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Free Will Baptist

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GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"



Bryan Hackworth

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1983-84

CHURCHES	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY
Belton							34	37	41	42	46	31
Bethel	110	99	98	105	99	97	99	107	104	122	119	
Calvary Fellowship	166	149	169									
Central	106	98						110	111	115		
Copper Mines	68	70	73	77	78	70	60	57	63			
Cape Girardeau	89	88	87	93	75	73	71	74	62	68	69	62
DeSoto								162	160	167		
Farmington	687	697	664	710	918	725	672	713	699	746	736	
Flat River, First	175	165	182	181	187	157	153	151	142	181	183	
Fourth	90	91	102	98								
Grace	152	136	158									
Hannon							81	75	73	80	80	76
Happy Home	77	63	88	86	81	77			68	77	81	74
Hartville	101	90	93	99	101							
Houston	61			56	53	73	75	76	77	88	104	87
Marshfield	63	64	57	54	56	53	46	38	42	44		
Monett	151	151	166	188	178	165	149	165	164	174		
Myrtle	40	49	48	59	56	51	56	50			54	42
O'Fallon	56	51					103	108				
Parkview	41	49	40	36	43	42	50	50	50	60	65	156
Terrill Road	56	58	51	66				61	56		54	64
Richwoods	55	58	64		79	90	47	40	35	39	45	52
United, West Plains	78	83	78	83	85	90	87	81	84	83	89	85
Willow Springs	87	91	96	85	93	93	75	86	77	83	91	89
West Plains, First	90	92	104	95	118	102	107	105	101			

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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What Is Wrong With Today's Rock Music? (The Devil)

by Joel Robertson

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! We hear this statement very often in our churches, usually from people who say they can't sing or don't know music. But what is this thing called "music"? The dictionary defines it as the art of organizing sounds that create a certain mood to the listener. The sounds that we like most are also the moods we want to be in most often, whether it be a twangy bango, a soothing flute, a driving drum beat, or a blazing electric guitar. Music does affect the kind of mood we can be in.

In this article we will be taking a very close look at Rock and Country Music—the messages of the song, the life styles and thoughts of the people making the music, and why they are making their music. Are they doing it for money and fame, or is there some other motive?

The first statement I want to make is that not all rock and country music is bad. There are groups who play good, clean music that is enjoyable to listen to. There are also groups whose music is vulgar, sick, and demonic—the kind of music that makes you feel like hitting someone, going out and getting drunk, or that which confuses us. One thing you can be sure of is that Satan loves confusion. When we get confused and are not in control of our thoughts, emotions, or actions, we are at our weakest point. Satan loves this. It's at this point when he will throw all he's got at us to try and make us fail or start doubting the Lord. Does the music you listen to confuse you? Do the lyrics that you know or have memorized reflect how you feel about certain subjects, whether it be drinking, rebellion, sex, drugs, or God? When one of your favorite songs comes on the radio and you start singing along, do the contents of the song embarrass the Lord? I hope not.

Let's take a look at some of the messages of a few rock songs. The #1 album of 1980 (according to *Rolling Stone* magazine) was "The Wall" by Pink Floyd. The lyrics say, "We don't need no education. We don't need no thoughts control. No dark sarcasm in the classroom. Hey, teachers, leave us kids alone!" Although this song is almost four years old, it is still a favorite among the youth. Why? Because of the message. "Hey, teachers, leave us kids alone!" To me it's kind of disturbing to know that this is what is going on in the minds of the youth of this world. Rebellion—we do what we want when we want. Maybe you didn't realize it, but Jesus was a teacher. He taught all about life, friendships, love, happiness, and how to serve the Lord. He is still a teacher in many ways, and a very good one. Do we listen to Him, or do we rebel against Him?

A big hit for the group Loverboy was a song called "Turn Me Loose." The words say, "I'm here to please, I've even on my knees making love to whoever I

please. I gotta do it my way or no way at all." Well, how obvious can you get? In Leviticus 20:10-13 the Bible says any sex that is not between a husband and his wife is sin. You will be put to death; "their blood shall be upon them."

There is a song on the Styx album "Kilroy Was Here" called "Heavy Metal Poisoning." The words say, "Get the lead out, go for broke. Pop your pills and drink and smoke. Shoot those chemicals in your vein. Anything to ease the pain." No hidden message here.

The Beatles' song "Hey Jude" says, "Remember to let her under your skin, then you'll begin to make it better." To understand this song you need to know that "Jude" is a street name for heroin. Titus 2:11-12 tells us to "live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world."

One of the biggest songs of 1982 was by Joan Jett, a song called "I Love Rock-N-Roll." The song has a hard driving beat, loud guitar, with Joan Jett singing "I love rock-n-roll" over and over. This past summer when I spoke at Youth Camp, there was a young man who was asleep while I was speaking. I tried not to let it bother me. As I played this song, "I Love Rock-N-Roll," he woke up singing along with the tape. Almost all of the other teens knew this song and quite a few were singing along. This really puzzled me. "Do you love Jesus?" I asked. Silence came over the hall. The looks on their faces was one of "do I have to say it out loud?" Why not? When you're with your friends and you hear this song, you probably sing aloud or out loud; but you're afraid to say "I love Jesus" out loud. Do you love Him? Do you really know Him?

There may be a few moms and dads ready to go into their kid's room with a hammer. Before you do, stop and think about that country music you are listening to. Songs like "Take Me to Bed and I'll Be Good," "Whiskey River," "I Love That Woman Like the Devil Loves Sin," "It's a Cheatin' Situation," and others. Conway Twitty said (*People* magazine, 9/3/79), "As a country artist, I'm not proud of a lot of things in my field. There's no doubt in my mind that we are contributing to the moral decline in America." Willie Nelson said (*TV Guide*, 10/8—14/83), "I haven't smoked regular cigarettes for seven years. Marijuana? Just a joint or two a day to help me relax."

I've read where Barbara Mandrell says she is a Christian. When she had her show on TV, she always performed at least one gospel song. She sang "Amazing Grace" one time with tears flowing down her face. It really touched me. But then a few minutes later she sang "Married But Not To Each Other," a song which she also wrote. I thought "something's not right here." What is she doing? She is compromising! As I read the Bible, I find no situation in which Jesus compromised. He took stands on what He believed in and

what He knew was right and wrong. We need to take firm stands in today's world.

There are a few country and rock singers who claim to be Christians, and I believe they are. But if you will look at the others, their lives, and examine their songs, you will find out that they are about as Christian as the devil. It hurts God and our spiritual lives when we desire to hear this kind of music or if we enjoy this type of entertainment.

There are methods being used on people which try to get something into their subconscious minds without their even knowing it. These methods are called subliminal suggestions. For example, right now you are reading this article; your conscious mind is focusing on the words on this page, but you can also hear the other sounds around you—someone talking, a car drive by, or an airplane fly overhead. Your subconscious is listening to everything that goes on around you. Have you ever been driving or riding in a car and your mind wanders off for a while, and all of a sudden you realize you have driven several miles and you don't remember anything? You made a few turns or a few lane changes, but you don't remember how. Your subconscious took over for that period of time. Have you ever heard a song two or three times and, even though you didn't listen to the words, you know the chorus? After a few more times you may know the entire song. Your subconscious picked up on the beat and the words.

Some of today's artists are using this subliminal technique on you to get a message into your mind. The Beatles sang "My Sweet Lord." In the first and second choruses, you hear "My sweet lord. Hallelujah. Hallelujah." but in the third chorus you hear "My sweet Lord, Hare Krishna. Hare Krishna." It's very plain.

Another technique that is being used in rock music is called backward masking. This is a word or phrase which may or may not make sense forward; but when you play it backward, there is a hidden message, usually about Satan. Speaking backward is a type of worship done in churches of the occult. The #1 song of the decade 1970-1980 was by Led Zepplin, a song called "Stairway to Heaven." In this song, when played backward, you hear the words "My prince Satan," "I'll give you 666," and "'Cause I live with Satan." In the song "Snowblind" by Styx, you can hear "Oh, Satan, move in our voices." The song "Hotel California" by the Eagles says, "Yes, Satan, he organized his own religion." And there are many, many more.

People often ask me, "Why get hung up on this backward stuff?" I'm not "hung up" on it; it's just something that came about that proves Satan is using some rock bands for his glory. You don't have to play songs backward to find satanic messages. In the song "Goodbye Stranger" by Supertramp it says, "With the devil as my savior, I don't pay no heed."

AC/DC sings "Hell Ain't No Bad Place To Be." Their song "Rock-N-Roll Singer" contains the words "I got the devil in my blood telling me what to do, and I'm all ears." These songs are being played all over the world; their concerts are sold out everywhere they

go. Teenagers love them. Their biggest song is called "Highway to Hell." The words to this song are saddening: "My friends are gonna be there, too. I'm on the highway to hell. No stop signs or speed limits. Nobody's gonna slow me down. Like a wheel, gonna spin it. Nobody's gonna mess me around. Hey, Satan, pay my dues. Hey, I'm in a rockin' band. Hey, mama, look at me. I'm on the way to the promise land. I'm on the highway to hell."

When Satan tempts us, what kind of guard can we have against him if this is what we are listening to? There is a highway to hell. I know, because three years ago I was on my highway to hell—going to all the concerts, doing everything all the other guys did. But all that is changed now. Three years ago I knelt down at an altar and asked the Lord to be my personal Savior. I told Him that it was no joke. At that very moment the Lord reached down and killed me; then He raised me up a new creature, just like He said in II Corinthians 5:17-18, a born again Christian. Making that decision was the best thing that ever happened to me. Being a Christian is a lot of fun. The Lord will put a new song in your heart.

A question to the Christians: Have you really separated from the things of the world, namely, the type of music you listen to? Are you compromising? It is my prayer, through writing this article, that both parents and young people will be made aware of the dangers of certain types of music and how Satan is using this very popular and "addicting" means to destroy our Christian testimony.



About the writer: Joel Robertson and his wife Lori are active members of the Grace Free Will Baptist Church in Arnold, Missouri. They have been used of the Lord to show the danger of Rock Music by a verbal and musical presentation. Their presentation has been given in several places in Missouri and other states.

Editor's note: I heartily recommend this couple and their labor for the Lord.

Hey! I'm A Christian!

by Missy Ballew



My name is Melissa Kay Ballew, but people call me Missy. I am sixteen years old and live in Marshall, Missouri. I am a member of the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church in Marshall. My pastor, whom I love and has been a joy to hear in every worship service, is Reverend Cliff Bowman. I am a student at the Olivet Christian Academy (O.C.A.) which is our school. I love the school and the Supervisors (Jerry and Waynelle Scott, Terri Chapman, and Mary Sanders). This church-school is one of the most important things in my life.

Another important thing in my life is my Christian family and friends. My mother, Diana, and I sing at churches in our area, and I play the guitar. My father, Lester, is also a member at Olivet. My brother, Troy, is a student at O.C.A. and has preached on several occasions. My sister, Shannon, is also a student at O.C.A. and is beginning to sing and use her voice for the Lord; and my grandmother (Granny) is also a part of my family and has been a great inspiration to me. My Christian friends, the Bowmans, Bro. and Sis. Burton (very sweet Christian friends), and our whole church has had a big part in my work for the Lord.

I was around the age of eight years old when I received Christ as my Saviour. I went to a Baptist church and, as a child, I really enjoyed going. But I have to be honest. The main reason I went to church

was to get *cheese curls*! Boy! Did those cheese curls pay off! I loved cheese curls, and that was my treat for every Sunday I went. Now my treat is the blessings from God and believe me, they sure are better than cheese curls! Prior to my salvation experience, I had an accident concerning my eyes. My brother, Troy, and I were playing one day, and we thought it would be fun to throw a few rocks at cars as they passed by. I was standing a good way in front of Troy acting like I (of all people) was the head rock thrower of our county! and I thought I was—but was I wrong! All of a sudden, I turned around to tell Troy something (probably of no importance) and B-A-M!!! I saw stars! Troy had thrown a rock about the same time I turned around.

Now, you're probably wondering why I went through this story with you, huh? Because now, ten years later, this accident still affects me. My left eye is permanently discolored, so I have all these people coming up to me and saying, "Oh! How weird!" I'm the kind of person that gets hurt easy, and Satan knows it. So here he comes along and points his big ugly finger at me and says, "HA, HA" Not so fun being a Christian after all, is it?" A few times I have answered him with a pitiful, "No, it sure isn't!" But you know what? Now I'm pointing at Satan and saying, "Hey! I'm a Christian and proud of it!"

About the writer: Missy Ballew is a member of the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church in Marshall, Missouri. She is also a student at Olivet Christian Academy. She is a vibrant, vivacious Christian and her testimony rings with the joy that comes from knowing and serving the Lord.

Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

How do you plan, organize, and promote a big day? Our church has experienced several big days which we call "Miracle Sundays." Time after time we have set big goals and reached them. Sometimes pastors set goals and don't seem to get anywhere. Why? How can a church reach its goals?

First, be sure it is the church's goal. Don't allow the church congregation to put the "monkey" on the pastor's back. The goal isn't the pastor's goal or the Sunday school superintendent's goal; it is the goal of the entire church. To assure this, we present our goal to the General Board, who pass it and then recommend it to the church while in conference. They vote to make this goal the church goal. That changes the whole complexion of the big day.

Second, plan well in advance, preferably a whole year. By planning a year in advance the church can be well organized, and can do a good and adequate job of promoting the big day.

Third, be organized. Plan in advance; approach the goal from as many different angles as possible. For example we have bus goals; we have class goals; we have department goals. We have contests between the adults; we have a teen rally, a children's church rally, and a special program to induce visiting and inviting. We usually have guest speakers, give prizes, and do anything else we can imagine to provoke our people to be present and bring friends.

Fourth, promote. Nothing takes the place of promotion. One can use radio, newspaper ads, bulletins, banners, round tuit pins, signs, newsletters, posters downtown, and especially posters in the church. Pastor, remember it's more important to get your church excited and working than it is to get the outsider interested.

A church can reach its goal. Once in a while a church may miss the mark, but not often if these ideas are used. Goal setting is good for the church.

Churches People And Events

Personnel Changes

Alvin Hook to Verdella Church, Liberal, MO
 Grover Terry to Eastern Gate Church, Springfield, MO
 Cody Freeman to First Free Will Baptist Church, Thayer, MO
 Jerry Fields to Berkely Church, Berkely, MO
 Rick Dabblemont to Cuba Church, Cuba, MO

Memorial to Reverend Frank Linton

The family of Reverend Frank Linton presented pew Bibles as a Memorial Gift to the Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church. Reverend Linton served the church as pastor for several years.

Mrs. Frank Linton and several members of the family were present for the Special Memorial Service.



Mrs. Ruby Linton, (foreground)
 Some of her children and grandchildren

Homecoming at Hopewell Church

The Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church, located near Tunas, Missouri, will hold its Ninth Annual Homecoming Service on July 22, 1984. The regular morning services will follow with a basket dinner and a program in the afternoon.

The church was organized in 1922, and became a member of the Niangua Association on September 25, 1922. Services were held in the Hopewell Union Church until the present church building was completed in 1942. Reverend Robert Long is the pastor.

Report from Twin Oaks Church

Church reporter, Madeline McFarland, writes that the attendance in all services is increasing at the Twin Oaks Free Will Baptist Church. The Lord is blessing with new families and some rededications.

In looking back the Lord blessed with a wonderful Sunrise Service. Several attended the breakfast served by the women of the church. The Communion and Feet Washing Service was well attended with some participating for the first time.

The Woman's Auxiliary is growing with an attendance of 14. Hopefully many more will become involved in this important organization. The church always holds a good Vacation Bible School in the summer.

The Sunday school attendance for the following months was as follows: December, 70; January, 77; February, 81; March, 82; and April, 90.

Pray for us, writes Mrs. McFarland, that we will grow through love, prayer, and compassion toward all people.

Mother-Daughter Banquet at Bethel

On May 15, 1984, the Woman's Auxiliary of the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Festus, Missouri, held a Mother-Daughter Banquet. The banquet was held at Lappe's Restaurant in Bonne Terre, Missouri, with sixty-four present.

The women of the church feel especially good about this because in January 1983 the auxiliary had ceased to function. But through prayer and work the Woman's Auxiliary was re-organized with twenty-one members in May 1984.

Mrs. Rose Mertz, of St. Louis, Missouri, was the special speaker for the Mother-Daughter Banquet.

Mothers Honored at Lebanon

Sunday, May 13, was a day full of surprise and joy at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Lebanon, Missouri. Several mothers received special recognition. Jane Bowman was recognized as the youngest mother; Stella Dennis was recognized as the oldest mother; and Patsy Braddy, Bonnie Stansbarger, and Sherry Perkins were recognized as having the most children present at the Morning Worship.

The Mother of the Year award went to Della Jones. A three-person committee evaluated the nominees and made the selection. Mrs. Della Jones was presented with a plaque and a set of New Testament cassette tapes.



Dear Friends:

Greetings from New Jersey. The Lord is continuing to bless our work. We are having souls saved and an increase in attendance. We are averaging in the forties now and feel that the church will continue to grow.

Our urgent need is our missionary account. In April we were within just a few dollars of being "cut off" from the National Home Missions Board because of being too far in the red. We have never been in the red until last November. But because of the \$43,000.00 deficit of the General Missions Account many began to switch their support believing we would be alright. But we went \$400.00 a month into the red very quickly.

Our second great need is for Building Funds. We are just breaking even with the finances and construction on present responsibilities. We raised over \$5,000.00 to build the recreation room to the parsonage for a place to meet away from the rented school. (We can only get the school building on Sundays). The city has placed a \$17,800.00 cash surety bond against our Building Plans. We have spent the equivalent of \$14,000.00 plus to comply with the City Planning Board requirements and they still demand \$7,600.00 cash surety bond guarantee. The National Home Missions Board cannot help because of some difficulties.

Thirdly, building loan money is not available at this point. I have approached the National Home Missions Board twice and I have not been able to get any help. The local banks will not loan it. So, if we cannot get the money from the bank nor the National Home Mission Board we are at a loss as to what to do.

We have not asked our missionary supporters to help raise Building Fund money because we know that the giving is to send the missionary to reach the lost. Also, the National Home Missions Board has asked the missionary not to make this kind of appeal. But because of the unusual difficulties I am appealing to the Woman's Auxiliary, Youth groups, Master's Men or etc. to help us.

The last point to be made is, bonding in New Jersey is similar to Missouri. One Bonding Company charges \$6,528 as a fee for \$80,000.00 and another could not bond because it is not registered in the state.

It is against the law in Vineland, New Jersey to meet in your home for church services. However, we are meeting in the recreation room of the parsonage. We do not advertise it because we would be subject to a fine or jail if the authorities should be aware that our Mid-Week Prayer Service is being held in the home.

So you can see that we need your help. We are claiming victory because we believe the Lord will give it.

Sincerely,

Vergel Maness

Editor's note: Brother Maness has asked that I include this letter in the Gem.

Walk-A-Thon for Missions, October 20

A Walk-A-Thon (Ride-A-Thon, Rock-A-Thon) will be held in Missouri on Saturday, October 20. The purpose is to raise money that will put every account in the black, of Foreign and National Home Missionaries, from Missouri. *An all-out state-united effort will be required to do this.* Pastors and churches, please make plans to participate in this endeavor.

Reverend Gary Fry, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Mtn. Grove, Missouri, is serving as the State Coordinator. Coordinators from each district association will be working with him. More information will be forthcoming.



State Coordinator and some of the District Coordinators for the State Walk-A-Thon

Missouri State Association Against Lottery

The following resolution was adopted by the Missouri State Association while in session, in its recent meeting. "Whereas Missouri Citizens will probably vote on the state lottery issue this fall, and whereas Christians have historically considered lotteries as gambling; Be it resolved our pastors be diligent in preaching and teaching against state lottery. Be it further resolved that Free Will Baptists vote against a state lottery." Editor's note: As scheduled now, this will be voted on November 6, 1984.

Great VBS at Mt. Pisgah

The pastor of the Mt. Pisgah Free Will Baptist Church reports a wonderful Vacation Bible School. There were eighteen saved and one rededication! The attendance averaged in the middle 80s. Charolette Crow served as the director and Beth Hamilton as the assistant director.

Reverend Danny Douglas, pastor, stated that the Bible School was a success because the people worked hard towards inviting children to the school and the VBS workers gave of themselves to serve God and help the children.

Educational Building Dedicated at South Fremont

On Sunday, April 29, 1984 the South Fremont Free Will Baptist Church held a Dedication Service for its new Educational Building. The building compliments the present structure and will accommodate classrooms and a Fellowship Hall.

The pastor, Reverend Dale Skiles, stated at the Dedication Service, that there were less problems connected with that building program, than any he had ever experienced. "In fact, there were no problems at all," he said. He commended the church for their cooperation and faithfulness in the building endeavor.

Mr. George Scruggs, mayor of Springfield, expressed words of appreciation, from the city of Springfield and offered encouragement to the church. Reverend Clarence, State Executive Secretary, delivered the Dedicatory Message. He complimented the pastor and church for the beautiful and accommodating Educational Building. He used as his



Pastor and Mayor



Congregation

Bus Sunday at Conway

Sunday, May 15, 1984, was Bus Sunday at Calvary Church, Conway, Missouri. The number on the bus broke record. It was 63. The attendance for Sunday school was 115 and the morning worship 129.

A special guest rode the bus, Mickey Mouse (Patty Hendrix). The church presented a gift to the bus driver and helper, Paul and Orma Pulley. The bus kids sang a special song for the service.

Three young people were baptized that Sunday. Reverend Ralph Douglas is the pastor.

Report on Missouri State Association

by Clarence Burton

"I love the Bible more now than I ever loved it before" was said and echoed by many that attended the 71st Session of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists. Surely there was a greater appreciation, love and respect for the Bible as a result of four messages and two devotionals that developed and lended themselves to the theme "Back To The Bible".

The preachers, Dr. Thigpen, Brother Braddy, Brother Da Vault and Brother Murray preached with an anointing from Heaven. The devotionals by Brother Greg McAllister and Brother Steve Hale

prepared hearts for the business sessions. The ones that presided, Brothers Gene Crewse, Tim Eaton and Dale Underwood set the spiritual tone for their respective service. The congregational singing and the special music by Brother Ted Wilbanks, The Durbin Family, Patsy Kesaluv, The Postlewaites, and Rhonda Hodges complimented the spirit of each service. The fellowship, as always, was sweet and uplifting.

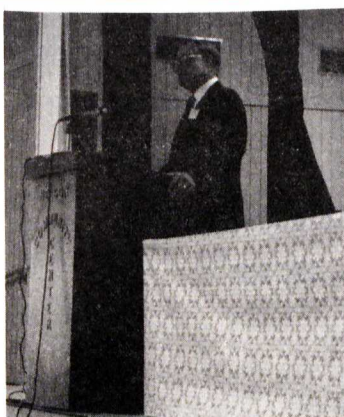
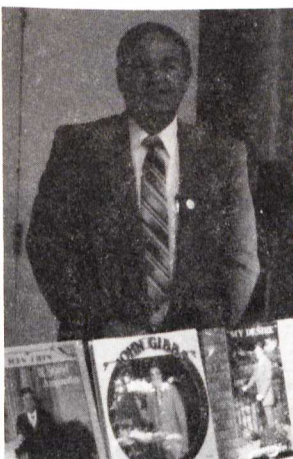
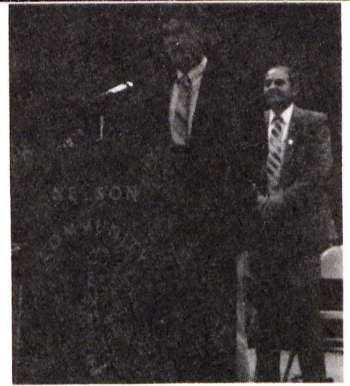
The service on Tuesday evening, with an emphasis on Sunday School and Church growth, under the direction of the State Sunday School and C.T.S. Board, coincided with the ten-year program that was initiated last year. Brother Connie Cariker delivered a challenging message with a strong emphasis on "Keeping Our Purpose". This year marks the beginning of the 10 Year Program inasmuch as each state board has made its response to the Planning Committee. We anticipate these goals being met by 1994: 1,000 professions of faith in Jesus each year; Sunday School growth increasing an average of 1,000 each year; an average of 2 new churches started each year; an appropriate increase in giving with a goal of five hundred thousand for cooperative and at least that much for designated by 1994. Included in this program is also satellite bookstores, Sunday Schools and etc.

This goal may seem unreachable, and 1994 seems so far into the future, but look back ten years and note how quickly it has passed and increases that have been accomplished. With a firm trust in God, a firm determination and a firm interdependence and love for each other we can do it! If we are to move forward these goals should and must be kept in view. May God help us that there will not be one ounce of pessimism in our thinking. May we go forward and press on with this one underlying thought that souls must be saved in Jerusalem (local church), in Judea (throughout Missouri), Samaria (throughout the U.S.) and the uttermost part of the earth.

The Lord has given us quality leadership in our state work with our moderator Brother Millard Sasser, assistant moderator, Brother Nathan Ruble and the general board. As these challenge and lead us may we not be guilty of hindering or holding back, but may we be in step with the Holy Spirit and claim continuous victory month, by month and say with the apostle Paul, "I can do *all things* through Christ which strengtheneth me".

It was estimated that approximately six-hundred attended the Missouri State Association and related activities. Registration was down this year because of the meeting being held a week earlier and some of the public schools were still in session. In fact graduation exercises were being held in several areas. A layman that has attended several state associations gave an appropriate description of all the activities, "They were great". Next year the State Association will meet with the Farmington Free Will Baptist Church in response to the request of the St. Francois District Association. Let us pray, trust and work towards a good year and another great State Association.

PHOTO REVIEW OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION



1984 STATE CTS COMPETITION WINNERS

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

First Grade

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| 1 | Juanita Helsley | Hartville |
| 2 | Amber Screwse | Hartville |
| 3 | Holly Helsley | Rock Chapel |

Second Grade

- | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Stacy Epperly | Hartville |
| 2 | Chad Burton | Rock Chapel |
| 3 | Daylene Pattison | Friendship, Branson |

Third Grade

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| 1 | Amy Henderson | Hartville |
| 2 | Selena Simpson | Hartville |
| 3 | Christy Adamson | Rock Chapel |

SWORD DRILL

Fourth Grade

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| 1 | Bryson Pellham | Hartville |
| 2 | Steven Moore | Rock Chapel |
| 3 | Christy Landers | Hartville |

Fifth Grade

- | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Michelle Cropper | Hartville |
| 2 | Shawn Helsey | Rock Chapel |
| 3 | Tracy Middebaugh | Friendship, Branson |

Sixth Grade

- | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Jon Smith | Hartville |
| 2 | Michelle Rodgers | Pleasant Home |
| 3 | Amy Crewse | Pleasant Home |

TIC TAC TOE

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1 | Hartville |
|---|-----------|

BIBLE BOWL

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1 | Trinity |
|---|---------|

CREATIVE ART

- | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|
| 1 | Mike Moore | Rock Chapel |
|---|------------|-------------|

ORAL COMMUNICATION

Adventurer

- | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | Nikki Williams | Beacon |
| 2 | Shelly Simpson | Hartville |

Herald

- | | | |
|---|-------------|--------|
| 1 | Dawn Dodson | Monett |
|---|-------------|--------|

MUSIC

INSTRUMENTAL SOLO

Herald

- | | | |
|---|------------|---------|
| 1 | Bob Durham | Trinity |
|---|------------|---------|

KEYBOARD SOLO

Learner

- | | | |
|---|----------------|---------|
| 1 | Felicia Sasser | Trinity |
|---|----------------|---------|

Adventurer

- | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| 1 | Diane Walls | Berkeley |
| 2 | Lori Gideon | Belton |
| 3 | Donald Myers | Fredericktown |

Herald

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|----------|
| 1 | Bob Durham | Trinity |
| 2 | David Walls | Berkeley |
| 3 | Cherly McCollough | Neosho |

Crusader

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Stephanie McCollough | Neosho |
| 2 | Wendy Durham | Trinity |
| 3 | Stephanie Norris | Calvary Fellowship |

VOCAL SOLO

Adventurer

- | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | Nikki Williams | Beacon |
| 2 | Amy Pointer | South Fremont |
| 3 | Wendy Hall | Rock Chapel |

Herald

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Christin Hogan | Cape Girardeau |
| 2 | Shelly Hall | Rock Chapel |
| (tie) | Cheryl McCollough | Neosho |

Crusader

- | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Suzanne Norris | Calvary Fellowship |
| 2 | Michelle Brown | Grant Avenue |
| 3 | Sean Hodge | Farmington |

Ambassador

- | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| 1 | Roberta Crowe | Berkeley |
| 2 | Joanna Barnett | Grant Avenue |
| 3 | Caralea Brown | Grant Avenue |

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

DUET

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1 | Cape Girardeau |
|---|----------------|

TRIO

1 Calvary Fellowship

QUARTET

1 Grant Avenue



S.S. & C.T.S Board



Hartville



Beacon



Berkeley



Cape Girardeau



Monett



Rock Chapel



Calvary Fellowship



Neosho



Trinity

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS May 1984

18.50%	Missouri State Home Missions	\$ 4,960.27
16.75%	Executive Office and Gem	4,602.34
3.50%	General Fund	938.43
6.50%	Youth Camp	2,815.29
1.75%	Sunday School and CTS	469.21
1.75%	Christian Board of Education	469.21
2.50%	Retirement Village*	469.21
5.00%	Missouri State Retirement Program	626.06
33.50%	National Departments	8,982.11
	Foreign Missions	
	Free Will Baptist Bible College	
	Executive Office	
	National Home Missions	
	Board of Retirement & Insurance	
	Layman's Board	
	Theological Commission	
6.00%	Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	1,608.74
Total		\$26,812.27

This was an especially fine month for cooperative receipts and designated giving. With a heart full of praise we thank God for what He continues to do through His people as they give that His work may be enlarged and strengthened. May He bless those who share in this effective ministry.

*Reflects .0025% change in cooperative disbursements for previous month. Youth Camp received check from Retirement Village Account to reflect .04% change in cooperative disbursements for previous month.

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS April 1984

18.50%	Missouri State Home Missions	\$ 3,274.37
16.75%	Executive Office and Gem	2,964.63
3.50%	General Fund	619.48
6.50%	Youth Camp	1,150.45
1.75%	Christian Board of Education	309.74
1.75%	Sunday School and CTS	309.74
6.75%	Retirement Village	1,194.70
5.00%	Missouri State Retirement Program	884.96
33.50%	National Departments	5,929.26
	Foreign Missions	
	Free Will Baptist Bible College	
	Executive Office	
	National Home Missions	
	Board of Retirement & Insurance	
	Layman's Board	
	Theological commission	
6.00%	Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	1,061.96
Total		\$17,699.29

Someone has said, "Giving not only develops a capacity of fruitfulness, but also for joyfulness." The Bible states, "God loveth a cheerful giver." May the Lord who is the giver of all good gifts continue to give a spirit of joy to the pastor and church that gives to share in the world-wide ministry for Christ, through cooperative and designated giving.

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS April, 1984

Byrd	\$ 11.00
Gray Summit	71.05
Mine La Motte	20.00
Union Light	205.15
Mill Creek	147.39

DeSoto	600.00
Bailey Chapel	38.00
Macedonia	22.00
Way Side	91.38
Calvary Chapel	229.30
Parkview	450.00
Wilderness	192.00
Number One	38.50
Hickory Grove	44.48
Union Grove	150.00
Mtn. Valley	172.29
Tyrone	33.90
Mt. Zion, Thayer	60.80
Mt. Pisgah	126.00
Hannon	228.08
Mt. Zion, Gower	41.55
Beacon	425.76
Houston	217.04
Houston	205.50
Happy Home	108.00
Jones Creek Road	472.00
Purdy	188.55
Grace	795.00
Berean	9.58
Monett	553.48
Gospel Light	141.00
Flat River, First	480.91
Hartville	187.09
Springfield, First	100.00
Pleasant Home	167.36
Joplin	106.90
Merl's Chapel	64.01
Pleasant Ridge	48.00
Union	60.00
Fredericktown, First	317.00
United, West Plains	236.65
Hurryville	142.26
Freeman Chapel	157.00
Faith, Lemay	180.00
Rolla	108.09
Verdella	155.78
Verdella	160.71
Lingo	49.50
Belton	193.69
Royal Oak	31.00
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	55.58
Pleasant Hill	35.88
Cabool	218.79
Sedalia	50.58
Central	1,209.78
Copper Mines	181.20
West Plains, First	50.00
Salem	30.00
Rock Chapel	242.29
Seymour	75.80
Waynesville	95.80
Waynesville	71.45
New Harmony	5.87
New Harmony	9.01
Wolf Creek	201.68
Way Side	101.03
Olivet	250.00
Thayer	238.60
Berkeley	572.33
Leadington	415.00
Berkeley	429.18
Joplin	170.50
Neosho	71.25
Farmington	1,150.00
El Dorado Springs, First	5.00
Carthage	50.00
Tyrone	58.20
Cope	31.48
New Rock Springs	76.87
Willow Springs	240.80
Eastern Gate	45.00

Faith, Lemay	174.50
O'Fallon	689.46
Lebanon	426.80
South Fremont	317.00
Cape Girardeau	405.00
Interest	212.85
Total	\$17,699.29

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS **May 1984**

Harmony, Kansas City	\$ 399.00
De Soto	650.00
Fordland	448.00
Koshkonong	105.00
Berean	11.32
New Harmony	11.49
Calvary, Conway	347.74
Pleasant Ridge	65.00
Macedonia	23.00
Number One	44.70
Friendship	108.00
Bailey Chapel	42.00
Myrtle	195.86
Victory, Alton	290.00
Happy Home	111.90
Sedalia	90.00
Terrill Road	91.00
Belton	193.21
Springfield, First	263.00
Gospel Light	182.00
Gray Summit	75.93
Oskaloosa	40.15
Royal Oak	53.00
Mill Creek	187.34
Union Grove	140.00
Hartville	237.21
Mt. Zion, Gower	95.55
Marshfield	188.72
Bethel	558.00
Flat River, First	629.44
Freeman Chapel	122.80
United, West Plains	324.84
Olivet	250.00
Purdy	170.21
Mt. Zion, Thayer	31.77
Rock Chapel	355.68
Rolla	220.03
Walnut Grove	67.95
Byrd	14.00
St. Francois Association	19.50
Parkview	266.15
Grace	1,004.00
Kingsway	225.00
Hopewell	217.00
Mine La Motte	20.00
Hurryville	146.58
Salem	30.00
West Plains, First	100.00
Hannon	239.00
Viburnum	149.59
Fredericktown, First	401.00
Calvary Chapel	325.94
Mt. Pisgah	150.00
Pleasant Home	250.03
New Home	37.45
Thayer	244.20
Copper Mines	232.91
Wolf Creek	255.65
Lingo	52.00
Leadington	580.00
Calvary Fellowship	4,148.98
Monett	797.36
Black Oak	10.00
El Dorado, First	5.00
Seymour	115.10

Way Side	152.80
Pleasant Hill	53.54
Mtn. Grove, First	533.72
Mtn. Grove, First	773.92
Mtn. Grove, First	580.24
Mtn. Grove, First	485.61
Mtn. Grove, First	776.04
Myrtle	193.74
Calvary, Conway	138.00
Farmington	1,150.00
Happy Home	92.44
Harmony, K.C.	259.00
Hannon	252.80
Bailey Chapel	37.00
Bethel	424.00
Willow Springs	213.18
Cope	23.00
Hartville	270.98
Mill Creek	150.06
Fordland	347.00
Verdella	163.30
O'Fallon	765.16
Lebanon, First	464.24
Cape Girardeau	498.76
South Fremont	379.00
Interest	178.46
Total	\$26,812.27

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING **FOREIGN MISSIONS** **April/May 1984**

South Side	\$116.00
Tallent	\$116.00
Columbia	\$55.50
Tallent	\$20.00
General Fund	10.50
McLain	25.00
Hannon	\$401.12
Bunch	\$251.12
Pinkerton	75.00
Lytle	75.00
Thelma Hoyt & Byrd Jr. SS Class	\$30.00
Bailey	\$30.00
Victory, Kansas City	\$75.00
Turnbough	\$20.00
Bailey	20.00
Pinkerton	25.00
Bunch	10.00
Beacon	\$711.84
Pinkerton	\$521.84
Coscia	175.00
Bunch	15.00
Houston	\$25.00
Tallent	\$15.00
Moser	2.00
Richards	2.00
Bryan	2.00
McLain	2.00
Payne	1.00
Turnbough	1.00
Fourth	155.00
Tallent	\$ 10.00
Lytle	145.00
Marshfield	\$72.47
Bunch	\$30.00
Tallent	32.47
Bailey	10.00
United, West Plains	\$108.29
Bunch	\$108.29
Lebanon, First	\$100.00
Bunch	\$25.00
McLain	25.00
Lytle	25.00
Tallent	25.00

Flat River, First	\$30.00	Thayer	\$10.75
Bailey	\$20.00	Pinkerton	\$5.00
Aldridge	5.00	Miley	5.75
Turnbough	5.00	Berkeley	\$265.00
Leadington	\$470.00	Deficit Accts	\$200.00
Turnbough—Plane Ticket	\$50.00	Tallent	35.00
Turnbough	50.00	Lytle	30.00
Morgan	40.00	Indian Creek Association	\$1,145.00
Pinkerton	40.00	Morgan	\$970.00
Miley	40.00	Bunch	25.00
McLain	40.00	Bailey	35.00
Hanna	40.00	Webb	100.00
Eagleton	40.00	Banks	5.00
Richards	40.00	Cousineau	5.00
Bailey	45.00	Wode	5.00
Lytle	40.00	Farmington	\$315.00
Cowart	5.00	Pinkerton	\$130.00
Monett	\$554.14	Bailey	180.00
Tallent	\$434.14	Bunch	5.00
General Fund	55.00	Eastern Gate	\$60.00
Bailey	30.00	Van Hook	\$20.00
Sparks	35.00	Tallent	20.00
Pleasant Home	\$270.00	Pinkerton	20.00
McLain	\$130.00	Harmony, Kansas City	\$10.00
Bailey	120.00	Turnbough	\$10.00
Pinkerton	20.00	Fordland	\$237.40
Pleasant Ridge	\$40.00	Bunch	\$207.40
McLain	\$20.00	Tallent	30.00
General Fund	20.00	Central Western Association	\$50.00
West Plains, First	\$189.00	Bunch	\$50.00
General Fund	\$189.00	Neosho	\$129.80
Fredericktown, First	\$35.00	Call-a-thon	\$129.80
Bailey	\$10.00	Myrtle	\$168.00
Turnbough	20.00	Bailey	\$103.00
General Fund	5.00	Tallent	65.00
Freeman Chapel	\$639.13	Terrill Road	\$45.00
Pinkerton	\$639.13	Bunch	\$45.00
South Fremont	\$50.00	Liberty, Kirksville	\$45.00
Richards	\$10.00	Pinkerton	\$45.00
Pinkerton	20.00	Oskaloosa	\$118.55
Bailey	10.00	Bunch	\$118.55
McLain	10.00	John Schebaum	\$50.00
Viburnum	\$58.00	General Fund	\$50.00
Tallent	\$14.00	Martinstown	\$23.00
Bailey	24.00	Call-a-thon	\$23.00
Pinkerton	20.00	Bethel	\$90.00
Belton	\$50.00	General Fund	\$50.00
Miley	\$50.00	Tallent	20.00
Faith Chapel	\$20.00	Bailey	20.00
McLain	\$20.00	Trinity	\$64.00
Sedalia	\$15.62	Hanna	\$50.00
Inscoc	\$15.62	Bailey	14.00
Central	\$125.00	Hannon Hi-Teen SS Class	\$30.00
Bunch	\$90.00	Bunch	\$30.00
Filkins	15.00	Mtn. Grove, First	\$942.00
General Fund	20.00	Pinkerton	\$147.50
Fourth Bible SS Class	\$10.00	McLain	177.50
McLain	\$10.00	Gibbs	60.00
Black Oak	\$147.38	Bailey	232.00
Aldridge	\$74.49	Tallent	115.00
Robinson	72.89	Turnbough	55.00
Brent & Cindy Thompson	\$50.00	Cousineau	50.00
Bunch	\$50.00	Hanna	25.00
New Harmony SS	\$266.21	General Fund	80.00
Miley	\$84.60	Total	\$8,768.20
McLain	84.60		
Call-a-thon			
Bunch	\$48.51		
C. Mills	48.50		
Olivet	\$100.00		
Poole	\$30.00		
Inscoc	30.00		
Sparks	20.00		
Pinkerton	10.00		
McLain	10.00		

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS April/May 1984

Columbia	\$30.50
Vandivort	\$20.00
General Fund	10.50
Mt. Pisgah	\$150.00
Lewis	\$50.00
Maness	50.00

Vandivort	50.00
Victory, Kansas City	\$70.00
Maness	\$40.00
Ross	30.00
Leadington	\$220.00
Maness	\$50.00
Vandivort	50.00
Fulcher	40.00
O'Dell	40.00
Long	40.00
Marshfield	\$20.00
Maness	\$20.00
Monett	\$111.00
Lake	\$91.00
Lewis	20.00
Flat River, First	\$10.00
E. Turnbough	\$5.00
Scott	5.00
Fredericktown, First	\$75.00
Fulcher	\$10.00
Lewis	20.00
Shockey	12.50
Barron	27.50
General Fund	5.00
Viburnum	\$80.00
Maness	\$20.00
E. Turnbough	40.00
Vandivort	20.00
Rolla	\$100.00
Vandivort	\$100.00
South East District Association	\$150.00
Vandivort	\$150.00
Bob & Glenda Keith	\$20.00
Vandivort	\$20.00
Central	\$118.00
Thomas	\$8.00
Lewis	30.00
General Fund	35.00
Maness	15.00
Highway Helpers	30.00
Lebanon, First	\$100.00
O'Dell	\$100.00
Rock Chapel	\$25.00
Maness	\$25.00
South Fremont	\$4.00
Maness	\$4.00
Olivet	\$40.00
Maness	\$40.00
Thayer	\$46.30
Highway Helpers	\$30.00
Maness	16.30
Wolf Creek	\$20.00
Vandivort	\$20.00
Berkeley	\$408.00
Deficit Accts	\$101.00
Maness	12.00
Lewis	20.00
Fulcher	200.00
Vandivort	75.00
Indian Creek Association	\$5.00
Lake	\$5.00
Farmington	\$540.00
Francis	\$510.00
Maness	5.00
Wright	25.00
New Rock Springs	\$100.00
Vandivort	\$100.00
Eastern Gate	\$40.00
Vandivort	\$20.00
Lewis	\$20.00
Mtn. Grove, First	\$558.29
Maness	\$198.29
Vandivort	330.00
Lewis	30.00
Warren & Ann Livingston	\$11.25

Long	\$11.25
Alice Hoover	\$5.00
Elder	\$5.00
Hannon	\$150.00
Elder	\$150.00
Bethel	\$150.00
General Fund	\$50.00
Highway Helpers	40.00
Elder	40.00
Maness	20.00
Myrtle	\$188.00
Highway Helpers	\$35.00
Maness	65.00
Elder	58.00
Evangelism	20.00
Carthage	10.00
South Side	\$20.00
Maness	\$10.00
Fulcher	10.00
Fordland	\$70.00
Vandivort	\$35.00
Maness	35.00
Harmony, Kansas City	\$30.00
Lake	\$20.00
Maness	10.00
Trinity	\$68.25
Fulcher	\$20.00
General Fund	\$48.25
Total	\$3,733.59

YOUTH CAMP April/May 1984

Salem (Pool)	\$ 91.10
Mt. Pisgah	20.00
Hannon	45.00
Leadington	40.00
Hartville	20.00
Central	349.98
Olivet	50.00
Thayer	20.00
Farmington (Pool)	80.00
Lebanon, First	50.00
New Rock Springs	10.00
Bethel, El Dorado Springs (Pool)	13.88
Myrtle	45.75
Bethel, Festus	50.00
Kingsway (Pool)	74.50
Sunnyview (Pool)	125.00
Oskaloosa	20.00
Total	\$1,105.21

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Calvary Chapel	\$33.25
Leadington	40.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Total	\$93.25

HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Hannon	\$1,000.00
Library Building	\$850.00
General Fund	150.00
Houston	74.00
Willow Springs	40.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Mtn. Grove, First	100.00
Thayer (Library Building)	445.00
Total	\$1,679.00

WORLD VISION

Mtn Grove, First (Love Loaf)	\$647.87
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THE GEM
P.O. Box 991
Lebanon, Missouri 65536

SECOND CLASS
POSTAGE
PAID AT
LEBANON,
MISSOURI AND AT
ADDITIONAL MAILING
OFFICES

OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. Millard Sasser
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Nathan Ruble
Clerk	Rev. Joe Braddy
Assistant Clerk	Rev. Jay Tilson

GENERAL BOARD

Cave Springs	Rev. John England	1986
Central Western	Mr. Charlie Hoover	1986
Indian Creek	Rev. Steve Reeves	1986
Greater Kansas City	Rev. Cody Freeman	1986
Laclede	Rev. Gerald Dame	1986
Liberty	Rev. Alvis Paul	1986
South Central	Rev. Dale Cochran	1986
St. Francis	Rev. Ron Edgill	1986
Bootheel	Rev. Wayne Hale	1985
Greater Springfield	Rev. Grover Terry	1985
Mission	Rev. Gary Fry	1985
Niangua	Rev. Bill Knapp	1985
Northeast	Mr. Fletcher Riley	1985
Northwest	Rev. Warren Hall	1985
St. Louis	Rev. Jim Mertz	1985

HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Rev. Ted Wilbanks	1989
Rev. Glenn Rehkop	1988
Rev. Dale Underwood	1987
Rev. Roger Harwell	1986
Rev. Cliff Bowman, Chairman	1985

YOUTH CAMP BOARD

Rev. Kenn Goff	1989
Rev. Dale Skiles, Chairman	1988
Rev. R. E. Helsley	1987
Rev. Max Courtney	1986
Rev. Bud Arnold	1985

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

Rev. Roger Hogan	1989
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Mr. Gene Wilfong	1988
Rev. Greg McAllister, Chairman	1987
Rev. Steve Hale	1986
Rev. Tim Eaton	1985

RETIREMENT VILLAGE BOARD

Rev. Glen Murray	1989
Rev. Stanley Jones	1988
Rev. Jim McAllister, Chairman	1987
Mr. Don Ruble	1986
Rev. John Postlewaite	1985

PLANNING COMMITTEE (1985)

Rev. Millard Sasser
Rev. Jim McAllister
Rev. Clarence Burton
Rev. Richard Robinson
Rev. Dale Skiles

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Rev. Nathan Ruble	1987
Rev. Joe Braddy	1986
Rev. Warren Hall	1985

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Rev. James Barker
Rev. Cecil Campbell
Mr. Phillip Munn

COMMITTEE TO STUDY CANCER INSURANCE

Rev. Wayne Phillips
Rev. Roger Hogan
Mr. Ron Graham

OTHER

Clarence Burton	Executive Secretary
Warren Livingston	Manager, Bookstore