

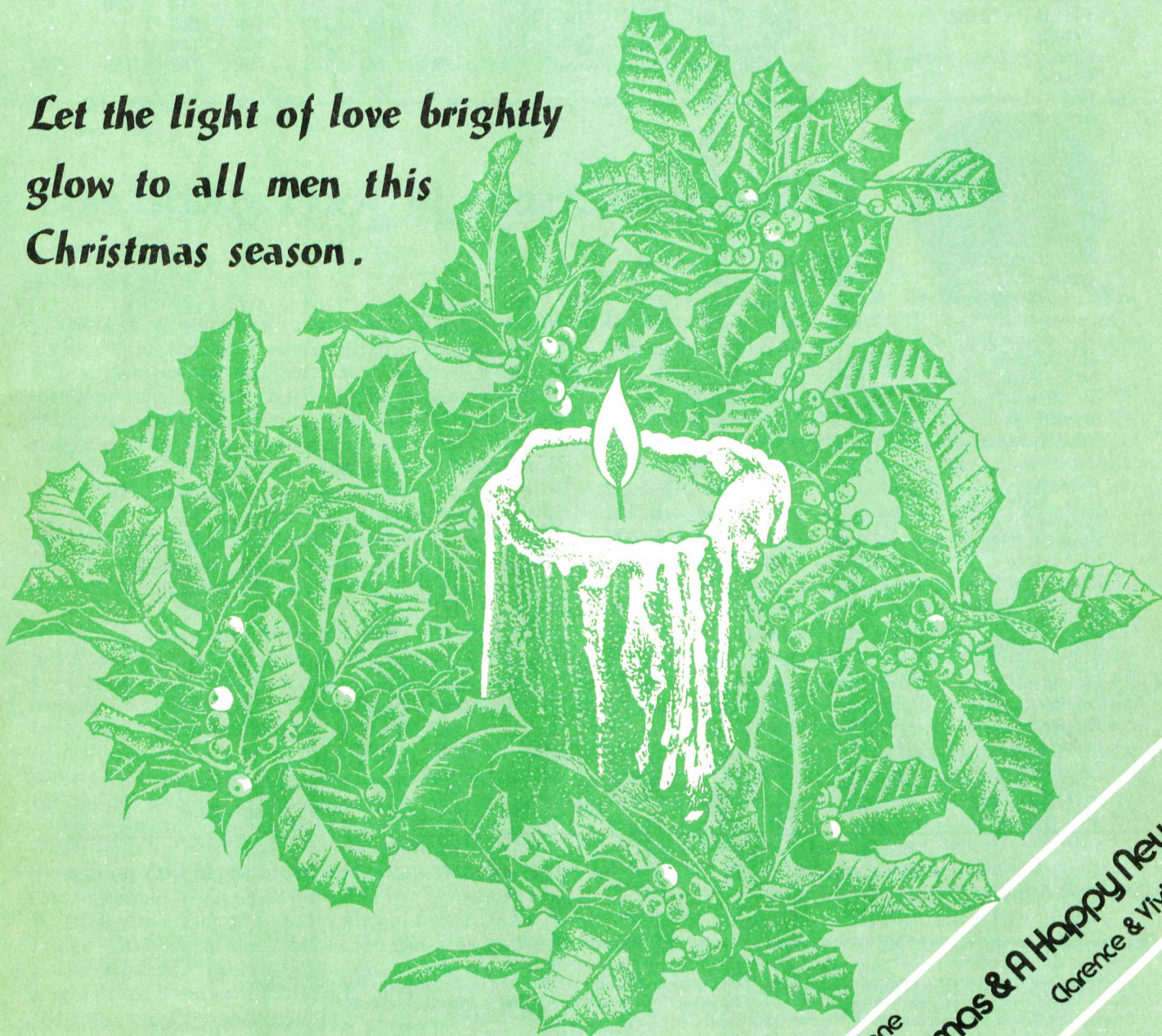
Volume 49, Number 12, December, 1979

Free Will Baptist

GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"

*Let the light of love brightly
glow to all men this
Christmas season.*



To Everyone
A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year
Clarence & Vivian

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1978-79

CHURCH	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JUL.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.
Aulsbury Chapel	77											
Beacon			71	90	105	113	97	89				
Bethel, Festus	112											
Black Oak												
Buffalo	74	66	47	56	76	76	72	68				
Calvary, Conway	99	75	53	67	104	106						
Calvary, Fellowship	93	85	87	110	150	117	105	109	106			
Cape Girardeau	109	105	77	108	95							
Carterville	28											
Cedar Ridge	44											
Columbia	47	44										
Copper Mines	82	79	48	86	82	85	74	80	71	73	73	
Cuba	64											
DeSoto	147	151	153	169								
Faith Chapel	39											
Farmington	434	428	404	420	475	494	444	446	454	455	514	670
Flat River, First	202	188	150	210	214	228	209	188	192	196	202	
Fourth	193	179	142	194	231	187	155	146	157	138	133	
Fredericktown, First						104	109	98	101	98	133	129
Grace												
Grant Avenue	128	106	94									
Gray Summit								14	19			
Happy Home		25	25									
Hannon	79	75	60									
Hartville	77	81	53									
Hazel Creek	61	48	42	43								
Houston					73	75	68	65	67	85		
Hurryville												
Jones Chapel	110	104		101								
Joplin	91	92	75									
Kirksville	135	100	123	119	126	122	144		108	117	127	
Lebanon, First	126	110	98	116	120	125	120	128	101	111		
Macedonia, Ind.												
Marshfield	54	54	51									
Mtn. Grove, First	248	228	161	221	316	266						
Mt. Zion—Cuba	54	50	38	48								
Myrtle												
New Harmony	28											
O'Fallon	89	84										
Parkview						58					52	45
P. G. Anderson	31											
Pleasant Home	65											
Pleasant Ridge, Alton	46	37	26									
Richwoods	31	32	23	23	30	23	35	36	27	35	42	
Rock Chapel	105											
Second, Seymour	53	45										
Sedalia	14											
South Fremont	73											
South Side	98	97	64		131	107	95	91	90	82	83	
Terrill Rd.	38	39	31	26	29	23	15	16	17	18	20	21
Trinity	172	164	158	136	151	170	169	158	136			
Thayer	130	122	83									
Twin Oak	105	84	74	93	80	87	83	82	78	68		
Viburnum	44	49	42	38								
Victory, K. C.	78	63	50	70	94	70	68	75	62	67	60	
Willow Springs	104	87	65		105	98	100	100	100	98	100	98

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

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Clarence Burton, editor

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MIRACLE SUNDAY AT FARMINGTON 906 In Sunday School



On Sunday, October 28, 1979, the First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington, Missouri, had 906 in Sunday school. This broke all records. Reverend James McAllister and the Sunday school and church staff had set a goal of 800 for that Sunday. The goal was exceeded by 106.

The church was in revival services with Reverend Bob Shockey as evangelist that week. A great number of professions of faith and rededications were made during the week, with over 50 decisions being made at the Sunday services.

Editor's note: I asked one of the staff workers how the goal was reached and exceeded. He replied, "Through hard work, prayer, and cooperation." Congratulations to the pastor, Reverend James McAllister, his wife Helen, and the fine Sunday school and church staff. According to my knowledge this is the largest attendance for a Free Will Baptist Sunday school in Missouri.



The Story that Never Grows Old

Luke 2:1-20

There is no story that has so stirred the heart of humanity as the story of the birth of Jesus Christ. Every year as we celebrate in a special way the birthday of our Lord, born of the virgin, Mary, it brings renewed excitement and joy. I suppose the story has been told more than any other story, and yet it is still full of charm. Men tell it in all lands, and they joy over it as if it were an event of yesterday. It is new at every Christmas, and it presents a beautiful opportunity to share the good news of the birth, the life, the death, the resurrection, the ascension, and the coming again of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us note some things about this beautiful, miraculous event. *The place.* The first Christmas service was not held in a church building, nor in a temple or synagogue, but rather out of doors in a building or shed used to shelter cattle.

The woman. Her name was Mary. She had been selected as the woman to give birth to the Christ-Child. The unusual thing concerning the pregnancy of Mary was that she had not conceived of Joseph but of the Holy Spirit of God. This was explained to Mary by the angel Gabriel as to how this would take place. "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS" (Luke 1:31). Then Mary asked the question in verse 34, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" The angel gives the answer in the following verse. "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). I believe this, and every person that has made profession of faith in Christ believes this.

by Clarence Burton



Do I understand all about it? No. I accept it as a miracle of God; I accept it by faith. It is just as simple and profound as that. God said it and I believe it.

The man. His name was Joseph. He knew that Mary had not conceived of him. This is the reason the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream and said, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 1:20). One may read in the two previous verses that Joseph and Mary were engaged and Mary was pregnant.

The Baby. His name was given to Him before He was born: "Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). This is what man and this is what the world needed—a Savior. Someone has written: "The world did not need an advisor, even though Jesus gave proper advice; the world did not need a reformer, even though Jesus brought about some needed reforms; the world did not need an organizer; what the world needed was a Savior." What beautiful words from the angel that announced, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Is He your Savior? If He isn't, it is simply because you have not recognized Him and trusted Him as such. He said, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

If you have never received Him as your Savior, will you do it today? The Golden Text of the Bible states, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

What a wonderful, beautiful Christmas this Christmas will be if you know the Christ of Christmas.

HONOR ONE ANOTHER

by Gil Mertz



There can be no doubt that there are few commands greater than our responsibility to love one another. If God just commanded us to love one another only one time, it would be sufficient to obligate us to obey. However, we can find the command to love one another 16 different times throughout the Bible. Therefore, it is very obvious that God wants to make it perfectly clear to each Christian that we are to love one another.

However, our love becomes just vain and empty words if we do not show it or express it. For example, I can tell my wife that I love her; but I prove it by my actions of support, affection, and care. Without my actions, my words would be hypocritical. God does not only want our words of "I love you" but, more importantly, our actions to prove that claim. We should not only prove our love to God, but also our professed love for one another. Just as God is very clear in His command to love one another, God is also just as clear to us in His Word as to how that love is to be expressed to others in the body of Christ.

For example, our love should be expressed by "submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God" (Ephesians 5:21) or by "pray[ing] one for another" (James 5:16). The Bible says "by love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13); also that we should try to be "likeminded one toward another" (Romans 15:5). A difficult but important way to express our love is to "admonish one another" (Romans 15:14). Other ways that the Bible gives for us to express our love is to be "kindly affectioned one to another" (Romans 12:10); "receive [or accept] ye one another" (Romans 15:7); "bear ye one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2); "be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another" (Ephesians 4:32); and also to "edify one another" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). These are just a few of the many ways that we can and should be expressing the love that we are commanded to have for one another.

One very important and challenging way that we should express our love is found in Romans 12:10b, where we are told, "in honour, preferring one another." Let us consider carefully our obligation to love one another by honoring one another. When we think of honoring someone, we usually think of someone who is famous or has done something great to deserve the honor of others. However, we need to realize just how important and special that each of us are as children of God; and as we do, we can see that we are worthy of the honor of one another.

We should honor one another because each of us has the outstanding privilege of being loved by the highest ruler with authority over any other power in the universe. The Bible refers to us as "the apple of his [God's] eye" (Zechariah 2:8). We are very important people and deserve the honor of one another, in that, each Christian represents a soul for which Jesus

Christ died. The fact that God has seen fit to place His precious Holy Spirit to actually dwell in the body of each believer, should make us want to honor one another. The Christian has access to the greatest power known to mankind through prayer. God has made us joint-heirs with His Son, Jesus, who at this very moment, is preparing us a very special place in Heaven. Imagine, a wonderful home, especially made for us! Although in the eyes of the world, God's children may not be honored as famous or very important. When we see ourselves the way that God sees us and realize all the many wonderful blessings that He has for us, there is no wonder why God tells us to express our love by honoring one another.

To honor one another means to serve others for their good, without expecting anything in return. A good illustration of this is your church piano player. Here is an individual that plays beautifully each week to make the congregational singing sound good. Although we seldom notice the piano player, our singing would be terrible without him. So then, here is a person that serves others to make them sound good without really getting any recognition for his service. This is how our love should be as we honor one another. May we seek to serve others by putting them over us, without any concern for our own recognition. Let us remember the words of our Lord who once said, "But when thou doest alms [or good deeds], let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth; That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly" (Matthew 6:3, 4).

To honor one another means to protect and defend our Christian honor. May we always be anxious to defend the honor of our brothers and sisters against the ugly gossip and rumors that are often spread by the unsaved outside of the church or the hypocrites that are within the church. When we listen to gossip, we make ourselves an accomplice in the attempt to discredit one another. To love one another means to defend the Christian honor of our fellow servants of Jesus Christ.

To honor one another means to uplift others with our words, or compliments. When a famous person is about to be introduced, he is often given many compliments to honor him. Think of the power of a compliment. It doesn't cost a dime to say one, but to the one who receives one, it is priceless. May we be anxious to honor one another by saying nice things to our brothers and sisters. Tell that Sunday school teacher, "You're doing a great job," or tell that singer, "That was a beautiful song." Tell that dear Christian, "I admire your faithfulness," or tell that pastor or deacon, "We're proud of you." Rather than keeping all the nice things you want to say to others bottled up inside of you . . . honor one another by telling others good things to encourage them.

When you compliment someone, you make him feel

(Continued On Next Page)

(Continued From Page 4)

good; but you don't get anything in return, other than the joy and satisfaction that you have made someone very happy. This, of course, will make you very happy. Soon, someone else in the body of Christ will uplift you with a compliment so that you will not only feel good because you have honored someone, but someone else has honored you. If everyone in the church will participate in this Bible command to uplift one another by honoring one another, we cannot help but have a good, healthy, and unified church to do great things for the glory of God!

Jesus taught this divine principle of honoring one another in Matthew 23:11 when He said, "He that is greatest among you shall be your servant." Also, we see it in 1 Peter 5:5: "Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility." The Apostle Paul also teaches us in Philippians 2:3, "in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves." We cannot truly obey the Scripture, "in honor, preferring one another," unless we are willing to humble ourselves below everyone else. So rather than wasting precious time fighting over who is the greatest or most important person in the church, we should try to see who can be the most humble.

Our Lord would not tell us to do something if He was not willing to do it Himself. In John 13:12-15, we see Jesus practicing what He had preached. Here we find God's Son, on His knees, washing the feet of His disciples. What an example of humility and honoring others above yourself! Jesus said, "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you" (John 13:15). May we not only obey the command of God, but also follow the example of Jesus to honor one another in every area of the Christian life.

May each of us strive to honor one another, for when we honor one another, we honor God. If we will

obey this command and cooperate in the body of Christ, we will experience the endless cycle of honoring and being honored by one another through service, defending, uplifting, and encouraging one another. That, my friend, is what love is all about!

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE;

WHERE THERE IS HATRED, . . . LET ME SOW LOVE,

WHERE THERE IS INJURY, . . . PARDON,

WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, . . . FAITH,

WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, . . . HOPE,

WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS, . . . LIGHT,

WHERE THERE IS SADNESS, . . . JOY,

OH DIVINE MASTER, GRANT THAT I MAY NOT SO MUCH SEEK

TO BE CONSOLED, . . . AS TO CONSOLE,

TO BE UNDERSTOOD . . . AS TO UNDERSTAND,

TO BE LOVED, . . . AS TO LOVE,

FOR . . .

IT IS IN GIVING, . . . THAT WE RECEIVE,

IT IS IN FORGIVING, . . . THAT WE ARE FORGIVEN,

IT IS IN DYING, . . . THAT WE ARE BORN UNTO ETERNAL LIFE!

—St. Francis of Assissi

About the writer: Reverend Gil Mertz is serving as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kirksville, Missouri. Before entering the ministry Brother Mertz served in various capacities: youth director, bus director, and other related ministries. He is one of the fine young preachers in the state and is involved in the state work.

Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

Should a pastor be concerned about denominational programs? Years ago a well-known Free Will Baptist preacher told me he considered denominational support the last priority. I don't agree. I owe a great deal to Free Will Baptists. I was raised in a Free Will Baptist home; saved in a Free Will Baptist church; my Bible teaching came from the Free Will Baptist denomination; God called me to preach while attending a Free Will Baptist church; and He has given me a place to preach for more than twenty years in a Free Will Baptist church. I am debtor to my denomination.

Thus, I believe I should support the cooperative program of denominational support. I have organized four churches, and all supported the co-op plan. I have pastored two other churches in the state, and both support the co-op plan. It works and I believe in it.

I also am dedicated to extra support beyond the

co-op plan. We use the faith promise plan of support, give each fifth Sunday offering to denominational ministries, and put various ministries into the church budget. Thus, our offerings have grown along with our numerical growth, and our denominational giving averages over 25% of our total offerings.

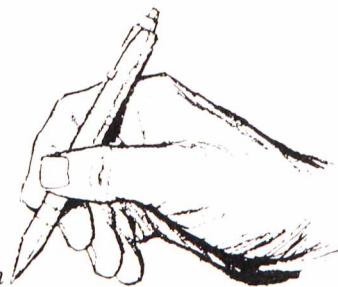
By designating the fifth Sunday offerings, we are assured of having at least four special programs each year. During a given year we will have a representation from the Foreign Missions Department, the National Home Missions Department, the Free Will Baptist Bible College, and Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College. These departments are happy to send a representative because they know they will get a good offering.

God has blessed our church in many spiritual and physical ways, and I am convinced that much of this is due to the fact that God can trust our stewardship.



From the Desk of the Promotional Secretary

by Clarence Burton



As I was reading Psalm 19:1, I thought of October. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." The Lord has given Missouri a good share of His handywork. It is a beautiful state and I might add with beautiful people.

My first trip in October was to be with the Cave Springs Quarterly Meeting which convened with the Koshkonong Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting was well attended with Reverend Joe Garrison and the host church extending a warm welcome and serving a delicious dinner. The messages at the morning worship were delivered by Reverend Allen Sanders and Reverend David Honeycutt. These young preachers warmed our hearts. Reverend James Lee Reed did a fine job as moderator. The next day, Sunday, I was with Reverend and Mrs. Kent Tallent and the friendly folks at the Buffalo Free Will Baptist Church. This was Miracle Sunday. What a Sunday—the tithes and offerings totaled over \$2,000.00! I enjoyed a good time of fellowship over a delicious dinner with Kent, Kay, and Norman and Lil Tallent. (Kay is quite a cook!) The following Friday evening I was scheduled to be with the Greater Springfield Quarterly Association but was unable to because of illness.

The Southeast District Association met with Reverend and Mrs. Ken Beavers and the New Hope Free Will Baptist Church, near Fredericktown. We welcome Ken and Robin and children to our state. Everyone enjoyed the sweet fellowship and the delicious dinner. Reverend John Rogers delivered a very challenging message at the worship hour. The next Sunday, October 14, I was with the Happy Hill Free Will Baptist Church and Reverend and Mrs. Gary Sheets. I appreciate the fellowship of these folks. That Sunday evening I was with Reverend and Mrs. Dan Talbot and the friendly folks at the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church. This was a special service with Reverend and Mrs. Tom Owens. They are doing itinerant work in preparation for a Free Will Baptist church in Branson, Missouri. The service was informative and challenging. I believe the Lord will use Tom and Mary in establishing a church in Branson.

The promotional department sponsored an All-Boards Meeting at the Youth Camp on October 15th and 16th. The response was great and it served an effective purpose. It was decided to have another one next year. The date is October 20, 21, 1980.

It was my privilege to serve as evangelist for a revival meeting with the First Free Will Baptist Church in Flat River, Missouri. The Lord blessed

with professions of faith and rededications. I enjoyed preaching and the fellowship of Reverend and Mrs. Goff, the children, and the church family. The fellowship was sweet, and it was evident that a spirit of revival was there before the services began. Brother Goff was admitted to the hospital with a kidney stone attack. We trust the Lord's special blessings for him. Something special happened to my family during the revival. On October 23, 1979, the Lord blessed with a beautiful granddaughter. John and Terri are the proud parents. (You may want to ask me about her when you have time.)

On Friday, October 26, I was with the Northeast District Association for a Bible conference. It was a privilege to be with Reverend and Mrs. Gil Mertz. Brother Mertz is a former pastor in the Lebanon, Missouri, area and a former employee of the Lebanon Bible Bookstore. Gil is one of the fine young preachers the Lord has blessed our state with. I always enjoy being with the preachers, their families, and the friendly folks of the Northeast Association. That is beautiful country. The next day I was with the St. Louis District Association that was hosted by Reverend and Mrs. Philip Jones and the Bethel Church. These folks expressed real Christian hospitality and served a delicious dinner. We welcome to our state Reverend and Mrs. Jones and their children. Reverend Jerry Norris, moderator, handled the business and the program in a very effective manner. Reverend Tom Owens gave a strong challenge for the work in Branson, Missouri, and preached a fine message.

The month ended on a record-breaking event. I was with the First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington, Missouri, with my camera for some *Gem* pictures the last Sunday in October. The goal set was 800 in Sunday school. The goal was exceeded! The pastor, Reverend James McAllister, said, "We didn't have 800. We had over 800." The Lord blessed with 906! Congratulations to Brother McAllister, his wife Helen, and the fine staff of Sunday school and church workers.

The Lord blessed in October. We thank Him for this. The cooperative receipts reflect a love and concern from our pastors and churches. May the Lord bless every dollar that is given that it shall be used to glorify Him. Please continue to remember these ministries in your prayers. Please send all checks to Missouri State Association, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536. Retirement Center checks should be made payable to Missouri State Retirement Center. The others should be made payable to Missouri State Association.

Pastor, Forgive Us, Please

Editor's note: This article was written by one of the *Gem* readers. It was sent to me for publication. At the request of the writer, the name is withheld.

We failed you, pastor, and in failing you, we failed God. We pray that you will forgive and that the Lord will forgive, also. Our hearts are grieved, and deep is the guilt and remorse as the Holy Spirit revealed this failure. Our hearts bow humbly at the feet of God's anointed; feet that carried your tired but dedicated body, aged before its time, health impaired because of long hours (but no union spokesman to fight for better pay, better working conditions, and better benefits).

Our burden and our sorrows became yours, and our erring children became yours. You took the time to help with our marital problems, and God forgive us for our bickering and gossiping that took your precious time away from reaching lost souls to act as mediator for supposedly mature Christians.

Your precious family suffered loneliness while we kept you on the run all day long and on the phone all evening. God never puts more upon you than you can bear, but we did. Well, the Great Shepherd led you from us and has given you another flock; another church to serve. Now they shall have the opportunity to be led down paths of righteousness, through straight preaching. Our loss is their gain.

Our sin was not that of loving you, pastor. We did that. We loved you and yours next to God. Our sin was one of neglect and ignorance. We failed to see that your wife shopped at the same stores as we, and paid the same prices as we did. We failed to see that your furniture wore out; you had dental and doctor bills just the same as we. You served as preacher, teacher, counselor, adviser, and janitor. (We had too much to do to clean the church, and we had our own obligations.) You did many other chores too numerous to mention. Yet we paid you the salary of an untrained, illiterate worker.

TO THE CHURCH: Have you thanked God for a pastor that is leading you in growth, in leading unsaved to Christ? How fortunate to have such a pastor. Are you aware of this blessing? If so, check your pastor's salary; compare the hours of his responsibility with your job. He is God's anointed, and he has been placed there to lead and serve you as you become involved in living a dedicated, committed life for the Lord. God has placed your pastor in the most responsible job anyone could possibly hold. See that you respect this position. You may say—we give him a salary and parsonage. Yes, the parsonage is a part of his salary. Where will he live when he reaches the age of retirement? But even more than his salary, you need to watch over him and his family. See that he has time with them. They need him, too. Then, don't use your church financial report as scratch paper. Read it. Be aware of what's going on. Insist on your pastor's needs being met. The secret of success is being involved. God will bless.

Essentials of Evangelism

by Stanley E. Jones

It has been said that in our day, we have substituted "planning" for "praying." This may be true when it comes to evangelism. If we would examine our activity, we might find more time being given to the "method" instead of the "message." Or perhaps, more time promoting the "purse" instead of the "Person," Jesus Christ. While the purpose of this article is not to underestimate preparation and planning for evangelism, it is hoped that proper importance be placed, once again, on the need for praying.

Habakkuk's prayer in Habakkuk 3:2 gives us one of the best guides to follow as we pray for revival.

"O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy" (Habakkuk 3:2).

His prayer for revival was the result of hearing God's Word. While promotion and rallies are good, they are limited. In fact, they are only good as their program is centered around the Word of God. Nothing can challenge and stir the hearts of men like the Word. Men are caused to pray for revival as the warnings and wonders of the Word are sounded loud and clear. Men see their responsibility before God as they behold the Christ revealed in the Word of God. It is as we compare the existing needs of our world with the Bible that men begin to pray, "... I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O Lord revive thy work ..."

Habakkuk prayed for three things. He prayed first of all, "... O Lord, revive thy work ..." Revive whose work? The Lord's work. The work of evangelizing the world through the church is the work of God. I have the weakness of sometimes praying that God would bless *my* work of evangelism. But, it is not mine; it's His. Referring to God's work of redemption, the psalmist declared, "This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes" (Psalm 118:23). When we pray for revival, let us pray for the advancement of His kingdom and not ours.

Second, Habakkuk prayed for God to "... make known; ..." We need to pray for a revival that would provide a fresh revealing of Christ to ourselves and to the world.

Third, he prayed "... in wrath remember mercy." Our prayer for revival should be saturated with our petitions for the mercy of God. In light of the sin of man, His wrath is sure and just. We need an evangelistic stir that will cause men to beg the mercy of God.

Let us always include praying in our plans for evangelism. Remember, God does not answer plans for revival but rather, prayers for revival.

CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Fiftieth Anniversary at Merl's Chapel

The Merl's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Cassville, Missouri, celebrated its 50th Anniversary, November 11, 1979. The church enjoyed revival services the preceding week with special music by the Durbin Family and Reverend Lloyd Durbin serving as the evangelist. Reverend Lloyd Jeffreys is the pastor. A basket dinner was enjoyed at the anniversary service.

Love Loaf at Hannon

The church reporter from the Hannon Free Will Baptist Church writes, "World Vision International has proved a blessing to Hannon Church. The idea was planted at an auxiliary meeting and started to take shape at the Missouri State Meeting at Berkeley. Mr. Malcolm Eudaley was contacted and agreed to come to Hannon on July 15th to present his program and get us started on our Love Loaf Project. The date to break our loaves was set for the evening of October 14th.

We had twenty-eight loaves with an offering of \$415.80. Following the service we retired to the fellowship room for the refreshments of bread (2 ft. loaves) and sandwich material prepared by our pastor and his wife, Reverend & Mrs. Bob Dickey. Then we had a wrapping good time. Over 3,800 pennies were wrapped.

Our church is a rural church, and God has blessed us with a bountiful harvest this year. With World Vision we feel we have shared our blessings and have helped spread the gospel and feed some hungry children. We as Free Will Baptists are very proud of the work Brother Stanley Mooneyham is doing.



Breaking the love loaves at Hannon.

Homecoming at Hopewell

Church reporter, Eva Marie Glor, writes, "Homecoming for Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church was

held in July with a large number attending the all-day service. Sunday school and the regular morning worship services were followed with a basket dinner and an afternoon program. The program included special singing, church history, and recognition of former pastors. A special tribute was given Reverend Milan Ruble who had resigned after three years as pastor. An oil painting by a local artist was presented to him and his family in appreciation for their work. Former pastors present were Reverend Curtis Wilson and Reverend Grover Terry."

Baptismal services were held in July and October at the Little Niangua River.

Members from Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church go at regular intervals throughout the year for Sunday afternoon services at Chastains' Health Care Center at Buffalo. It is a blessing to be able to worship and visit with these residents.

During the month of December, members will be busy with Christmas activities which will include a Christmas program, caroling, and preparing Christmas trays of fruit, candy, and baked items for shut-ins and those unable to attend church regularly.

Reverend Tony Butcher was called as pastor of the church in August. Reverend and Mrs. Butcher and their son, Mike, are a blessing to our church family.

Overland Church Celebrates Twenty-fourth Year and Honors Pastor

Miriam Wilhite, church reporter, writes, "On October 8, 1955, the St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting Executive Board Members, Reverend Rolla Smith, Reverend Bill Turnbough, and Deacon Frank David met with the Wellston Mission to organize it into a church and to ordain its Pastor, Reverend Harry Asher, to the gospel ministry. In 1959 the church purchased the property at 9440 W. Milton and changed her name to Overland Free Will Baptist Church. In 1967 a new building 45' by 90' was erected with an \$80,000.00 bond issue. In just twelve months the church will be debt free, having paid off in 20 years \$130,000.00. Current value of the property is approximately \$400,000.00. Hundreds have been saved through the ministry of the church. Several ministers have been called from the church, and some of them are pastoring great churches today."

On October 28, 1979, the Overland Church celebrated its anniversary by presenting Brother Asher with a plaque commemorating his service at the church. He and Sister Asher were presented a boutonniere and corsage of white gardenias. The plaque was presented by our Sunday school superintendent, Brother Bob Loyd, and the corsages was presented by Sister Beulah Logan, one of our charter members. The Revelators blessed our hearts with their singing. Brother Asher's messages were truly anointed by the Spirit of God. There were rededications at the altar, and one young couple joined the church. Following the evening services we had home-made ice cream and cake. It was a truly great day in the Lord.

We are grateful for God's hand upon us at the church and for the 31 additions to the church since January 1, most of whom are very active in the work of the church. We ask for your prayers for our continued growth.



Rev. Vernon Long and wife Ada.

The Vernon Long Family, natives of Missouri, are now serving as home missionaries to Jackson, Tennessee. The Longs are from the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Festus, Missouri, where Brother Long served as a deacon and was active in the St. Louis District Quarterly Meeting. After surrendering his life to the full-time ministry, Brother Long attended his first year of college in St. Louis and then the Longs moved to Nashville, Tennessee. After completing his final three years of college at the Free Will Baptist Bible College, they moved to Portsmouth, Virginia, where Brother Long served as associate pastor to Rev. Jack Stallings at the Collinswood Free Will Baptist Church. Brother Long also taught part-time at the Gateway Bible College in Virginia Beach, Virginia, while ministering in the Tidewater area of Virginia.

The Tennessee State Home Mission Board, at the request of the church in Jackson, took the work over due to the financial obligations they were unable to meet. The church had been without a pastor since January of this year, and the attendance was down to basically two families. The Tennessee Mission Board contacted the Longs about coming up and serving in Jackson, and after visiting the church and much prayer the Longs felt that God was directing them to Jackson. The metropolitan area of the city of Jackson has a population of over 73,000, and the church is located in the fastest growing residential area of Jackson. They have a church and a parsonage on 3½ acres on Highway 45, just a mile and a quarter North of Interstate 40.

The National Home Missions Department is working with the Tennessee Mission Board in a joint project at Jackson. The Longs have a burden for the work in Jackson, as well as other areas in the western part of Tennessee where there are very few Free Will Baptists churches. They ask that you share in their burden by your prayers and support. If you can send an offering for their general account or support them on a regular monthly basis, it will be used to help reach the many lost people in Jackson, Tennessee. If you desire to be on their mailing list to receive their newsletter, you may contact the Longs at: 3007 Humboldt Highway, Jackson, TN 38301, or request to be placed on their mailing list by contacting the National Home Missions office in Nashville.



HILLSDALE HIGHLIGHTS

It is November and our fall semester will soon be coming to a close. It has been a good semester with very few problems. The students have been great. As you recall the enrollment was down this fall; however, it looks at this point that the spring semester will show an increase. Several new students are planning to come to Hillsdale for the spring semester. Pray with us about the enrollment.

Finances have been good this semester. In October we received just over \$20,000.00 in gifts. This lacks about \$5,000.00 to meet our needs. Please continue to respond. The "Something Special" Christmas offering should boost our income somewhat. I know that many individuals and churches are planning to participate in this offering.

Dates to Remember

Rock-a-thon	February 22, 23
Bible Conference	February 25, 26, 27
Arkansas Teen Retreat	April 11, 12
Missouri Teen Retreat	April 18, 19
Hillsdale "On Campus Days"	April 25, 26

God will honor your gifts and your prayer support.

SPRING SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCED

An all-new enlargement campaign for this spring, entitled BRINGING FORTH FRUIT, has been developed to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Sunday school. Thankfulness for the past blessing of God upon the Sunday school as well as a desire to be fruitful in the present by working in the Sunday school are major emphases of the campaign.

The campaign theme is based on Jesus' teaching of the vine and the branches in John 15:5 where He states, "... He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." The challenge is clear, we as Christians are to be fruitful. If individual Christians are fruitful, which they will be as they abide in Christ, then the Sunday school will be fruitful as well. As Sunday school teachers and pupils pray, study the Word, and work together for the Lord, fruitfulness is the promised result!

March is Spring Enlargement Campaign time for the Sunday school. During the five week campaign,

Sunday schools will be arranged in accordance with the following table for competitive purposes.

- Division A over 500 average
- Division B 400-500 average
- Division C 300-399 average
- Division D 200-299 average
- Division E 150-199 average
- Division F 100-149 average
- Division G 50-99 average
- Division H under 49 average

The Spring Enlargement Campaign will begin on Sunday, March 2, and will continue through Sunday, March 30, 1980. Sunday schools in each division who experience the greatest percentage of gain over the thirteen weeks' average attendance for September-October-November, 1979 will be declared winners and awarded appropriate trophies denoting first and second place.

THE PRESENT SIZE OF YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL DOES NOT HINDER YOU FROM BEING ELIGIBLE TO WIN IN YOUR DIVISION. Campaign materials are available from the Sunday School and Church Training Department.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—A Vocal Ensemble from Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, will hold two services in Missouri, December 8 and 9.

The ensemble will sing at the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church, 2199 Forest Avenue, St. Louis, on Saturday, December 8. Rev. Leroy Blakenship is the pastor.

On Sunday morning, December 9, the ensemble will be at the Calvary Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, 1811 North Highway 141, Fenton. The pastor is Rev. Jerry Norris.



MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING OCTOBER 1979

Farmington	\$177.00
Union Light	174.00
Pleasant Ridge	150.00
Bailey Chapel	110.85
Fredericktown	45.04
Oak Hill—Fredericktown	80.00
New Hope	33.72
Twin Oaks	283.79
Mill Creek	105.00
Branson Mission	7.55
Grace	25.00
Fellowship	20.00
Hannon	246.00
Olivet	100.00
Nat'l. Home Missions	5.00
Oak Hill—Union	18.00
Sedalia	92.50
Houston	52.25
Ethel Pirtle	2.00

Hazel Creek	10.00
Lebanon, First	34.00
Columbia	5.00
Pleasant Ridge—Urbana	10.00
Flat River, First	100.00
Mt. Vernon	20.00
New Harmony	21.33
O'Fallon	79.34
Terrill Road	6.28
Thayer	3.00
Fourth	39.80
Grant Avenue	30.00
Co-op. Receipts	2,287.95
Fordland	5.00
Myrtle	33.09
Cuba	13.25
Total	\$4,425.74

Secretary-Treasurer
Rev. Lawrence Thompson
555 Columbia
St. Clair, Mo. 63077

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING October 1979

HOME MISSIONS

Flat River, First	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana	\$10.00
General Fund	\$10.00
Mtn. Grove, First	\$54.00
General Fund	\$54.00
Columbia	\$5.00
General Fund	\$5.00
Fordland	\$23.00
Branson	\$23.00
Terrill Road	\$4.85
General Fund	\$4.85
New Harmony SS	\$21.91
Moberly	\$21.91
Thayer	\$2.00
General Fund	\$2.00
Buffalo	\$25.00
Branson	\$25.00
Lebanon, First	\$76.00
General Fund	\$76.00
Beacon	\$101.50
Branson	\$101.50
Grant Avenue	\$31.00
Branson	\$31.00
Joplin	\$7.00
General Fund	\$7.00
Total	\$461.26

MO. STATE YOUTH CAMP

October 1979	
Mt. Pisgah	\$5.00
New Rock Springs	\$10.00
Monett	\$30.00
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana	\$10.00
Hartville	\$10.00
Clark & Clobell Deeds	\$25.00
Thayer	\$10.00
Flat River, First	\$20.00
Lebanon, First	\$200.00
Willow Springs	\$10.00
Total	\$330.00

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

Monett	\$12.03
Mtn. Grove, First	\$75.00
Lebanon, First	\$75.00
Grant Avenue	\$8.00
Willow Springs	\$10.00
Total	\$180.03

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Columbia (MO Project)	\$15.00
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Joplin	\$29.00
Library—MO Project	\$25.00
General Fund	\$4.00
Lebanon, First (MO Project)	\$75.00
Grant Avenue (Gen. Fund)	\$10.00
Total	\$129.00

BOB CARR ACCOUNT

Merl's Chapel	\$43.00
Grant Avenue	\$10.00
Total	\$53.00

GREENEVILLE CHILDREN'S HOME

Myrtle	\$4.33
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RETIREMENT FUND

Grant Avenue	\$1.00
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NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Mt. Pisgah	\$105.00
Bowers	\$70.00
Vandivort	35.00
Columbia	\$15.00
Vandivort	\$15.00
Monett	\$53.00
General Fund	\$33.00
Bob Thomas	5.00
Howard Bowers	15.00
Flat River, First	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
Joplin	\$12.00
General Fund	\$12.00
Oak Hill	\$23.55
General Fund	\$23.55
Olivet	\$15.00
Vergel Maness	\$15.00
Mtn. Grove, First	\$174.00
H. Bowers	\$121.00
General Fund	14.00
Vandivort	39.00
Rock Chapel	\$20.00
H. Bowers	\$20.00
Leadington	\$600.00
H. Bowers	\$600.00
Fordland	\$23.00
Vergel Maness	\$3.00
H. Bowers	20.00
Clark & Clobell Deeds	\$25.00
H. Bowers	\$25.00
Bethel, Festus	\$114.44
Vernon Long	\$109.44
B. Adkisson	5.00
Thayer	\$70.00
H. Bowers	\$70.00
Wolf Creek	\$20.00
Vandivort	\$15.00
H. Bowers	5.00
Leadington	\$10.00
H. Bowers	\$10.00
Lebanon, First	\$75.00
H. Bowers	\$25.00
V. Maness	25.00
Vandivort	25.00
Grant Avenue	\$63.00
H. Bowers	\$55.00
Cochrane	2.00
Vandivort	6.00
Total	\$1,517.99

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Columbia	\$136.29
Filkins	\$32.29
C. Tallent	20.00
J. McLain	35.00
L. Miley	40.00

General Fund	4.00
Pinkerton	5.00
Aulsbury Chapel	\$100.00
Fulcher	\$25.00
Pinkerton	50.00
General Fund	25.00
Monett	\$98.00
General Fund	\$48.00
J. Banks	50.00
Joplin	\$94.00
L. Sparks	\$4.00
Caton	14.00
Banks	16.00
Cousineau	45.00
Fulcher	10.00
McLain	5.00
South Side	\$175.00
C. Tallent	\$175.00
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana	\$20.00
General Fund	\$10.00
J. McLain	10.00
Oak Hill	\$37.22
L. Miley	\$5.00
General Fund	32.22
Hannon	\$123.00
J. Pinkerton	\$25.00
S. Lytle	25.00
C. Tallent	25.00
Fulcher	25.00
C. Hanna	23.00
Olivet	\$45.00
B. Poole	\$25.00
J. Pinkerton	10.00
McLain	10.00
Mtn. Grove, First	\$188.00
General Fund	\$128.00
M. Cousineau	60.00
Kirksville	\$31.00
J. Pinkerton	\$31.00
Leadington	\$70.00
H. Filkins	\$70.00
Fordland	\$28.00
C. Tallent	\$28.00
Beacon	\$258.88
H. Filkins	\$253.88
Eagleton	5.00
New Harmony SS	\$43.82
L. Miley	\$22.91
J. McLain	22.91
Thayer	\$5.00
J. Pinkerton	\$5.00
Walnut Grove	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
Buffalo	\$5.00
J. Banks	\$5.00
West Plains, First	\$50.00
General Fund	\$50.00
Lebanon, First	\$121.00
C. Morgan	\$22.50
C. Tallent	13.50
J. Pinkerton	35.00
C. Hanna	12.50
S. Lytle	12.50
J. McLain	12.50
H. Filkins	12.50
Grant Avenue	\$406.37
Sexton	\$40.00
Filkins	181.37
Pinkerton	95.00
Hersey	90.00
Merl's Chapel	\$120.25
Bishop	\$34.75
Filkins	50.00
Sparks	35.50
Black Oak	\$60.25
C. Hanna	\$60.25
Mt. Zion, Gower	\$25.00
S. Lytle	\$25.00
Fourth	\$98.00
S. Lytle	\$98.00
Total	\$2,349.08

Woman's Page



Shirley Bowden, editor

OPEN LETTER

Dear Women in Missouri,

We read in the *GEM* that the Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary had adopted a \$1,500 project, "Mary McLain, Back to School." Thank you so much for the generous project.

As you no doubt have already read in *HEART-BEAT*, the Lord provided more than we had thought possible. When we were at the Foreign Missions' office, just before going to Mr. Critcher's office to decide on the best correspondence course to order, we were handed a letter from Christian Academy in Japan. The letter informed us that someone wanted to help a needy student, and they were giving a two-year scholarship—room, board, tuition, travel money home on school vacation included. The school offered this to Mary for her two years left in high school. So instead of correspondence, she is enjoying school with friends and all the activities that go along with school. BUT, we can still use the money. We have been amazed at how fast things have moved since we returned in July. We have rented a house to use for classes and meetings in an area where we had had some classes before furlough. The Bishops had kept these classes going the two years we were away. We are working with Ben Abe, a young man from the church here who is dedicated to the work of the Lord. He has studied at Hillsdale, graduated from college here in Japan, and has done one year of graduate work at Columbia Bible College. We have been having Sunday afternoon services for a month now. Last Sunday, a Sunday afternoon Sunday school was initiated with the help of the Airin Chapel young people, and we had 53 children attend. We also have adult English classes on Wednesday mornings and Thursday nights with these beginning contacts we have started. Of course, it takes money to get set up, pay utilities, etc. Our offerings are not big yet. Next spring a building will be built for our use very near the place we have rented now.

Our biggest need is *PRAYER*. We can teach, we can invite, but only the Lord can touch hearts and convict them of sin. Pray with us. The opportunity before us is exciting, and we want to see the Lord work in a great way.

Thank you again. The women of Missouri have been very faithful over the years we have been in Japan, and we know we can continue to count on them.

In Christian Love,
Jim and Olena McLain

The McLain's address is:
Jim McLain
Tsukisamu, Nishi 1-8, 6-19
Toyohira ku, Sapporo
Hokkaido, Japan 062

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS October, 1979

18.50%	Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,984.56
16.00%	Promotional Department	2,581.24
4.50%	General Fund	725.97
5.50%	Youth Camp	887.31
2.00%	Christian Board of Ed., MBI	322.65
2.00%	Sunday School and CTS	322.65
5.00%	Retirement Program	806.64
5.00%	Retirement Center	806.64
2.00%	Possible Purchase of Ret. Unit	322.65
60.50%		
6.00%	Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	967.96
11.00%	Foreign Missions	1,774.61
8.00%	Free Will Baptist Bible College	1,290.63
6.00%	Executive Department	967.96
6.00%	Nat'l. Home Mis. and Church Ex.	967.96
2.00%	Nat'l. Board of Ret. and Ins.	322.65
.25%	Layman's Board	40.33
.25%	Theological Commission	40.33
33.50%		
	Total Disbursements	\$16,132.74

The Lord has blessed with another wonderful month! We thank Him with a heart full of praise. May He bless every effort that is expressed in this unified plan of support—cooperative giving.