mariott, and Kathy; six sons, Allen, Eugene, Ronald, Charles, Howard, and Craig. She was also survived by seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Huddle was an active and faithful member of the Myrtle Church.

Mrs. Edith Cantrell Promoted to Glory

On August 7, 1977, Mrs. Cleary Edith Cantrell was called home to be with the Lord. She was born May 6, 1886. She is survived by five sons, Virgil, Noval, Hubert, Noel, and Floyd; two daughters, Meda Sisk and Neva Britton; 18 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. She was a faithful member for many years of the Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church.

The funeral service was held at the Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church with Reverend Dale Skiles and Reverend Russell Johnson officiating.

The following poem was written by Mrs. Cantrell and she requested that it be read at her funeral service.

When I take my flight to Heaven,
When this earth I'll trod no more
There with Jesus I'll be waiting
For my children evermore.

For them I will be watching
In that happy peaceful place,
For I know that He can save them
Through His blessed saving grace.

I trust they will be ready
When He calls them to the gate
For they will have to meet Him,
And will behold His blessed face.

There they'll receive a message
By no other can be told,
So, my children, look to Jesus
Take Him deep within your soul.

Oh, that His loving sunshine
From your soul shall ne'er depart,
While upon this earth you travel,
Serve the Lord with all your heart.

Take Him with you always
In every lane and distant land.
Then, dear Jesus, teach us kindly,
Lead us by thy loving hand.

Old-Fashioned Day at Kingsway

The Kingsway Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield has announced that Old-Fashioned Day Services will be held on Sunday, October 2. The Singing Harvesters will be there for that day.

The church has scheduled revival services with Evangelist Tommy Brashear beginning Sunday, October 23. Everyone is invited to attend the services. Rev. Gene Terry is the pastor.

Autumn Activities at South Side

Sue Winchester, church reporter, writes, "The Lord has been blessing with some exciting services at the South Side Free Will Baptist Church. On September 18, the 'Voices in the Wilderness,' a

gospel singing group, blessed the church with some fine, unique songs. The month of October promises to be action-packed with the Sunday school involved in the Fall Enlargement Campaign, 'Forward to Victory.' Rev. Lawrence Thompson is scheduled for revival services October 3-9. Rev. Grover Terry is the pastor." Sue continues, "I should mention that the average VBS attendance back in May was almost 175."



Youth Service at Royal Oak

The Royal Oak Free Will Baptist Church held its regular youth service on Sunday evening, August 21. The young people were in charge of the service and directed in a testimony service. Special singing was by the Neighbors Quartet. Rev. Clarence Burton, promotional secretary, delivered the message.

At the close of the service, pastor Wayne Adrian led the church in a discussion concerning the Cooperative Plan. The church adopted the plan without a dissenting vote. The promotional secretary expressed his heartfelt appreciation on behalf of the Missouri State Association. He also expressed special thanks to the pastor, youth sponsors, and the church for the invitation to be with them for the service.



Dedication Service at Wolf Creek

A dedication service was held on Sunday, August 21, at the Wolf Creek Free Will Baptist Church for a new educational unit. Rev. Glenn Murray was the guest preacher and delivered the message.

Rev. R. E. Helsley, pastor, writes, "The present sanctuary was built in 1952 and was dedicated exactly 25 years before the new educational unit." Brother Helsley has pastored the church since July, 1968. The Lord has blessed the ministry of the church. This is reflected by three people that made profession of faith following the message delivered by the pastor on Sunday morning. Included in the picture are the pastor, the guest preacher, and church board members: Chester Bennett, Earnie Millsap, and Otis Helsley.

Dedication Day Service for New Castle Church

The first mission efforts in Delaware have resulted in a church building and parsonage valued at approximately two hundred thousand dollars being dedicated to the Lord. The dedication services were

held on August 28, 1977. This has been a joint mission project of the Maryland State Home Missions Board and the National Home Mission and Church Extension Board.

The attendance for this special day was 44 in Sunday school and 110 for the morning worship. At the afternoon service, with Rev. Jack Williams delivering the message, there was an attendance of 90. Rev. Vergel Maness, pastor, wishes to express his appreciation to everyone in Missouri who has helped with this mission work.

Appreciation from Youth Camp

Mrs. Doris Arnold writes, "I would like to thank the ones that responded to the articles in the May issue of the *Gem*. I received everything I asked for, even a whole beef. The 239 pounds of ground beef really helped out. Thanks again for everything."

Special Attention:

Some circulars have been circulated in the Kansas City area criticizing Anita Bryant. The man's name and address at the bottom of the circular is Rev. Francis R. Lewis, Free Will Baptist Church, 4339 Campbell, Kansas City, Missouri. The Free Will Baptist ministers, associated with the Missouri State Association, that live in the Kansas City area state: "According to their knowledge Mr. Francis R. Lewis of the above address is not a member of a Free Will Baptist church, that is affiliated with the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists."

The Missouri State Association went on record at its last meeting, June, 1977, saying that Anita Bryant is to be commended for her stand against the "gay" movement. (Note: *Gem*, August, 1977)

National Youth Conference Winners from Missouri for 1977

INSTRUMENTAL SOLO

First Place—Herald
Paul David Reynolds, First Church, Joplin
First Place—Crusade.
Christie Ice, New Life Church, Licking

VOCAL SOLO

First Place—Herald
Paul David Reynolds, First Church, Joplin
First Place—Crusader
Angela Harlamert, Grant Avenue Church, Springfield

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

Third place—Grade 3
Theresa Covey, First Church, Joplin

Editor's note: These young people are to be commended!

Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

The pastor who can manage to have a good, friendly, working association with his officers will find that he will eliminate most of his church problems. There must be a state of mutual respect existing between the pastor and the officers of the church. The entire church suffers when friction exists among the church officers, and the entire church progresses when harmony prevails.

THE DEACON BOARD: This board, elected by the church, can be a gigantic headache or a marvelous blessing. Most of the problems that exist between deacons and pastors could be eliminated by some genuine Christian living on the part of all parties. The deacons are not the pastor's boss, but they are servants of the church and assistants to the pastor. They assist at baptism and communion, in receiving offerings, in dedication of children, and in prayer. They *must* be available for teaching assignments, visitation, and soul-winning endeavors, and should be faithful in church attendance and tithing. The pastor should keep the deacons involved in the church program and keep them aware of the total church activity. A deacon-pastor prayer meeting between Sunday school and church will assist friendship, Christian love, and cooperation.

The deacons should be a buffer between the pastor and the church complaints, but they should also be a line of communication between the pastor and the church. Pastor, you should trust your deacons. They should be respected as spiritual leaders and loved by the pastor. Many pastors treat their deacons like second-rate citizens. This is a good way to create problems.

OTHER ELECTED OFFICERS: What we have said about the pastor and his relationship with the deacons can be repeated here. If a man or woman has the respect of the laymen of the church and has been chosen to a particular office, the pastor should respect him or her and make every effort to have a pleasant relationship. These offices are important. If they aren't, dissolve them. But if they are, allow your workers to think, to move, and to act. Train them so they can do an effective job. You'll be surprised at how effective they will be in accomplishing their job.

Pastor, as you cooperate with all these different officers of the church, you will find your job much easier to perform. The success of the church will depend on the smooth cooperation between the pastor and the respective officers of the church. These people need to love one another. This mutual love will supersede the problems and disagreements that come. You must be conscious of your part in maintaining this spirit of love and cooperation. A few words of praise and the ability to overlook people's gripes will greatly help you work with your officers.

Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Clarence Burton

Someone asked me, "I wonder why some churches don't support cooperative giving?" I replied, "Many of them do." But another person standing close by said, "I think the reason some churches do not support the work is probably the same reason some people do not support the local church. They say, 'I can't afford to.' Their money is used for other purposes."

I wish that every church in Missouri would share in this unified plan. It is fair; it is effective; and it works. I thank the Lord for such a plan that enables us to do as a state association what we could not do individually.

I am very thankful for the response in Missouri. This ministry is increasing and consequently the Lord's work is being extended. It does seem that more pastors and churches are responding and this is encouraging.

I shall list some recent responses: Royal Oak (Cave Springs Association), Rev. Wayne Adrian is the pastor; Fair Grove Mission, Rev. James Crawford is the pastor; Hartville Church (increased to full 10%), Rev. Bud Arnold is the pastor; Sikeston Church (increased to full 10%), Rev. Wayne Williams is the pastor; Pleasant Hill (increased to full 10%), Rev. David Honeycutt is the pastor; and the O'Fallon Church (increased to full 10%), Rev. Don Lombard is the pastor. May the Lord bless each one of these pastors and churches.

August was a fine month. The giving for this year shows an increase over last year. But it should be this way and in order for us to meet our budget it must be this way.

I had the privilege of being with these churches and associations in August. Because of lack of space I shall just list them: Christian Board of Education board meeting, Greater Kansas City District Association, First Church-Kansas City, Indian Creek Association, First Quarterly Meeting, Billings Mission, Niangua Quarterly Conference, Laclede County Association, Wolf Creek Church, Royal Oak Church, Farmington Christian Academy, and Willow Springs Church. It is always enjoyable to fellowship with the Lord's people and may the Lord bless every act of kindness. We have great fellowship in Missouri and this is my prayer that we shall continue to pray together and labor together until the Lord calls us home.

May I ask you again to continue praying for this ministry. I know that the Lord's blessings have come as a result of prayer. So, thank you for your faithfulness. If I may be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

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

Woman's Page



Shirley Bowden, editor

News From Local Auxiliaries

The auxiliary of the Hartville Free Will Baptist Church is just a new auxiliary with 20 members and an average attendance of 18. We are praising God for all the blessings we have received since organizing. Curtains were made for the youth camp dining hall, and we voted recently to go to a nursing home once a month for services. We are planning a Thanksgiving service and party at the Senior Citizens Apartments in Hartville in November. Remember us as you pray as we undertake this new endeavor.

In Christ,
Doris Arnold

A year has come and gone and what a blessing it has been! In June of 1976, our pastor Brother Jim McAllister announced that the two-story house that our church owns had been offered to the Pinkerton family to live in free of rent for the year they were to be in the states. On July 4, they came to look at the house. I went over to meet them and to find out what they would need. They gave me a list of things a family of five would need. The woman's auxiliary was in charge of furnishing the house. Announcements were made and a list of needed furniture was posted for the congregation to see. We got it piece by piece and, when everything had been given, it all matched just as if it had been planned that way. This is the way the Lord works. Everyone helped get the house ready. By the time they brought their personal belongings, we were really excited. We were made to realize just what our missionaries give up and how little they have when they come to the States. Their personal items would have fit in a 4 foot square box! Most of this was from the provision closet. We cleaned, painted, and arranged everything so that, when they moved in, the house was homey and inviting. Their beds were ready for them to jump in. There was \$125.00 of groceries, and we were so happy to have them.

The time has come for them to return to the Ivory Coast. We would love to keep them, but we know their desire is to serve the Lord in Africa. They have been a blessing to everyone in our church. We will be praying for them.

May I say, if your church can do this, it will bless

the church and the woman's auxiliary. This effort helped the Pinkerton's account in a financial way. But, as the Lord always does, He blessed us exceedingly more because of the spiritual blessings received from having this missionary family in our church for the year.

In Christ,
Joyce Lix, President,
Farmington Auxiliary.



Reflections on Retreat Glenda Fulcher
Speaker for retreat

"Patterns' For Prayer" was the theme of the 1977 Retreat. Mrs. Glenda Fulcher, missionary to Panama, was the special speaker this year. She spoke on the purpose of prayer, the price of prayer, and the promise of prayer. Hearts were challenged as she showed from God's Word how to have an effective prayer life. The night service on Monday night found the ladies on board flight PRAYER. Dinner was served by four stewardesses: Rose Mertz, Debbie Fincher, Vivian Burton, and Shirley Bowden. Our pilot for the flight was God the Father, and co-pilots were Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. After dinner, a premier showing of the work in Panama was shown with Glenda Fulcher narrating. When their flight arrived in Panama, Mrs. Fulcher greeted the women and answered questions about the work.

This year there were 119 women who attended the retreat. Clothing was given to the Fulcher family with over \$200.00 given in checks also for clothing. An offering of \$196.55 was taken in the Tuesday afternoon session. \$150.00 honorarium will be sent to the Fulcher account.

This year the Fellowship Auxiliary of Flat River shared a song with the women. The words are listed below. If you would like the music, write to the Fellowship Auxiliary and it will be sent.

He paid the debt He did not owe.
I had a debt I could not pay,
I needed someone to wash my sins away,
And now I sing a brand new song
AMAZING GRACE,
Christ Jesus paid the debt that I could never pay.

Dear Co-laborers,

Exciting days! Packing finished! Boat tickets in hand! We'll go to New York by U-Haul, along with our barrels and crates. Hopefully, our boat will sail on September 23 as scheduled. The trip should take about 17 days. We are really anxious to get back to our work and to see our two boys again. They are already there in school. Our oldest son, Howard, is in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Marquette, Michigan.

Missouri Free Will Baptists have given a large part of the funds necessary for our return to the field. We appreciate your support in both prayer and finances.

In Christ,
Jerry and Carol Pinkerton
and Boys

Farmington Christian Academy

