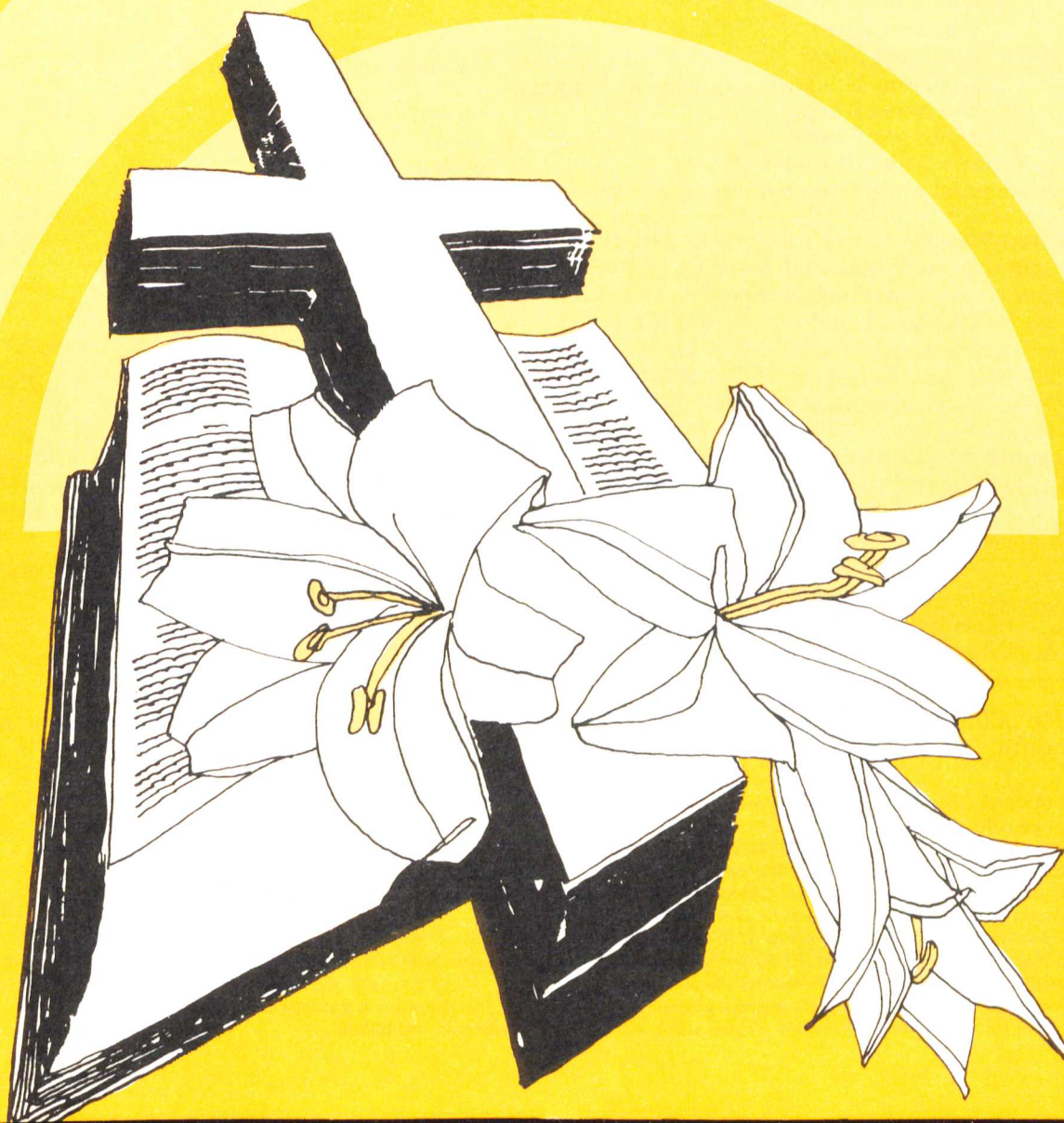


Volume 48, Number 3, March 1978

Free Will Baptist

GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"



This is a listing of motels in the Flat River, Leadington, Farmington area. Rev. Guy Leonard, moderator of the St. Francois District Association has submitted this with this suggestion from the motel managers. "June is the rush season; therefore, it would be well to make reservations in April for the Missouri State Association that will be held in June."

These motels may be contacted for reservations for the Church Evangelism Regional Conference to be held at the First Church in Farmington. Editor's note: It may be possible to get a better rate in April than is given for June inasmuch as it is rather early in the year.

Bonneville Motel—Ph. 314-358-3228

U.S. 67 and Hwy. K, Boone Terre, Missouri

5 miles from *church—6 miles to night service

Single:	1 person 1 bed	\$11.00
	2 persons 1 bed	16.00
Double:	2 persons 2 beds	18.00
	Each additional person	3.00

Children under 12 free in room with adult—cribs free

Chateau DeVille Motor Lodge—Ph. 314-358-2217

U.S. 67 South of Bonne Terre, Missouri

4 miles to *church—5 miles to night service

Single:	1 person 1 bed	\$15.00
	2 persons 1 bed	18.00
Double:	2 beds	19.00

Children under 8 free in room with adult Rates are commercial—must tell with Missouri State Assoc.

Bemac Lodge—Ph. 314-431-4363

U.S. 67 at Desloge (Route 8 exit)

2 miles to *church—3 miles to night service

Single:	1 person 1 bed	\$13.00
	2 persons 1 bed	16.50
Double:	2 persons 2 beds	19.00
	3 persons 2 beds	21.25
	4 persons 2 beds	23.50

Children in room with adult under 12 free

Ask for commercial rates when making reservation. Rates should be lower than quoted.

Roseners Best Western Motor Lodge—Ph. 314-431-4241

U.S. 67 1 miles from Elvins, Flat River Exit (Rt. 32)

2 miles from *church and night service

Single:	1 person 1 bed	\$13.50
	2 persons 1 bed	18.00
Double:	2 persons 2 beds	20.00
	Each additional person	2.00

Limited camping facilities are available in St. Francois State Park located 12 miles north of Flat River.

Note: *Church refers to Fellowship Church—location of the day services for the Missouri State Association, June 6-9. Evening services will be at gymnasium. Map will be in next issue of *Gem*.

Note: The First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington, location of the Church Evangelism Regional Conference, April 24-26, is approximately 6 miles south of Leadington. The distances of the listed motels may be figured accordingly.

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

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The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church.

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The Christian and His Bible



by James Barker

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16, 17).

The third chapter of 2 Timothy lists a number of conditions that will exist in the last days. The Apostle Paul also was moved to call those days "perilous times." In 2 Thessalonians 2:3 Paul said, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." That day that Paul mentioned is the "day of the Lord." But before that day could come, there would be conditions that were similar to those in the day of Noah (Matthew 24:37-39). Paul described men in that day of apostasy, or falling away, in the third chapter of 2 Timothy and in the first chapter of Romans.

This is serious as it describes the ungodly, but the greater tragedy is the effect it is having on the church and on Christian people. There are so many today that belong to the church that you cannot honestly call Christian because their lives show so much of the works of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21) and so little of the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-24).

Paul was inspired to write about the divine inspiration of the Bible. It is profitable for doctrine (teaching). We must have receptive hearts that are open to teaching; however, some say, "Don't give

me any doctrine." The Bible is doctrine. Some may not want to be taught; yet the word doctrine used in our text is from the word "doctor" which means a teacher, and doctrine means teaching, doctrine, instruction. So we see Paul was inspired of God to write for these last days showing the need for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness that the Christian may be mature, adequate, and equipped for every good work.

It is so often great grief to the honest pastor's heart to see so many who do not receive the help that is available to them and become "hearers and not doers of the Word." It is dangerous to live careless and wordly lives.

The lethargy and unconcern of so many is alarming. The wilful lack of knowledge on the part of many and the great danger involved in such a life is disturbing. Warning after warning is given in the Word of God. We are told to live holy lives and be prepared. Paul was a great apostle, but he did not feel he was so secure he could never turn aside. In Philippians 3:13, 14 we read, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." It doesn't sound as if Paul believed in unconditional eternal security as a lot of Free Will Baptists act as if they do.

There are some "thus saith the Lord" about our

Christian living, Christian growth, and Christian service. In 1 Thessalonians 5:22 we find these words, "Abstain from all appearance of evil." Why should we make this so difficult? Anything we give up to live pleasing unto the Lord will never be missed. "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness" (1 Thessalonians 4:7). We must give up every weight and sin which doth so easily beset us and run with patience the race that is before us. First Corinthians 15:34 states, "Awake unto righteousness, and sin not." From reading Matthew 5:6, we learn that the one who hungers and thirsts after righteousness shall be filled. It is time for Christians to get their eyes off the world, worldly people, and worldly churches and look unto the Lord. Too many have put their hand to the plow but are spending too much time looking back. In Romans 2:9, 10 we read, "Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil . . . But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good."

Consider also Christian growth. "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). We can grow by Bible study, prayer, and self-control. We are told in 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth." We see God telling us to study. Part of the work of the pastor is to lead in this study. Ephesians 4:12 states, "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Without prayer we are hopeless. Herein lies our help and strength. A person cannot live pleasing to God without praying. A constant attitude of prayer is necessary.

The Christian should read Ephesians 4:17-32 often and use this passage as a pattern for self-control. The Christian by the grace of God can live the kind of life that will be an example to lost loved ones or neighbors. They will be able to see something in us that would make them see the reality of the Christian life. Christian service is the result of Christian growth. First of all we will want to attend all the services of the church. This seems to be a serious problem this day and time. So many can either take it or leave it as far as church attendance goes. Even some church officers and Sunday school teachers have fallen into this sin. It is a sin to wilfully neglect church attendance. Hebrews 10:25 states, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Paul was talking to Christians because he said "ourselves."

Is it a sin not to attend church? Since Christ loved the church and gave himself for it, and since it is His medium of using Christians to get the message out to a lost and dying world, then He expects us to go to church. In James 4:17 we read, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Examine your reasons why you are neglecting God's house. I know there are times we miss because of sickness and sometimes we may be

gone for a Sunday, but if your reasons have come from Satan, you are in trouble. Friend, it is a sin to neglect the worship of God in His house, and that goes for anytime the doors are open for worship.

Permit me to mention tithing. Is tithing scriptural? Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek (Genesis 14:17-20). Jacob vowed to tithe. He gave a tenth unto God (Genesis 28:22). All this was long before the law was given to Moses. Malachi, in his famous passage on tithing in chapter 3:8-10, charged the people that as they forsook God's ordinances they also forsook the support of His house. The forsaking of tithing is to rob God, and it will withhold the blessing of God.

Here is a word about witnessing and soul-winning. Proverbs 11:30 states, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." This is one of the many Scriptures as well as the Great Commission given by Christ. Our Christian growth leads us to witness to our neighbor and to leading souls to Christ. Our testimony of how much we love God will mean much more if we will show up on visitation night. May we not be carried away with every wind of doctrine that passes by. So much false doctrine is going out today. It will come to your front door; you can hear it on the radio and see it on television. We need to stay close to our church, study the Bible, and try the spirits; they are not all of God.

God expects His children to be faithful, and it is for that faithfulness we shall be rewarded. Just because a neighbor sits at home on Sunday night, and Wednesday night, and sometimes on Sunday morning because his church is dark and the doors are closed, don't be guilty of following his example. In these days of apostasy, or falling away, we need to be more careful. Many claim that there is a great spiritual awakening going on in the land. Some 35 percent claim to be born again. If only it were true, it would be good. There is an interest in religion. But what about true repentance? What about forsaking of sin? What about a life that indicates a new birth? As I read my Bible, I don't find all this foretold. The Bible predicts just the opposite.

May we be like the Apostle Paul as he came down to the close of his earthly life and was able to say, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:6-8). May we respect God's Word and obey its teaching. It is our road map to Heaven.

About the writer: Reverend James Barker is pastor of the Leadington Free Will Baptist Church in Leadington, Missouri. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the St. Francois District Association, is chairman of the committee appointed to study a Nursing Home-Retirement Complex Center in Missouri, and is active in state and national work.



The National Home Missions Department of Evangelism Presents **CHURCH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE**

April 24-26, 1978

First Free Will Baptist Church
303 West Columbia
Farmington, Missouri



Thomas



Pegram



Shockey



Thompson



Gibbs

Monday:

6:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 p.m. Congregational singing
Presiding Rev. Roy Thomas
Introduction and welcome Rev. Clarence Burton
Music Farmington Choir
Rev. John Gibbs
Message Rev. Don Pegram
8:00 p.m. Congregational singing
Offering
Music Rev. John Gibbs
Message Rev. Roy Thomas

Tuesday:

9:00 a.m. Congregational singing
Music Rev. John Gibbs
Seminar "Principles for Church Growth"
Rev. Robert Shockey
9:45 a.m.
Seminar "Plans for Church Growth"
Rev. Paul Thompson
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Worship
Congregational singing
Special Music, Rev. John Gibbs
Message Rev. Don Pegram
12:00 noon Lunch
1:30 p.m. Special Music, Rev. John Gibbs
Seminar "Plans for Church Growth"
Rev. Paul Thompson
2:45 p.m. "Procedures for Church Growth"
Rev. Don Pegram
4:00 p.m. Fellowship Time

Tuesday evening:

7:00 p.m. Congregational Music
Announcements
Special Music Rev. John Gibbs
Message Rev. Paul Thompson
Congregational Music

Offering
Special Music Rev. John Gibbs
Message Rev. Robert Shockey

Wednesday:

9:00 a.m.
Special Music Rev. John Gibbs
Seminar "Pattern for Church Growth"
Rev. Roy Thomas
9:45 a.m.
Seminar "Procedures for Church Growth"
Rev. Don Pegram
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
11:00 a.m. Congregational singing
Special Music Rev. John Gibbs
Message Rev. Paul Thompson
12:00 noon Adjournment

EVANGELISM AND MINISTRY

(A devotional given by Sunday School Superintendent Larry Allison)

Last week I spoke about the three homes that we have as Christians: the family home, the church home, and the heavenly home. Also, I mentioned how important it is for us to be obedient to the Lord. It is necessary that we trust Jesus as Savior and serve Him if we expect to live in our heavenly home. There is something that is very important for us to remember. The Christian is in this world but the Christian is not of this world. There are some things that we must abstain from as followers of Christ, and, to be sure, there are some things that we should be involved with as followers of Christ. Do you remember what Jesus said to those whom He called to follow Him? "And so *was* also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men."

Now we know that when a fisherman goes fishing, the fish do not jump into the boat. The fisherman must use the proper equipment, proper bait, and go to the area where the fish are located. The person that is fishing for men must do the same thing. The soul winner must prepare himself by studying the Word and allowing himself to be filled with the Holy Spirit. As the evangelist mentioned in the revival message last evening, the Christian must be completely yielded to the Holy Spirit. Then with proper preparation the soul winner can go out and catch men for the Lord Jesus Christ.

There are two words that I want to discuss: evangelism and ministry. Every child of God should be involved in evangelism. We usually think this is the work of the pastor; and, to be sure, the pastor is involved in this, but every Christian should be involved in it also. Evangelism is not just talking about soul winning; it is doing something about it.

I read a story some time ago about a great evangelistic conference that was being held inside a huge church. Everyone was talking about evangelism, but up to this point no one was doing very much about it. One pastor decided that he

would put some word into action. He went into the streets and within two hours he returned with a man that he had led to Christ. The man was called to the platform to give his testimony and while giving it someone remarked, "This is what evangelism is all about!"

The word ministry follows the same pattern. Every Christian is included in the ministry of the church. Some are more involved than others, but in order that we fulfil the commands of Christ, there must be involvement. The pastor cannot witness to the entire community. He must have some help. The church family should work as a family whereby everyone helps in sharing the ministry of the church.

I recognize that there are some problems in witnessing for Christ. Perhaps each one of us has witnessed to someone that has given this excuse, "I've tried to read the Bible but I just can't understand it. So why be saved?" Or someone may say, "There are too many ways to interpret it. Why isn't my opinion just as good as yours?" Well, I believe the Bible has the answer to these questions. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14). So you see the reason the unbeliever offers these excuses is because he cannot understand spiritual things. Once a person receives Christ as Savior he is then able to understand spiritual truths. The first Russian cosmonaut that went into space said on his return to earth that he did not see God anywhere out in space. An American astronaut returned from outer space, and he said that he saw God everywhere. What made the difference in the report of the two men that had been in outer space? The natural man and the spiritual man.

The pastor of this church feeds us on the Word. He teaches us how to live the Christian life and how to witness to others. My question is this, are we taking this message to those with whom we come in contact? Is our ministry for the Lord active or inactive? The Lord has blessed during our revival. I feel that I have been blessed and I feel that I have learned some things that will be helpful to me as a servant of the Lord. Now the thing that I am concerned about is those that have heard and have not heeded. I pray that each one of us will commit himself to Christ and get involved as did the apostles. "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

About the writer: Larry Allison is the Sunday school superintendent of the Leasington Free Will Baptist Church. He gave this devotional message on Sunday mornig at the close of revival services. Rev. James Barker is the pastor. Rev. Clarence Burton was the evangelist.



CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS



Surprise for the Kirbys in Moberly

The cupboard will not be bare in the Kirby home, thanks to the generosity of the Northeast Association. Following the message delivered by Reverend David Kirby at the fifth Sunday meeting in Kirksville, the Junior Church of the First Church in Kirksville presented Bryan Kirby with a cash gift of over \$21.00. Then the Northeast Association Woman's Auxiliary gave the Kirby family a "grocery shower" amounting to over 40 bags of groceries. Missionary Kirby stated, "I've never seen anything like it in my life. My father told me that I would enjoy Missouri and that the people would take care of the preacher. I am fully convinced of that now." (The photo shows the food items except some that needed refrigeration.) This filled the family Pinto! The Kirby's expressed their thanks to all the people for their love and support in such a practical and kind way.

The Moberly Mission gives this report for its first month of services. These figures are the average for the month: Sunday school—13; a.m. Worship—17; p.m. Worship—11; Wednesday evening—7; the average offering—\$91.60. The mission is seeking for a place to hold services inasmuch as the Seventh Day Adventist Church will terminate the use of its facilities on March 31, 1978.

The O'Fallon Church has contributed a mimeograph machine to the mission and the adult men's class of the Fellowship Church has contributed \$19.00. Reverend Kirby has announced that plans are under way to purchase three acres of property for \$9,000.

Fourth Church to Celebrate 25th Anniversary

Brother Leamon Killian writes, "On March 12, 1978, the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church will celebrate its 25th anniversary. As a part of the celebration, the church will hold evangelistic services on Friday evening through Sunday evening. The preaching will be done by former pastors.

"The Lord is continuing to bless the labor of the church. The services are well attended and there is evidence of the Holy Spirit in a warm and challenging manner. The pastor is Reverend Ken Dodson."

Revival at Gray Summit

The pastor of the Gray Summit Mission, Rev. Johnny James, reports that the Lord blessed with a wonderful revival. Rev. Wayne Adrian was the evangelist. The messages were used of God to bless and challenge the people. One message was of special interest entitled, "The Five Fingers of God" (the directing finger, the warning finger, the punishing finger, the saving finger, and the keeping finger). The people are very grateful for the results of the revival. One profession of faith was made on Sunday following the revival but was no doubt a result of the wonderful meeting.



Sweetheart Banquet at Lebanon

"The Crusaders of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Lebanon held their annual Valentine Banquet on Saturday, February 11, 1978," writes Mrs. Connie Myers. (Mrs. Myers is one of the sponsors.)

The theme of this year's banquet was "As a Small Child." The evening began with dinner in the church dining hall. At 8:00 p.m., the program started with a skit entitled, "I Dreamed I Was a Little Child Again." Tom Jones entertained with two songs, "Times of Your Life" and "The Way We Were."

The highlight of the evening was the coronation of the king and queen. The voting consisted of a penny a vote. There were nine couples entered in the contest. The total amount received was \$658.29. To present the flowers and crown to the winning couple were Lorie McQuarter and Barry Rabe.

The king and queen for 1978 were Pam Doeden and Gary Powell with a total of 21,668 votes. The first runner up was Deana Everett and Lowell Baldwin with 15,035 votes. The second runner up was Janice Ballard and Mark Brawley with 9,201 votes. It was evident that each couple worked very hard and deserved the proper recognition.

The sponsors for the Crusaders are Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Myers and Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Fincher. Rev. Jim Mertz is the pastor.

Church Sweetheart Banquet at Verdella

The Verdella Free Will Baptist Church was host to a teen "Sweetheart Banquet" on Saturday evening, February 11, 1978. The church had invited teens from Hannon and Oskaloosa churches. A total of 35

teens attended with their pastors and wives. There were several that assisted with the serving and other functions at the banquet.

At 6:00 p.m., it began with a casting of votes for the king and queen. This was followed with prayer by Rev. Bob Dickey. A delicious dinner was enjoyed in a beautifully decorated dining area. The table was decorated with red heart coasters, valentine napkins, red and white streamers, and a beautiful white table cloth. The walls were decorated with red and white hearts and red cupids. A delicious dinner consisting of fried chicken, green beans, au gratin potatoes, salad, and french bread was enjoyed by everyone.

Following the dinner, Brother Roger Phillips showed movies that dated back to eleven years. The movies consisted of former sweetheart banquets and Sunday school parties. Following the movies, everyone enjoyed a delicious serving of angel food cake with strawberry ice cream.

Reverend Leroy Blankenship, pastor of the host church, had the honor of crowning Miss Melony Havens as queen and Mr. Keith Crockett as king. Appropriate gifts were presented to the newly elected king and queen.

Reverend Gary Elder, pastor of the Hannon Church, gave a devotional thought. The service was dismissed by Doug Hoover.

The ones credited for an excellent job in planning and preparing for the banquet were: Kay Charlton, Wilma Crockett, Judy Sprenkle, Margie Crabtree, Leta Munn, and Ionia Phillips. The 1978 affair will be long remembered as movies were made by Roger Phillips.

Family Enrichment Seminars

The State Board of Christian Education announced that it will sponsor six Family Enrichment Seminars this month.

Rev. Jesse Webb, a Free Will Baptist pastor from Perry, Florida, will conduct the seminars designed to give Biblical answers to many problems confronting the contemporary home. Pastor Webb has been greatly used of the Lord in this ministry for the past several months. He has an extensive counseling ministry in his own pastorate.

The seminars will be conducted in the Leadbelt area Monday and Tuesday (March 20, 21); the Mountain Grove area Wednesday and Thursday (March 22, 23); the Monett area Friday and Saturday (March 24, 25); the Kansas City area Monday and Tuesday (March 27, 28); Kirksville area Wednesday and Thursday (March 29, 30); and the St. Louis area Friday and Saturday (March 31-April 1). Watch for the announcement in your area.

The seminars will meet for three hours each evening. The State Board of Christian Education urges everyone within driving distance of these locations to plan to attend. There will be no charge made, but a freewill offering will be received.

From the Desk of the Promotional Secretary



by Clarence Burton

"This I saw that when a soul loves God with a supreme love, God's interests and his become one" (Robert Livingstone). I pray that our love for God shall be so deep and strong that the year 1978 will be a year that God's interests will be ours and that our priorities will be established with the thought and practice, Jesus first, others second, and self last. Inasmuch as the space is needed, I shall list the places I was privileged to visit.

January 6, Friday evening,

January 7, Saturday—

Southeast District Quarterly Meeting/ Reverend Joe Braddy, moderator

January 8, Sunday—

First Church, Springfield/ Rev. Mike Hutsell, pastor

January 14, Saturday—

Sunday School and CTS Board Meeting

January 15, Sunday—

Moberly Mission/ Reverend David Kirby, pastor

January 20, Friday—

St. Francois District Quarterly Meeting/ Rev. Guy Leonard, moderator

January 21, Saturday—

St. Louis District Quarterly Meeting/ Rev. Bill Van Winkle, assistant moderator

January 22, Sunday—

Bethel Church, Festus/ Rev. Bob Sharpy, pastor

January 28, Saturday—

Harmony Quarterly Meeting/ Rev. Ted Wilbanks, moderator

January 29, Sunday—

Myrtle Church/ Rev. Russell Johnson, pastor

January 29, Sunday—

Hartville Church/ Rev. Bud Arnold, pastor

This has been a good month. The Lord has blessed in so many ways. It seems that the interest is growing regarding our state work. There is a sweet spirit of unity and it appears that the sunlight of God's love is blessing churches with souls being saved and rededications.

Please continue to remember this work in prayer. It can only grow as you enable it to grow. Mail all checks to and make payable to Missouri State Association, P. O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536

Happy Birthday to a special little fellow, Chad Steven Burton. (I wish I could say Happy Birthday to everyone on his birthday but of course, I can't.) Chad will be two years old on March 15. I hope he has a good one!



MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING January 1978

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Black Oak	\$50.87
Allan Crowson	\$24.50
Jerry Pinkerton	26.37
Mrs. Bobbie Ross, Thayer	\$6.00
Bill Fulcher	\$6.00
Gateway	\$25.00
Sedalia	\$167.72
General Fund	\$167.72
Lebanon, First	\$35.00
Clint Morgan	\$17.50
Jerry Pinkerton	17.50
Fourth	\$276.00
Steve Lytle	\$175.00
Charolette Tallent	26.00
Bill Fulcher	50.00
Jerry Pinkerton	25.00
South Side	\$100.00
Charolette Tallent	\$100.00
Kirksville	\$122.63
Jerry Pinkerton	\$29.00
Jim McLain	12.00
Howard Filkins	81.63
Kingsway	\$51.90
Joe Haas	\$51.90
Olivet	\$95.00
Bobby Poole	\$40.00
Mabel Willey	20.00
Lynn Miley	10.00
Howard Filkins	5.00
Jerry Pinkerton	10.00
Lonnie Sparks	5.00
Jim McLain	5.00
Gospel Light	\$30.74
General Fund	\$30.74
Walnut Grove	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
Hickory Grove	\$29.94
Steve Lytle	\$29.94
Niangua	\$40.00
General Fund	\$40.00
Beacon	\$10.00
Clint Morgan	\$10.00
Thayer	\$15.00
Dale Bishop	\$5.00
Jerry Pinkerton	10.00
Bethel	\$37.00
Jerry Pinkerton	\$17.50
Charolette Tallent	19.50
New Harmony Sunday school	\$35.22
Dr. Laverne Miley	\$17.61
Jim McLain	17.61
West Plains	\$143.75
General Fund	\$123.75
Howard Filkins	10.00
Bill Fulcher	10.00
Total	\$1,281.77
* Lebanon, First	\$366.30
Charolette Tallent	\$366.30
* South Side	\$1,067.18 (Bond)
Charolette Tallent	\$144.81 (Offering)
Charolette Tallent	\$1,211.99

* This money did not come through the state office

MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Mountain Valley	\$42.14
Fourth	20.00
Faith	10.00
Olivet	10.00
Copper Mines	100.00
Thayer	10.00
Total	\$192.14

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Lebanon, First	\$10.00
Bob Francis	\$10.00
Fourth	\$39.00
Bob Francis	\$12.00
Vergel Maness	27.00
South Side	\$122.36
Bob Francis	\$80.00
General Fund	42.36
Kirksville	\$10.00
Mark Vandivort	\$10.00
Olivet	\$55.00
Vergel Maness	\$5.00
Mark Vandivort	25.00
Leland Horton	25.00
Bethel	\$10.00
Bob Francis	\$10.00
Thayer	\$3.00
Mark Vandivort	\$3.00
Total	\$249.36

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Lebanon, First	\$2.00
General Fund	\$2.00
Kingsway	\$41.90
General Fund	\$41.90
Gospel Light	\$30.74
General Fund	\$30.74
Beacon	\$14.00
Moberly	\$14.00
Bethel	\$5.00
Moberly	\$5.00
New Harmony	\$17.61
Moberly	\$17.61
Thayer	\$14.00
Moberly	\$6.00
General Fund	\$6.00
T. Owens	2.00
Hazel Creek	\$10.00
General Fund	\$10.00
Total	\$135.25

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Bethel	\$49.54
Total	\$49.54

CHILDREN'S HOME, Greeneville, Tennessee

Gospel Light	\$61.48
Total	\$61.48

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS January 1978

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,671.03
16.25% Promotional Department	2,170.21
4.50% General Fund	600.98
5.25% Youth Camp	701.15
2.00% Gem	267.10
2.00% Sunday School & CTS	267.10
2.00% Christian Board of Education	267.10
52%	6,944.67
7.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	934.87
13.00% Foreign Missions	1,736.18
9.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	1,201.97
7.00% Executive Department	934.86
6.50% National Home Missions	868.09
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	333.87
2.50% CTS	333.87
.25% Laymen's Board	33.38
.25% Theological Commission	33.38
41%	5,475.60
Total Disbursements	\$13,355.14

Let us continue to *thank the Lord* for His blessings on the state and national ministries.

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS GIVING
JANUARY 5 through FEBRUARY 5, 1978

Fellowship	\$105.41
Fourth	146.30
Joplin, First	66.00
Grace	49.00
South Fremont	98.00
Sedalia	71.54
Union Light	24.00
Flat River, First	58.87
Olivet	250.00
Myrtle	62.81
West Plains	140.00
Berean	126.88
Rock Chapel	5.00
Hannon	350.00
Victory	42.00
DeSoto	100.00
Farmington	38.00
Martinstown	15.00
Oak Hill	55.00
Lebanon	2.00
Kingsway	41.90
Gospel Light	30.74
Beacon	14.00
Bethel	5.00
New Harmony	17.61
Thayer	14.00
Hazel Creek	10.00
Cooperative Receipts	2,671.03
Total	\$4,610.09

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

It Took "U" To Spell Success

We wish to take this opportunity to thank each person who had a part in buying the riding lawn mower for the Missouri State Youth Camp.

Stockton FWB Mission, Stockton, Mo	\$25.00
Rock Chapel FWB Church, Mtn. Grove	100.00
First FWB Church, Mtn. Grove	25.00
Hazel Creek FWB Church, Kirksville	25.00
West Plains First FWB Church, West Plains	25.00
First FWB Ladies' Auxiliary, Hartville	25.00
St. Francois District Auxiliary, Farmington	25.00
South Fremont FWB Church, Springfield	25.00
William F. Cruse, Lemay	25.00
Sedalia FWB Mission, Sedalia	25.00
Olivet FWB Church, Marshall	25.00
First FWB Church, Farmington	25.00
Bethel FWB Church, Festus	25.00
First FWB Church, Lebanon	200.00
Union FWB Church, Union	25.00
Interest	5.92
TOTAL	\$630.92

May the Lord bless you one hundred fold, and again I say thanks.

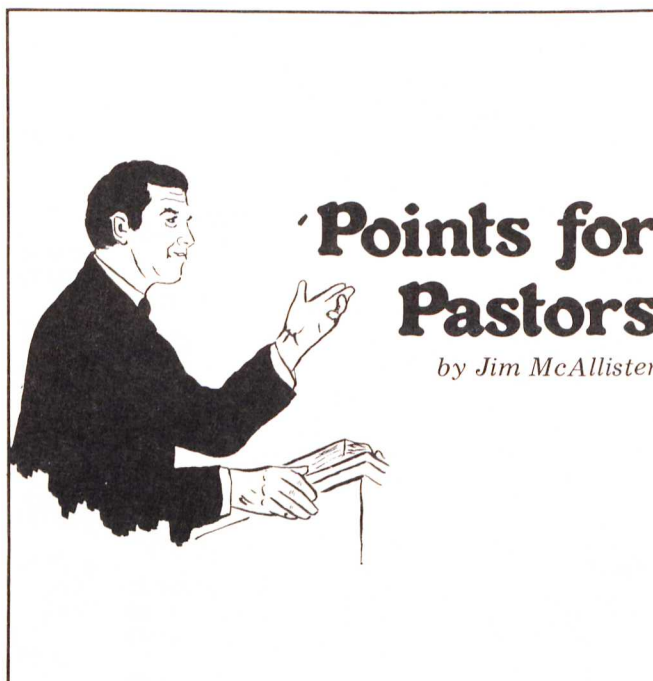
Frances Bowman

ATTENTION:

March 31, 1978, marks the end of the Missouri State Association year.

Church treasurers and pastors, in order for cooperative and designated giving to be included in this year's total receipts, your reports must be sent to the state office by March 31. Please make note of this in order that your giving will be reflected in the state treasurer's report to the Missouri State Association.

Let's make a strong effort to reach and even exceed our goal!



The music program is extremely vital to the worship of the church. I have been in churches where the music was "over" the heads of the congregation. In other places the music was of the "Why Me, Lord?" caliber. Sometimes the choir did all the singing simply because the songs were convention type or, as I call them, too "hairy" for the average church attender to grasp.

Now, none of us are ever satisfied with our program; that is why we continue to improve. But I do believe I have learned some things that have proven to be a real help in building an evangelistic church program.

First, when I came to Farmington, I contacted our music director, Brother John Smith, and told him he was in charge of the music and that he answered only to me. Secondly, he was advised of the type of music we wanted. We wanted music that was worshipful, evangelistic, easy to sing, and had a message. Thirdly, the music must be doctrinally sound. No song that alluded to tongues or salvation by works was allowed. Those songs written by worldly song writers were not to be used. It is my opinion that the life of the preacher should back up his message and the life of a song writer or singer should back up his songs.

Second, I supported the music director. I put my confidence in him and allowed him to build the program we wanted by not constantly second guessing him.

Third, we allowed him to purchase music and materials as he needed them, appoint the musicians (with the approval of the pastor), and select all music and special singers.

We have had an outside music teacher come in the last two years and train our choir. This has also been a real help. Also, purchasing robes for the choir gave them a new appreciation for their role in the service.

God has wonderfully blessed our music program and it has continued to be a delight to our people and adequately prepares them for worship.

With Our Missionaries

Charolette Tallent writes: "Dear Friends of Missouri, words of gratitude and appreciation are in order to each church and individual who has given towards my account in recent months. I deeply appreciate your many prayers as final preparation for departure to France draws near, September 1.

"The Lord has greatly blessed and supplied above and beyond all human expectations—doesn't He always though! My cash account is only lacking a few thousand towards the needed \$12,000 total.

"During the next several months I will be at my home in St. Louis having services on weekends throughout Missouri.

"Again, thank you for what you are doing in sharing that those in France may receive Christ."

The Lytles in Panama write: "Jesus Christ lives and is working in Panama! And we rejoice because we serve a glorious, living Lord who has called us to proclaim the good news of His power to save in this country. We rejoice when we think of how the Lord has blessed us since our arrival in Panama. Just a short time ago Phillip Scott Lytle, all 7 pounds, 8 ounces and 20 inches of him, became a part of our family. December 8 was Mother's Day in Panama, and what a present for Judy! Our Sunday night attendance in Bethania for home Bible Study is averaging 10 and the Friday afternoon Bible Club is progressing well. In the last 2 weeks, 8 young boys have come to receive the Lord Jesus as personal Savior. We are excited at the possibilities even though there is much indifference to the gospel. Pray that we will be faithful to our task.

"It is always a joy to receive your letters and cards. We love you all, and will be praying for you that 1978 will be a wonderful year in the Lord.

"A special thanks to the people of Missouri for every gift that is sent to our account. We are grateful for the prayers and financial support from the good people of Missouri. Remember us in your prayers."

The Mayhews in Africa write: "Dear Friends in Missouri, thank you very much for your aid in sending mission support to us. It enables us to sow and reap together (2 Corinthians 9:9-11).

"Many things have happened since our last letter to you. In the village of Seraoudi three have prayed. Two decisions have been made at Yanvo recently. Matthew, the young preacher at Missouminien, reported that two have prayed there and two others are nearing decisions. The reading room at Tanda is going well. Our Sunday school and two services each Sunday reflect the interest and activities during the week in the reading room. We plan to buy property soon for a building. We would like to be near the high school. Sheryl, our daughter, left here in December to attend Hillsdale College. Mary is in missionary children boarding school in Bouake, Ivory Coast. We ask that you continue to remember our work in prayer."

The Manesses from Delaware write: "I appreciate so much the article in the *Gem* regarding our need in Delaware that I felt impressed to write and give a note of praise. The furnace replacement was taken care of by the church and a man from Sikeston, Missouri, that sent \$1,000. The lawyer made his services free. This included everything. The tax status is still unresolved but we have the confidence that God will take care of it. We were able as a church to take care of the insurance need of \$636.00 and the much needed repair on the parsonage was taken care of. As I look back I feel so ashamed of my lack of faith. I am convinced that God will provide. Thanks to the people of Missouri. Continue to remember us in your prayers."

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Announces Conference Dates

"The dates for the annual Bible Conference are March 27-29," writes the Christian service director, Reverend Jack Richey. The special speakers for the conference will be the Worthington twins. These men are well known throughout the Free Will Baptist denomination as Bible expositors. Reverend Milton Worthington is serving as pastor of the Central Free Will Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan, and Dr. Melvin Worthington, assistant moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, is pastoring in Albany, Georgia.

CALL-A-THON AIMED AT RED ACCOUNTS

NASHVILLE, TENN.—"Red" is termed a dangerous, frightening, angry, or hostile color! But when it refers to missionary accounts it represents deficit due to high costs, neglect, faithlessness, and often unconcern. High costs are unavoidable but the other three areas need attention.

Foreign Missions Call-a-thon Sunday is designed to take up some of this slack and to challenge anew Sunday schools, churches, and individuals to compassionate giving for world outreach. This year APRIL 16 has been set aside as the day for special offerings, giving of total church or Sunday school offerings and any other means of giving to clear out deficit missionary accounts. These gifts are to be reported on April 16 by telephoning the Department of Foreign Missions at (615) 361-1010 between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. in each time zone.



Please inform the *Gem* Office before you move. It will save us 25 cents and enable you to get every issue at the regular time.

GEM COMP
CONTACT MAGAZINE
PO BOX 1088
NASHVILLE TN 37202

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Woman's Page



Shirley Bowden, editor

WE HAVE A NEW DAUGHTER

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Lebanon, Missouri, has a new adopted daughter. She is Lana Slagle, age 3, and resides at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee. Pictures sent to us from the home show her to be brown eyed, with brown hair. She is adorable. Already she has captured the hearts of not only the auxiliary, but the entire church. The auxiliary had a son, Jimmy Blackwell, but he was adopted after Christmas. We were so happy to hear about his adoption. The home said he had the best Christmas ever. If your auxiliary does not have a child from any of the Free Will Baptist Children's homes, you are missing a blessing.

NOTE YOUR CALENDARS!

Reports for the end of the year for secretaries and treasurers should be in as follows: Local auxiliaries should close their year April 15. The reports should be sent to their district secretary and treasurer shortly after this date. District secretaries and treasurers should close their books April 25, and should send their reports to the state secretary and state treasurer by May 1. The address of the state secretary is: Shirley Bowden, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, MO 65536. The state treasurer is: Blanche Wisheart, Myrtle, MO 65778.

THANKS, MASTER'S MEN

The Master's Men of the Jones Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Stella, Missouri, hosted a chili supper for the Woman's Auxiliary, February 6, 1978. Everyone had a good time at the supper. The Master's Men and Woman's Auxiliary extended an invitation for new members at the supper. Billy Joe Gentry is pastor of the church.

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT MISSOURI HOME MISSION LOAN FUND

Bethel Auxiliary, Festus	\$10.41
Farmington Auxiliary	9.00
Grace Auxiliary	8.50
Mountain Grove Auxiliary	10.00
Myrtle Auxiliary	50.00
Northeast Mo. District	30.00
O'Fallon Auxiliary	25.00
South Side Auxiliary	6.20
Willow Springs Auxiliary	6.07
TOTAL TO DATE 1/31/78	\$155.18

FRANCIS TO THE FIELD

Bethel Auxiliary, Festus	\$83.68
Cuba Auxiliary	10.00
Farmington Auxiliary	225.17
Grace Auxiliary	8.50
Kirkville Auxiliary	30.53
Myrtle Auxiliary	100.00
Oak Hill Auxiliary	9.22
O'Fallon Auxiliary	25.00
South Side Auxiliary	6.20
Willow Springs Auxiliary	4.48
Lebanon Auxiliary	39.92
TOTAL TO DATE 1/31/78	\$542.70

PINKERTON'S ON WHEELS

Bethel Auxiliary, Festus	\$10.41
Farmington Auxiliary	45.00
Grace Auxiliary	8.50
Kirkville Auxiliary	48.53
Lebanon Auxiliary	39.92
Macedonia Auxiliary	350.00
Myrtle Auxiliary	50.00
O'Fallon Auxiliary	25.00
South Side Auxiliary	24.30
Thayer Auxiliary	120.00
Willow Springs Auxiliary	4.48
TOTAL TO DATE 1/31/78	\$726.14

1978 WNAC—NATIONAL CONVENTION EXPENSE, KANSAS CITY, MO

Fredericktown Auxiliary	\$42.00
New Harmony Auxiliary	18.00
Waynesville Auxiliary	9.00
Willow Springs Auxiliary	.35
TOTAL TO DATE 1/31/78	\$69.35

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT MISSOURI HOME MISSION LOAN FUND