

A black and white photograph of a pond. In the foreground, there are several lily pads floating on the water. To the right, a large, dense bush or small tree with many leaves stands on the bank. In the background, there are more trees and a stone wall or fence. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Volume 53, No. 4, July-August, 1985

Free Will Baptist

ISSN 209-460

GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1984-85

CHURCHES	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY
Belton	38	32	33	34	52	40	38	36	36	44	40	
Bethel	111	93	104	107	112	116	111	98	101	121		91
Calvary Fellowship	160	168	157	172	229	204	191	193	197	256	206	198
Cape Girardeau	70	62	72	70	75	68	66	62		75		63
Central	111	104	112	125								
Copper Mines	69	67	75	74	69	75	83	70				
Cuba	52	59	51	55	59	64	75	69	68	77		
DeSoto	180	175	176	174	204	183						
Farmington	681		650	672	789	657	694	545	598	800	685	686
Flat River, 1st	156	155	173		197	146	165	147		192		
Grace	188	179	187	190	225	196	192	154	159	217	182	169
Grant Avenue		116	100	91	93		85	64	88	96	112	89
Hannon	81	81	76	73	76	73	77	62	75	74	82	70
Hartville	92	88	92	90	98	94	96	102	76	114		
Harmony, K.C.	79	76	91	73		67			76	114	90	81
Houston	80	76	80	76	74	77	83	74	68	69	69	65
Jones Creek											114	86
Monett	162	143	158	151	151	165	175	130	162	175	166	
Myrtle	46	44	45	47	49	31	45	40	35	48	41	45
New Life, Fellowship	44	51	49	56	69	60	56	65	53	95		
O'Fallon		128	148	139	198	132	142	126	110			
Parkview					75	75	82	57	67	77	79	70
Thayer	129	126	134	139	142						144	
Richwoods		52	45	49	49	39	40	35	43	53	50	
United, West Plains	85	97	83		93	99	93	78	81		94	91
West Plains, 1st			99	102	142							
Willow Springs	88	88	98	100	88	89	88	66	69	84	97	83

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

Publication and Business Office: 303 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536

Clarence Burton, editor

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

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Churches People And Events

Berkeley Couple Celebrates 60th Wedding Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson, long-time members of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Berkeley, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary November 22, 1984. The church shared in this occasion with a time of fellowship and refreshments after the evening service, November 18. Both Brother and Sister Wilson expressed their love for the Lord and their thankfulness for being able to serve Him together these 60 years.

Overland Free Will Baptist Church Honors Pastor Of 30 Years

The first Sunday of March was chosen to honor the pastor, Reverend Harry Asher, for 30 years of loyal service to our wonderful Lord and to the church.

Everyone attending was given a pencil with the inscription, "Our Pastor is Special." Several testimonies were given representing the different age groups of our church.

Brother and Sister Asher were then presented with a beautiful plaque, and when it appeared all the honors had been bestowed, they were surprised with a beautiful grandfather clock.

It takes a special man
to keep a dream alive
and in spite of heartaches,
let hope survive.
When the going gets rough
And he fails to meet his goal;
To stand tough,
But remain sweet in his soul.

It takes a special wife
to walk beside her man
And when hope goes up in smoke,
just do the best she can;
to keep her faith in God
and transform his fears to a smile
and make life seem worthwhile.

We salute you, Brother and Sister Harry A. Asher.

Dedication Service at Union Grove

The Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, located near Norwood, Missouri, held its Dedication Service for the new church building on Sunday, June 2, 1985.

The new auditorium will have a seating capacity of 250. The educational space will accommodate the same number of people. The new church furniture includes, pews, tables, chairs for the classrooms, and a completely furnished kitchen.

The Dedicatory Message was delivered by a former pastor, Reverend Gene Terry. The building program was initiated while Brother Terry was serving as pastor. The special music was presented by the wife of the pastor, Bernetta Williams and the children. Also, a gospel singing group called the Redeemed presented special music.

The pastor, Reverend John Williams, recognized the ones who had helped with the program and expressed heartfelt and very deep appreciation for their labor of love. He stated, "We can see, as we look at this building, what God can do through people who love Him. This beautiful building has become a reality because of the concern of God's people." He asked for testimonies and several people gave testimonies that were expressive of their thanks to the Lord for what He had done for them. Ministers and deacons were asked to come forward for the Prayer of Dedication. Reverend Billy Hicks and Reverend Danny Douglas led the congregation in this prayer.

The pastor and his family, Reverend and Mrs. John Williams and children, began serving the Union Grove Church the first Sunday in September, 1982. He stated, "It has been enjoyable serving this church. The Lord has blessed with His increase and we are so thankful. We look forward to continued blessings from the Lord as we work together for Him. We are especially thankful for His grace and leadership in helping us complete this building program. We trust that it shall always be used for His glory.

The Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church was organized in 1929.

Seventy-Seven Graduated in Free Will Baptist Bible College 42nd Commencement

Free Will Baptist Bible College awarded degrees to 77 graduates of five degree programs in commencement exercises held on campus May 16, 1985. Families, friends, and students filled the college's Activities Building to honor the graduates. This was the Bible College's forty-second Commencement.

The graduates came from 18 states and three foreign countries. Those from Missouri are listed below: Bachelor of Arts, Susan Keesling, Mtn. Grove; Craig Mills, Columbus; Rebekah Nicholson, St. Louis; Bachelor of Science, Rhonda Harrington; Cynthia Fry Kinnick, Mtn. Grove.

Editor's Note: Congratulations!

The Board of Trustees met on campus May 13-15 and approved the purchase of computers for the Business Education Department and the establishment of a President's Council. The President's Council will meet with the president annually for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness and ministry of the college. This Council will give a broader base of input from the people. Membership will be open to individuals whose annual gifts to the college are \$1,000 or more.

Bowling for Missions

Reverend Ken Dodson, pastor of the Monett Free Will Baptist Church, writes: "This past year, the church began a church bowling league. The league was rather unique in that it was called, 'Bowling for Missions.' Each team was named after a foreign nation or a city where we have either a foreign or home missions work. Over 40 people participated in the league with a total of \$834.00 given to missions."

Editor's note: Sounds good to me.

Dedication at Richwoods

On Sunday, April 21, 1985, the Richwoods Free Will Baptist Church held a Dedication Service for its new church building. The beautiful new building follows an A frame structural plan with glass paneling on the front and rear. The auditorium will accommodate over 200, with a full choir loft, a spacious foyer and a balcony. Also included on the auditorium level is a pastor's study and nursery. The lower level houses classrooms and kitchen facilities.

Reverend James Parker, pastor, stated, "This has not been an easy task but it has been a worthwhile one. The people of the Richwoods Church have looked forward to this event for a long time. They have worked, they have prayed, and they have given of their money and time to see this building built for the Lord. May the Lord bless everyone who has helped make this possible."

Reverend Clarence Burton, state executive secretary, delivered the dedicatory message. He stated, "Isn't it wonderful to see a dream come true? This beautiful building surely reflects a labor of love, a work of faith, and a patience of hope from a faithful pastor and a faithful congregation. May this building be used to glorify God, win souls to Jesus, and strengthen every Christian who worships with this body of believers." He used as his subject "The Church."

Sister Sophia Ackerson gave a very interesting history of the Richwoods Church. The church stands as a living monument of the grace and goodness of God," she said. "The people of the community were not receptive to the gospel nor the labor of the church in its beginning. But through perseverance and prayer a work was begun."

In concluding the dedication service, the pastor called the trustees, and then the membership of the church. The keys were presented to the chairman of the Trustee Board, Brother Junior Lewis. Reverend Charley Miller, pastor of the DeSoto Free Will Baptist Church, led in the prayer of dedication.



Rev. and Mrs. Parker



Church Building
and
Rev. Parker



Dedication Service

First Church, Flat River Increases Cooperative to 15 Percent

In their June business meeting, the First Free Will Baptist Church, Flat River, Missouri, increased their *cooperative giving* from 12 percent to 15 percent. The church also voted to designate 1 percent for the proposed *New State Office Building*.

Editor's Note: Amen! This 1 percent will not hurt the regular cooperative giving inasmuch as it is above the 10 percent.

Homecoming Day at First Church, Flat River

On Sunday, May 26, 1985, the First Free Will Baptist Church, Flat River, Missouri, celebrated a Homecoming Service. Mrs. Pearl Hutchings writes that the church was organized in 1880 under the leadership of three ministers, Reverends Jerry Wood, John Wood, and J. H. Gulley. The first building was located on West Main. In 1918 under the leadership of Reverend T. J. Mann and the church board, the property was traded for property in the Norwine section. On March 20, 1918 the first service was held in the new location. Mrs. Alberta Henderson Davis, one of the eight members that met for the first service, is active in the work of the church today. She recalls many significant events which have happened since the First Free Will Baptist Church met for that first service near its present location.

Pastor Ron Edgil follows a long and distinctive list of former pastors who have served the church. He states, "It is my aim and ambition to faithfully serve the Lord through my labor to the church and community. As the Word of God is preached, I trust that it shall be received and applied as the Word, and that it shall produce a spirit of evangelism in the church and community. Those faithful and dedicated people who organized this church more than 100 years ago are more than a memorial; their convictions, concerns, and desires have been transmitted to the generation of our day and are reflected through the life and ministry of this church."

Homecoming at Berkeley

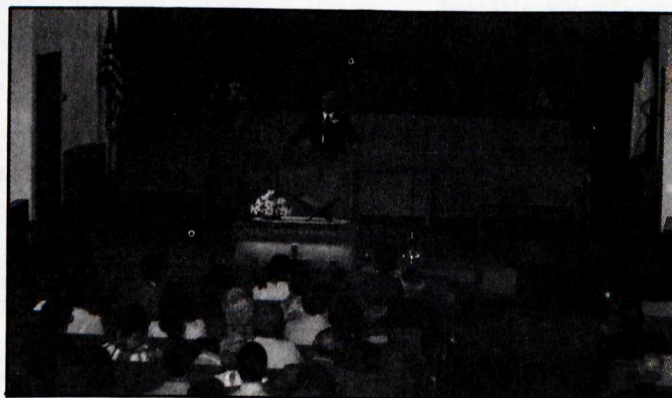
A wonderful day filled with God's blessings was enjoyed by past and present members of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Berkeley, Missouri. This was Homecoming Day, April 28, 1985.

Pastor Jerry Fields welcomed 300 people to the Morning Worship Service where the presence of the Lord was felt in a very special way. Reverend Clarence Burton, former pastor, delivered the morning message. He recalled God's blessings on the ministry of the church, then he challenged each one to look ahead and continue to work and labor with great fervor and anticipation. The work and labor of the Lord never becomes stagnant; it is always a joy to follow the leadership of the Lord.

Approximately 100 more people joined the congregation for dinner in the Fellowship Hall and for the services in the afternoon.

A mass choir consisting of present and former members of the Berkeley Choir filled the choir loft and sang during the afternoon service, led by two former directors, Howard Dobkins and Jim Mullen. A devotional message was given by Geraldine Plummer and a testimony service was led by Calvin Plummer. Several former members contributed to the special singing.

Linda Walls, church reporter, continues with the report that the Berkeley Free Will Baptist Church dates back to January 29, 1939, when a few people gathered together and began worshipping in a community hall. The organization took place March 5, 1939, with 13 charter members. Charter members Virginia Stone and Mildred Dobkins were present for the Homecoming Service. Former pastor Reverend Harvey Hill was unable to attend because of ill health. He telephoned his regrets and best wishes for the church.



The Pastor, Reverend Randy Bishop, writes:

If I could "*SHOUT*" on paper, I would.

On Sunday morning, May 5th, 1985, all previous attendance records were **S H A T T E R E D!!!!** at the Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

Our theme for this **BIG DAY** was "**ROUND-UP MIRACLE SUNDAY.**"

Promotion and planning began in March, 1984, as the pastor and Brother Bud Riley met for prayer, asking God's anointing over this endeavor. In February, 1985, they met again and set an impossible goal of "175" in attendance for that date. This was over twice the average attendance of the previous three months.

There were numerous other meetings and planning sessions with teachers, musicians, Sunday school workers, etc., and several cottage prayer groups. But as the big day drew closer, it seemed as though we might have misinterpreted the leading of God's Spirit. Unbelief seemed to be widespread, and there were only 75 present the Sunday before the Big Day.

But praise be to God who "is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." At the close of worship services that day, a "hope" had become a "**MIRACLE OF GOD.**" The day began with a new Sunday school record of 155. It was continued with a new worship service record of 173. The day was topped by an overall attendance of 183.

But the real joy came at the close of the activities at an "Old-Fashioned" baptism which took place in the Chariton River as I baptized two young boys: Jason Chrisman and my son, Timothy.

The miracle continues and God's mercy never ends.



Teacher Recognition Day

Sunday school teachers comprise the greatest single force of volunteer workers in the church.

These dedicated servants of God give hours and hours of their time each week. They are engaged in prayer, Bible study, lesson preparation, visitation, card writing, telephoning, and lesson presentation.

These God-gifted persons in the church serve without remuneration and, in some instances, any kind of recognition or appreciation. Often they are taken for granted.

The Free Will Baptist Sunday School and Church Training Department suggests an Annual Teacher Recognition Day in order to encourage volunteer workers. Here is a suggested approach.

Each local church will be encouraged to select its own "Teacher of the Year" according to the criteria it chooses. This could be done at the end of each church year. We will prepare, print, and offer for purchase, an attractive certificate of award in recognition of this achievement.

In addition, we will offer a handsome plaque for those churches who want to show additional appreciation. The plaque could be presented to the nominee or displayed in the church foyer.

When ordering the plaque, the name for engraving should accompany the order.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Brother Burton:

The Lord is blessing at the Grace Church. The services have been well attended, the preaching is excellent, and we have felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in each service.

We appreciated having you with us for the Morning Worship. The message blessed our hearts. We pray for you and Sister Burton in your labor for the State Association. We appreciate the *Gem* and we are thankful that it has been our State Publication for a number of years. It is always a joy to read what other churches are doing in various parts of the state. Keep up the good work. We are praying for you.

Mil and I certainly enjoyed the State Association, and we are looking forward to attending the National Association in July. We pray the Lord will give us a great one.

God bless you,
Leamon Killian

Editor's note: This fine layman and his wife represent many fine laypeople throughout the state of Missouri.

Minute Meditation

— by Gene Crewse —

How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? (2 Corinthians 3:8).

There is much talk on the political scene as to whose administration was best for our country. Some may say Roosevelt, Eisenhower, Truman, or any other president they preferred. In most cases the administration that benefited us most would be a matter of opinion.

In a spiritual sense, this verse implies that the administration of the spirit is bound to be a glorious and prosperous administration. If the administration of the law brought death and condemnation, but yet was so glorious that Moses' face shone in its very presence, how could an administration that brought life, liberty, and righteousness not be more glorious?

It has been said, "He must not only be resident spirit in our lives, but president spirit; not merely residing in us, but presiding over us." If we want liberty, He must be Lord of our lives because where the spirit of the Lord is there is liberty."

To know the glory of the Spirit's current administration in our lives, we must give the spirit complete control of our lives.

Things may look bleak and rather gloomy on the political scene, but in the spiritual realm we are living in the best administration yet; the glorious administration of the Spirit. In this administration there is life, liberty, and righteousness to those who will allow Him to rule over them.

There are those who are still trying to live in the previous administration of the letter, but because of Christ, we may know a better more glorious administration of the Spirit.

Wolfenbarger Assistance Fund Established

Rev. Floyd Wolfenbarger, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Russellville, Arkansas, departed this life May 22, 1985, at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. He is survived by his wife, Yvonne, and daughter, Angela (Angie) of the home.

Two services were conducted in memory of Rev. Wolfenbarger. A memorial service was conducted at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Russellville, Arkansas, with Rev. RueDell Smith and Rev. David Joslin as officiating ministers. Funeral services were held at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Springfield, Ohio, with Rev. Jack Williams and Rev. Alton Loveless conducting the services. Interment was at the Vale Cemetery at Springfield, Ohio.

He was not able to obtain much life insurance prior to his death. Therefore, the family will be facing financial difficulty in the future.

A fund entitled "Wolfenbarger Assistance Fund" has been established by the Executive Board of the Arkansas State Association of Free Will Baptists. Those who desire to contribute to this fund, may send their contributions to:

Arkansas Free Will Baptists
P.O. Box 1404
Conway, AR 72032

A scholarship fund has been established for Angie Wolfenbarger by the First Free Will Baptist Church of Russellville. Those who desire to assist this effort may send a donation to:

First Free Will Baptist Church
P.O. Box 45
Russellville, AR 72801

Yvonne and Angie will continue to reside in the parsonage for a while. If you desire to send your condolences, the address is:

Mrs. Yvonne Wolfenbarger
1211 East North Street
Russellville, AR 72801
Phone 501/968-4311

Dear Friends:

Many years ago a song was written entitled, "Where no one stands alone." How true this is today if you have given your heart to Jesus. The song says, "Once I stood alone with my head bowed low in the darkness as black as could be," but we know Jesus is the light of the world.

Many people think of Africa as a dark country, but the people in Africa have souls like you and me. They need to hear the gospel. Romans 10:14, 15, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" God has called. Dave and Sharon Filkins have answered. **YES, LORD, SEND US.**

Dave and Sharon have been approved by our Foreign Missions Board and will soon be department for Albertville, France, to study French before going to the Ivory Coast. One of their needs is to have a care when they arrive in the Ivory Coast.

Our church has a project underway to raise \$15,000 for this purpose. This will save time that they have to spend here in the states to raise their support.

Will you prayerfully consider this project? If you would like to help, please send your Green stamps, Top Value, or other kinds to our church. If you want to send a check, please make it payable to our church with a notation on the check "FILKINS CAR ACCOUNT" attn: Bill J. Campbell.

We are preparing a list of all contributors whether they be a church, Sunday school class, or an individual. These names will be enclosed in plastic and placed in the trunk of the car to travel as a silent prayer partner with Dave and Sharon.

Won't you join us today in this endeavor? Please pray for our church as we undertake this project.

Yours in Christ,
Friends at First Church
Bill J. Campbell
Project Chairman

Essentials of Evangelism

by Stanley Jones

"Now it came to pass that a group existed who called themselves fishermen. And lo, there were many fish in the waters all around. In fact, the whole area was surrounded by streams and lakes filled with fish. And the fish were hungry.

"Week after week, month after month, and year after year, these who called themselves fishermen met in meetings and talked about their call to be about fishing.

"Continually, they searched for new and better methods of fishing and for new and better definitions of fishing. They sponsored costly nationwide and worldwide congresses to discuss fishing and to promote fishing and hear about all the ways of fishing, such as the new fishing equipment, fish calls, and whether any new bait was discovered.

"These fishermen built large, beautiful buildings, called 'Fishing Headquarters.' The plea was that everyone should be a fisherman and every fisherman should fish. One thing they didn't do, however; they didn't fish.

"All the fishermen seemed to agree that what is needed is a board which could challenge fishermen to be faithful in fishing. The board was formed by those who had the great vision and courage to speak about fishing, to define fishing, and to promote the idea of fishing in far-away streams and lakes where many other fish of different colors lived.

"Large, elaborate, and expensive training centers were built whose purpose was to teach fishermen how to fish. Those who

taught had doctorates in fishology. But the teachers did not fish. They only taught fishing.

"Some spent much study and travel to learn the history of fishing and to see far-away places where the founding fathers did great fishing in the centuries past. They lauded the faithful fishermen of years before who handed down the idea of fishing.

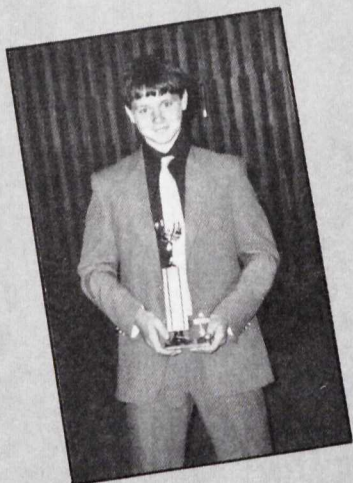
"Many who felt the call to be fishermen responded. They were commissioned and sent to fish. And they went off to foreign lands . . . to teach fishing.

"Now it's true that many of the fishermen sacrificed and put up with all kinds of difficulties. Some lived near the water and bore the smell of dead fish every day. They received the ridicule of some who made fun of their fishermen's clubs. They anguished over those who were not committed enough to attend the weekly meetings to talk about fishing. After all, were they not following the Master who said, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men?'

"Imagine how hurt some were when one day a person suggested that those who don't catch fish were really not fishermen, no matter how much they claimed to be. Yet it did sound correct. Is a person a fisherman if year after year he or she never catches a fish? Is one following if he or she isn't fishing?"

—Copied

Missouri State Competitive Activity Winners







Report on the Missouri State Association—1985

The psalmist said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." This was the feeling of delegates and visitors alike, as the Missouri State Association met at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Farmington, Missouri, May 28-31, 1985.

The spontaneous remarks concerning the meeting were like this; "It was the best one," "The Lord surely blessed," "Isn't it great to be a part of this part of the Lord's work?" and "My life has been challenged and my soul blessed." These remarks and many others reflect the feelings of those who had the privilege of attending the State Association this year.

I think everyone appreciates the geographical location of Lebanon and its convenience in hosting the Association. But there is an atmosphere that is felt in a church building which is missed in a community auditorium. This worshipful spirit was felt at the Farmington Church.

Reverend Jim McAllister and the church and school staff had everything ready for the Association. To be sure, the accommodations are very adequate. Many fine remarks were made concerning the efficiency.

The music and singing under the direction of John Smith and those assisting him added so much to the spirit of the services. The preaching by the speakers: Dr. Robert Picirilli, Reverend Gary Fry, Reverend Bud Arnold, Reverend Jim Williams, and Reverend Dennis Bowman challenged the people with the theme "The Church—Its Mission." The preachers who delivered the devotional messages, Reverend Dave Pinkston, Reverend Jim Crawford, and Reverend Steve Reeves blessed and prepared the hearts of the congregation for each session. The services were directed well by those presiding: Reverend Dan Felts, Reverend Ken Dodson, and Reverend Nathan Ruble.

The moderator's gavel was passed this year from Reverend Millard Sasser to Reverend Nathan Ruble. Brother Sasser held this position for three years with dignity and fairness. Again this year the business sessions were handled fairly and with Christian understanding. These are noteworthy items of business: The Missouri State Association voted to: (1) commit itself to raise \$100,000 over a three-year period in response to the Foreign

Mission Department's Advance Celebration Program; (2) adopt a budget of approximately \$700,000 (This includes the Bookstore and designated. The cooperative budget is \$248,000.); (3) sell present Retirement Village Property and purchase property that has a Licensed Boarding Home that is operative.

As we move forward into this year, we can move with confidence under the leadership of the new moderator, Reverend Nathan Ruble and those working with him: Reverend Joe Braddy, assistant moderator; Reverend Greg McAllister, clerk; and Reverend Cody Freeman, assistant clerk. Brother Ruble has served well as assistant moderator for the past three years, and he is well acquainted with the state work.

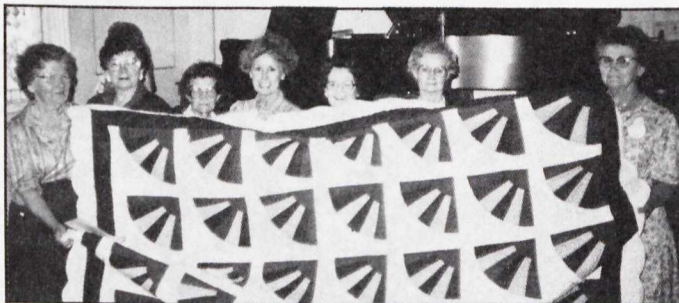
I am thankful for the past but I look forward to the future. The Lord is blessing for which we are thankful. We know that without Him we cannot do anything that is worthwhile. We have His promise that He will help us, and with this help we can do all things. We will not fail!

Following the National Association Convention (and you will read this the latter part of July) we want to pick up where we left off (waiting for the National Convention) with a strong thrust toward evangelism. We are praying for this to happen: 1,000 souls to be won to Christ next year, an increase of 1,000 in Sunday school attendance, and an increase of 1,000 in church membership. Let's begin working and praying in this direction *Now!* But the emphasis, to work with the National Association will begin in 1986. Let's pray, work, pray and work, and I believe the Lord will give the increase!

Again, thanks to the host pastor, Brother McAllister and those who worked with him from the Farmington Church and the Saint Francois District Association. The Lord gave us a great State Association.

I must say this—Thanks so much, so very much to the Executive Committee, the General Board, and to all the wonderful people of the Missouri State Association for the beautiful plaque in recognition of the ten years of service as Executive Secretary and the nice gifts. Vivian and I appreciate them from the depths of our hearts. We love you for this.

Woman's Auxiliary





COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS **April 1985**

\$23,540.90

18.00%	Missouri State Home Missions	\$4,355.07
17.00%	Executive Office and Gem	4,001.96
3.50%	General Fund	823.93
10.50%	Youth Camp	2,471.79
1.75%	Christian Board of Education	411.97
1.75%	Sunday School and CTS	411.97
2.50%	Retirement Village	588.52
5.00%	Missouri State Retirement Program	1,177.04
39.50%	National Departments and Hillsdale	9,298.65
	(Hillsdale)	\$1,412.45)

Foreign Missions
Free Will Baptist Bible College
National Home Missions
Executive Office
Board of Retirement and Insurance
Layman's Board
Theological Commission

Total\$23,540.90

With praise and adoration we thank God for another fine month. As in times past, so it is today, the work of the Lord is done by faithful Christians. May the Lord continue to bless each pastor, church, and each person in a personal way for their faithfulness.

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS **May 1985**

18.50%	Missouri State Home Missions	\$3,574.60
17.00%	Executive Department & Gem	3,284.77
3.50%	General Fund	676.28
10.50%	Youth Camp	2,028.83
1.75%	Christian Education Board	338.14
1.75%	Sunday School & CTS	338.14
2.50%	Retirement Village	483.05
5.00%	Retirement Program (MO State)	966.11
39.50%	National Departments & Hillsdale	\$7,632.26
	(Hillsdale—6.00%—\$1,159.33)	

Foreign Missions
FWBBC
National Home Missions
Executive Department
Board of Retirement & Insurance
Layman's Board
Theological Commission

Total\$19,322.18

"O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever" (Psalm 136:1). May we never forget that God is the giver and we are the receivers. He continues to supply our need through the faithfulness of His people. We are meeting our projected goal at this point. We trust that we shall continue to meet this goal and at the end of the year we can say—"The LORD hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS **April 1985**

Macedonia	\$ 20.00
Bethel	507.00
New Life, Fellowship	305.72
New Home, Falcon	72.40
Way Side	117.81
Old Bethel	139.42
Myrtle	167.04
Union Grove	175.00

Alton	225.00
Harmony, K.C.	583.00
Belton	256.51
Hannon	288.28
Faith, Lemay	171.00
Cope	31.30
Hartville	266.65
Victory, Alton	267.00
Royal Oak	46.00
Union Light	152.00
Fredericktown	330.00
Terrill Road	25.00
Tyrone	68.65
Mill Creek	179.51
Beacon	535.01
Number One	62.00
O'Fallon	140.26
Martinstown	47.00
Springfield, First	166.00
New Hope, Fredericktown	166.86
Bailey Chapel	50.00
Calvary Chapel	191.30
El Dorado Springs, First	5.00
Berkeley	476.36
Flat River, First	600.13
Olivet	500.00
Gospel Light	198.00
New Rock Springs	78.00
Columbia	25.00
Mt. Zion, Gower	64.38
Hickory Grove	36.95
Parkview	314.92
Hurryville	144.00
Central	1,300.00
Lingo	30.86
Calvary, Conway	114.12
Monett	970.69
Mine La Motte	36.00
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	69.56
Eastern Gate	83.00
Marshfield	188.65
Rock Chapel	264.60
Hopewell	181.00
Mt. Pisgah	163.00
United	383.02
Pleasant Ridge	67.00
Wilderness	207.99
Mtn. Grove	659.84
Mtn. Grove	625.12
Grace	1,134.00
Oskaloosa	22.31
Lone Star	37.73
New Harmony	12.99
Happy Home	214.00
Copper Mines	152.43
Freeman Chapel	176.86
Salem	30.00
Berean	11.08
Cabool	321.26
DeSoto	1,000.00
Lingo	47.44
Jones Creek	201.96
Thayer	386.00
Leadington	600.00
Joplin	392.74
Merl's Chapel	84.35
Neosho	71.25
Grant Avenue	581.90
Wolf Creek	276.40
Black Oak	10.00
Pleasant Hill	66.17
Verdella	172.16
Columbia	25.00
Koshkonong	175.00
Farmington	1,150.00
New Life Fellowship	587.46

Cope	26.95
Seymour	122.75
Lone Star	33.60
Hartville	207.93
Lebanon	377.83
South Fremont	348.00
Unity	281.67
Cape Girardeau	457.03
Interest paid account	193.64
Total	\$23,540.90

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS May 1985

Union Grove	\$ 140.00
Faith, Lemay	118.00
Number One	45.25
Belton	201.08
Fordland	500.00
Byrd	16.00
Byrd	18.00
Mill Creek	143.12
Royal Oak	29.00
Macedonia	20.00
Mt. Zion, Gower	61.82
Bailey Chapel	45.00
Harmony	243.00
Bethel	438.00
Hopewell	161.00
Willow Springs	263.79
Myrtle	123.23
DeSoto	650.00
Hurryville	104.00
St. Francois District	21.00
Marshfield	157.52
Salem	30.00
Hannon	195.94
Friendship	169.31
Friendship	83.77
New Life Fellowship	343.00
Mt. Pisgah	180.00
Pleasant Ridge	57.00
Calvary Chapel	185.42
Victory, Alton	233.00
Terrill Road	124.00
Mine La Motte	23.73
New Harmony	7.53
United	282.86
Tyrone	38.17
Pleasant Home	241.89
Pleasant Home	161.05
Parkview	244.65
Gospel Light	147.00
Lingo	43.11
Berkeley	450.92
New Rock Springs	54.31
El Dorado Springs	5.00
Fredericktown	284.00
Union	60.00
Grant Avenue	499.32
Aulsbury Chapel	173.58
Thayer	367.00
Black Oak	10.00
Copper Mines	281.67
Springfield, First	100.00
West Plains	100.00
Cabool	283.27
Monett	720.73
New Hope, Fredericktown	170.91
Rock Chapel	221.56
Eastern Gate	292.00
Flat River, First	470.39
Freeman, Chapel	121.78
Calvary, Conway	108.12
Liberty, Phillipsburg	400.00

Olivet	250.00
Waynesville	400.00
Pleasant Hill	43.18
Leadington	500.00
Grace	828.00
Houston	180.00
Houston	222.00
Sedalia	34.28
Pleasant Ridge	47.00
Hannon	249.80
Oskaloosa	34.35
Happy Home	169.00
Myrtle	145.97
Houston	206.00
Lone Star	31.20
Bethel	335.00
Farmington	1,150.00
Harmony	396.00
Fordland	525.46
Unity	174.08
Cape Girardeau	366.00
Lebanon	319.71
South Fremont	443.00
Rolla	170.30
Interest paid on account	197.04
Total	\$19,322.18

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING FOREIGN MISSIONS April/May 1985

Belton	\$50.00
Miley	\$50.00
Fordland	\$26.59
Pinkerton	\$386.59
Bunch	15.00
Tallent	25.00
Liberty, Kirksville	\$68.00
Pinkerton	\$68.00
Harmony	\$10.00
Midgett	\$10.00
South Side	\$10.00
Tallent	\$10.00
Bethel	\$135.00
General Fund	\$75.00
Bailey	30.00
Tallet	30.00
Myrtle	\$265.00
Bailey	\$150.00
Tallent	115.00
Marshfield	\$40.00
Tallent	\$20.00
Bailey	10.00
Bunch	10.00
Brent & Cindy Thompson	\$75.00
Bunch	\$75.00
Clifford Hoover	\$60.00
Bunch	\$60.00
Hannon	\$1,187.44
Bunch	\$693.23
Lytle	75.00
Pinkerton	75.00
Call-a-thon	344.21
(for Lytle Acct.)	
Pleasant Ridge	\$60.00
McLain	\$30.00
General Fund	30.00
Leadington	\$583.00
Coward	\$ 10.00
Turnbough	50.00
Morgan	40.00
Miley	40.00
Pinkerton	40.00
McLain	40.00
Hanna	40.00

Eagleton SR.....	40.00		Bunch.....	25.00	
Lytle.....	40.00		Bailey.....	425.00	
Richards.....	40.00		Miley.....	20.00	
Bunch.....	163.00		D. Filkins.....	25.00	
Bailey.....	40.00		General Fund.....	32.77	
Trinity.....		\$215.25	Grant Avenue.....		\$987.75
General Fund.....	\$165.25		General Fund.....	\$ 61.00	
Hanna.....	50.00		Pinkerton.....	402.75	
New Harmony.....		\$125.70	McLain.....	40.00	
Miley.....	\$62.85		Tallent.....	159.00	
McLain.....	62.85		Hersey.....	265.00	
United, West Plains.....		\$71.50	Bunch.....	10.00	
D. Thompson.....	\$10.00		Morgan.....	40.00	
Bunch.....	61.50		Ellison.....	5.00	
Martinstown.....		\$135.00	Aycock.....	5.00	
D. Filkins.....	\$35.00		Thayer.....		\$39.27
Richards.....	20.00		Turnbough.....	\$10.00	
Sparks.....	20.00		Pinkerton.....	10.00	
Miley.....	20.00		General Fund.....	19.27	
Hanna.....	20.00		South Fremont.....		\$330.00
McLain.....	20.00		Pinkerton.....	\$200.00	
Fourth.....		\$200.00	Richards.....	10.00	
Lytle.....	\$195.00		McLain.....	10.00	
Tallent.....	5.00		Bailey.....	10.00	
Pleasant Home.....		\$15.00	MO Deficit Accts.....	100.00	
Ellison.....	\$15.00		West Plains, First.....		\$187.00
Berkeley.....		\$260.00	Bailey.....	\$187.00	
Deficit Accts.....	\$200.00		Eastern Gate.....		\$15.00
Lytle.....	20.00		Bunch.....	\$15.00	
Tallent.....	20.00		Flat River, First.....		\$20.00
Bunch.....	20.00		Bailey.....	\$20.00	
Fredericktown, First.....		\$35.00	Freeman Chapel.....		\$597.73
Bailey.....	\$10.00		Pinkerton.....	\$597.73	
Turnbough.....	15.00		Beacon.....		\$664.78
General Fund.....	10.00		Pinkerton.....	\$383.78	
Liberty, Phillipsburg.....		\$200.00	Coscia.....	281.00	
Bunch.....	\$200.00		Columbia.....		\$20.00
Lebanon, First.....		\$100.00	Tallent.....	\$20.00	
Bunch.....	\$20.00		Hickory Grove.....		\$63.50
Bailey.....	10.00		Lytle.....	\$63.50	
Tallent.....	20.00		Central.....		\$135.00
Pinkerton.....	20.00		General Fund.....	\$30.00	
Hanna.....	20.00		Bunch.....	90.00	
Miley.....	10.00		Filkins.....	15.00	
Olivet.....		\$290.00	Central Western Ass'n.....		\$733.25
Poole.....	\$ 50.00		Pinkerton.....	\$174.75	
Sparks.....	30.00		Holland.....	558.50	
Inscoe.....	30.00		Mtn. Grove, First.....		\$624.75
McLain.....	15.00		Tallent.....	\$145.00	
Pinkerton.....	155.00		Lee.....	75.75	
Sedalia.....		\$20.00	Pinkerton.....	20.00	
Inscoe.....	\$20.00		Gibbs.....	20.00	
Houston.....		\$267.90	McLain.....	50.00	
Van Hook.....	\$137.90		Ivory Coast Relief Fund.....	110.00	
General Fund.....	30.00		Hanna.....	10.00	
Tallent.....	65.00		Turnbough.....	25.00	
Pinkerton.....	30.00		Cousineau.....	30.00	
Oskaloosa.....		\$304.50	General Fund.....	80.00	
Holland.....	\$100.00		Bailey.....	59.00	
Bunch.....	132.35		Overland.....		\$49.00
Call-a-thon.....	72.15		Hanna.....	\$49.00	
(Designated for Lytle Acct.)			Indian Creek Ass'n.....		\$146.75
Faith Chapel.....		\$20.00	Miley.....	\$100.00	
McLain.....	\$20.00		Bunch.....	10.88	
O'Fallon.....		\$5.00	Bailey.....	10.87	
Tallent.....	\$5.00		Van Hook.....	10.00	
Farmington.....		\$485.00	Wode.....	7.50	
Miley.....	\$ 85.00		Cousineau.....	7.50	
Pinkerton.....	60.00		North East.....		\$731.80
Bunch.....	70.00		D. Filkins.....	\$731.80	
Bailey.....	70.00		Total.....		\$17,262.58
Call-a-thon.....	200.00				
Monett.....		\$6,597.12			
Dr. Eagleton.....	\$5,586.00				
Tallent.....	328.35				
Sparks.....	155.00				

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS
April/May 1985

Fordland	\$45.00
Roy Roach	\$10.00
Maness	20.00
Lake	15.00
Harmony	\$20.00
Lake	\$20.00
Bethel	\$214.16
General Fund	\$75.00
Maness	45.00
H'way	15.00
Long	79.16
(\$6.16 from GAF)	
Myrtle	\$375.00
H'Way	\$180.00
Elder	70.00
Maness	125.00
South East Dist. Ass'n	\$150.00
Miner	\$150.00
Marshfield	\$30.00
Maness	\$30.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$100.00
Vandivort	\$50.00
Maness	50.00
Leadington	\$235.00
Maness	\$50.00
Long	40.00
O'Dell	40.00
Fulcher	40.00
Vandivort	50.00
Wright	15.00
Trinity	\$20.00
Fulcher	\$20.00
Pleasant Home	\$5.00
Maness	\$5.00
Berkeley	\$422.00
Deficit Accts.	\$100.00
Maness	32.00
Fulcher	140.00
Fulcher—Van	150.00
Fredericktown, First	\$64.52
Barron	\$20.00
Lewis	24.52
Fulcher	10.00
General Fund	10.00
Rolla	\$50.00
Vandivort	\$50.00
Grant Avenue	\$104.00
Maness	\$100.00
Vandivort	2.00
Mexico	2.00
Thayer	\$106.00
H'way	\$80.00
Maness	16.00
Lake	10.00
Black Oak	\$64.78
D. Morgan (Canada)	\$64.78
South Fremont	\$4.00
Maness	\$4.00
Monett	\$165.00
H'way	\$50.00
R. Thomas	5.00
Lake	30.00
Lewis	20.00
Maness	50.00
General Fund	10.00
Rock Chapel	\$179.16
Lake	\$179.16
Liberty, Phillipsburg	\$200.00
O'Dell	\$100.00
Maness	100.00
Wolf Creek	\$20.00
Vandivort	\$20.00
Houston	\$117.33

Turnbough	\$10.00
Vandivort	30.00
Lewis	30.00
General Fund	47.33
Farmington	\$90.00
General Fund	\$ 5.00
Wright	40.00
Maness	15.00
Vandivort	30.00
Lebanon, First	\$100.00
O'Dell	\$100.00
Olivet	\$40.00
Maness	\$40.00
Columbia	\$20.00
Vandivort	\$20.00
Bob & Glenda Keith	\$10.00
Vandivort	\$10.00
Central	\$145.00
General Fund	\$100.00
Maness	15.00
H'way	30.00
Mtn. Grove, First	\$288.87
Maness	\$108.87
Lewis	40.00
Vandivort	140.00
Indian Creek Ass'n	\$45.00
Lake	\$ 5.00
Maness	40.00
Total	\$3,429.82

YOUTH CAMP
April/May 1985

Cuba Youth Group	\$20.00
Harmony	40.00
Bethel	75.00
Myrtle	86.50
Hannon	45.00
Mt. Pisgah	20.00
Leadington	40.00
Victory, Alton	50.00
Trinity	Pool
Bethel, El Dorado Springs	Pool
Berkeley	Pool
New Rock Springs	20.00
Thayer	20.00
Monett	120.00
Coon Creek	20.00
Wolf Creek	20.00
Olivet	75.00
Oskaloosa	30.00
Farmington	80.00
MO State Woman's Auxiliary	Pool
Pool—\$442.93	
General Fund—206.90	
Central Sunday School	81.00
Mtn. Grove	10.00
Bob & Glenda Keith	10.00
Lebanon, First	33.33
Total	\$1,684.08

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE
April/May 1985

Leadington	\$40.00
Grant Avenue	70.00
Houston	30.00
Farmington	244.93

THE GEM
P.O. Box 991
Lebanon, Missouri 65536

HARROLD HARRISON
P O BOX 17306
NASHVILLE, TN 37217

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

Beacon.....75.00
Total \$459.93

HILLSDALE

Willow Springs..... \$40.00
Hannon 150.00
Grant Avenue 18.00
Houston.....60.00
 General Fund..... \$30.00
 Coffman Acct. 30.00
Harmony \$76.00
Beacon.....75.00
Mtn. Grove, First.....80.00
Total \$499.00

CHILDREN'S HOME

Myrtle\$8.11
Farmington..... 145.00
Olivet..... 150.00
Total \$295.00

BOARD OF RETIREMENT & INSURANCE

Grant Avenue\$2.00

WORLD VISION

Hannon \$400.00

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Points for Pastors

—by James McAllister—

We have started something that might be of interest to some pastors and churches.

We have a rotating deacon and trustee board. By that, I mean two go off our deacon board each year; and they cannot succeed themselves for one year. We have six men on the board, but 16 deacons. The other ten men are in the deacon pool. Before anyone says that is unbiblical, give book, chapter, and verse. Oh, by the way, it has worked perfectly for us for several years now. The men stay fresh, interested, and don't get bored with board work. We have nine trustees, and three go off each year and cannot replace themselves.

The six deacon board members, and the nine trustee board members make up the general board which meets monthly. They have a chairman who serves one year and then is replaced. The

pastor is only an ex-officio member of each of these boards. The areas of business each of these boards conduct are outlined by the church.

The deacon board handles the spiritual, inter-member, and pastoral-staff matters. The trustees take care of all physical church plant matters, and the general board handles matters that should come before the church body. All church members are permitted to attend general board meetings, voice their opinion, but cannot vote. These items are then brought before the body for approval.

All of this is to briefly familiarize you with the make-up of our official boards and how they function. In the next article I will tell you about the new thing we've started here at Farmington.