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**Free Will Baptist**

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# GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"





# SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1981-82

CHURCHES	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.
Bethel	103	80	92	98	121	105	101	108	109	97	93	98
Buffalo	49	40	50	50								
Calvary, Conway	89	73	75									
Calvary, Fellowship	179	172	141	149	232							
Central	86	84	97	109	108	89	76	85	101	109	104	100
Copper Mines	75	60	68	71	77	81						
Cuba	66	52	70	69	62	69	71	65	73	78	83	87
DeSoto	154	136	158	158	174	157	136	148	144			
Farmington	686	608	671	744	765	670	646	624	679	697	745	779
Flat River, First	196	136	187	209	215	186	179	150	176	181		
Fourth	113	80	102	105	92	90						
Fredericktown	143	121	140	159	191	204		168	169	173	194	184
Grace	212	170	185	267	197	160	157	143	167	195		
Grant Avenue	157	146	149	168	169	156	148	150	166	172	158	168
Hannon	84	78	98	102	103	88	93					
Harmony, K.C.	63	60	74	108	94	75	72	58	62	64	64	58
Hartville	89	72	86	95	94	92	90	94	91	93		
Houston	59	51	57	101	80	62	72	61	61	61	61	65
Monett		121	148	152	168	152	143	125		143		
Marshfield	65	49	66	71	61	65	67	53	60	59	59	
Myrtle	50	44	50	50	59	58	45	59	50	45	52	41
Neosho												78
O'Fallon	74	72	51	54	51	50	53	54	53	68	67	62
Parkview	57	50	59	58	56	55	55	45	45	47	47	40
Richwoods	35	26	26	44	66	60	50	54	48	45	51	54
Terrill Road											49	
Thayer	162	134	149									
Twin Oak	78											
United, West Plains	72	59	69	75	79		82	85	81	91	80	79
Victory, K.C.	67	60	71	90	75	77	75	69	80	70		
Willow Springs	107	77	90	91	90	98	94	97	102	91	101	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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# Building God's Church Through His Saving Grace

by Jim McAllister

Scripture: Matthew 16:18, "And I say unto Thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

The subject before us suggests an obligation that is required of each one of us. That is, building God's church. This church is to be built through His sovereign grace; His sanctifying grace; His stabilizing grace; and the message for tonight, we must build through His Saving Grace. This speaks of evangelism. This refers to the primary task of the church-winning the lost to Jesus. This reminds us of the purpose for which our blessed Lord came to this world—to seed and to save that which was lost.

Let's note three things connected with my subject. They are: the mission, the Master, and the method.

First we shall observe the mission or the building. This requires four ingredients. The first ingredient is the vision or the plans. Jesus said, "look on the fields." The second ingredient is the material or supplies. Again, Jesus said, "the fields are white already to harvest." The third is the laborers. Paul the apostle said, "For we are labourers together. . . ." The fourth is the labor. The Bible states in Ephesians 4:12, ". . . for the work of the ministry . . ." and in 1 Corinthians 16:10, "Now if Timotheus come, see that he may be with you without fear: for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do."

Therefore, we can see that building involves several aspects: spiritual, numerical, doctrine, fellowship, and also the physical.

Second, we shall observe the Master of the building. It is necessary to recognize that the church is not our church; it is His church. The Bible states in 1 Corinthians 1:2 that is "the church of God," in Ephesians 5:23 that "Christ is the head of the church," and in Ephesians 5:24 that "the church is subject unto Christ." It is the mission of all God's children to build the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, and we labor with Him in fulfilling this task.

Third, may I direct your attention to the method. How do we build His church? Communism has reached over two billion people in less than one hundred years. Mr. Moon has reached hundreds of thousands in a little over a decade. But we are reaching so few. One of the primary reasons we reach

so few and grow so little is because few folks have a basic deep-down belief that church growth is a prerogative. Before any denomination can experience any great growth, it must believe that growth is God's will and therefore non-growth is sin. Before any church can see any real lasting numerical growth, the membership must really believe that growth is God's will and non-growth is a sin. Growth is not a choice; it is a mandate. The natural result of a union of a husband and wife will be the birth of children. Anything contrary to that would not be natural. That is only one reason why homosexuality is a sin against the entire plan of God for marriage. It is expected that when a man and woman unite in holy matrimony that children will be born.

It is natural and it is expected that when Jesus Christ is united with His Bride, the church, sons and daughters will be born. Anything else will be contrary to spiritual and Biblical nature. I don't know about you, but anyone who says anything otherwise smacks of Biblical ignorance to me. I don't like to hear or read any article by the do-nothing crowd attacking those who happen to believe growth is God's mandate to the church.

Now the methods of building His church include the act of evangelism. That is, the all-out effort by the church body and the clergy to reach the unreached, to find the lost, and to care for the careless. The church must be hyper-evangelistic. The church must teach; the church must train; the church must fellowship, but the church will find that it is a failure if it does not evangelize. The only way sons and daughters can be legitimately born into the family of God is for the church to win them through concentrated efforts of evangelism, both through personal and by mass efforts.

Now we have seen the mission—building; we have seen the Master—God's church; and we have seen the method—evangelism. Now let us note the means—saving grace. Jesus came to seek and to save. "Saving" suggests a need—a desperate and demanding need. That need is a need each one has—the need to be saved. If we are not saved, we are lost; if we are not saved, we will perish. The church and clergy will never see the desperation behind the words of our Lord, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost," until they see that saving man is the only hope for his eternity. Saving man is the



primary and greatest work of the church. By reading some of the church bulletins, one would think that eschatology, teaching about the Holy Spirit, and the deeper life are the most important tasks of the church. In other bulletins you would think that ball games, bowling, and fishing are the great ministries of the church. Then, there are others that indicate that fellowship, ordinances, and doctrines are the main thrust of the church. In some of our Free Will Baptist churches, one would think that fighting, fussing, and feuding are the important things.

No matter how important any or all of these things are, the first and great work of the church is seeking and saving those that are lost. The Bible states in 1 John 5:19, "The whole world lieth in wickedness." So the "means" that is first, and makes the room for all the rest, is soul winning. Evangelism must occur first before any of these other methods can be utilized. "Saving," that word passes into nothingness without the accompanying word and work of grace. We know that grace is all the work of God. It is totally unmerited by us. It is undeserved and unearned. This grace is bestowed on the sinner in at least three ways. The first, by Christ's death on the cross and all that that involves. The second, by the searching, convicting, and converting ministry of God. The third, by the filling and keeping ministry of God. Hours could be spent on that area of God's saving grace as it is imparted to the sinner. But we must see God's saving grace as necessary to all with us in the building of His church. These areas are obvious as we consider the grace of God bestowed to assist us in our efforts to labor with Him and for Him in building His church.

There are four things I want to mention. The first thing I want us to note is His holy pattern. If you want to see the pattern of our Lord, look at John 4. We can see the perfect pattern for leading a person to salvation. There is the divine compulsion, "... He must needs go through Samaria ..." A divine challenge, "Call thy husband, and come hither..." A divine confession, "... I am he ..." and a definitive conclusion, "... Is not this the Christ?" You see, Jesus brought this woman to a definite decision to accept His salvation. We must follow the same pattern.

Then second, I want us to note His holy power. In Acts 4:33 we read that "... with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus." The apostles were recipients of the power of Christ. The Lord manifested this power at the tomb of Lazarus when He raised him from the dead. This holy power is available for the church today. We need it. We must have it, and we can't have this power unless we crave and ask for it. If we are going to grow full churches, if we are going to have full altars, and if we are going to have a busy baptistry, then we must have His holy power.

When you attend services at Farmington, you can sense the power of God. It is more than organization; it is more than friendliness; and it is more than large crowds. It is the holy power of God, and it originates with a craving, a yearning, and a hunger-

ing and thirsting for that power. That power manifests itself in the spirit-filled services, full altars, and changed lives. That power comes from the Early Bird Prayer Meeting each Sunday morning at 8:45. It comes from the deacon and pastor prayer meeting between Sunday School and Morning Worship. It comes from the Wednesday Evening Prayer Service. The power of the Holy Spirit comes as a result of a hungry church praying for God's power.

Now let's look at His holy provision. The Lord has provided all we need to build His church. He says, "The fields are white unto harvest," and He gives us the promise in His word that "God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." The miracle for us is to see it. We need to see it as Christ sees it.

What are some of the tools that He has provided? There is the Sunday School literature, the bus ministry, the children's church, teen ministries, senior citizens programs, soul winning conferences, enlightened laymen, exciting preaching, counseling, books, tapes, and others. The tools are there.

Also, He has provided the Holy Spirit. The Spirit that provides power for the saint, conviction for the sinner, and unction for the church. He has provided His own blood to wash away the sins of the sinner. He has provided His presence to encourage the church in her task of building His kingdom.

As we look back at the task before us, there is one last great matter that is increasingly necessary as we grow older. That is the holy purpose.

I conclude with this brief thought. Seeing the mission, the Master, the method, and the means, I recognize that these will not avail unless there is a divine motive. I need a purpose for what I am doing. I'm tired of building programs; I'm weary of the pressure to raise budgets; I'm tired of the endless counseling sessions; I'm tired of chasing after people that seem to be intent on going to Hell; I'm tired of hearing about quarrels in my denomination. I guess that I am getting older and over the hill.

I need a purpose. I need a fresh motivation. I stagger to the Word of God, and He gives the tired weary laborer a new purpose. A fresh look at the nail-scarred hand of Jesus gives me direction. If a person needs to fight to keep him excited, then his purpose is wrong. Take a look at Jesus. Pastor, deacon, layman, evangelist, college director, all of us—our mission is to *build* God's church. That's our reason for working together. That is the reason for every program. The whole task begins with winning souls through His saving grace. You can't build His church without evangelism.

About the writer: Reverend Jim McAllister is the pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington, Missouri. He is serving as chairman of the National Home Missions Board, member of the Executive Committee, Missouri State Association, and is chairman of the Retirement Village Board of Directors. This message was preached on Wednesday Evening at the Missouri State Association which convened last June.



# Churches People And Events

## Deacon Honored At Lebanon



Rev. Joe Braddy & Brother Homer Mosier

The pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Lebanon, Missouri, Reverend Joe Braddy writes, on Sunday, November 21, in a special Thanksgiving service, the First Free Will Baptist Church honored Homer Mosier for his many years of faithful and loyal service to the church.

Brother Mosier committed his life to the Lord Jesus Christ in April, 1952. Following the Lord's example, he was baptized and united with the church the following month.

After two years of adjusting to this new life in Christ and enjoying the fellowship of God's people, Brother Mosier was set aside to serve the Lord and his church in a more responsible way. Under the influence and leadership of the late Reverend Finnis Johnson, he was ordained as deacon.

During the past 28 years, Brother Mosier has served his Lord and his church faithfully as layman and deacon. Due to ill health, he has resigned as an active deacon. However, he will continue to serve as an adviser to the local church board.

In order to express its gratitude and appreciation to Brother Mosier for faithful and loyal service, the church presented to him a nice plaque with the following inscription: "PRESENTED TO HOMER MOSIER FOR 28 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE AS DEACON—FROM THE FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH—NOVEMBER 21, 1982."

Special words of appreciation were given by Reverend Roger Harwell, a former pastor, and Reverend Don Rogers, a long-time friend and co-worker. Brother Mosier's daughter Mrs. Sue Cook,

sang, "Set Another Place At The Table." Following the presentation of the plaque, the congregation expressed their personal appreciation to Brother and Sister Mosier for their faithful service.

## Great Conference At Farmington

"Catch the Holy Excitement" was the theme at a recent conference on revival, church growth, and evangelism held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington, Missouri. This was a joint endeavor of the local church and the National Home Missions Board. The conference drew large crowds for every service. People came from several states, as far as Nebraska, and many parts of Missouri.

As always, in a conference such as this, the preaching was done with power and persuasiveness. The preachers were Brothers Roy Thomas, Trymon Messer, Don Pegram, and Gordon Sebastian. Brother John Gibbs always sings the songs that are harmonious with the particular service. He along with special singers and the choir from the local church were used of the Lord to bless the hearts of everyone that attended. Good preaching, good singing, and good fellowship enable the Christian family to rejoice in the Lord.

One minister said, "I believe the 'Holy Excitement' has been caught. I have never attended anything like this before." A layperson made this comment, "If the excitement we feel in a conference like this could be transferred to every local church, our attendance would double in one year." The pastor of the church, Reverend Jim McAllister, spoke in this same vein of thought when he said to the congregation one evening, "We want this conference to be a blessing and a help to every local pastor and church. If the vision and burden of soul winning can be carried to every church, this conference will be a success." That is the plan and purpose of every conference.

## Pre-Thanksgiving Service at Merl's Chapel

A Pre-Thanksgiving Day Service was held at the Merl's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, November 16, 1982. The Woman's Auxiliary from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Monett, Missouri, and the Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church met with the host auxiliary for the special service. The presence of the Holy Spirit was evident throughout the meeting.

The program included a reading and special in song by the Monett Auxiliary, and the Macedonia Auxiliary gave a special in song plus a very impressive playlet which reminded each one of the need of being thankful. Sister Paula McClure was the speaker. Following the message, a spontaneous "Praise Service" was enjoyed by everyone.

A special offering was received for Home Missions. The group voted for the offering to be sent to the McClure's Account. A bountiful covered dish lunch was served at the noon hour.



## Pastor Appreciation At Hazel Creek



Rev. & Mrs. Tom Drake

The Sunday evening service, October 10, 1982, began as usual at the Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church. However, unknown to the Pastor, Reverend Thomas Drake, it was the beginning of a special service for him. That day was his birthday, and the church chose that evening to try to show him their love and appreciation.

When the pastor announced that it was time for the special music, the Sunday School superintendent, Bud Riley, interrupted and said that he would like to say something. Bud then mentioned how much the pastor and family had blessed his life and helped the church. The special service began to unfold.

Mazie and Wendell Sevits sang a song about "the Drakes," that Mrs. Sevits had written. A corsage was presented to Mrs. Drake, and a boutonniere was presented to the pastor. Layman Gary Matthews, Earl Sponsler, and Ernest Thompson spoke a few words of commendation to Reverend and Mrs. Drake. Donna Morton read a poem she had written entitled "Pastor Tom." The Thomas Matthews and Brice Riley families sang, "Excuses."

Brother Don Riley presented the pastor with a gift from the church. Neva Thomas read a poem, "The Pastor's Wife," and presented Mrs. Drake with a gift from the Woman's Auxiliary. A nice warm fellowship handshake followed. The congregation moved to the lower level and enjoyed a delicious cake that Betty Chrisman had baked for "Pastor Tom." Punch, nuts, and mints were served with the cake.

Karen Sponsler, church reporter, continues: We are thankful that we have a wonderful pastor to lead us at Hazel Creek.

## Reflections At Grace

Peggy Rider, church reporter for the Grace Free Will Baptist Church, writes: So much has happened this year. On February 14, the pastor and Mrs. Rehkop became the proud grandparents of Matthew Allen Rehkop; and the church received a place trophy in the Spring Enlargement Campaign. The church was quite busy preparing for the Missouri State Association. Everyone did a super job in hosting the meeting. The month of June included Youth Encampment. A total of twenty-eight campers piled into the bus and van and enjoyed a great time at camp. I certainly enjoyed teaching.

The youth group at Grace continues to grow. We average 25 teens in the Wednesday evening class. Mike Nettles and Virginia Roland were voted outstanding Christian teens of 1982.

In October, Earl and Mary Ann Berrony were voted layman and laywoman of the year. This couple deserves this recognition.

Grace Church has added a Family Night the first Wednesday of each month. Extra church activities include a bowling league, men's softball with plans for a women's softball team next Spring.

The church has definitely experienced a progressive year. The Lord has blessed with 27 baptisms and 24 new members. (This was as of October 28, 1982.)

"Wes and I are so grateful to work with the Rehkops and serve the Lord at the Grace Church. We have certainly grown since we've been here."

## Youth Camp Slide Presentation Available

Brother Dale McCurry, Youth Camp superintendent, has announced that a slide presentation of the past and present Youth Camp Story is available. He will be glad to visit quarterly meetings, local churches, and Auxiliary meetings and give the slide presentation. He may be contacted at this address and phone number: Dale McCurry, Star Route Box 22, Niangua, MO 65713, phone 417-473-6444.

Brother McCurry would like to encourage anyone or a group to come and help with clearing the underbrush in the wooded area of the camp ground. This would enhance the appearance of the camp and make the area more acceptable for hikes and nature walks.

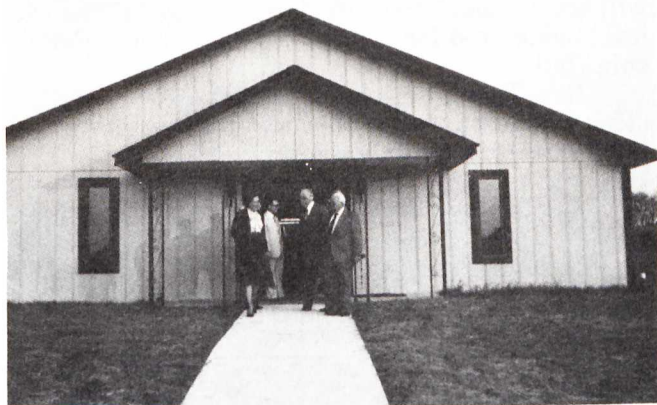
## In Memorial

In reflecting the loss of my husband Frank Linton, the vacancy is still there in my heart and my home, but the Lord's grace is sufficient. I know that He will continue to fill the emptiness with His great love.

Ruby Linton



## Dedication Service At East Bonne Terre



Gospel Light Church

On Sunday, October 31, 1982, at 2:00 p.m., the Gospel Light Free Will Baptist Church held a dedication service. The church located in East Bonne Terre, Missouri, moved into its new building. The beautiful building will accommodate approximately two hundred fifty in the auditorium. The educational space accommodates the present attendance. The church also includes a nursery and pastor's office.



Rev. Larry Allison & Rev. James Barker

Reverend James Barker, pastor of the Leadington Free Will Baptist Church, delivered the dedicatory message. Guest singing groups included the Harmony Quartet from Hurryville, Brother and Sister Head from Leadington, and Brother and Sister Bobo from Aulsbury Chapel. There were several special singing groups from the Gospel Light Church. Reverend Earl Ames, pastor of the Aulsbury Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, led the opening prayer; and Reverend Clarence Burton, Missouri State Promotional Secretary, led in the prayer of dedication.

Reverend Larry Allison, who has been serving as pastor of the church for approximately three years, recognized several people for their outstanding contribution in building the church building. To a crowded auditorium he said, "This is a day that we have prayed for and dreamed about. We express our heart-felt thanks to everyone for being here and for all the help and encouragement that has been given." He gave special recognition to the Leadington Church

for signing the church mortgage loan with them. He said, "If it were not for the pastor and the people of the Leadington Church we would not be in this building today."

## Successful Missions Conference At Monett

The people and pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett are still rejoicing over our recent missions conference.

We were one of eight churches which participated in the annual Indian Creek Missions Conference held in November. Each church was challenged by our missions coordinator, Rev. Jim Shepherd, to set a goal for cash offerings and faith promises. Our church accepted the challenge.

Three men of our church and the pastor served as a steering committee to organize our conference. This committee's plans consisted of setting a cash offering goal of \$1,000.00 and a monthly faith promise goal of \$400.00. Making an annual goal to total \$5,800.00. A large thermometer would be placed in the sanctuary with smaller ones located at different points throughout the building. The first Sunday in each month would be designated missions emphasis Sunday. Envelopes for the missions offering would be available in the pew racks. A celebration banquet would be held when our goal was reached. One month before the conference, the committee presented the plan to the church body and it was adopted.

During the conference, four missionaries spoke and an offering was received each night. By mid-week, we had exceeded our cash offering goal. And by rally time on Saturday, our cash offering totaled \$3,390.93 with our monthly faith promises totaling \$337.00.

The success of this conference can be attributed to God touching the hearts of some of the most cooperative Christians in the state of Missouri—the people of First Church, Monett.

Reverend Stanley Jones is pastor of the church.

## Ordination Service At Richwoods

Reverend James Parker, pastor of the Richwoods Free Will Baptist Church, was ordained Sunday evening, December 5, 1982. The ordination service was held at the Richwoods Church.

Reverend Charles Miller, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Desoto, Missouri, delivered the ordination message. A large number was in attendance for the service.

Mrs. Betty Sohn writes, Reverend Parker is doing a fine job as pastor. The church is looking forward to moving into its new facilities. The new building is expected to be completed in the near future. The church requests the prayers of Christian people that the Lord will continue to bless this work.



## Organizational Service At Buffalo

On Sunday evening, May 23, 1982, an organizational service was held at the Calvary Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Buffalo, Missouri. Representing the Missouri State Home Mission Board was Reverend Dale Underwood, pastor, Jones Chapel Church, Stella, Missouri. Reverend Nathan Ruble represented the Executive Committee of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, and Reverend Clarence Burton, promotional secretary, represented the Missouri State Association.

Following the service the members of the newly-ordained church enjoyed a delicious meal. Some of the men began barbecuing a pig on Saturday. This pig with all the trimmings, potatoes, beans, corn, peas, salads, and a large array of dessert comprised the bountiful dinner.

### OUTREACH TOUCHES UNREACHED

Sunday Schools representing 23 different states reached out in their communities through the enlargement campaign, *Outreach To The Unreached*, and gleaned from the harvest an average increase of 32.33%.

The increase is based on the percentage of growth in attendance over the previous Spring quarter average.

Sunday Schools which use enlargement campaigns to renew waning interest, to reach new prospects, and to practice effective follow-up prove their validity.

Many who are not named as winners in any category below are success stories because they have taught, preached, prayed, and otherwise spread the Good News to disinterested and unreached souls.

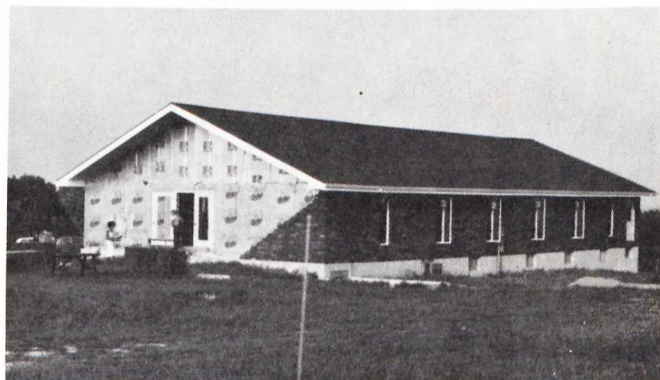
Special recognition will be given those listed below who excelled in percentage of increase in the various categories.

DIVISION	CHURCH		CAMP. AVG.	SPRING AVG.	AVERAGE INCREASE
A	1st	First, Farmington, MO	688	662	3.17%
	2nd	(None)			
B	1st	Faith, Goldsboro, NC	556	481	15.59%
	2nd	(None)			
C	1st	Collinswood, Portsmouth, VA	481	338	41.31%
	2nd	Woodbine, Nashville, TN	372	366	1.64%
D	1st	Horse Branch, Turbeville, SC	303	234	29.49%
	2nd	Emmanuel, Wabash, IN	244	205	19.02%
E	1st	First, Salem, OR	262	164.7	59.08%
	2nd	East Side, Muldrow, OK	238	152	56.58%
F	1st	Grayson, Grayson, KY	163	103	58.25%
	2nd	Jefferson Road, Sumter, SC	175	119	47.06%
G	1st	Crystal Hill, Lawton, OK	120	66	81.82%
	2nd	First, Tulare, CA	95.2	65	46.46%
H	1st	Chapel Hill, Brownwood, TX	27.8	12	131.67%
	2nd	First, Okmulgee, OK	114.6	49.6	131.05%

The Spring 1983 enlargement campaign is entitled *Always Abounding* and will be held March 6-27. Editors note: Congratulations to the Farmington Church. Keep up the good work!

The church is located in a select area of Buffalo, Missouri. The new building is brick. The auditorium will accommodate two hundred fifty, with the lower level being used for educational space and a Fellowship Hall.

Rev. Tom Owens is the pastor. (This article was lost in the mail. It should have been in an earlier issue of the Gem.)



Calvary Chapel Church building near completion



Calvary Chapel congregation



# Points for Pastors

*by Jim McAlister*

How do you revive a dying church? Now that's a difficult question. It's one we need to find the answer for. After all, thousands of churches die yearly, and thousands more are dying.

Some preachers have the idea that dying churches don't deserve to be revived. I disagree. Now it's certain that some people have so tied down the church that it's nearly impossible to revive a church. I've heard it said, "It's easier to give birth than raise the dead." True, but a miracle is required either way.

We Free Will Baptists have some 2,200 churches. In those 2,200 churches we have some 200,000 members. We are adding about 10,000 new members yearly. That's less than five new members per church. Our goal is 1,000,000 in Sunday school by A.D. 2000. We'll never make it at the rate we're going.

We can't start enough new churches to reach another 800,000 attendance in Sunday school. And yet, every one of our churches could add scores of new members to our congregations yearly, if we took seriously the commission of our Lord to go into all the world and preach the gospel.

Those who know me know I believe strongly in our denomination. I support every phase of our ministry. I believe in Home Missions and Foreign Missions. I support both in a big way. But I am firmly convinced that right now we need to resurrect hundreds of our churches and stop the dying process in hundreds of others. It can be done, and in fact, it must be done.

If we do as I have just suggested, it will take more fire in our preachers than I have seen in recent years. When I came to Farmington Church, the chairman of the trustee board, a man mature and wise, said, "Brother Jim, if you will pastor our church, we'll follow."

Pastors, our fire, and members, who will follow, can resurrect dead churches and change dying churches into thriving soul winning stations.

## Essentials of Evangelism

*by Stanley Jones*

Churches are like people. They have a certain personality. One church may be known as a loving church; another, a musical church; another, a teaching church. And, on and on we could go. It would be great if every church had these traits and more. The question that comes to my mind is, "What factors determine a church's personality?"

After serving many churches as evangelist and three churches as pastor, I've been brought to two obvious conclusions. First, the personality of a church is determined by the attitude of its people. Second, the attitude of its people is determined to a great degree by the pastor.

Soul winning is an area where this premise is definitely true. If the pastor is a soul winner and promotes soul winning, he can in time create an atmosphere within his church that will give his church a soul winning personality.

With this in mind, every pastor and church would do well to check the personality of their church. And take steps toward creating the proper atmosphere that would give their church a soul winning personality.

## Church Growing At Sikeston

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Sikeston, Missouri, observed the first anniversary of their pastor, by having a special campaign to increase the Sunday School attendance by 150% over the first Sunday one year ago. The Sunday School not only made its goal, but it surpassed it by having an increase of 179%.

The pastor, Reverend Wayne Hale, writes: "The Lord is blessing the church with new families and several good prospects. The people really worked hard and made the increase possible. This was the best anniversary present I could have received."

In the month of November the average attendance for all services increased for the second straight month.

The church requests the prayers of all of the churches in the Missouri State Association. They have some specific needs. The church needs \$9,700.00 for a sewer the city of Sikeston recently installed. Brother Hale stated, "The church will have to pay almost \$9,700.00 plus 8% interest over five years. By law, the church must pay the amount as well as connect the church to the sewer system (which is not included in the \$9,700)." The church is in need of tracts. Designated giving for these two projects will be greatly appreciated. Monies for this may be given through the Missouri State Home Missions Board or the State Office.



## COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS October 1982

18.50% Missouri State Home Missions	\$3,665.24
16.00% Promotional Office & Gem	3,169.94
4.50% General Fund	891.55
5.50% Youth Camp	1,089.67
2.00% Christian Board of Education	396.24
2.00% Sunday School & CTS	396.24
7.00% Retirement Village	1,386.85
5.00% MO State Retirement Program	990.61
6.00% Hillsdale FWB College	1,188.73
11.00% Foreign Missions	2,179.34
8.00% FWBBC	1,584.97
6.00% Executive Office	1,188.73
6.00% Nat'l. Home Missions	1,188.73
2.00% Nat'l. Board of Retirement & Ins.	396.24
.25% Layman's Board	49.53
.25% Theological Commission	49.53
Total	\$19,812.14

God is the giver, and we are the recipients of all His gifts. He is continuing to bless cooperative giving. It is always encouraging to see faithful pastors and churches respond to this equitable plan of carrying the gospel throughout the world.

## COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS November 1982

18.50% Missouri State Home Missions	\$3,369.15
16.00% Promotional Office and Gem	2,913.86
4.50% General Fund	819.52
5.50% Youth Camp	1,001.64
2.00% Christian Board of Education	364.23
2.00% Sunday School & CTS	364.23
7.00% Retirement Village	1,274.81
5.00% MO State Retirement Program	910.58
6.00% Hillsdale FWB College	1,092.70
11.00% Foreign Missions	2,003.28
8.00% FWBBC	1,456.93
6.00% Executive Office	1,092.70
6.00% National Home Missions	1,092.70
2.00% Nat'l. Board of Retirement & Ins.	364.23
.25% Layman's Board	45.52
.25% Theological Commission	45.52
Total	\$18,211.60

In the afterglow of Thanksgiving we especially are grateful to the Lord for His blessings on the state and national ministries. Even during this period of recession He continues to bless the tithes and offerings that are given to promote His cause. May He continue to bless the faithfulness of His people as they continue to honor Him with their tithes and offerings.

## COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS October 1982

Mt. Pisgah	\$ 102.00
Flat River, First	722.04
Victory, Alton	146.00
Richwoods	336.00
Tyrone	133.65
Koshkonong	52.00
Mine La Motte	23.81
Cape Girardeau	114.58
Belton	181.36
Faith, Fair Grove	122.87
Bethel, Festus	320.00
Pleasant Ridge	50.00

Berkeley	741.91
Fellowship	80.00
Royal Oak	35.00
Hickory Grove	62.10
Number One	27.70
Macedonia	18.00
Grant Avenue	461.52
South Side	260.05
Mill Creek	138.43
Mt. Zion, Gower	100.12
Bailey Chapel	49.00
Cope	29.45
O'Fallon	306.00
Mtn. Grove, First	630.89
Mtn. Grove, First	835.60
Grace	792.00
Victory, K.C.	100.00
Trinity	842.18
Trinity	627.34
Purdy	319.27
New Hope	100.00
Union Grove	129.00
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	58.16
Salem	180.00
Eastern Gate	32.00
Hopewell	152.00
Viburnum	15.00
Fredericktown, First	413.00
Lebanon, First	339.70
Terrill Road	43.00
Hurryville	122.59
Hartville	196.90
Calvary Chapel	239.10
Lebanon Bible & Book Store	300.00
Oskaloosa	71.06
Copper Mines	184.78
Monett	426.92
New Harmony	7.03
Merl's Chapel	51.60
Kingsway	100.00
Freeman Chapel	109.52
Cape Girardeau	70.23
Cuba	243.03
Houston	148.50
Aulsbury Chapel	910.50
Wolf Creek	192.52
Union	60.00
Rock Chapel	238.07
Gray Summit	80.38
Byrd	20.60
Cabool	204.23
Cape Girardeau	54.45
Pleasant Home	342.63
Friendship	56.67
Hannon	238.60
Verdella	340.62
United, West Plains	100.00
Rolla	155.29
Thayer	353.22
Pleasant Hill	35.46
Leadington	398.75
Marshfield	145.89
Lebanon, First	342.70
Berkeley	346.01
Waynesville	98.00
St. Francois Dist. Ass'n.	19.50
El Dorado Spgs., First	5.00
Mt. Zion, Thayer	26.15
Cape Girardeau	64.53
De Soto	500.00
Lebanon, First	399.52
Black Oak	10.00
Buffalo	224.75
Seymour	58.51
Farmington	1,150.00



Com-bo Interest .....	145.60
Total .....	\$19,812.14

# **COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS** **November 1982**

Way Side .....	\$ 770.00
New Home, Falcon .....	80.22
Willow Springs .....	224.34
Myrtle .....	234.84
Fredericktown, First .....	381.00
Macedonia .....	23.00
Koshkonong .....	51.00
Tyrone .....	49.13
Victory, Alton .....	152.00
Bethel, Festus .....	614.00
Harmony, K.C. ....	360.00
Belton .....	248.08
Grant Avenue .....	576.90
Fellowship .....	100.00
South Fremont .....	350.00
Terrill Road .....	58.00
Friendship .....	88.22
Cope .....	47.62
Number One .....	35.62
Royal Oak .....	51.00
Fordland .....	391.00
Cape Girardeau .....	97.04
Mill Creek .....	155.68
Mt. Zion, Gower .....	124.10
Faith, Fair Grove .....	155.83
Hartville .....	247.05
Neosho .....	60.00
Neosho .....	60.00
Bailey Chapel .....	63.00
Parkview .....	270.10
O'Fallon .....	377.30
Hurryville .....	175.19
New Rock Springs .....	127.12
Happy Home .....	100.91
Gray Summit .....	113.53
Grace .....	846.00
Olivet .....	250.00
South Side .....	300.00
Faith, Lemay .....	150.00
Faith, Lemay .....	144.24
Mt. Pisgah .....	108.00
Mine La Motte .....	20.00
Merl's Chapel .....	64.15
Cape Girardeau .....	131.66
Hopewell .....	194.66
Viburnum .....	30.00
Eastern Gate .....	27.00
Flat River, First .....	928.88
Community .....	18.57
Union Grove .....	160.62
Trinity .....	788.11
Copper Mines .....	143.80
Byrd .....	37.00
Mtn. Valley .....	183.88
Victory, K.C. ....	100.00
Lebanon, First .....	398.64
Hannon .....	294.42
United, West Plains .....	100.00
Thayer .....	285.42
Wolf Creek .....	257.25
Marshfield .....	208.91
Walnut Grove .....	75.00
Dave Buie, O'Fallon .....	74.76
Rock Chapel .....	317.92
Cabool .....	273.58
Cape Girardeau .....	33.15
Seymour .....	83.67
De Soto .....	700.00
Cape Girardeau .....	95.04

Black Oak .....	10.00
Verdella .....	191.27
Joplin .....	279.30
Leadington .....	472.44
Sedalia .....	40.00
Berkeley .....	522.09
Liberty .....	200.00
Pleasant Hill .....	44.90
Freeman Chapel .....	145.36
Rolla .....	134.78
Farmington .....	1,150.00
El Dorado, First .....	5.00
Com-bo Interest .....	170.31
Total .....	\$18,211.60

# **MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS GIVING** **October & November 1982**

Bethel .....	\$ 25.00
Pleasant Ridge .....	20.00
Berkeley .....	120.00
O'Fallon .....	71.00
Mtn. Grove, First .....	307.50
Victory, K.C. ....	20.00
New Life .....	30.00
Wayne Wagner .....	10.00
Nat'l. Home Missions .....	10.00
Monett .....	10.00
New Harmony .....	22.62
Merl's Chapel .....	2.58
Rock Chapel .....	202.22
Leadington .....	80.00
Thayer .....	9.00
Aulsbury Chapel .....	30.00
Cooperative Receipts .....	7,110.89
Olivet .....	150.00
Parkview .....	4.00
Grace .....	50.00
Mt. Zion, Thayer .....	20.00
Mill Creek, Young Adult SS .....	30.00
Beacon .....	418.00
Oak Hill .....	12.36
Union Light .....	22.00
Indian Creek Ass'n. ....	53.24
Myrtle .....	23.00
Houston .....	11.71
Total .....	\$8,875.12

# **MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING** **October & November 1982**

## **FOREIGN MISSIONS**

Bethel .....	\$142.00
Bailey .....	\$62.00
General Fund .....	50.00
Tallent .....	30.00
Pleasant Ridge .....	\$20.00
General Fund .....	\$10.00
McLain .....	10.00
Berkeley .....	\$465.00
Deficit Accts. ....	\$126.00
Filkins .....	180.00
Tallent .....	55.00
Murray .....	44.00
Lytle .....	60.00
Columbia .....	\$100.00
McLain .....	\$60.00
Tallent .....	20.00
Miley .....	20.00
Grant Avenue .....	\$1,861.40
Hersey .....	\$270.00
Tallent .....	190.00
Haas .....	130.00



Pinkerton	525.60	
McLain	194.10	
Richards	225.60	
Bailey	238.10	
General Fund	16.00	
Allen	10.00	
Deficit Accts.	62.00	
South Side		\$553.00
Tallent	\$533.00	
Filkins	20.00	
O'Fallon		\$15.00
Tallent	\$15.00	
Mtn. Grove		\$265.00
Turnbough	\$ 35.00	
Tallent	85.00	
General Fund	125.00	
Cousineau	20.00	
Victory, K.C.		\$302.00
Turnbough	\$ 20.00	
Pinkerton	282.00	
(\$146.00 . . 1-350 Project)		\$249.60
Trinity		\$20.00
Wode	10.00	
General Fund	79.50	
Morgan	40.00	
Tallent	45.10	
Hanna	55.00	
McLain		\$15.00
New Hope, Fredericktown	\$15.00	
Tallent		\$50.00
Eastern Gate		\$10.00
Pinkerton	20.00	
Van Hook	20.00	
Tallent		\$85.00
Fredericktown		\$10.00
Tallent	10.00	
Miley	15.00	
Turnbough	25.00	
Pinkerton	25.00	
Filkins		\$60.00
Indian Creek Ass'n. CTS Youth	\$60.00	
McLain		\$57.84
Neosho	\$37.84	
Caton	10.00	
Wode	10.00	
Cousineau		\$330.00
Monett		\$200.00
Tallent (2 mo. monthly)	120.00	
Tallent	10.00	
Dickens		\$45.24
New Harmony	\$22.62	
Miley	22.62	
McLain		\$161.25
Merl's Chapel		\$100.00
Hanna	61.25	
Deeds		\$479.94
Freeman Chapel	\$479.94	
Pinkerton		\$45.00
Houston	\$45.00	
Tallent		\$6.00
Rock Chapel		\$330.00
Tallent	\$6.00	
Leadington		\$50.00
Turnbough	40.00	
Filkins	40.00	
Pinkerton	40.00	
McLain	40.00	
Hanna	40.00	
Eagleton	40.00	
Lytle	40.00	
Miley	40.00	
Dale & Marge McCurry		\$10.00
Tallent	\$10.00	
Hannon		\$266.51
Pinkerton	\$50.00	
Lytle	50.00	
Filkins	50.00	
Miley	50.00	
Tallent	31.51	
Hanna	35.00	
Marshfield		\$40.00
Tallent	\$40.00	
Rolla		\$10.00
Turnbough	\$10.00	
Thayer		\$291.00
Bailey	\$262.00	
Tallent	19.00	
Pinkerton	10.00	
Aulsbury Chapel		\$120.00
Pinkerton	\$60.00	
Filkins	60.00	
Black Oak		\$14.25
Morgan	\$14.25	
Fordland		\$730.08
Bailey	\$177.52	
McLain	177.52	
Richards	177.52	
Pinkerton	182.52	
Tallent	15.00	
Joplin		\$70.00
Morgan	\$45.00	
Banks	10.00	
Haas	5.00	
Tallent	5.00	
Cousineau	5.00	
Myrtle		\$138.40
Tallent	\$58.00	
Bailey	80.40	
Fourth		\$175.00
Lytle	\$165.00	
Tallent	10.00	
Calvary Chapel		\$82.69
Pinkerton	\$19.00	
McLain	39.92	
Bailey	23.77	
Harmony, K.C.		\$5.00
Turnbough	\$5.00	
Neosho CTS Youth		\$145.00
McLain	\$145.00	
South Fremont		\$225.00
Pinkerton	\$70.00	
Richards	55.00	
Banks	50.00	
McLain	50.00	
Terrill Road		\$30.00
McCullough	\$30.00	
Jones Chapel, Woman's SS Class		\$20.00
Tallent	\$20.00	
Kirksville		\$25.00
Pinkerton	\$25.00	
Olivet		\$50.00
Poole	\$15.00	
Sparks	10.00	
Inscoe	15.00	
McLain	5.00	
Pinkerton	5.00	
United, West Plains		\$114.30
Bailey	\$114.30	
West Plains, First		\$57.50
General Fund	\$57.50	
Ray & Melba Burch		\$250.00
Lytle	\$250.00	
Trinity		\$238.14
General Fund	\$ 53.14	
Morgan	50.00	
McLain	120.00	
Wode	10.00	
Tallent	5.00	
Indian Creek Association		\$3,195.36
Bailey	\$ 670.18	



Pinkerton	1,420.18	
Banks	10.00	
Morgan	500.00	
Tallent	30.00	
Dickens	10.00	
Cousineau	5.00	
Miley	50.00	
Caton	500.00	
Martinstown		\$80.00
Sparks	\$20.00	
Richards	20.00	
Miley	20.00	
McLain	20.00	
Miley \$20.00 should have been listed in last issue of Gem.		\$20.00
Total		\$12,021.59

#### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS October & November 1982

Mt. Pisgah		\$155.00
Maness	\$55.00	
Vandivort	50.00	
Lewis	50.00	
Flat River, First		\$347.66
O'Dell	\$ 23.50	
General Fund	304.16	
J. D. Norris	20.00	
Bethel		\$80.00
General Fund	\$50.00	
Maness	30.00	
Berkeley		\$622.00
Fulcher	\$411.00	
Deficit Accts.	152.00	
Lewis	20.00	
Maness	29.00	
Lake	10.00	
Columbia		\$97.43
Vandivort	\$97.43	
Grant Avenue		\$76.00
Maness	\$64.00	
Vandivort	7.00	
General Fund	5.00	
O'Fallon		\$20.00
Adkisson	\$ 5.00	
Fulcher	15.00	
Mtn. Grove, First		\$217.04
Maness	\$79.54	
Norris	75.00	
Vandivort	50.00	
Lewis	5.00	
General Fund	7.50	
Victory, K.C.		\$20.00
Ross	\$10.00	
Maness	10.00	
Eastern Gate		\$40.00
Vandivort	\$20.00	
Maness	20.00	
Fredericktown, First		\$226.00
Barron	\$99.50	
Lewis	70.00	
Shockey	37.50	
Pegram	19.00	
Terrill Road		\$15.00
Fulcher	\$15.00	
Roger Ross, Lemay		\$5.00
Maness	\$5.00	
Monett		\$10.00
Lewis	\$10.00	
Wolf Creek		\$312.00
Vandivort	\$312.00	
Rock Chapel		\$6.00
Maness	\$6.00	
Bob & Glenda Keith		\$20.00
Vandivort	\$20.00	

Leadington		\$149.00
Maness	\$59.00	
Fulcher	40.00	
Vandivort	45.00	
O'Dell	5.00	
South East District Association		\$100.00
Barron	\$100.00	
Dale & Marge McCurry		\$10.00
Nason	\$10.00	
Marshfield		\$60.00
Maness	\$40.00	
General Fund	20.00	
Rolla		\$100.00
Vandivort	\$100.00	
Thayer		\$48.00
Maness	\$28.00	
Highway Helpers	20.00	
Fred & Pauline Clayton		\$25.00
Maness	\$25.00	
South Side		\$20.00
Fulcher	\$10.00	
Maness	10.00	
Myrtle		\$99.10
Maness	\$45.00	
Highway Helpers	20.10	
Evangelism	10.00	
General Fund	24.00	
Harmony, K.C.		\$5.00
Maness	\$5.00	
South Fremont		\$14.00
Adkisson	\$8.00	
Maness	6.00	
Fordland		\$5.00
Maness	\$5.00	
New Rock Springs		\$100.00
Vandivort	\$100.00	
Ray & Melba Burch		\$200.00
Maness	\$100.00	
Vandivort	100.00	
Black Oak		\$14.00
O'Dell	\$14.00	
Lebanon, First		\$45.00
General Fund	\$45.00	
Indian Creek Association		\$1,206.17
Lake	\$1,196.17	
Lewis	10.00	
Kingsway		\$30.00
General Fund	\$30.00	
Waynesville		\$36.00
General Fund	\$36.00	
Total		\$4,535.40

#### FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE October & November 1982

Grant Avenue	\$ 20.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Leadington	40.00
Joplin (Library Wing)	50.00
Total	\$130.00

#### HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE October & November 1982

Grant Avenue	\$ 18.00
Mtn. Grove, First	30.00
Calvary Chapel Adult SS Class	83.67
Monett	23.30
Joplin	30.00
Willow Springs	20.00
Hannon	50.00
Neosho (Hillsdale Singers)	50.00
Total	\$304.97



**GREENEVILLE CHILDREN'S HOME**  
October & November 1982

Myrtle ..... \$7.81

**YOUTH CAMP**  
October & November 1982

Mt. Pisgah ..... \$ 20.00  
Hartville ..... 20.00  
Hannon ..... 30.00  
Aulsbury Chapel ..... 20.00  
Myrtle ..... 22.00  
Olivet ..... 10.00  
Bethel ..... 50.00  
Leadington ..... 40.00  
Thayer ..... 20.00  
Willow Springs ..... 10.00  
New Rock Springs ..... 10.00  
Faith, Lemay ..... 20.00  
Total ..... \$272.00

**RETIREMENT & INSURANCE**  
October & November 1982

Grant Avenue ..... \$1.00

**BOB CARR & HANIFORD ACCOUNTS**  
October & November 1982

Grant Avenue ..... Bob Carr ..... \$15.00  
Harmony, K.C. .... Haniford ..... 5.00  
Total ..... \$20.00

**188 ATTEND BIBLE COLLEGE  
WELCOME DAYS**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**—Fall Welcome Days at Free Will Baptist Bible College attracted 188 visitors from 46 churches in 14 states, according to Dr. Charles Hampton, coordinator. The biannual event held to acquaint prospective students with the college was December 2-4. The spring Welcome Days is scheduled for April 7-9, 1983.

The largest group, 12, came from Union Chapel FWB Church in Chocowinity, North Carolina.

By states, the following numbers of visitors registered:

Alabama	12	Mississippi	3
Arkansas	12	Missouri	23
Florida	7	North Carolina	59
Georgia	8	South Carolina	7
Illinois	9	Tennessee	9
Ohio	27	Texas	4
Michigan	4	Virginia	4

For information on the spring Welcome Days, please write or call:

Dr. Charles E. Hampton  
Free Will Baptist Bible College  
3606 West End Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

**A Mini Calender of Events**

**Focus On The Ministry**  
February 22-23; 12:00 noon to 12:00 noon  
Cost \$1.50  
Free Will Baptist Youth Camp, Niangua, Missouri

**Sunday School and CTS State Competitive Activities**  
May 7, 1983  
Calvary Fellowship, Fenton, Missouri

**Missouri State Association, Woman's Auxiliary State Convention, Sunday School and CTS Youth Service**  
June 6-9  
Nelson Community Center  
Lebanon, Missouri

**Free Will Baptist Youth Encampment**  
June 12-17; June 19-24; June 26-July 1; July 3-8  
Niangua, Missouri (See article concerning Youth Camp in this issue.)

**National Association of Free Will Baptists, WNAC, NYC**  
July 17-21  
Columbus, Ohio

**All-Boards Meeting**  
September 19-20; 12:00 noon to 12:00 noon  
Free Will Baptist Youth Camp, Niangua, Missouri

**Preaching Seminar**  
November 14-16  
First Free Will Baptist Church, Farmington, Missouri  
Special Speaker-Rev. Willard Wilcox

December is Christmas  
1983 went in a hurry!

**Central Western Association Holds Picnic**



Brother Phillip Munn, reporter for the Central Western District Association writes, the association held it's first annual picnic on September 11, 1982 at the Stockton Free Will Baptist Church. There were 46 in attendance. The group enjoyed a potluck lunch, a couple of softball games and some other game activities. It was a wonderful time of fun and fellowship. Everyone in attendance thought it would be well to get together next year.



MISSOURI FREE WILL BAPTISTS are greatly blessed. Like the Christians at Antioch you have heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Separate unto me Ken and Judy Bailey for the work in Japan for which I have called them". This is undoubtedly one of the highest honors God could pay to a group of Christians.

Ken Bailey is a native of Viburnum, Missouri. After being saved in 1974 he attended Free Will Baptist Bible College where he graduated in 1979. Judy also attended the Bible College where she majored in missions. Ken pastored the Arlington Free Will Baptist Church in Arlington, Georgia from 1979 to 1981. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Bailey of Viburnum and Judy's parents, Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Turnbough, currently pastor in Alabama. Ken and Judy are the parents of a six-year old daughter, Tracey, and a one-year old son, Benjamin.

The Baileys were appointed in August, 1982, by the Free Will Baptist Board of Foreign Missions to go to the needy country of Japan. The great expense of maintaining a missionary family and his work in that country requires the Baileys to raise \$3,500 a month in faithful support plus an additional \$35,000 in cash. This should get them to the field, set them up in their ministry, and give them an adequate balance to begin their work.

Would your church like to have a personal representative in Japan? If you want someone to preach and witness in that "Land of the Rising Sun" we encourage you to adopt the Baileys as your missionaries.

Perhaps your church, Sunday school, CTS, Master's Men, or Woman's Auxiliary group would like to adopt a project for the Baileys. Select an item from the following list and notify the foreign missions office of your plans. We will tell the Baileys about your commitment.

Most of all pray that God will supply the need so that the Baileys can get to their work in Japan as soon as possible.

If you would like to have Ken for a missionary service please contact my office (615/361-1010).

#### PROJECT LIST

Typewriter .....	\$ 797.00
Slide Projector (Kodak Carousel 4400) .....	199.99
Cassette Player .....	139.95
Washer (compact) .....	389.95
Dryer (compact) .....	269.95
Stove (compact) .....	299.95
Refrigerator (compact) .....	379.95
Sleeper sofa .....	359.00
Dinette set .....	199.00
Chair (for living room) .....	159.00
End tables .....	149.00
Bunk Beds .....	199.00
Bunk Bed Mattresses .....	50.00
1 dresser .....	75.00
1 dresser .....	75.00

Bedroom set .....	399.00
Mattress & Box Springs .....	200.00
	<u>\$4,335.78</u>
Car .....	\$8,000.00

#### AIR FARE TO JAPAN

Ken .....	\$1,160
Judy .....	1,160
Benjy .....	580
Tracey .....	580

The 47th Annual National Convention of Free Will Baptists will be meeting in Columbus, Ohio July 17-21, 1983. We urge all Free Will Baptists everywhere to pray much for the success of this session. Pray for the planners, the workers, the speakers and our National leadership. To God be the Glory!

#### BIBLE COLLEGE HOLDS GRADUATE SCHOOL DEDICATION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Dr. Robert Picirilli, dean of Free Will Baptist Bible College and Graduate School, stressed the need for well trained pastors as he spoke to some 500 guests and Bible College students and personnel at the formal dedication of the new Graduate School held on campus December 7. Speaking on "The Challenge of Education for the Ministry," he drove home the point that there is no higher calling of God than pastoring. Preparation to fulfill that calling, he said, should be of the highest caliber.

The service, held in the college's Memorial Auditorium, drew a multitude of special visitors. President Charles A. Thigpen recognized the presence of pastors, missionaries, Bible College trustees (past and present), the Executive Committee and moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Founders' Club members, and many other Free Will Baptist dignitaries. He also announced that Mr. and Mrs. Gary Wright of Fresno, California, have established the first Graduate School scholarship in memory of Rev. Oscar Wright. The Wrights, who were present at the service, are both alumni of the college and members of the Founders' Club.

Both the college and its Graduate School are committed to the Word of God, the saving Gospel, worldwide evangelism, excellence, and high standards of Christian living, declared Dr. Thigpen. He presided over a program that included greetings from the denomination conveyed by Dr. Melvin Worthington, Executive Secretary, and special music by the College Choir and Instrumental Ensemble.

The new Graduate School officially opened in August with an enrollment of nine ministerial students.



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## IS DUTY ENOUGH?

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Eccl. 12:13

But is duty enough? Let us consider the parable of the "unprofitable servant." Read Luke 17:7-10.

Many times we actually think we have done God a favor when in reality we have only done the things he has commanded us.

Take church attendance, for example. We think we do God a favor by being in His house. Did God create man so that he might go to church? If so, why doesn't he simply cement our shoes to the church floor? Hey, he has angels always in His presence. More and more as I consider the benefits of congregating with my brothers and sisters, I'm convinced he made church for my benefit. He is doing me a favor by letting me go to church.

Same thing about giving. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills. He does not need my offering, but I need to give. Now I ask you, who is getting the benefit of my giving?

Paradoxically, the things I do for duty's sake redound to my benefit. Should I then expect God to thank me for doing those things which he commands? I think not.

Performance of duty is not worship. Duty for duty's sake makes long faces, empty hearts and lukewarm churches. Neither will the unsaved "see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven". Rather they will see you as a duty-bound, conscientious person, but conclude that God is a poor paymaster. If we wish to witness to God's glory, we will have to "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless his name." Psalm 100:4 We must give bountifully, cheerfully so that God can "pour us out a blessing" of "good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over". Only then will outsiders see just how great and good God is.

No, duty is not enough. It is only the beginning.

God wants our praise and thanksgiving out of a heart overflowing with love for Him.

Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Matt. 22:37

About the writer: Mrs. McQuire is a member of the Parkview Free Will Baptist Church in Desloge, Missouri. She is actively involved in the work and ministry of the church. She has contributed to the Gem with other articles.

## Endowments Established

The first distribution of funds earned from endowments with the Free Will Baptist Foundation were made December 31, 1982, according to Herman L. Hersey, executive secretary-treasurer.

Recipients receiving checks from an endowment established by the Cartersville FWB Church, Carl Junction, Missouri, were: FWB Foreign Missions Department, Nashville, Tennessee; Hillsdale FWB College, Moore, Oklahoma; FWB Children's Home, Greeneville, Tennessee.

The Cooperative Plan of Support of the National Association received a gift from an endowment established by the family of Dr. Melvin Worthington, executive-secretary of the National Association. Other members of his family include Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur L. Worthington, Ayden, North Carolina, and Rev. & Mrs. Milton Worthington, Royal Oak, Michigan.

The FWB Foundation received earnings for its operating expenses from an endowment established by the Herman L. Hersey family, Nashville, Tennessee.